

12 December

Focus for the Week: *There Is No Child So Small*

*There is no child so small, no scrap of life so precious who is not born like Jesus, whose cry is like us all.
There is no child unfed, left hungry now at Christmas but God will ask for justice, for shelter and for bread.
There is no child so lost, no refugee so nameless that God will leave us blameless, who share no care or cost.
There is no child so cheap, in warfare or destruction that love cannot take action when God is made to weep.
There is not one of us who could not be more giving, and in the gift more loving, to light a star for peace.*



Shirley Murray

Dear Parents and Friends of the School.

Principal's Platform: Well folks, the school year is fast coming to an end. This will be the last newsletter for the year. On behalf of the staff I wish to thank you all for the wonderful support throughout the year and wish you all a happy and joyful Christmas time with family and friends.

Remember Christ this Christmas, make sure your children know and celebrate the Christian joy of Christmas, sadly it is so easy to get lost in the material world.



I encourage you to create memories for your children so that for years to come they will be able to share these with others. There will be a Christmas vigil Mass at the Cathedral at 6 p.m. on

Christmas Eve, Midnight Mass and Mass at 10.30 a.m. on Christmas Day. St Pius in Melville have a Mass on Christmas day at 9 a.m. and St Mathew's on Silverdale Road has a Mass at 9.30 a.m. on Christmas day.

Next year promises to be another exciting year of development with the emphasis on improving the environment. This includes some extensive restoration work in the gully which once completed will give us another playing surface. Work commenced today in the gully with removal of the pine trees, privet and the Japanese Walnut trees. Before the winter sets in we will replant the banks with groves of native trees. The Diocese has commissioned this work and is working with Nichol Landscaping.

During January a concrete cricket wicket is to be installed on the field and as the year progresses the school car park will be redeveloped with pedestrian access provided. Work commences in early February on the redevelopment of the Cathedral which will be closed from Easter Monday until the start of Term 4.

To those families leaving the school at the end of this year I wish you well. May God bless you all.

MUFTI DAY: This Friday, 14 December, there will be a mufti day for the **cost of a gold coin donation**. The funds from the mufti day and the sausage sizzle will be used to help the families in need over the Christmas period. Thank you for your support .

Help Make Christmas Special for those in Need – Final School Mass: TOMOROW 13 December

Each class will be taking up a gift basket at the end of our year Mass so we ask for donations of a gift that could be given to a child or adult at Christmas time. Please label the gift for whom it is suitable for i.e. girl/boy and the age, adult etc.

Grocery items will also be welcome for the food bank.

Christmas Gift 'Love Vouchers' for Kids, Mums and Dads:

Giving gifts over Christmas is our traditional way of showing love to each other. However, there are many other ways of showing love that don't involve money. Packs are available at \$2.00 each from the school office. Proceeds to assist families in need over Christmas.

Final School Day: The School closes on Thursday 20 December at 12noon and will reopen for instruction on Thursday 31 January 2008. The office will be open in the holidays on Monday 21 January from 9am – 3pm.

From all the Admin staff, we wish you all a joyous Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

God Bless

Marian

School Lunches: Final day for ordering lunch is tomorrow, Thursday 13 Dec. A very big thank you to our lovely lunch order ladies who have given up their time throughout the year; Sandy Fox, Leeann Johnson & Louise Swarbrick.

OUT OF SCHOOL MUSIC

School instruments **MUST** be returned to the office **THIS WEEK** unless a form has been completed re holiday loan. There are **STILL** outstanding music fees - Please settle these this week.

Congratulations:

- To Ian Maxwell who won the Waterpolo fundraising BBQ Raffle.
- Rachael Lamb on completing her Guides Aotearoa Award, the highest award as a Girl Guide. Well done!
- Congratulations to the three Marian Flipper Ball teams on great team work in your final games on Sunday. Well done to the Marlins on coming 2nd overall.



Results of the 2007 Enopi Math Competition:

Congratulations to the following students who both gained distinction;

- Su Jin Lee G-2, Yr3
- Yoon Suh Jang G-3, Yr4

Parenting Tips:

Conversation Starters

- If you were Mum or Dad, what would your top five rules be?
- Which do you like more – being alone or with other people? Why?
- What is the best job in the whole world?
- Why do wars get started between countries? What causes them? What stops them?
- What would you do with a million dollars?
- If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be? Why there?

Teenage Tips

- Take action at first signs of undesirable behaviour. The time to act is the first time they lie, the first time they miss a curfew, 'wag' school or come home drunk. Let them know you are disappointed in them and that you will be expecting much better in the future. Contact parents if other children are involved. Do not make compromises on your own values in an effort to be 'understanding.' make sure there is a consequence, and make it clear that you will not tolerate any dropping of the standards.
- make consequences meaningful (ie painful); Don't get caught in the trap of thinking that your child's unsafe/inconsiderate/destructive illegal behaviour is in any way valid even if 'everyone else's parents let them do it'. If your child breaks the rules then reinforce them. If you take firm steps the first time your child strays, they know you mean business and it may stop them doing it again.
- Fathers – get involved; fathers must take a stand and not just let mum do the disciplining. Dads need to be strict too. Teenagers need their mums but, even more importantly it seems, they need dads with a backbone.

Wanted: Shoe boxes with lids – please give to Room 2. Many thanks – Yvonne Vosper

Readers/Journals: Please check your home for any school reading material. Return to Mrs Keoghan before the end of the week.

Advance Notice: Stephanie Tolan a prize winning novelist for young people is coming to New Zealand in March-April 2008. She will be holding workshops in Auckland. More details to follow in the New Year.

Uniform for Sale: A school jersey \$45., a polar fleece \$25 both size 14. 1 pair culottes at \$20 and 1 pair culottes at \$30. A school hat \$5. and a PE Uniform \$20. Please phone Iris 856 0006 or 027 218 0744.



Free to a Good Home: An adorable female tabby kitten with white bib and paws. Please phone Julie 856 0234 or leave a message on 0274 811 764.

Keyboard Scholarship 2008: This scholarship offers keyboard lessons by Kids on Keys for one primary or intermediate age student to attend these lessons for all of 2008 for free.

All tuition costs and books will be provided by Kids on Keys. Lessons are held after school hours and can be attended at any of the following venues

- Bankwood Primary
- Forest Lake Primary
- Cambridge primary.

If this sounds like you, please fill out the application form available at the school office.

Looking for an interesting outing for the kids during the holidays?

Enjoy some fine weather and come and pick your own blueberries at Blueberry Country! At \$7.50/kg picking your own blueberries is a fun and cheap way to get your blueberries, also a great new experience for the kids! We are open 7 days a week 8am-5pm (excluding public holidays). Our address is 397 Jary Rd, Ohaupo. We would love to see you! Eftpos available. If you have any queries, please contact us on 07-823-6923.

Adjustment to last week newsletter item –

babysitter available: Jubilee would like to acknowledge that Ashleigh spent time at Jubilee as part of work experience through Sacred Heart Girls College. We wish her every success in her future endeavours.

Tennis and Sport Holiday Programme: from 7 Jan – 1 Feb. St Peters Tennis Club, Ph 853 3017

- Lil Kiwis 5-8 yrs ½day or full day, Mon – Fri
- Pure Tennis 9-12 yrs ½day or full day Mon – Fri
- Term 1 Tennis Coaching starts 11 February 2008. phone for details.

Sausage Sizzle: \$1.00 per sausage

God Bless and have a Safe and Happy Christmas.

John Coulam
Principal

Flyer

- HCC - Cycling



Important dates to remember

Date	
13 Dec	9:30 – Full School Mass with farewell to Colin & Barbara Smith and Mrs Claire Bradley
14 Dec	Team 3 Pools T2 Athletics Steele Park Yr 1 Teddy Bears Picnic & Yr 2 Fun races
17 Dec	Team 4 Pools
18 Dec	Thank you morning tea for parents
19 Dec	Carol Service 5:30pm
20 Dec	School closes at 12noon
21 Jan	Office reopens
31 Jan	School reopens