

4<sup>th</sup> February 2010



Newsletter No 1

Quality + Support + Values

Dear Parents  
Kia ora koutou. Greetings

*Welcome to the 2010 school year at St Francis Xavier School. It is wonderful to have the children back at school looking refreshed and excited after the holiday break. 2010 promises to be an exciting year with a wide range of learning experiences planned by our teachers.*

### **Welcome**

Welcome to returning children and their families and to our new pupils in Room 1, Tyelah Campbell, Emma Christophers, Aaryan Alexander, Joshua Baughan and Phoenix Leef-Harris. Happy school days to you all.

We also welcome Anna Anderson (Term 1 only) in Room 3, Josh Sullivan in Room 5 and Tyler Allen in Room 4 who are University of Otago College of Education student teachers who are participating at our school this year.

### **Dates for 2010**

- Term 1 – 3<sup>rd</sup> February to Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April
- Term 2 – 19<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July
- Term 3 – 19<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September
- Term 4 – 11<sup>th</sup> October to Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December

School will be closed for the following holidays:

- 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Otago Anniversary Day
- 7<sup>th</sup> June – Queen's Birthday
- 25<sup>th</sup> October – Labour Day

**The Mass to celebrate the beginning of the  
School Year will be held on**

**Sunday 21st February  
9.30a.m.**

*We look forward to seeing you all there.*

### **Mass**

- Mass is held every Sunday at 9.30am
- Altar Servers – 7<sup>th</sup> February – Josh Hook and Brenda Garcia

### **Assembly/Shared Prayer Timetable**

5<sup>th</sup> February – NO Assembly or Shared Prayer  
12<sup>th</sup> February - 2.30pm Assembly  
19<sup>th</sup> February - 2.40pm Shared Prayer led by Room 5  
26<sup>th</sup> February - 2.30pm Assembly  
5<sup>th</sup> March - 2.40pm Shared Prayer led by Room 2  
12<sup>th</sup> March - 2.30pm Assembly  
19<sup>th</sup> March - 2.40 Shared Prayer led by Room 4  
26<sup>th</sup> March - 2.30pm Assembly  
1<sup>st</sup> April - 2.15pm Easter Liturgy

### **Meet the Teacher Evening**

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00pm – make a note of this now.

### **New Parents**

Room 1 teacher, Katie Galt will outline the New Entrant routines and programme after school next Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Meet in Room 1.

### **Parent/Teacher Interviews**

Parent/Teacher interviews will be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March. However, please feel free to contact your child's teacher to discuss or support your child's education at any time of the year. Open and regular communication between teachers and parents is important in maintaining consistent learning.

### **Discovery Time**

We are continuing to run Discovery Time for our Year 1, 2 and 3 pupils. This is a time when children are given the opportunity to spend time at activity stations, usually based on a theme. This will take place on Friday mornings. The children learn through play while the teachers learn through observation/questioning.

### **School Stationery/Activity Account**

Children have been supplied with their stationery requirements and we will send out accounts soon. Included with the Stationery Account will be a charge for activities such as museum visits, visiting performers and bus trips. If you have any difficulties with these accounts, please see Lorraine or Craig.

### **School Organisation**

- Room 1 – Year 0/1 Katie Galt (Reading Recovery Teacher)  
Andrea Christophers (Reading Recovery Release Teacher)
- Room 2 – Year 1/2 Teenaka Kennedy (Deputy Principal)
- Room 3 – Year 2/3 Marnie Waaka
- Room 4 - Year 4/5 Megan Kitto
- Room 5 – Year 5/6 Pauline Kearsley (Directory of Religious Studies)

Principal – Craig Ward  
Wee Kids Wednesdays Release – Andrea Christophers  
Teacher Aide Support and Library – Wendy Moir  
Teacher Aide - Wanda Wright  
School Office Manager/Secretary – Lorraine Knowles  
Cleaner – Tony Brown

### Contact Information

It is important that parents advise the office of any changes of contact details such as address, telephone numbers, emergency contacts, etc that may have changed from last year. Please do this as soon as possible.

### Absences

Please phone the school office before 9.00a.m. if your child is absent.

### Medical Conditions

Please advise Lorraine at the office if your child has a medical condition that we should know about. Any medicines (e.g. inhalers) must be kept in a safe place and it is important that we be advised of any allergies, etc so that we can correctly monitor any situations that may arise.

### Sunhats

*Sunhats are compulsory and necessary during Terms 1 and 4.  
They are available from the school office at a cost of \$10.*

### Lunch Orders

If you would like more information about lunches, see Lorraine in the office. During Terms 2 and 3 we will be heating lunches for children (more information later).

- Smart Lunches are available on Mondays (starting next Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February). Cost of the Smart Lunches is:
  - -\$2.00 and comprises of 2 sandwiches/pizza buns, biscuit/muffin, milk pudding/jelly and a piece of fruit, or
  - \$3.00 for the same as above with an extra sandwich

Orders need to be in an envelope with name and order on the outside and placed in the labelled container in the office before 9.00a.m.

- PTA BBQ's/Hot Lunches will be available on Wednesdays. This is a fundraiser so look out for what is on the menu in the weekly newsletter. Once again orders need to be placed in the labelled container in the office by 9.00a.m. in a named envelope.

We are a bit short of helpers this year to prepare our lunches as we lost a couple of our Year 6 parents. It is not a big job – just an hour on a Wednesday to heat up and serve the children lunches. I make up a roster so it is only once a term if we get enough helpers. If you are able to help out please let Lorraine in the office or Andrea in Room 1.

### **PTA LUNCH**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

- **American Hotdog - \$2.00**  
*(frankfurter in bread roll with choice of mustard or tomato sauce)*
- **Juicie - \$1.00**

Orders in named envelope please - to the office by 9.00a.m.

### **Museum Visit**

As part of our Inquiry Based Learning topic classes will visit the Museum on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February (Rooms 1, 2 and 3) and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> (Rooms 4 and 5). Notices seeking help with transport will be issued soon.

### **Sports Information**

- Flipperball & Touch – (Yr 3-6) We have asked for registrations for both Flipperball and Touch for Term 1 teams. If you are registering for either or both these sports teams, **notices need to be back to the office by tomorrow, Friday 4<sup>th</sup>** as team entries need to be in next week. Please see Teenaka or Lorraine for forms.
- T Ball – Teams continue on from Term 4 last year. Games start next Saturday.

### **Caversham Highway Improvements: Lookout Point Intersection**

Plans of proposed changes to the Lookout Point Intersection are available at the office. Comments on the plans are being sought by OPUS and can be left at the school office.

### **Lost Property**

Clothing which was left at school at the end of last year will be displayed outside Room 5 tomorrow. Unclaimed items will be sent to St Vincent de Paul.

### **School Uniform**

Just a reminder that when you purchase any items of school uniform from Postie Plus, please mention our school so we can receive the 10% cashback fundraising reward they offer. This is an easy way for the school to receive extra funds. Last year we received around \$800.

### **Reading Recovery**

Teenaka has provided Reading Recovery lessons for pupils over the last 6 years. She had helped many pupils accelerate their reading progress with day 30 minute, 1 to 1 lessons. Thank you Teenaka. We are pleased to now have the opportunity to train Katie as a Reading Recovery teacher. She begins her training this week.

### **Notices**

There are a number of notices about sports groups, after school activities, tuition, etc that have been placed on the office notice board and in the blue folder on the notice board for parents to refer to.

### **Thought for the Week**

“When we do the best that we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life of others.” ..... *Helen Keller*

Have a happy week.

God Bless

Craig Ward