

14 February

**Focus for the Week** *“Discovering Christ in the Silence of Lent”*

*Ash Wednesday, 21 February 2007, begins the great Season of Lent. How will you ‘Discover Christ in the Silence of Lent’ this year? Here are two ancient forms of preparation: fasting and abstinence.*

*In the Bible, there are many examples of fasting. Perhaps the most well known example is that of Jesus himself, who fasted in the desert. Since then, the use of fasting as a means of helping us draw more closely to God, has had a long and rich history in the tradition in the Catholic Church.*

*Today, the Church asks us to fast, and to abstain from eating meat (abstinence) on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.*

*As we Christians prepare to enter the desert with Jesus during Lent, and as we stand before the Cross of Christ on Good Friday, fasting and abstinence helps us to be with Jesus who suffered, died and rose again that ‘...we might have life, and have it to the full’ (John 10:10).*

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

**Principal’s Platform:**

At the end of last year I surveyed the school community as part of gathering information to help develop a travel plan for Marian school. The responses from families represented 548 pupils and the pupil survey was responded to by 531 students. In all my years as a school principal this would have to be the biggest response to any survey far surpassing the normal favourite of uniform surveys. The results present good information particularly around the number of children walking, bussing and travelling to school by car. The surveys along with photographic evidence of chaos at the school gate gathered at the same time, highlight the need to improve pedestrian access into the school and to investigate options of carpooling and improved bus services. I am looking for any parents that might be able to assist me taking this further by being part of a Marian School Travel Plan ‘think tank’. This would not be an onerous responsibility, but would involve perhaps six or seven meetings this year to share ideas and develop initiatives with representatives of the Hamilton City Council. If you are willing to assist please contact me directly. I am excited about the possibilities a Travel Plan may bring to this school but I need support to bring the dreams to a reality.

**Bereavements:** We offer our deepest sympathies to the following families.

- Ben & Matthew Wheatley whose much loved grandfather passed away in the holidays.
- Chloe & Sarah Pennell whose grandfather also passed away.
- Jade & Ursula Staples whose much loved grandmother passed away

May they Rest in Peace

**Mass:** will be celebrated by the students of Team 4 on Thursday at 9:45am. All welcome.

**Email addresses:** I need to update my data base - please see reply slip below. If you wish to receive your newsletter via the email, please fill in the reply slip below and return to the school office.

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB**

Scholastic book orders will go to each child's teacher with exact payment in an envelope with teacher's name and room number. Please ensure the child's name is on the order form.

This is a change of organisation for 2007 and your teacher will help you with any queries. The closing date for the first order is **Friday 16th February**.

Thank you  
Barbara Brown  
Librarian

**PTFA AGM:** Monday 19 February at 7:30pm. We welcome any new members

**PTFA Cook Book:** We still have plenty of Cookbooks for sale. \$10.00 each. These are a great fundraiser for the school.

**Out of School Music Lessons:** Please return your forms to the office by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb

**Urgent!** Could the parent who borrowed ‘The Rainbow Reading ‘Series (tapes and books from Room 11 during 2006, please return these to Claire Bradley.

**Soccer Muster:** Will be held Sunday 25 February (not March as previously advertised) from 11am – 1:00pm. Registrations available for boys and girls. Shorts and socks also available for purchase. If you are unable to attend the muster, Registration forms will be available at the school office.

**Weetbix Triathlon:** Congratulations to all the children from Marian School who took part in this event last Sunday. Well done!



**St Mary's Scout Group:**

We have places available in the following-

**Keas;** 6-7yrs, meet Scout Den, Mondays 5:30-6:30pm

**Cubs;** 8-10yrs, meet Scout Den, Mondays 6:45-8:15pm

**Scouts;** 10.5-15yrs, meet Scout Den Tuesdays 7:00-9:00pm

Groups have started for the year, but if interested, please bring your child for a visit. Phone Dave 856 7243

**Cathedral Children's Choir:** Come and join our choir and become part of a friendly and rewarding ministry. All welcome – no audition required.

Rehearsals in the Cathedral 3:20 – 4:30pm every Wednesday, first practice 21 February. Afternoon tea provided.

**For Sale:** a pair of right-handed cricket gloves. Suitable for Year 6-8 Cricket. Unwanted gift, still in packet \$15.00. Phone Nathan 856-8784

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to Stefan Krystman who has been selected to represent NZ at the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Youth Karate Championships in Chiba, Japan. Stefan is among 3 representatives from Hamilton in the NZ team for these Championships. They will be held in April 2007 and are likely to attract over 1200 competitors. Well done, Stefan – a great reward for all those years of hard training.

**French, Spanish and German lessons for children from 3-12 years** held at various locations including Marian School. Phone Anne Eddy 856 5258 or email [anne@funlanguages.co.nz](mailto:anne@funlanguages.co.nz)

**Tennis:** Southern Pacific Tennis still has some places available in Term 1. Lessons commence this week – so hurry! Saturday afternoon lessons are now available. Phone 853-3017 or email [info@southernpacifictennis.com](mailto:info@southernpacifictennis.com)

Pick up enrolment forms at the school office.

**Babysitter Available:** 17 years old – ex-Marian Pupil. First year Uni student with full driver's license. Doesn't mind late nights. Can provide references. Please phone Emma 027 330 2307 or 856 1615

**CRAFT FOR KIDS**

Tues afternoon: 3:45pm - 4:45pm Tutor: Shan Maas Cost: \$20 per term.

Ph: Waimarie: Ham East Community House on (07) 8583453 to enrol.

**Holy Cross Primary School (Henderson) - 75th Jubilee Celebrations 1932 - 2007**

Friday 01 June 2007, Meet and Greet 7.00 – 10.00pm @ Holy Cross School Hall

Cost \$15.00, Finger food/ Cash Bar

Saturday 02 June 2007 Formal Dinner 6.30 – 12.00midnite, Croatian Centre, Mcleod Rd, Te Atatu South

Buffet Dinner/Cash Bar, Cost \$60.00

To register either

Go to website [www.holycross75jubilee.myevent.com](http://www.holycross75jubilee.myevent.com)

Or

Contact school for registration form Ph (09) 838 8802

**Karate:** New classes in Karate for all ages. Build up self esteem, respect, co-ordination, balance, concentration, awareness, defence, sport, fun, fitness and gain black belt.

Karate Centre, 360 Dey St. NZ National Coach and International Qualified Instructors. Phone Robbie 850 9390 or 021 365 677. email [robbsmith@wadokai.co.nz](mailto:robbsmith@wadokai.co.nz)

**Got a Bike? Join the Revolution!:** The 2007 Perry Foundation Rev Festival of Cycling has three categories especially for under – 18s. There's an event to suit everyone – from the little tackers on training wheels to the 'big kids' in secondary school.

When: Sat 24 February

Where: University of Waikato

Phone: 838 4664

Visit: [www.therev.co.nz](http://www.therev.co.nz) for full details. Entry forms at school office

**12<sup>th</sup> Hamilton Girls Brigade:** invites you to our picnic in the park. Thursday 15 February @ 6pm. Meet at Knox Community Hall, 50 Albert St, Hamilton East. Please bring a picnic. Family and friends are all welcome. Info: Karen Honey ph 07 889 4119

**Insoll Kindergarten:** vacancies are available now for 3 & 4 yr olds. We are fully qualified staff with an exciting programme developmentally appropriate for all children. Please phone 855 5740.

**Computer Repairs:** from \$25.00 per hour. Phone Mike @ Hamilton Computer Repairs 027 484 4548

**Sausage Sizzle:** This Friday \$1.00 per sausage.

God Bless You

John Coulam  
Principal

**Email Address Reply Slip for Newsletters**

Name; .....

Phone Number.....

email; .....

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