

21 February

**Focus for the Week:** Silence does not come easily to us. For most of us, our world is full of noise.

SACRED SILENCE does not come easily to today's Catholics either. But this was not always the case. However, in the noisy world in which most of us now live, we can become deaf to God.

For today's Catholics, SACRED SILENCE must now be taught. It no longer comes to us naturally. It will take time to teach our people the beauty and power of SACRED SILENCE, but it will be well worth the effort. Our liturgy will benefit. Our prayer will benefit. We benefit.

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

### **Principal's Platform**

Nominations open soon for the Board of Trustees elections. The Board are the Governors of the school, approving policy and setting direction based on the strategic plan. They have overall responsibility for the staff as employer, for curriculum development, the maintenance of the school, school finances and for health and safety in the work place. Our Board is made of 6 parent elected members, 4 Proprietor Appointees, a staff representative and the Principal as the Chief Executive officer.

I find the Board to be of immense value as they not only help temper my enthusiasm ensuring that enough consideration has gone into following policy and decision making but they are also an excellent support for me. The Board generally meet on ten evenings a year for about 1.5 hours. The sub committees of the board, Property, Finance, Pupil Welfare, and Policy meet on one evening a month, normally a week out from the Board meeting.

Nominations for the Board of Trustees open on 1 March; Marian in the school office is the returning officer. Consider standing or nominating another as an election is healthy for the school. At least three of the current Board are not standing again. The new Board will take office on 5 April and remain in place for three years.

**Board of Trustee Elections:** The Board of Trustees are calling for nominations of 6 parent representatives to the Board for 2007. Nomination forms will be posted on the weekend. Please seriously consider standing and 'Help Make a Difference'.

The Roll of eligible voters is open and is held at the main school office and we ask you to check that you are on the roll. This roll will close at noon on Tuesday 27 February.

The Nomination forms must be returned to the Returning Officer by **12 noon on Thursday 15 March** and may be accompanied by a candidate's statement of no more than 400 words.

An election will be held if more than six people have put their names forward.

Marian Panettiere – Returning Officer

**Bereavement:** We offer our deepest sympathies to John and Chris Versluys and their family on the death of John's mother who passed away on the weekend. May she rest in peace.

**Welcome:** We warmly welcome into our school community the following children and their families: Rapson Tupuhi (Rm5), Taebo Taraora (Rm4), Eric Leiataua (Rm5) and Lisa Harvey (Rm4)

**New Entrant Parent Meeting:** Tuesday 27 February at 2pm in the Hall for parents of new 5 year olds who have started school.

**Peanut Notice:** A reminder to parents that we have some children in the school who are allergic to peanuts. Traces of peanut butter or peanuts on their hands may be transferred to the playground and other areas of the school and this could

affect one child in particular very seriously. We ask that children do not bring these products to school for their lunches/snacks.

**Hamilton Marist Soccer Club – MUSTER DAY:** This will be held at Marian School on the Junior Deck on Sunday 25 February from 11:00am – 1:00pm. If you cannot make the muster, Registration Forms are available at the school office.

**Attendance Dues:** Over the next few weeks, families will receive their Attendance Dues by post from the Catholic Schools Office at Chanel Centre. If you are experiencing difficulty with your finances, please come and see me to discuss ways in which we might be able to help. You may contact me through the school office during school hours Monday – Thursday.

Martha

**New Parents Morning Tea:** Each term the PTFA has a morning tea to welcome new Parents to Marian School. The Principal, John Coulam and other key members of the staff will be attending. This is a good opportunity to ask those 'silly' questions about how the school is operating or find out about such things as music, sports, lunches etc.

This term's morning tea will be held on Tuesday 13 March at 9:00am in the staffroom (enter just past reception).

If you are considering coming or would like more info, call Ian or Marian at the school office.

**Dental Clinic Consent Forms:** Please return your dental consent forms the next day otherwise the treatment of your child may be delayed.

**Scholastic Book Orders** – please make cheques payable to Marian School.

**International Student Parent Meeting:** Parents and Caregivers of International Students have received an invitation today with the newsletter to attend a meeting in the hall on Tuesday 27 February at 9am.

Students will be entering an ESOL Programme.

Thank you - Delia

**Easter Fundraising Opportunity:** Bakers Delight would like to offer Marian School Community an opportunity to take part in the Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser for 2007. This year, Bakers Delight is offering the following : **a \$1.00 donation to the school** for every six-pack purchased (at just \$6.00).

Please inform the assistants when you buy your 6-pack that you are from Marian School and your purchase will be recorded electronically. The Hot-Cross buns are packed with lots of sultanas, currants and spices. The mouth-watering Choc Chip Hot Cross buns are also for sale.

**O.O.S. Music** –We still have vacancies in clarinet and trumpet. Notices have been sent home today for those enrolled. Classes begin next week.

**AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS:**

This year, the University of New South Wales will hold competitions in **Computers Skills, Science, Mathematics, Writing, Spelling and English for students from Yr 4 to Yr 8.**

These competitions are suitable for students who want or would benefit from the extra challenge. It provides an opportunity to measure their own achievement in an external assessment situation.

Students receive a result, letter and certificate detailing the questions they answered correctly. Certificates are awarded for each Yr level.

The Science, Computer Skills, English and Mathematics entry fee is \$6.50 per competition. The writing fee is \$13.00 as this is individually hand-marked. Spelling is \$8.50 However, it is recommended for the above average spellers only.

The dates for the competition are as follows:

Please fill in the return slip below and send with entry fee to school before **Wednesday 1 March**

Mike Sommerville – Teacher-in-charge

ICAS Subject	Year Levels	Test Date	Entry Fee per student
<b>Computer Skills</b>	Years 4-13	Thursday March 29, 2007	NZD 6.50
<b>Science</b>	Years 4-13	Thursday May 10, 2007	NZD 6.50
<b>Mathematics</b>	Years 4-13	Wednesday May 23, 2007	NZD 6.50
<b>Writing</b>	Years 4-13	Tuesday June 5, 2007	NZD 13.00
<b>Spelling</b>	Years 4-8	Tuesday June 5, 2007	NZD 8.50
<b>English</b>	Years 4-13	Tuesday June 19, 2007	NZD 6.50

**Lost:**

- A black Velcro sandal size 2 not named – size 2 brand name ‘vero’. Please return to Bekithemba Mahaka in Rm 7
- A beige pair of sandals size 2 with Velcro straps unnamed - please return to Bekithemba Rm7

**Spanish For Mothers:** If there are any groups of mothers/friends interested in learning Spanish in a relaxed atmosphere during school hours or would like to know more, please phone Maria 855 7464. (Lessons will be of 1 hour duration.)

**International Student Parent Meeting:** Parents and Caregivers of International Students have received an invitation today with the newsletter to attend a meeting in the hall on Tuesday 27 February at 9am. Students will be entering an ESOL Programme. Thank you Delia

**Ball persons wanted for Tues 6<sup>th</sup> – Sun11th March**

**ASB Pro Circuit Tennis.** If interested, please pick up a registration form at the school office.

**SCRAPBOOKING** Friday afternoons from 12:45-2:45pm. Cost: \$25 + materials which you pay on the first day. Call (07) 8583453 to enrol. Course starts next Friday 2nd March 2007.

**Babysitter Available.** – 19 years old. 2<sup>nd</sup> year Uni student with 5 years child care experience. Phone Sarah 027 3313 138

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

God Bless You

John Coualm  
Principal.

**Flyers:**

- Calendar
- Lenten Message

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**AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS – Reply Slip**  
Please return with **payment to CLASS TEACHER**

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Rm \_\_\_\_\_ Year Level \_\_\_\_\_

Computer Skills	YES / NO	6.50
Science	YES / NO	6.50
Mathematics	YES / NO	6.50
Writing	YES / NO	13.00
Spelling	YES / NO	8.50
English	YES / NO	6.50

**TOTAL** =====

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent / Caregiver)

Ph NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**Entries close THURSDAY 1 MARCH**