



St. Mary's
School
Carterton

School Newsletter

To act justly, love tenderly, and to walk humbly with God

Term 1 Week 5 - Monday 26th February 2024

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

A new Government means changes for education. Whilst some of the new education policy has been announced, which will actually result in little change for us, the bulk of the changes regarding assessment and curriculum remain unknown to us at this stage. We hope that these changes will not cause too much disruption or upheaval to teaching programmes or assessment processes, however I will keep you updated as we learn more.

One policy you will already be aware of is **“Phones away for the day”**. This fits well with our current school policy at St Mary's; this mandate gives more weight to school processes which we are grateful for. Any students bringing phones to school must hand them into the office at the start of the day and collect them at the last bell.

Another issue the new Government is tackling is **school attendance**. David Seymour has mentioned bringing in the English system of fining parents who take their children out of school but I'm not sure that will go down well here! We are discussing it as a Board and will be contacting parents of students whose absences we are concerned about. One new initiative is to acknowledge and reward those students who do attend school regularly. These lucky students were the winners of the first attendance awards - well done to them, enjoy your free ice block!



We have quite a lot of new students now using the **school bus service**. This is funded by the Ministry of Education for students who live more than 3.2 kilometres from the school. All bus students were issued with a bus contract last week that needs to be read at home, signed and returned to the office this week please.

Wheels day is Thursday for Rangimarie, Wairua and Tikanga this year with Aroha, Mahaki and Kairangi switching to Fridays. Helmets are compulsory in the school grounds. Now that our new bike shed is in use, it is super important that students and their families take responsibility for bikes at the end of the school day as they are now visible to anyone who comes onto the school grounds.

We are having our **Catholic Special Character Evaluation** in a few weeks. This involves three reviewers being onsite watching lessons, checking our paperwork and meeting with people to ensure we are providing authentic Catholic education. They are keen to hear from parents so please look out for the email from the school office about this.

Karen Goodall - Principal

LENT 2024 This week is Week 2 of Lent and the theme is "Time for Encounter" Here are some ways you could take time to encounter others this week.....

**Go for a walk with someone
and think about the way
Jesus responded to the
different people he met**

**Pray for people who may
be sick, alone or isolated**

**Be grateful and thank the
people in your life who
care and support you
every day**

**Surprise someone you
know with a random act
of kindness**



What's happening at school?

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week 5 26 Feb- 1 March	Newsletter		Cluster swimming sports for year 4-8		Tikanga trip to Golden Shears Student led golden time
Week 6 4 - 8 March				Mass: Rangimarie The Big Swim	Assembly - Kairangi South Wai swimming
Week 7 11 - 15 March	Newsletter School Catholic Review Learning habit reports go home	School Catholic Review	School Catholic Review		Te Papa trip for middles
Week 8 18 - 22 March	Board Mtg 5.30pm		Wai Swimming	Mass - Wairua	Assembly - Mahaki



Movin' March starts up again this week. It celebrates the benefits of walking, scooting and biking to school.

Walking, biking, and scooting to school can help increase independence, physical and mental health, decision making, and road safety skills for tamariki - and the school benefits from less chaos at the school gate.

Completed passports can be swapped at the office for Movin' March rewards.

LUNCH OPTIONS:

Any day

Pies Mince & Cheese OR Steak & Cheese	\$3.00
Butter Chicken)	\$3.50
Mini Mince pies	\$1.00
Cookie Time cookie	\$1.00
Flavoured Milk	\$1.50

JUICIES are available every day for \$1 from the office at second lunch break

Friday lunches

Hot Chips	\$3.00 (new price)
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Feel free to order school lunches via email and pay online into the school bank account as this will save you from coming into the office. admin@saintmarys.school.nz

Our school bank account details are 12 3478 001124 00



PITA PIT (Wednesday)

It's simple; all you need to do is register at www.lunchonline.co.nz and follow 4 easy steps to get started:

Register an account, Add member/s including your name and delivery location

Make a payment to have funds in your account before you order, Select your lunch and place an order.

SPORTS

St Mary's School is joining the other Carterton based schools in a swim-a-thon on Thursday 7th March from 9am - 3pm.

This is part of the Carterton Indoor Pool "the big swim" fundraiser to help save the pool!

Our students from Rangimarie, Wairua and Tikanga will be swimming in the 10am to 11am slot.

We will need to have swimmers in all 3 lanes doing a continuous relay during these times to fulfill the challenge.

Please see our Give a Little link below if you would like to make a donation towards this cause.

[Give a little big swim link](#)



Cluster Swimming Sports 2024
Tikanga, Wairua and some students from Rangimarie
Carterton Town Pool

Wednesday 28 February (pp Friday 1st March)

Warm up 9:30am - 9:55am First event 10:00am

Entries:

1. Age as at 1st February 2024
2. RELAY consists of 5 per team. One from each age group (7/8, 9, 10, 11, 12+). There is a BOYS and a GIRLS relay
3. **12 year old +** age group includes any child who is 13 years old.
4. The **Non Wairarapa Champ** events are for less able swimmers only. Swimmers who are entered in an event for a stroke open to the Wairarapa Champs cannot enter these events.

Kia Ora Whanau,

This note is to give you some information about the Cluster Swim Sports next week. We will walk down to the pool at 9am on Wednesday 28 February. Students can wear their sports uniform to school on the day.

We need as many timekeepers as possible. 3 per lane and we will have 6 lanes. This is the best view of the events, please let Mr B know if you can help.

The classroom teachers are taking entries from the students, check with your child what they have entered. Please get in contact with Mr B if you have any questions. If the students finish in the top 4 in the championship event they qualify for the South Wairarapa Champs on Friday the 8th of March at the Masterton Pool.

The programme starts with the Open 100m freestyle followed by all the freestyle events, all swim strokes go in this age order 9 Year olds first followed by non championship 1 length events for 10, 11 and 12 Years olds, followed by Championship 11, 12 +and last each time 7 and 8 year olds. 7, 8 and 9 year old olds swim 1 length for championship events, 10(only freestyle, breast and backstroke 1 length), 11 and 12= year olds swim 2 lengths. Next is the open butterfly, followed by the backstroke in the same order this time the 10 year olds just swim 1 length. Followed by the breaststroke and the final individual event is the individual medley.

Friends of St Mary's is running a food stall on the day so it would be great if students could support that.



Girls Cricket Wednesdays at 4pm

First game we played Lakeview away. We did really well in our first game keeping Lakeview under 100 and getting 5 wickets, Ekam did a great job as wicketkeeper. In the batting we scored over 50 with Jessie top scoring with 14 not out.

The second game we played St Matts away and we also kept them to 80 runs with Maddie getting a great bowl. Our batting Hazel was in for 9 overs and Aniyah and Brooke had a good partnership. We scored just under 50. Our next two games we play are at Carrington Park against MIS.

Our team is very inexperienced and out of 10 girls 8 are Year 5 & 6's.