

29 March

Focus for the Week: *Solidarity is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all...*

Pope John Paul II

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Principal's Platform:

Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation Catholics have an opportunity to turn back to God through prayer and a time of reflection. Over the next week, Father Frank will visit all classes from Year 5 to 8 for children to receive this sacrament.

An Act of Contrition that I use with children at this school is, "O My God I am very sorry that I have sinned against you, because you are so good I promise to try harder in the future".

The Church encourages all Catholics who have made the Sacrament of Reconciliation to go to reconciliation at least once a year, ideally during the Lenten period. There will be an opportunity for parents to go to reconciliation next week through the parish on Tuesday 4 April at 2p.m. and 7.15 p.m.

The **school car park** has regrettably been the scene of at least three verbal altercations this year at the end of school. The issue appears to be around people parking where designated spaces aren't, in particular where cars turn by the whare. If you find the school car park a stressful place, then arrange to pick your children up at 3.20 p.m., by then most of the traffic has gone.

Marist Junior Soccer: Shorts and socks will be available from our school uniform shop, as from Monday 3 April, from 2.30 p.m. through to 3.30 p.m. Coaches will be advised of teams this week and should make contact with families before the end of this term.

Welcome: We warmly welcome the following children and their families into our school community: Sophie Vosper (Rm3), Andrew Burns (Rm3) and Iris Schioppa (Rm4).

Solidarity Day: Last Friday, we witnessed a wonderful example of community, when pupils from a number of our Catholic Schools in Hamilton, joined us for Solidarity Day. Not only

did we witness community in the schools coming together to celebrate Mass and a simple rice meal, but in the number of parents who gave up their time to come along and cook the rice and then share the meal with the students. Over eight hundred students, teachers and parents participated in the rice meal. Marian School raised a total of \$976.00 and \$274.00 from the other visiting Catholic schools. The total will be forwarded to Caritas in support of aid projects around the world – with a specific focus on Indonesia. So a sincere thank you to all those parents who gave so generously of the time and embraced the spirit of the occasion. Without your wonderful support Solidarity Day just wouldn't happen.

Reminder – Australasian Computer Examinations: These will be held on Tuesday 4 April. Those students who are sitting this exam will need to be at school on time.

From Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary:

Cancellation of Triduum 30 March –I April. We regret, that due to an accident, Fr Al is not able to lead the Triduum.

Reminder to Parents: The school grounds open at 8am. We cannot provide supervision at an earlier time and therefore it is unsafe practice for parents to drop their children off before 8am.

St Mary's Scout Group: Some of the scouts will be selling chocolates as a fundraiser on Thursday and Friday this week after school outside Te Whare Taonga. \$2.00 each.

Thank You: A big thank you to the Radio station, Classic Hits, for coming to Room 9 and recorded our Happy Birthday song for the airwaves. We were proud of our singing and have all enjoyed eating the box of apples and bananas. They were fresh and delicious.

Student Leaders: Congratulations to our student leaders for 2006. Our Senior Students were asked to write and present a résumé outlining their qualities, skills and vision for Marian School. Peers and teachers then considered who might represent the views and concerns of their class as they meet in the Student Council.

We look forward to their input throughout the year as they work alongside students, teachers and the Board, to see some of their excellent ideas come to fruition.

Environment/Property: Brendan Versluys,
Jordan Callaghan, Kate Sandwell.

Fundraising: Conor Maxwell, Neshma Emille,
Elaine Gyde

Team Events: Hayley Flett, Nathan Jones,
Ursula Frickey

Celebrating Success: Megan Proctor
Luc Powell-Reymer, Shannon Halley

Hospitality: Michael MacKenzie, Ji Soo Lee,
Tess Benseman

St Paul's Collegiate Entrance

Scholarships: These are available at the Marian school office for boys wishing to enter into St Paul's as a Yr 9 student in 2007. The scholarships are worth 50% of tuition fees to the highest scoring student(s) and are re-awarded annually. The Entrance Examinations will be held, Saturday 6 May.

Netball Trials – for Yrs 7 & 8 students will be held on Thursday by the Marist Block.

Yr7 – 3:30 – 4:15pm

Yr8 – 4:15 – 5:00pm

Please bring appropriate PE gear and sneakers.

Cricket Draw:

Friday cricket has finished for the season

Saturday cricket - 1 April – final round

Blasters vs Morrinsville Int Misfits @ Steele Park 2

Force – BYE

Strikers vs Tamahere @Raymond Park 1

Flippa-ball: Final game this Sunday

Seals vs Penguins @ 3pm

Marlins vs Te Rapa @ 4pm

Waikato Winter Show 5-7 May - Competitions for Students:

The Winter show has categories for students to enter – Girls and Boys up to and including 13 years of age.

Categories include; Junior Textiles, Junior Food Technology, Junior Floral Art, Computer Graphics, Junior Art & Craft, Floral Art, Art, Hobbies.

Registrations available at the school office.

Childcare Required: For 5 year old boy in own home, 3 nights per week. Please phone Tracey 853 8659 or 021 778 375.

Transport required for one child on a Wednesday and Friday morning from Thornton Estate, Nawton. Would pay petrol or do the pick up run at 3pm to compensate. Call Kersti on 021 253 7998 or 834 2280.

Rimbrook Study Centre – Easter Workshop:

Traditions from around the world to make the celebration more meaningful for your family. Thursday 6 April at 7:30pm. Cost \$5.00 Phone Dianne Willcock, 856 8784.

YMCA Holiday Programmes: Activities such as movies, sports day, army day, waterworld, horse riding and lots more. For Boys and Girls 5-15 years old. Phone 838 2529 or book online @ www.nzymca.com See school notice board for more information.

New theatre company for kids!!



Kinetic Kids Theatre

Venue: New Place Theatre,
University of Waikato

Time: Tuesdays 5 – 6pm

Working for Families new package – Are You Eligible?

From 1 April, more families will be eligible for Family Assistance tax credits, and levels have been raised to include working families with higher incomes.

See chart;

No. Children	Annual Family Income up to
1	\$ 69,320
2	81,540
3	93,760
4	109,880
5	126,000
6	142,120

For more info see the website;

www.workingforfamilies.govt.nz/news/200602.html

Part Time Vacancy : Scallywags Playgroup require a kitchen co-ordinator for 2½ hours on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9am – 11:30am. Phone Raewyn for details 856 5006.

Sausage Sizzle: This Friday - \$1.00 per sausage

God Bless You

John Coulam
Principal