

3 December

Focus for the Week: The First Sunday of Advent

Our new Church year begins. The first Sunday of Advent and Christmas draws near very quickly. Remember what that is all about. We are in preparation for the birth of our New Saviour.

God is no longer hidden from us. We cannot claim that we do not know Him. He has revealed himself to us, face to face, in the person of Jesus Christ. This Advent, let us strive to open ourselves anew and welcome Him into every corner of our lives. May our faith lead us to walk more in the light of the Lord.

Value Focus for the Week: To prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ.

Success Criteria: Pray for faith and that we focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Principal's Platform: Last week it was announced that the Pope has made our parish priest; Father Frank, a Monsignor. Monsignor Frank is an extremely hard working priest who runs the largest parish in the diocese, is parish priest also at Melville and is Chaplain to Marian, St Pius X School, St John's College and Sacred Heart. As a school we are extremely grateful for his generosity of time, friendliness and leadership. I am confident that you will agree that it is a well deserved honour for a faithful servant of God.

Pupil reports will be sent home on Wednesday, 10 December along with the 2009 Stationery lists for each age group for next year. The class lists for 2009 will be published on the afternoon of Monday 15 December; these will be on display at the Whare. The lists are published before the end of the school year so that as a parent you able to act positively and encourage prospective classmates around to play over the holidays and also for your child to start the year with the security of at least knowing their teacher's name. Please do not ask for classes to be changed around once they are published, as any request will be declined.

As mentioned a few weeks ago, a number of accounts remain unpaid for the year which continues to frustrate me. While the amounts may not be huge in the eyes of some, the accumulated effect is taking its toll on our balance sheet. All debts will be discussed at next week's board meeting with consideration being given as to what sanctions can be imposed next year against families with historical debt. If this applies to you then you will know. Avoid the embarrassment and pay up. Am I grumpy, yes! Please note that on the **last day** of the year, **Wednesday 17 December**, classes will finish at 12 noon.

Junior Nativity Play Reminder: This Friday, 2pm in the Boarders Hall. Please park in the Church Car Park.

Celebrating Success: Congratulations to the following students who have achieved well this week.

- Caleb Hilton who received a medal for 'Most Improved Junior' in the Frankton Youth Division, 2008 St John's Cadets.
- Amelia Joshy who gained Distinction in the Trinity Guildhall, Grade 1, Speech and Drama examinations.
- Sam Franicevic and Callum Maxwell who have been selected in the boys Under14 Waterpolo team to travel to Wellington for the national Champs next week.
- Tara Fernandez-Ritchie (Rm20) won the Outstanding Inspirational Bible Reader (Senior Level) in the Bible Reading Challenge held at St Matthew's Church on Sunday 30 Nov. Readings were judged according to understanding meaning, reverence and clarity.

Pasifika Culture Group: Kia Orana! Malo e lelei! Kona Mauri! Hello! Aloha! Kia Ora! Talofa lava! Warm Pacific Greetings!

Thank you/faafetai lava to all our families, who have returned their permission slips and to those who are able to help. Where are we going? ...

St Stephen's Church in Tamahere, Fri 5 December.

Bus leaves from school at 10:15am.

Reminder: Girls white blouses.

Children will be getting dressed in the school hall at 9:15.

Next Pasifika performance is next Wednesday 10th Dec so please return permission slips. See you there!

Any queries to Louella Dinnan Rm 12

Jump Rope money must be in by Friday. Child who has collected the most money receives a prize

Cricket Draw

Friday 5 Dec 5:30 start

Stumpers vs Cambridge Runners @ Victoria Sq, Cambridge

Blasters vs Newstead Strikers @ Uni 2 (grass)

All Stars vs Melville Green - **CANCELLED**

Thunderbolts vs Cambridge Colts @ Uni 4

Saturday 6 Dec 9am start

Force vs Matamata 2 @ Matamata Intermediate

Strikers vs Cambridge Knights @ Marian School

Blockers vs Tamahere Knights @ Tamahere School

Good Luck to Marian Red Waterpolo team who take on Southwell in the final of the Primary School Championships tonight (6:40pm) at Te Rapa Pools. Come along and support our team.

Found: A diamond engagement ring. Please see Marian at office and give description. If not claimed by Friday it will be handed to the police.

AMERICAN CHEERLEADING IS COMING TO HAMILTON

The first practice will be as follows:

Frankton Rugby Club Room

Rifle Range Road, Frankton, Hamilton

Tuesday 2nd December, 5-6pm

First practice will be free!

Trust Waikato Symphony Orchestra – presents:

'From the Movies,' Film scores from Raiders of the Lost Ark, Star Wars, Lord of the Rings, 2001, James Bond, Dambusters and also Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue. Soloist – Maria Mo and Conductor – Rupert D'Cruze.

Tickets available from Hamilton City Libraries or e-sales; www.ticketdirect.co.nz School children free.

Sunday 7 December at 2:30pm. Founders Theatre

For Sale:

- Girl's Uniform: size 14 Long Sleeve Polo shirt, size 14 jersey, size 12 shirt, 6months old. \$120.00 the lot. Phone Mary 827 5589
- Sacred Heart Girls Uniform – PE uniform size Medium and a large jumper for sale. Phone Claire 855 0828

Wanted: Second hand piano, second hand T.V – 21" or larger. Please phone 855 4595

Jazz Unlimited & Planet Dance 2008

Christmas Show – 'The Toy Shop'; Founders Theatre, Fri 5 Dec at 7:30. Tickets from TicketDirect. Ph 838 1111 \$25 adults and \$12 16 and under.

Sausage Sizzle: This Friday - \$1.00 each

Museum Activities:

• **Clay for Kids**

Saturday, December 13, 10.30am and 1.30pm

Children can come along and make a tile out of clay that could be for a present or for their room. We provide the clay and teach some simple skills. They can collect these after they have been fired, in time for Christmas. \$4 per child. Call the Museum to book 8386606.

There are also Waiclay events for adults on the day, with the Judge's Walk and Talk for Waiclay exhibition at 10am and a panel of prominent potters at 1pm.

• **Come along to "Awesome Activities" for more holiday fun at the Waikato Museum.**

January 19 – 30, Monday – Friday (not Anniversary day)

11am – 12. Come along and create something awesome; these holidays it will be making things with modelling plasticine, making a special taonga to wear, making a children's book. A caregiver must stay somewhere in the Museum while children are at Awesome Activities. \$5 per child. Bookings are necessary as numbers are limited. 8386606

Tennis Holiday Programme: 5 – 30 January 2009. @ St Peter's Tennis Club, Palmerston St, Hamilton. and Hamilton Squash and Tennis Club, Tristram St, Hamilton. For enrolment or details phone 853 3017.

God Bless You

John Coulam
Principal

Out of School Music Notice

With the exception of Flute and Friday Violin Classes, lessons have finished for 2008.

Please return all hire instruments and books to Mrs Jordan at the office by Tuesday 9 December. If you wish to use your instrument over the holiday break you must complete and return the form below.

I currently have a school hire instrument and would like to keep it over the Christmas holiday break.

I understand that this does not ensure that I will have a school instrument for next year.

I undertake to take responsibility for the careful handling of the instrument while in my possession.

INSTRUMENT.....SERIAL NUMBER.....
CHILD'S NAME.....PH.....
PARENT SIGNATURE.....

Scholastic Book Orders: Due in 10 December. No late orders