

11 March 2014



In a Christian way we learn today for tomorrow

“We should not let our fears hold us back from pursuing our hopes.”

J.F.K



Dear Parents, Pupils and Parishioners,

COOL AT SCHOOL

This week we congratulate **Nathan Upfold**, a Year 8 pupil who has **REALLY** impressed us this year with his positive attitude, participation and contribution to his class and syndicate.

MARRIED WITH CHILDREN

Congratulations to Nui and Lisa O'Malley who celebrated their Silver (25yrs) Wedding Anniversary last Tuesday. May the blessings continue to shower you for the next 25!

ST PATRICK'S DAY – HOW WE CELEBRATE

Since St Patrick's Day falls on a Monday (17th) we have 2 days of activities planned to mark this special occasion.

FIRSTLY – THIS THURSDAY (13th) we will have an early lunch (11.30) and then bus from school to a SECRET destination for an afternoon treat. **SCHOOL UNIFORM** is to be worn but we encourage pupils to wear some small item that is green (eg. A hair ribbon, hair ties, wrist band, badge) no coloured hair, etc. thank you.

SECONDLY – on Monday 17th, we will celebrate with a school liturgy in our hall.

NO SCHOOL – THIS FRIDAY

School is closed **THIS FRIDAY 14th!** A long weekend, so please enjoy it.

ATHLETIC SPORTS – CHANGE OF DATES

The Middle Syndicate Athletic Sports will now be held on **Tuesday 1st April** (not 19 March) and the Senior Syndicate will now be held on **Friday 21st March**.

FREE EYE TESTING

Specsavers Napier are offering **FREE EYE TESTS** for St Patrick's School Students (a voucher attached to newsletter). A great opportunity to check your child's eyesight and give you peace of mind.

KAPA HAKA AT ST PATRICK'S – Ka rawe hoki!

A number of our students have the opportunity (starting next week) to participate in Kapa Haka. Our junior syndicate will be involved on Friday afternoons and our middle / seniors (Year 4-8) will be scheduled for Thursday afternoons.

We welcome Periri King (P.K) who will tutor and guide our pupils. Here's hoping for an “inspiring” 2014 – ka mau te wehi!

CRAFTY PEOPLE – LAST CALL!

The PTA are looking for crafty people who would like to participate in a craft stall at the school, 30 March. Contact Kathleen (843.9477 or 021.331.723) for details.

I.C.A.S TEST FOR 2014

The International Competitions and Assessments for school age pupils (Year 4 – 8) are open to pupils who **have ability** in particular curriculum areas. Tests in Computer Skills, Science, Writing, Spelling, English and Maths are available.

Entry forms and information available from YOUR TEACHER. Entry form and money must be in by **28 March** (no late entries able to be accepted).



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

For the 3 Napier parishes, the parents of a child for baptism are to obtain an application form from one of the parish secretaries. A copy is available via email or can be picked up from the Parish offices. Once the application form has been completed and returned a baptism date, time and celebrant will be confirmed. BAPTISMS WILL BE CELEBRATED ON A SUNDAY either during Mass or at an arranged time after the Mass. Contact the Principal or Parish Secretary for more information – St Patrick's 835.3621, Thomas More 843.4853, St Mary's 844.2224.



ATTENDANCE DUES – 2014 (DON'T PANIC)

A new Attendance Dues Committee of **Buster Harvey**, (845.2925) **Brian Peplow**, (844.8541) and **myself** (843.9238) has been formed to **ASSIST YOU** with Attendance Dues Payment. We can grant rebates or write off some debt if a need exists.

WE URGE YOU TO MAKE SOME PAYMENT OR CONTACT US TO DISCUSS HOW WE CAN HELP WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

The Catholic Schools Board's Attendance Dues (\$409) is the fee you committed to on enrolment of your child. This helps cover our property insurance premiums and capital works. Because the Government does not own St Patrick's we cannot use any of our Government Grants for these property costs.

This year, the Marist Block will need major modifications and replacement to comply with new codes. This is a very expensive project and **your** attendance dues will provide St Patrick's with new and modern learning spaces.

Attendance Dues are not only a legal requirement, but a critical part of the preservation of your school.

ST THOMAS MORE – MOVIE NIGHT

Join them for a fun filled evening at Napier Reading Cinema, **Friday 28 March, 5.30pm**.

Tickets (\$20) can be purchased from St Thomas More Parish Office.

May the luck of the Irish be with you!

Regards and Blessings



Jurek Wypych

PRINCIPAL

ST PATRICK'S DAY TALE (WELL WORTH REPEATING)

An Irishman walks into a bar in Dublin, orders three pints of Guinness and sits in the back of the room, drinking a sip out of each one in turn. When he finishes them, he comes back to the bar and orders three more. The bartender asks him, “You know, a pint of beer goes flat after I draw it, it would taste better if you bought one at a time.” The Irishman replies, “Well, you see, I have two brothers. One is in America, the other in Australia, and I am here in Dublin. When we all left home, we promised that we'd drink this way to remember the days when we drank together.” The bartender admits that this is a nice custom, and leaves it there. The Irishman becomes a regular in the bar, and always drinks the same way: he orders three pints and drinks them in turn. One day, he comes in and orders two pints. All the other regulars notice and fall silent. When he comes back to the bar for the second round, the bartender says, “I don't want to intrude in your grief, but I wanted to offer my condolences on your great loss.” The Irishman looks confused for a moment, then a light dawns in his eye and he laughs. “Oh, no,” he, says, “everyone's fine. I've just quit drinking.”

