



St. Francis Xavier  
Catholic School.



1 Percy Street  
Whangarei

# St. Francis Xavier Catholic School

*"To Love, To Learn and To Serve."*

*"Kia Aroha, Kia Akona, Kia Aro Atu."*

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No. 4 Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014

*Tena koutou katoa. Good afternoon parents, caregivers and members of our school community.*

***Last Wednesday was Ash Wednesday which marked the beginning of the season of Lent, the six-week period when the church focuses on the key events in the life of Jesus. During Lent we reflect on what Jesus said and did. It is a time of preparation for God's ultimate sacrifice, the crucifixion of His son Jesus, on Good Friday.***

***It is a time of prayer, fasting and helping others. Over the next few weeks I hope that you take the opportunity to discuss this Lenten season with your children and hence reinforce what they are being taught at school.***

#### **SCHOOL GALA DAY:**

***One of the highlights of our school year is the annual Gala Day. It's a day filled with fun, laughter and happiness. It is also a day when the work of a dedicated and hard working group of people named the Gala Committee should, providing they get the extra parent helpers that they need, actually get to see their efforts come to fruition.***

***The Gala Day provides much needed funds for the school and this year we have a significant project to start working towards. The building of a new two-classroom block, which will serve as a Multipurpose Room.***

***If you haven't offered to help in some way, it is not too late. Our school is a community that wants to help your child, we would be very grateful for your assistance.***

***Remember to invite your friends, family and neighbours to the Gala Day, it is going to be GREAT.***

*Craig McKernan*  
Principal

## **DONATIONS FOR NEELISHMA** **(Neelam)**

Neelam O'Neill, a past pupil of St Francis Xavier Catholic School, is currently part of the Parafed Auckland Shooting Club (PASC) where she shoots air rifles. She has been training under Michael Johnson who is the only Paralympic representative in New Zealand for shooting. Her goal is to become the first disabled female representative shooter for New Zealand in international events and potentially the Paralympics. In order for her to achieve this goal, she needs to gain some international experience by entering international events. Her aim for this year is to attend the IPC World Cup for shooting in Bangkok, Thailand in August/September. The overall budget for this trip is approximately \$3,000 each. If you would like to support Neelam then you are welcome to make a donation at our school office.

## **Parents of Pasifika Students**

You are warmly invited to attend a meeting at school next Tuesday evening at 5.30pm to discuss the achievement of Pacific Island students and ways that the school in partnership with parents, can further your child's learning needs.

**Get ready for a great day out.**

**Our School Gala**

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
2014**

**9am - 2pm**

## Religious Education



Towards the end of 2013, Pope Francis wrote to us all, giving shape to the way he wants us (all!) to embrace New Evangelisation : taking the first step, being involved and supportive, helping others to know the joy of the Gospel. I encourage you to read and discuss the document. The entire document can be found at: <http://www.vatican.va/evangelii-gaudium/en/index.html>

Quote from the introduction to **Evangelii Gaudium, The Joy of the Gospel** the first Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis. I can say that the most beautiful and natural expressions of joy which I have seen in my life were in poor people who had so little to hold on to. I also think of the real joy shown by others who, even amid pressing professional obligations, were able to preserve, in detachment and simplicity, a heart full of faith. (Page 8) **Read – reflect – wonder: What does this mean today, for me?** An evangeliser must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral! Let us recover and deepen our enthusiasm, that delightful and comforting joy of evangelising, even when it is in tears that we must sow. (Page 10)

### **Family Masses**

Whanau will be rostered to participate in Family Masses on Sunday at 10:00 am. They were such a success last year. It was very pleasing to see our children involved in our Parish Masses. Our next Family Mass is on Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> May at 10:00am. Kauri Whanau (Rooms 11, 13 and 14) will be participating.

### **Reconciliation**

On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April, Years 4,5 & 6 will participate in Rite 2 Reconciliation, as part of their Easter preparation.

### **Holy Thursday – Easter Re-enactment**

Our Easter re-enactment this year will focus on the Stations of the Cross. The children will be praying the stations on Holy Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> April, in the church. (Times to be confirmed). As part of our Holy Week celebration, the children will be offered a hot cross bun at interval. If your child has any food allergies or does not want to receive a hot cross bun at interval, please inform your child's teacher.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation in Lent. The Light is on for You.**

St Francis Xavier Church will be open on six Wednesdays 7pm-8pm, for Quiet Prayer and for Confession, from Wednesday 12 March to Wednesday of Holy Week (16 April). The Blessed Sacrament will be on the main Altar, so people can visit to pray in silence. For those who have not been to Confession in recent years, instructions on "How to go to Confession" will be available. Some helpful reminders about Confession / Reconciliation can be found at [www.thelightison.org](http://www.thelightison.org)

Yours in Christ

*Maria Russo*

DRS – Director of Religious Studies

## **Every week you save, you could win your share of \$10,000.**

We want to help teach kids the value of saving each week. Every week that they deposit from as little as \$1 into their ASB Headstart account they'll go in the draw to win a \$20, \$50 or \$100 cash prize. This is sure to fast track their savings and get them closer to their goals. Whatever they may be.

The competition runs from 27 January to 14 April, then again from 5 May to 25 June. Deposits can be made through ASB's school savings programme, internet banking (or other electronic method) or at your local ASB branch.

**To find out more, contact your school office.**

**Terms and conditions apply. See [asb.co.nz/schoolbanking](http://asb.co.nz/schoolbanking) for details**



**ASB**

## Family Worker News

### **Families New to the School**

There will be a cup of tea/coffee in the school staff room on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March from 9.00-10.00am. Anyone is welcome to attend, particularly families who were new to the school during the last term of 2013 and those who are new this year. There will be an opportunity to meet others in the school community and to ask any questions you may have about the school. I look forward to meeting you.

### **Second-hand uniforms**

It will soon be time to be thinking about winter uniforms. It is good to get in early if you think you will be needing second-hand items. If you have any uniforms at home that are no longer being worn we would appreciate it if you were able to donate these to the school to be used by other families. Uniforms can be exchanged or you can purchase them by making a small donation to the office. The money is used for the pastoral care needs of families in the school.

### **Families in Need**

If you are experiencing difficult times then please don't hesitate to contact me. Sometimes just sharing your problem helps. Either phone me on 0274714120 or call in to my office.

*Liz Beazley*  
(Family Worker)

## Environews

Please email [lynn@sfx.school.nz](mailto:lynn@sfx.school.nz) with any photos taken of your family/whanau participating in "Seaweek," cleaning up your beach area.

Thanks,  
Lynn Douglas

## Northland Hockey and Gate by St. John's

At this stage the Northland Hockey grounds are still off limits for our pupils who use it to walk through to meet parents or to walk down Park Ave. We will advise you all when the grounds will be open again, at this stage not until after 16<sup>th</sup> March. The gates leading to hockey and past St. John's Ambulance from our property through to Kensington Park will also be locked for this period too. Children who usually walk across the park will now need to walk down Percy Street and then down Western Hills Drive.

## Results from the School Swimming Sports

We had a wonderful (if a little chilly!) morning at the Pompallier Catholic College pool. Our Year 4-6 swimmers posted some great times as we competed for places in the WPSSA Championship meet on Tuesday March 18<sup>th</sup>. The first and second place getters go through to the champs.

Many, many thanks to our wonderful parents who were life guards, timekeepers and marshalls on the day. We couldn't do it without you!

Year 4 Girls backstroke  
1<sup>st</sup> Mia Diamond 2<sup>nd</sup> Stephanie Berryman  
Year 4 boys backstroke  
1<sup>st</sup> Max Diamond 2<sup>nd</sup> Jayden Milne  
Year 5 girls backstroke  
1<sup>st</sup> Jasmine Jones 2<sup>nd</sup> Isabella Ross  
Year 5 boys backstroke  
1<sup>st</sup> Josh Werder 2<sup>nd</sup> Liam Chapman  
Year 6 girls backstroke  
1<sup>st</sup> Ella Jewell 2<sup>nd</sup> Breaann Matthews  
Year 6 boys backstroke  
1<sup>st</sup> Mac Rivers 2<sup>nd</sup> Josh Otene

Year 4 girls breaststroke  
1<sup>st</sup> Mia Diamond 2<sup>nd</sup> Sydnie Brinn  
Year 4 boys breaststroke  
1<sup>st</sup> Max Diamond 2<sup>nd</sup> Jayden Milne  
Year 5 girls breaststroke  
1<sup>st</sup> Jasmine Jones 2<sup>nd</sup> Keisha Morris  
Year 5 Boys breaststroke  
1<sup>st</sup> Angus Cook 2<sup>nd</sup> Reuben Crum  
Year 6 girls breaststroke  
1<sup>st</sup> Bella Bonetti 2<sup>nd</sup> Lily Martin  
Year 6 boys breaststroke  
1<sup>st</sup> Callum Sullivan 2<sup>nd</sup> Thomas Robinson

Year 4 girls freestyle  
1<sup>st</sup> Mia Diamond 2<sup>nd</sup> Hannah Campi  
Year 4 boys freestyle  
1<sup>st</sup> Max Diamond 2<sup>nd</sup> Noah Reid  
Year 5 girls Freestyle  
1<sup>st</sup> Jasmine Jones 2<sup>nd</sup> Peppa Pooley  
Year 5 boys freestyle  
1<sup>st</sup> Angus Cook 2<sup>nd</sup> Reuben Crum  
Year 6 girls freestyle  
1<sup>st</sup> Bella Bonetti 2<sup>nd</sup> Tatiana Carter-Mills  
Year 6 boys freestyle  
1<sup>st</sup> Kobi Hollis 2<sup>nd</sup> Thomas Robinson

These swimmers should have brought a letter home giving details of the champs at Whangarei Intermediate School on Tuesday March 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Twilight Hockey**

Our season is going very well. Everyone is enjoying their hockey and our parent managers are marvellous. **Subs are now over due!** If you haven't paid your \$10 to Mrs J, please do so this week. The last game of the season is the 26<sup>th</sup> of March.

## St. Francis Xavier School Fortnight Events

all events and dates are subject to confirmation through the fortnightly newsletter

* School Assembly led by Kowhai Whanau (Rms 1,2,3,4)	1.30pm	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March
* WPSSA Swim Champs		Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March
* Pasifica Student Information Evening	5.30pm	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March
* BOT Meeting	7pm	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March
* Postponement date for Swimming Champs		Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
* Olympic Visitor		Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
* <b>GALA</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Saturday 22nd March</b>
* Waitangi Trip Rms 1,10,16		Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March
* New Families Morning Tea	9am-10am	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March
* Waitangi Trip Rms 11, 18	9am	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March
* Yr 4 Te Hana Trip		Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April
* Yr 3 Te Hana Trip		Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April
* Yr 4 WPSSA Summer Tournament		Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April pp 10 <sup>th</sup> April
* Reconciliation Year 4,5&6	10:40-11:30	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April
* PTFA Sausage Sizzle		Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April
* <b>Chrism Mass</b>	<b>12noon</b>	<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b>
* Youth With A Future – Yr 6		Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April
* <b>Holy Week Celebrations</b>	<b>9-10:30am and 1:30-2:30pm</b>	<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b>
* <b>SCHOOL FINISHES</b>	<b>2.50pm</b>	<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b>
* <b>SCHOOL RESUMES Term 2</b>	<b>8.45am</b>	<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>

**School starts at 8.45am**

**Lunch is 12:30-1:20pm**

**We finish 2:50am**

### ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC PLAYGROUP

Meets each Tuesday during term time 9am-11:30am in the Church Hall (next to school). Morning tea is provided, gold coin donation please. Contact Tiffany 021887396 or just come along.

**Turbo Touch** Kensington Park 11<sup>th</sup> March – 15<sup>th</sup> April for 6 wks. 3:45-5:30pm. Mixed yrs 3-8 (minimum 1 girl). \$30pp or \$210 per team. Paul Hope 021 951925 [paul@kidsinaction.co.nz](mailto:paul@kidsinaction.co.nz)

### Tauraroa Area School Inter-School Motorcycle Competition

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March, McCarroll's Property, 69a Cassidy Rd, Paparoa. \$20/rider, teams of 4 riders around a set track. Don McDonald-Spice at Tauraroa Area School for further information and registration

[don.mcdonald-spice@tauraroa.school.nz](mailto:don.mcdonald-spice@tauraroa.school.nz)

**GUITAR LESSONS** If you would like your child to learn guitar this year, please contact David Meredith on 4343459 or 0273832633, or e mail [caramellow@xtra.co.nz](mailto:caramellow@xtra.co.nz).

### "Garage Art"

**After school art classes 2014: 3.30pm - 5pm**

**- Close proximity to SFX (walk/bike) - Art bus pick up available on wet days - Afternoon tea provided Ph Sharlene Crawford on 021 459 002 or 09 459 5691**

### DRAMA CLASSES IN WHANGAREI AND BREAM BAY

Tuesday Whangarei from 3:30 Wednesday Ruakaka from 3:30  
[www.makingascene.co.nz](http://www.makingascene.co.nz) 021 1723568 Helen Morton-Jones

**CITY RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB INC** Trainings: **Tuesday and Thursday 4pm – 5.30pm** JBN- JB1- JB2- JB4

**Contact** JB4 Marcelle Kaipo : 02102009398 JB1 – JB2 Kasey Kaipo-Kemp : 09-4370908

### Marist Hockey

**All queries to Brendon 027 245 7339.**

**Marist Soccer still taking players. Training begins soon**

**Contact Phil Tasker: 4700567 or [taskerp@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:taskerp@mpi.govt.nz)**

### **MARIST HOCKEY – JUNIOR REGISTRATION & TRIALS**

The last registration day for junior players is Friday 14 March upstairs at Hockey Northland from 3pm - 6pm.

TRIALS for ALL Year 5 - Year 8 children will be held on Sunday 16 March.

2.45 - 4pm: Year 5 & 6

3.45 - 5pm: Year 7 & 8

If you are interested in the details of our 2014 Selection Policy or need a registration form, check it out on the website: [www.maristhockey.sportingpulse.net](http://www.maristhockey.sportingpulse.net)

### **SACRED HEART COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS**

2015 is the inaugural year for Sacred Heart College launching the Endeavour Scholarship Programme. This programme was launched by the Governor-General of New Zealand in October 2001. The programme is open to Catholic Maori and Pasifika boys who are currently in Year 6 or Year 8 at their present school for Year 7 or 9 intake in 2015.

The Scholarship provides opportunities for four boys each year to receive an education at Sacred Heart College for their remaining school years. This is a financial scholarship which includes financial contributions, boarding fees if applicable (from Year 9). Sacred Heart are now seeking applications for 2015 for four places and applications close 28 March 2014. The Scholarship programme is designed for students who display leadership potential, academic ability and participate in cultural activities.

For further information [enrolments@sacredheart.school.nz](mailto:enrolments@sacredheart.school.nz)