

**From Teresa**

Dear Whanau/Families

**Nga Mihi o te wa ki a koutou Greetings to you all.**

Welcome back. It was wonderful to see so many of you at our Mass on Tuesday. Jesus is the reason for this school. He is the unseen yet ever present teacher in its classes. He is the source of its community and the inspiration of its children and teachers. What better way to break open His word and hear what it means for us, than by beginning our year together. As a staff we are very excited to welcome our existing families and to meet the new members to our community. Please make new families welcome. You are the light of Christ in our community. Don't let an opportunity pass to say good morning or introduce yourself to someone you haven't met before. The spirit of "welcoming" is a very important ministry which we can all take some responsibility for. Well done and thank you to those of you who do this daily. Continue to let your light shine as a reminder to us all.



We are looking forward to an exciting year full of new and wonderful experiences. You will hear more about learning programmes in Team Newsletters. Watch out for these in school bags over the next few days.

**Beginning and End of The School Day**



8.30am is the time we are available to supervise your children. If they arrive earlier they must wait quietly outside the Front Office for Mrs Hessell to open the Office doors at 8.30am. School starts at 8.50am. School finishes at 2.50pm.

**Congratulations and Welcome**

Along with a number of St James' families, we attended the beautiful wedding ceremony of Helena Dorn and Richard Pedley during the holidays. Congratulations to you both and welcome to our staff Mrs Pedley!!



**Welcome To Our Super Staff of 2010**

Room 1	Mrs Christine Cosgrove
Room 2	Miss Janelle Gray
Room 3	Miss Caroline Paynter
Room 4	Mrs Katy Grant
Room 5	Mrs Leanne Angland
Room 6	Miss Emma Hehir
Room 7	Miss Tracey Warrington
Room 8	Mrs Gabrielle Barnett
Room 9	Mrs Helena Pedley
Room 10	Mrs Jude Wills and Mrs Michelle Allemann

Principal  
Deputy Principal  
CRT Release/Deputy  
Principal Release  
CRT Release/Learning support  
and Music  
Teacher Aides

Mrs Teresa Edwards  
Mrs Leanne Angland

Mrs Jane Mayston  
Mrs Alison Soper

Mrs Anne Harris  
Mrs Jo Wedlock  
Mrs Jane Humphries

Office Manager and  
Principals PA  
Office Assistants

Mrs Lori Hessell  
Mrs Lesley Aylward and Mrs  
Belinda Morgan

Librarian  
Caretaker  
Reading Recovery  
Fr Brian Walsh  
Fr Manus Lyons

Teresa Gillbanks  
Mr Don Tietjens  
Mrs Michelle Allemann  
Parish Priest  
Parish Priest (currently in Hawera)

**Welcome**

We extend a warm welcome to the following children and their families who have recently started at St James' School. Aliyah, Stevie-Lee, Elizabeth, Alexander, Brianna, Sean, Brigid, Michelle, Dominic, Amelia and Lin.

**Primary Teachers Paid Union Meeting**

Monday 22 March 2010. 1.30-3.30. I am giving you the heads up about this meeting in March so you can organise alternative arrangements for your child/children for the afternoon. School will finish at 12.45pm on this day. Thank you for working with us around this.

**Powhiri – Friday 5 February – Tomorrow!**

An invitation to everyone in our St James' School community to come to support our new families/whanau by welcoming them at 9.30am tomorrow. If you are a family who joined our community from Term 3 last year or you are an existing family who had a little one start school after that time, you should have received a letter from me by now. If you haven't, don't panic! This powhiri is for you. Please gather at the school gate before 9.30am. Your children will be waiting for you. If you have never experienced a powhiri this is a wonderful opportunity. There will be a staff member to support you through this wonderfully affirming process.



**Appointments**

Keeping communication open and honest is something we really value at St James'. You are welcome to make an appointment to see me through Lori and I ask that you let her know in general terms what you would like to chat about. Please don't be offended by this. Like most

people I don't like surprises and prefer to be prepared. I am always contactable via email at [stjamesprincipal@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stjamesprincipal@xtra.co.nz)

As always if it is a classroom matter your child's teacher is the first person to make an appointment with.

### Sharing Sheet

Coming home with the newsletter tonight is a sharing sheet which helps us gather crucial beginning of the year information and invites you to share your thoughts about your hopes and aspirations for your child/ren for 2010. Your children have already contributed to the sharing sheet. We need these completed for **every** child. Please return them to your child's teacher by Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February.

### Family Picnic/Information Evening

*See the PTFA newsletter for details about the family picnic from 5.30 before our Parent Information Evening.*

You are invited to join your child's teacher in their classrooms in an informal information sharing evening on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet your child's teacher, other families in the class, and to learn about the year ahead.

Times are as follows:

6.00pm Rooms 7,8,9,10

6.30pm Rooms 1,4,6

7.00pm Rooms 2,3,5



### Drop Off and Pick Up Zone

A reminder that the four car parks between the signs at the front of the school are strictly a drop off and pick up area. **NO PARKING** please. Please don't be offended if you are asked to move and park somewhere else.

### Car Park

If you choose to park in the carpark, which includes the parks near the Hall, while the patrols are out, you may not leave the area until the patrollers lift the barrier. **Absolutely no backing out of the carpark.** Again, please do not be offended if you are spoken to about this.



### Thank you

A huge thank you to John for donating a laptop and 5 PC's to our hardware collection. If you have access to good quality high spec hardware, either PC's or Laptops, please contact me directly. Ideally we would like each classroom to have access to 5 laptops or PC's.



### New Look Newsletter

It was time for a change to the front of our newsletter and we have Miss Hehir and a small group of Year 3 and 4 SUPER Achievers to thank for our new look newsletter. Well done team.

### Swimming

**Mark these dates in your diary now!**

Junior Team and Year 3 Swimming Demos Wednesday 3 March. PP 4 March

Year 4-6 swimming Sports 9 March at Freyberg Pool.1pm start.

### National Standards

Would you like more information about National Standards?

A pamphlet will come home with the Week 3 newsletter.

I will also direct you to useful websites.

### Your Fortnightly Parenting Tip

### 2010 School Term Dates

Term 1 Tuesday 2 February to Thursday 1 April

Term 2 Monday 19 April to Friday 2 July

Term 3 Monday 19 July to Friday 24 September

Term 4 Monday 11 October to Friday 17 December

### Teacher Only Days

Friday 4th June and Friday 22nd October

### Public Holidays

Monday 7th June Queens Birthday

Monday 25th October Labour Weekend

Whether your child is about to start school for the first time, or you've been through it all before, here are a few tips to help make the transition out of holidays a little easier on the whole family:

- Get back in the habit of homework by having regular reading time every day. Ask questions about what they've read, and get them to write a little bit too.
- Start gradually making bedtime earlier; late sleep-ins or bleary-eyed children won't help stress levels in that first week back.
- Get the family thinking about ways to make school mornings run more smoothly. A personalised chart is a great way to make sure kids know what they need to do and can check it off as they go. They'll grow in responsibility, and
- you can break the nagging cycle!

### Congratulations SUPER Achievers

### Celebrating Success

You are encouraged to share your child's out of school successes with us. Please email Lesley at the School Office with details and photographs if that is appropriate.

## Web Site

We have a fresh, new look website which is currently under construction. Check it out at

[www.stjamescatholic.school.nz](http://www.stjamescatholic.school.nz)

A huge thank you to Zane Yates at People Media and Andrew Spears at E-Theory for providing the technology. There are aspects still under construction so please bare with us as we make available the information that helps make communication easier. The newsletter will not be emailed to families who have requested this service previously from our School Office. Within the next few days you will be able to sign up to Enews. At the top of the web page click Enews and follow the instructions. Once that's done any Newsletters and Reminders will appear in your inbox. If you choose not to sign up for Enews you will be able to access the Newsletters and Reminders from the Newsletter Archive. A hard copy will continue to come home with the eldest child in each family, unless otherwise requested.



## ENGAGING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AT OUR SCHOOL

You are invited to attend the launch of the Mantar ICT PD Cluster. Last year we put a proposal into the Ministry of Education together with five other schools to apply for money for professional development in the areas of e-learning, inquiry learning and information literacy. The six principals would love you to attend a cluster launch (details below) to find out how this impacts on you and your child's learning. No RSVP required.

You Are Invited  
To The...

Mantar ICT Cluster Launch

*Our vision for our students, teachers and wider school communities, is to be active seekers, users and creators of knowledge for the betterment of all*

**Wednesday 10 February 2010**  
**Terrace End School Hall**  
Arrive by 4pm for a start at 4:15

Come along to find out about this exciting new venture that our schools are embarking on.

Hosted by the Mantar Cluster of Schools: St James, Somerset Crescent, Linton Country, Kumeu-Hopelands, Terrace End and Aokautere

## FROM THE DRS TEAM

### Response to Haiti

Caritas is our preferred organisation to donate \$\$ to for relief efforts around the globe. You will be aware of the

huge devastation caused by an earthquake to the Haitian people. You are personally able to make donations by phoning 0800221022 or donate online at [www.caritas.org.nz](http://www.caritas.org.nz). We will let you know shortly what our school community response will be. Watch this space.



### St Vincent de Paul

Garage Sale 13 February. Good reusable items are required. No rubbish please. Tell your friends. Help the Society to assist the needy in our community. Goods can be delivered to 280G Albert St. Phone Harry 3577 409 or Terry 021 314 350 for goods to be uplifted.

### Celebration of Marriage

All couples are invited to a Mass to celebrate marriage at the Cathedral Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February 7pm. A Mass reflecting on the gift of our love for one another in marriage, followed by a glass of bubbly. See you there.

### School Liturgies

Our first school liturgy is the Burning of the Ashes on Monday 15 February at 12.15pm in the Hall. These ashes are then used for the Ash Wednesday Mass on 17 February at 9.30am at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. Other liturgies are the Palm Sunday liturgy on 29 March and the Holy Thursday liturgy on 1 April.



## FROM THE PTFA

Please read the attached PTFA newsletter

## FROM THE BOT

### 2010 School Board of Trustees Elections

In 2010 one of the largest and most significant democratic processes in NZ occurs. School communities around the country select a group of people to govern their school. The programme for the election of board members at St James' has commenced with the appointment of Mr Michael O'Connor as our Returning Officer. Before the 15th of March 2010 we will call for nominations which will close by noon on the 23rd of April 2010. Voting will take place on the 7th of May 2010 and the new Board takes office on the 14th of May 2010. Trustees are active leaders in our schools and we need people willing to use their skills and experiences for the benefit of our students and to support our Principal and staff.



Trustees have an important role supporting strong professional leadership and effective teaching for all students through informed governance.

Both parents and people from throughout the wider community can be school trustees. It is important that

boards represent the diversity of their school communities to ensure a bright future for our children. The elections also give parents of children at our school the opportunity to vote for candidates who will make a difference for their school. It is an important responsibility and all eligible parents should use their vote in an informed way.

Robert Sinclair  
St James Board of Trustees Chairperson

**GET A MOVE ON-SPORTS**

**Bike Wise month**

This is about getting more people, cycling, more often. This month people in the Manawatu are being invited to experience the joys of life in the cycle lane. Various events are being organised across the Manawatu to entice people out of their cars, off their couches, and onto their bikes instead.



**Mayoral Cycle Challenge**

We have the opportunity to participate in the '8km Mayoral Cycle Challenge' on Wednesday February 17<sup>th</sup> at the Esplanade starting at 6pm. This is an opportunity for our community to be involved in a city wide event.. The school who gets the most students along wins \$500 worth of sports vouchers. That could be us!!!! Children to come along in their PE gear.

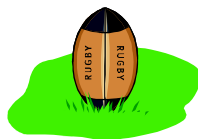
Come down and join in the FREE event which will include a, FREE BBQ tea, entertainment from Urban Ersha, lots of spot prizes and a variety of different length courses to suit all ages and abilities. Get in behind this initiative St James!

**Kids Tri Series**

This series is just around the corner. It is a great way to get young people out Pushing Play! Also ties in nicely with Bike Wise Month which is all of February. Receive your free T Shirt when you pre enter all 5 events by 6<sup>th</sup> February. See Miss Warrington in Room 7 if you would like more information and a registration form.

**Touch Rugby**

The touch rugby season commences again on Friday 12 February with games on 12th, 19th and 26th February. Please contact your coach or go the website for game details.



**Cricket**

For those Year 3-6 children who collected a cricket notice they are due to be returned to the School Office tomorrow (Friday)



**Tee Ball**

Will commence on Saturday, 21st February 2009  
More information to follow.

**Netball Skills and Knowledge.**

Interested persons can contact Sharon Cook on (06) 3588792 or txt (027) 4579313 or (021) 1493536. Numbers are limited.

**Weet-Bix Tryathlon**

This year this stunning event is on Wednesday 24 March 12pm. Please organise your own child's entry and I know many of you have done so already. Just to let you know that once 25 students are registered from St James' our school receives a \$2.00 rebate for every child entered. This year the event is open to 7 year olds too! Enter online at weetbix.co.nz. or see Miss Warrington Room 7.

**Junior Golf – Summer Events**

Children do not have to be a golf club member to participate in these events. There are 3 divisions.

- 1 9 hole short for new and non members
- 2 9 hole long for those who have joined a club and are getting better
- 3 18 hole, for those with real handicaps from zero to 36.

All details can be found on the official JTS webpage.  
<http://mwga.co.nz/page.php?63>

**FROM THE COMMUNITY**

**Music – Keyboard**

If you are interested in your child learning keyboard at St James' Catholic School this term, please contact Terrie Smith 3567075 (evenings) or 0211361854 for further information. Lessons will be available lunchtime or after school. Group or individual tuition is available.

**Dates to Remember**

Date	Event
<b>Week 1</b>	
4 Feb	Sharing Sheet sent home for every child
<b>Week 2</b>	
8 Feb	PTFA Meeting – 6.30- Staffroom
9 Feb	Family/Whanau Picnic Tea and Information Evening
10 Feb	Mantar ICT Cluster Launch – 4pm -5:30
11 Feb	Sharing Sheet returned by today
12 Feb	PTFA Lunch
12 Feb	Scholastic Book Club Closes

**Ma te tangata ano te tangata puta noa I te ao e manaaki.**

*May God protect and care for you all.*

*M Edwards*

Teresa