



Kia Ora Tatou! A warm welcome to 2010! May we all be blessed as we begin this year together.

Welcome to the following children and their parents: Brandon Khang, son of Phaly and Minh; Sam Meo, son of Kim and Tristan; Owen Pieries, son of Rozanna and Luwinda; Joshua and Cory Lovell, sons of Stephanie and Nicholas; Nia Leighton, daughter of Sally-Ann; Joshua Todd, son of Ina and Joseph; Sophie Bain, sister of Daniel and Ryan and daughter of Sonya and Craig; Aimee Clark, sister of Marcus and daughter of Greg and Michelle; Emily Clark, sister of Samuel and daughter of Jo and Barry; Rafe Persson, brother of Abigail and Asher and son of Eloise and Richard, and Ciara and Conor Cook, children of Ritchie and Martin. We hope you will thoroughly enjoy your association with St. Theresa's and find it an enriching place to be!

Let us continue to pray for Katharina Dobson who is recovering from breast cancer surgery.

Please read this newsletter carefully - it contains important information about a few changes this year.

Kia tau te rangimārie ki a tātou katoa

*Lita Smith*

### Gospel Value Term 1—RESPECT

Jesus called the little children to Him. He blessed them. He loved who they were.



## NEWSLETTERS - NOTICES - REQUESTS FOR HELP

It can be very frustrating for you as parents to discover weeks' worth of notes and newsletters at the bottom of your child's school bag at the end of the term!

### OUR RESPONSIBILITY

We acknowledge that it is the school's responsibility to ensure that each child has a newsletter (or individual class notice) and that it leaves the school in that child's bag. We know that this has not always happened and we are committed to ensuring that this improves.

We are also committed to ensuring that parents have plenty of warning prior to trips/requests, etc. and we intend to send out class notices on the same day as the school Newsletter (Thursday) where possible.

### YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Parents need to read notices and respond when asked!

We rely on our parents to support school trips. We cannot do them without you! In general, school trips require an adult:child ratio of 1:6. We do realize that many parents are working, so we need to know as soon as possible, the people who ARE able to help so that if there are not enough parents available an alternative in-school option can be planned. This takes time.

Several times last year we did not receive enough responses to our requests for help (with transport, etc.) until we had sent out several reminders. This year we will send out no reminders.

If return slips are not handed in to the school by the date requested and there are insufficient supporters, then the trip will be cancelled.

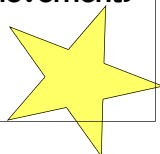
This also applies to order forms. If they are not returned by the date requested they will not be processed.

## KID OF THE WEEK

There has been a loss of spontaneity and surprise over the last few years with regard our *Kid of the Week*. Most children seem to know they are receiving the award prior to Assembly.

In order to return to the focus of the award - the child - and the spontaneity, we will no longer be informing families about their child receiving it.

All parents and friends are welcome to every Assembly where you are invited to celebrate the achievements of the whole school.



## THE LATE BOOK

It needs to be understood that whatever is written in the Late Book as the reason for a child's lateness is then transferred *word for word* to your child's records on the school's computerised system. This is a legal document which is audited by the Ministry of Education.



In short, please write only the truth! Anything else may cause embarrassment at a later date. **LATENESS means later than 8.50a.m.**

## SUMMER UNIFORM

All children are expected to be in the correct summer uniform this term from Day 1. Note especially:

- **Plain black** sandals with a back, worn without socks.
- Earrings - **Plain gold or silver studs only.**
- Hair ties - **black, burgundy or navy.**

Children wearing incorrect items of uniform will be asked to remove them.

## INFORMATION EVENING

Start in the Parish Hall

Tuesday, 9th February 6 - 7.15pm

Bring dinner to have with your family in the playground and enjoy our new Courtyard!!

- Greeting and Introductions
- Meet your child's teacher - (Classrooms) This is a 15 minute meeting where teachers will explain to parents about life in their child's classroom. This is not an interview.

N.B. No meeting in Room 7 because of Katharina's absence. Rm 8 will be discussing the School Camp.

Children are welcome and will be supervised.

### St. Theresa's Parish - Fr. Bill Warwick

**Parish Picnic !!** We are gathering at QE2 Park (MacKay's Crossing entrance) on Sunday, 21st February from 11 a.m. onwards. We are Site 1 - down at the beach end. Cost \$1 per person. This is an exciting event and we invite all families to come along and enjoy the day.



**First Reconciliation:** Names of those children turning 8 years by 1 June, 2010 or above were asked for last December. To date a small number of families have responded. This Sacramental preparation is a Parish-based programme for our Catholic children. Please respond as soon as possible to Maria Christensen on 239-9888.

A warm welcome back to all staff, children and their families as we begin the new school term.

### JUST A BIT OF HOUSEKEEPING .....

**Contact details:** Please check all the details on your form and make the necessary changes. If there are no changes, please sign the form and return it to the Office so that Gina knows you have seen it. All forms to be in by TOMORROW please.

**Scholastic Book Club** orders need to be in by next **Friday, 12th February.** If paying by cheque, please make payable to Scholastic Books.

**Absence from school:** If for some reason your child will not be attending school on a particular day, we need to be notified by a parent. It is not acceptable for a child to simply tell their teacher that they will not be attending school.

### Small Whites - Summer Soccer

Paul Rudkin (father of Harry in Room 6) has offered to coach soccer for children aged 4 - 8 on a Saturday morning during Term 1.

Starting Saturday, 13th Feb and finishing on Saturday, 20th March (6 sessions), the cost will be \$3 per session per child and all money received will be donated to our school.

Session 1 (4 - 6 year olds) 9 - 10 a.m.

Session 2 (7 - 8 year olds) 10 - 11 a.m.

To register your interest, please email Paul at paul.rudkin@telecom.co.nz

Thank you Paul, for your generous offer of time and energy!



Assembly on **Friday, 12th February**, will be at 9 a.m. because of our beach Picnic.

**Piano lessons available at school starting 15th Feb.**  
**Contact Mimi Griffiths on 2330603 or 0212923600.**

**Spanish Lessons - Call Doris on 233-9226.**



### Carnival 2010 is on NEXT MONTH!

We have a short period to pull it all together so please be prepared for an influx of newsletter updates over the coming weeks, keeping you informed. And you can start clearing out your surplus toys/books/clothing/white elephant items now - we will be ready for deliveries in Week 3!

Remember that, because we are a small school, we really do need the involvement of every family to stage an event of this size. If you haven't been allocated a role already please be in touch with Vanessa Bourke on 233 1481 or by email to [johnandv@xtra.co.nz](mailto:johnandv@xtra.co.nz)

Thanks for your support!

Carnival Management Team

## NO PARKING across driveways in James Street please!



There are still some parents who park across the driveways when dropping off or picking up their children. Apart from the frustration it causes to the residents, it is very inconsiderate and has become an embarrassment to us. Thank you to all those who do follow the road rules.