

St. Francis Xavier Catholic School

*"To Love, To Learn and To Serve."
"Kia Aroha, Kia Akona, Kia Aro Atu."*

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No.5 Thursday 2nd April 2015

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

This is our first newsletter since the school Gala Day and it would be remiss of me not to say a huge thank you to everyone, for the mighty effort shown in making the Gala a wonderful success again this year. Although the day was a little overcast and drizzly to start with this did not dampen the spirits of those wonderful volunteers who set up their stalls and prepared for a fabulous day of laughter, enjoyment and fun, by hundreds of members of the public. Wherever I went on the day people were saying that the Gala was amazing. The food was delicious, the entertainment superb and every other aspect was brilliant.

Special thanks to Aynslie Holland and her Gala committee for all of their work leading up to, and on the day of the Gala. A total of \$51,300 was collected and we are waiting for a tally of our final expenses before we can inform you of the profit.

Over the past few years, Gala proceeds have gone towards our new multi-purpose room that is now nearing completion. We still have some money to raise but we are well on the way. This year, the PTFA have identified some projects that they wish to spend our Gala profits on. The list includes the purchase of classroom furniture \$24,000, fit out of the multi-purpose room \$10,000, the purchase and installation of heatpumps for two classrooms \$6,000, library book purchases \$2,000, and funds towards the start of a play scape for children \$4,000. Additional funds are also spent on subsidising school activities, Year 6 prize giving, etc.

My hope is that people will remember the wonderful day that we had, appreciate where the money is being spent and step forward in 2016 to help out, as this continues to be our major challenge. We really need every family to assist even if it is just for an hour on the day. Every student benefits in some way from your contribution.

EASTER: Last weekend at Mass we celebrated Palm Sunday, also known as Passion Sunday. Holy week really begins with this commemoration of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and the events leading up to his death. I encourage you to take your children to Mass this Easter so that they can better understand the meaning of Easter and appreciate why we, as Catholics, celebrate this very special occasion.

***Craig McKernan
Principal***

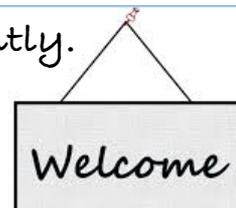
Gala Committee News

Thank you all for a superb day on Gala Saturday. We will send out a final gala newsletter on the second week of term two, to advise amounts raised and other interesting future gala happenings. In the meantime, please visit our webpage <http://sfxgala.weebly.com/2015.html> or facebook page www.facebook.com/StFrancisXavierCatholicSchoolPTFA for pictures and news from the day. Many thanks.

***Aynslie
Gala Coordinator***

Welcome to these students who started at school recently.

Maia and Nakita-Lee Rameka, Jordyn Maria and Molly Franks.



Religious Education

Family Masses

Whanau are rostered to participate in Family Masses on a Sunday at 10:00 am. They were such a success last year. It is very pleasing to see our children involved in our Parish Masses.

Everyone is welcome to come and join these Family/Whanau Masses it is not only for the Whanau that is rostered on, it is for everyone.

Our next Family/Whanau Mass is on Sunday, 26th May at 10:00am.

Kauri Whanau (Rooms 15, 16 and 18) will be participating.

Sacramental Programmes

Congratulations to the children who will complete their Sacramental programmes at Easter. This is a very special time for them.

Reconciliation

Years 5 & 6 children celebrated Rite 2 Reconciliation on last week Wednesday, as part of their Easter preparation. Thank you to all the priests, teachers and children involved. What a lovely way to prepare themselves for Easter.

Holy Week Mass

We celebrated a lovely school Mass yesterday. The Mass replaced the Easter re-enactment and is a very poignant way of remembering the real reason for Easter.

Mothers Day Liturgy

Our Mothers Day Liturgy will be on Friday 8th May at 1.30pm, in the church. Mothers, please come and join us as we thank God for the wonderful gift of our mothers.

Family/Whanau Books

Just a little reminder about the Family/Whanau Books, a fabulous resource book for families that explains what we are teaching in the Religious Education Programme from Year 1 to Year 6.

This is available online at Faith Alive website - by clicking on the [Family](#) tab.

I hope you all have a safe and happy holiday and I look forward to seeing you in Term 2!

Yours in Christ

Maria Russo (DRS – Director of Religious Studies)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION - FAMILY MASSES AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

Youth Masses are 6pm Saturday Vigil Mass on the Saturday night of the second Sunday.

Family Masses.

Fourth Sunday of every month. 10am Children's Lectionary is used and children do the Readings and Prayers of the Faithful.

Flame Group (ages 8-12 years) meet every fortnight on Wednesday from 5.30pm - 7pm in our Parish Hall.

Blaze Youth group meet every Wednesday during the school term in the Parish Hall 7pm-9pm.

Ages 13 upwards.

Any queries contact:

Janet (Parish secretary)

St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish

FAMILY WORKER NEWS

Second-hand Uniforms

With the change over to winter uniforms after the holiday break there will be a number of families requesting second-hand uniform items. At present there are no size 6 long-sleeved winter tops or size 6 shorts. If you have any that you could donate to the school we would be most grateful.

Thank you to all those who have donated food items to the pastoral care basket, provided produce and donated uniform items this term.

I wish you all every blessing this Easter season and that you experience the joy and promise of new life that Easter brings. Have a safe holiday and enjoy your family time.

Liz Beazley (Family Worker)

War Memorial Unveiling

A group of our students participated in the War Memorial Unveiling Ceremony at Laurie Hall Park over the weekend. Over 200 people attended the ceremony and children from many schools placed crosses to represent soldiers who gave their lives in service to our country. Here are some personal thoughts from some of our children who attended.



My favourite part was when we laid the white cross with a poppy on it. When we laid the cross there was a pink dot where to put it. We did it very reverently. It was a lovely experience.

Isabella



In 1914, soldiers went to war for freedom and protection for New Zealand. Now, in 2015, we remember those who fought in the war. Just recently I attended the ANZAC Memorial ceremony. The best part was getting the opportunity to lay a cross in the Field of Remembrance. *Lest We Forget.*

Keisha



My most memorable part was when we laid the crosses and when they told us how many soldiers died in the war. I was so surprised to learn over 60 percent of soldiers who went to war never came home again. It was really sad.

Max

SFX ANZAC SERVICE

All parents and members of the community are warmly welcome to attend our school ANZAC service at 1:30 on Friday April 24th. We will begin the service in the church, and if it is fine we will move outside to our "Field of Remembrance" outside rooms 3 and 4.

Lest we forget

WINTER UNIFORM

Children may start wearing their winter uniform when we return to school after the Easter holidays. We will all need to be in full winter uniforms by the start of week 3, Term 2. Please note - we do not wear a mix of winter and summer uniform. Our winter shoes are flat, black shoes that can be polished. No sneakers, and no suede shoes please. See Mrs J if you have any uniform queries.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Natalie Sayes, Under 11 National Champion. At Easter, Natalie is off to Willoughby, NSW to the Australian Junior Open Age Groups to represent New Zealand. Players from NZ, Australia, Pakistan & Malaysia will be taking part.

Natalie has been seeded No.1 in the Girls Under 11 Age Group.



Coming From Onerahi Each Day?

We have had a special request from a parent who needs assistance bringing her children to school from Onerahi. This parent can contribute towards petrol costs if necessary, or she would like to car-pool with other parents. If you can help please contact the school office and we will pass on her contact details.



School Events

2nd April to 31st April 2015

* SCHOOL FINISHES	2.50pm	Thursday 2nd April
* Senior Camp - Rms 10, 13 and 19 return approximately 4.30-5.00 pm.		Thursday 2 nd April
* SCHOOL RESUMES Term 2	8.45am	Monday 20th April
* Senior Camp to Kawau Island	Rms 1, 16 and 20	Tue 21 st - Fri 24 th April
* ANZAC Liturgy	1.30pm	Friday 24 th April
* ANZAC Public Holiday	School Closed	Monday 27 th April

SCHOOL STARTS 8:45am

INTERVAL 10:15-10.35
SCHOOL FINISHES 2.50pm

LUNCH 12:30-1.20pm

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

ALL BLACKS CAMP FOR KIDS SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

We would like to invite all kids aged between 5-12yrs to join our "All Blacks Camp for Kids" School Holiday Programme. Spaces are limited, so please make your booking early to avoid disappointment. Please read the "All Blacks Camp for Kids" holiday programme flyer on the school noticeboard or contact Paul Hope on Hm Ph: 4363045, Mobile Ph: 021951925. Email: paul@kidsinaction.co.nz

ALL STARS-KIDS IN ACTION

We will be running our All Stars-Kids in Action OSCAR school holiday programme on the following dates: Tuesday 7th - Friday 10th April and Monday 13th - Friday 17th April. The venue will be: Raumanga (The Pulse) OSCAR School Holiday Programme (8.00am-5.30pm) \$35.00per day, ages 5-14 years. Spaces are limited. Activities will include: Movies, Swimming, Turbo Touch, Basketball, Bike riding, scooter and skate boarding arts & crafts & more. For further information visit our website: www.kidsinaction.co.nz or contact Paul on 021951925.

HOCKEY NORTHLAND, YEAR 3 – YEAR 6 SMALL STICKS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME In association with Robin Walter Farms. Monday 13th April – Wednesday 15th April 9am – 12noon daily, \$15.00 per child per day. Goalkeeper coaching on Mon & Tue (must provide own gear). Skills, hockey knowledge, small games, heaps of FUN. Registrations – www.surveymonkey.com/r/APRILREGO For more information please email – brad@northlandhockey.org.nz

HOLIDAY CUPCAKE COURSE

Holiday cupcake course ages 6 and up – Come and learn to decorate 6 Easter cupcakes. Dates: 7 April – 17 April, only 5 people per class. Only \$30. Please book online at www.caketinlove.co.nz or phone Kim on 4329811 or 0275618112.

KIDZONE HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Kidzones operate from Kamo, Whau Valley and Tikipunga Primary Schools. Book in now to ensure a space in our fun filled programmes. The latest itinerary is now online at www.kidzones.co.nz Enrolments can made directly online. Contact Sandra North 021 249 3308 or 43 53342.

MAUNU EDUCARE - APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME 2015

We are opening on Tuesday 7th April to Friday 17th April = 9 days. 8.00am to 5.30pm, based in the Maunu School Hall. Activities include a trip to MYbounce - trampolines, movies, WAGs, wheels day, trip to Hurupaki along with other action packed days. The programme is OSCAR accredited, families can apply for WINZ assistance – conditions apply. Discounts available for two or more children from the one family. To view and download forms go to www.schoolholidayprogrammes.co.nz or contract Christin on 0274-821331 or info@schoolholidayprogrammes.co.nz for more information.

MULTI-SPORT EASTER HOLIDAY COURSE

Let the kids enjoy the holidays on this multi-sport course. Whilst on the course they will experience a variety of different sports. Dates: 7-10 April and 14-17 April. Venue: Cobham Oval. Times: 8am to 5pm.

Cost: \$40 per day or \$140 for the week.

For more information or to book a place contact

Sam at – samw@northcricket.co.nz

NORTHERN FOOTBALL FEDERATION SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

at Tiki Sports Park during the second week of the school holidays for children aged 7 – 12 years old. For those younger children wanting to increase their skills, we run a Fun Football Centre at Kensington Stadium for 8 weeks during term 2 – commencing Tuesday 21st April to 4-8 year olds. For more information contact Christine Taylor Ph: 021795074, DDI: 4377294.

NORTHLAND YOUTH THEATRE is running a holiday programme in the 2nd week of the holidays:

For 9-13 year olds on Tues 14, Wed 15 and Thurs 16 April from 9am-12pm.

Exploring theatre with fun games, working on text and expression. Cost: \$60.

To book a place please contact the office on 438-4453 or office@nyt.org.nz – minimum numbers apply.