

8 March 2011

In a Christian way we learn today for tomorrow

Dear Parents, Pupils and Parishioners

What a wonderful community we have at St Patrick's School!



OUR GENEROSITY DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE

What amazing support. Combined sausage sizzle, staff donations and mufti day amount raised was **\$3600**. What a wonderful effort from everyone – **THANK YOU**.

(Sausages were cooked perfectly, our house captains ensured smooth delivery).

A **HUGE** thank you to Jane Hendery who organized sponsorship of sausages from **ESK VALLEY MEATS** and bread from **QUALITY BAKERS**. (Please support them in return) Our **pupils** were very generous with many giving their pocket money. An example of what some pupils did was Emily H who ran a cake stall after church, baking all day on Saturday with her Grandmother. The Young Vinnies donated \$100 from their cake stall sale held last Tuesday.

EVERY DOLLAR will go directly to schools that were affected by the quake.

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

Mrs Bartlett has two beautiful new faces in A4. **Max McCarthy** joins big sister Alexee at St Patrick's and **Acacia Tamihana-Joe** joins sisters Kya and Quelin. Joining us from Christchurch is **Madison Bergman** who has settled into M11 beautifully.

COOL AT SCHOOL

What a welcome! **Grace Mawson**, a year 4 pupil is someone we can be all proud of for the way she welcomed new pupils. She made sure they were looked after and secure.

FREE VIOLIN LESSONS

For your children, Tuesday afternoons at Napier Central School Hall. Violin hire available. For more information contact the school office for an enrolment form or phone Gretchen Anderson 835.3596 or 021.029.08609.

THANK YOU PTA

A great turnout at last Wednesday's meeting with lots of good ideas for 2011. Congratulations to our new office holders. Chairperson – Scott Klem, Secretary – Michelle Start and Treasurer – Rachel Weeks. Thank you to our out-going (and she is!) Chairperson, Karlene Molloy for her leadership and enthusiasm and continuing support.

ASH WEDNESDAY – TOMORROW (40 DAYS OF LENT)

We celebrate Ash Wednesday Mass tomorrow at 9am and distribute the "Ashes" to pupils. (Junior's in Chapel, Year 3-8 in hall)

THE '40 DAYS' OF LENT

Our "40 days" is a round number with symbolic meaning. The Jews spent "40 years" in the desert on their way to the Promised Land. Jesus spent "40 days and 40 nights" fasting in the desert before beginning his ministry. In the early centuries of the Church, the fasting days leading up to Easter varied – in some places two days, in others a week. Gradually this grew longer and longer, and by the mid-fourth century, lent began six weeks before Easter on the first Sunday of Lent.

However, fasting was always prohibited on Sunday, which meant there were only 36 fasting days in the six week period. To make the Lenten fast include 40 days, the Church added four days of fasting (Ash Wednesday, and the Thursday, Friday and Saturday after Ash Wednesday). Lent itself ends on the evening of Holy Thursday (the vigil of Good Friday). We then begin the **Triduum**, the most sacred three days of the year, lasting through Easter Sunday evening.

SCHOOL STATIONERY ACCOUNTS

All your children have their 2011 stationery that we supplied to them at the beginning of the year. Their account for this plus other school activities was posted last week. We would appreciate (**we actually need you to**) that these are paid promptly. Call us if you need to discuss payment arrangements – we can always sort something out.

All accounts either **paid in full** or on **Automatic Payment** by **8 April** will go into a draw for a **FAMILY PASS TO THE MOVIES**.

OUR DISCOVERY PROGRAMME

Our Middle Syndicate are involved in "Discovery Learning" every Thursday. The pupils work co-operatively on a variety of projects / activities that develop key competencies through activity-based child-directed learning. One new pupil to St Patrick's School said at the end of the lesson last week "*I enjoyed Discovery and never felt this way about school before!!*" Our Junior Syndicate are also starting Discovery this term.

CAN YOU HELP?

Our Junior (Year 1 / 2) and Middle (Year 3 / 4) syndicates are involved in **'Discovery Learning'** each week. This exciting programme involves, construction, cooking, modelling, decision making, collaboration etc – and that's the pupils.

If you, or you know of someone who can donate / sponsor goods (bread, baking needs, etc) please contact Mrs Bartlett, Mrs Marshall or the school office. Thank you.

PARENT / PUPIL / TEACHER INTERVIEWS

These are being held at school on **Monday 28 March** and **Tuesday 29 March**. We encourage all pupils to attend these as they will be involved in leading this conference and telling how and what they are learning. Please return the interview reply slip at the bottom of this newsletter by **THIS FRIDAY 11 MARCH**. So that we can set interview times (All families will be allocated a time)

TRICKY DEFINITION

MISER – someone whose fortune has acquired him

LAST WEEK'S QUIZ

KING'S CROSS

Regards, Blessings

THIS WEEK'S QUIZ

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Jurek Wypych

PRINCIPAL



INTERVIEW REPLY SLIP

Please reply to classroom teacher by this **Friday 11 March**

Family: _____ Children _____ Room No: _____

My preference for an interview is: (please circle)

MONDAY 28 MARCH 3.15 – 5.30pm or 6.15 – 8.30pm

TUESDAY 29 MARCH 3.15 – 5.00pm

