

Welcome to Isabella D'Ath who has turned 5 and joins Pipi and Fynn Nelson has also joined Pipi from Tahatai Coast 😊

We have 205 students at the present and we will reach our maximum , of 240 students, by Term 4. It's an exciting time meeting parents who are interested in joining our school community. They talk about our reputation for compassion and caring, our success in academics and sports, the focus on values education and science, the way that children are energised and keen to be part of the school day. How do they know these things? Because you are out in the world spreading the message and people are taking the opportunity to be part of our family community.

Thank you to our families who joined the parish at School Mass on Sunday. What a wonderful occasion. Thank you Carla Robertson who contacted her team and the association to let them know that the STM Marlins Flippaball team would be forfeiting their game so they could come to Mass. How thoughtful. We took a roll of everyone present and we will do for each of the School Masses - this is to acknowledge your support for our special character. In our school report on the back page teachers record each child's contribution to the Catholic character of the school along with other key competencies. Thank you to the parents who emailed in to our office to let us know that they weren't able to attend because of sports representative commitments and family weddings. Our Term 2 School Mass is **Sunday @9.30 a.m. on 24th June - St. Thomas More Day.**



This week we are hosting members of the Catholic Character Review team - John Coulam, Terry Consedine and Sr Anne Sklenars. They are here to gather evidence of our school's special character and to make recommendations for further development. The Catholic Character team are working for the Bishop to assure him that his school is working to build strong relationships and to support children to know Jesus Christ.

Thank you Mums and Dads for coming in today to speak with the team. It's always great for people to be able share experiences and opinions in an informal way.

The Catholic Character report will be published during Term 2 and when it arrives we will make sure that it is shared with you all.

Sad news for Kina teachers.

Mrs Meredith's mother passed away yesterday and so Mrs Meredith will be away this week. Mrs McHugh is relieving in her home group area. Mrs Pirini will be returning to school on the 24th March after supporting her mother in Whangarei through her hip replacement surgery. Mrs Milne is continuing in Mrs Pirini's homegroup area this week and next week.

We wish both Mrs Meredith and Mrs Pirini all the best and pray for their families at this difficult time.

Ms Lees is keeping the Kina team on track while her colleagues are away from school. If you have any concerns during this time please contact Ms Lees (slees@stm.school.nz) or Mrs Duncan (our Deputy Principal) kduncan@stm.school.nz to have a chat.

A message from Kamni and the Russell family.

"Many thanks for coordinating and delivering meals and baking. I would like to thank every family for taking time out and doing this for me and my family. It is a great feeling of community and care and I am genuinely touched by everyone's thoughtfulness and kindness. We are all well stocked up and our girls are always excited with the treats coming their way. With much gratefulness and love from the Russell family." Kamni is back on her feet again now and there are enough meals in the freezer to tide them over- so thank you everyone for hearing the call and responding so well.

Progress of the Building project.



Anyone who has been watching the progress of our building project will know that it is taking time, much more time than was first expected. The results are looking great though and it also means that we are able to develop the

entranceway to reflect our special character and also our strong relationship with Te Ao Maori. Yesterday our House banners arrived- the artwork was completed by our house captains four years ago and we have transposed the designs onto six foot banners which will be weather proof and long lasting.

Consultation with Ngai Te Rangi and the Church about developing an entranceway or waharoa is underway. If you look at our cobbled area you can probably envisage how visitors are met at the entranceway and welcomed onto our marae. There are areas where the manuhiri can sit and speak as well as areas where our school and our kapa haka can stand.

URGENT!!! Union meeting- Wednesday 21st March, 1.30 p.m.

Almost all teachers at STM are union members. We are expected to attend a paid union meeting at Mount Intermediate on Wednesday afternoon. I have had some union members say that they will help supervise children so I'm not left behind with 205 children and 2 teachers to help me. I have talked with the BOT and asked if I could request that children are picked up from school on Wednesday by 1.15 p.m. While we can't close the school or expect all parents to collect children we hope that if you are able to come and get your children early that you will...making it easier to manage the remaining children. We will be talking with the afterschool care people too so that they come early to collect children on Wednesday.

Please help and show your support by coming in early on Wednesday afternoon.

There won't be any Little Pebbles Club that day either, sorry.

Dates for your diary	
March 16 th	St. Patrick's Mufti day - the wearing of the green – gold coin donation
March 19 th	BOP Primary School Golf Champs
March 21 st	Teachers union meeting- please collect your children if you are able to at lunchtime. No Little Pebbles Club.
March 22 nd	Mount Cluster Swimming Competition (students who have qualified)
March 29 th	Funky Fun Day for Pipi @ ASB Arena – more info to come from teachers
March 29 th	Holy Thursday - we will be at school but away Friday, Monday and Tuesday the following week. We will be hosting a group of students and staff from the Sister Schools network.
March 30th – April 3rd School closed – Easter	
April 6 th	School Disco – save the date! More info to come!
April 9 th	Funky Fun Day for Kina @ ASB Arena
April 11 th	ANZAC Assembly @ 11.30 am

April 11 th	WBOP Swimming Competition
April 13 th	End of term 1
May 16 th	Aquinas 2019 Enrolment Meeting @ 1.30 pm (for current year 6 students only) @ STM
May 23 rd	Rippa Rugby World Cup Competition
June 6 th	School photos
June 13th, June 14th & June 15th – School closed teachers attending Catholic Convention in Wellington	

Sports Update from Paula Farrell ...

BOP Primary School Golf Champs – Monday 19th March

There has been a lot happening over the past few weeks and it seems it is just going to get busier!

Flippaball, water polo, rippa rugby, miniball and a basketball leagues are all underway for term1. A huge thank you to all of our STM parents that have volunteered to coach and or manage a STM sports team this term. We can't do it without you help and support and really appreciate all of your time and effort given to our students so that they get the chance to play these codes.

Here are some of team photos so far this term. I would love to have one of each team so if parents can help out their team managers / coaches and grab a team photo or action shot I would love to receive them.



STM Jellyfish

STM Lightning

STM Buccaneers

STM Cheetahs



BOP Primary School Golf Champs – Monday 19th March

All of STM wish Nathan and Oscar Tutt the best of luck for Monday 19th March when they will represent STM at the Bay of Plenty Primary School Golf Championships. They will both be playing 9 holes.

Winter Sports Codes:

I have tried to get a good head start on all of the winter codes offered at STM. Approximate costs were included on the online winter sports registration form.

Miniball and Basketball Trials:



For all Year 3-6 students wishing to play miniball or basketball for STM in terms 2 and 3 there will be a trials on Wednesday 21st March at school.

Year 5/6 - 11:30am - 12:30pm basketball

Year 3/4 - 12:30-1:30pm miniball

Basketball is played in term 2 and 3 on a Friday afternoon/evening and miniball is played on a Tuesday afternoon / evening at ASB Arena. Please ensure your child brings appropriate footwear, a hat and water bottle

on the day. A big thank you to Luke Appel (Tauranga City Basketball Association) and Matt Adsett who will be overseeing the trials.

Hockey Muster:

There will be a hockey muster for all Year 3-6 students that are wanting to play hockey for STM in terms 2 & 3.

A big thank you to Clive Martin, Ben Frazer and Mike Plunkett who will be overseeing the STM Muster. We are looking at the numbers of players to see how many team(s) can be formed. If your child cannot make it to the muster, please let me know so we can consider them in the numbers for teams. Also if your child does not have a hockey stick, we have a few at STM that can be used for the trial if needed. Please let me know if your child will need a stick to use.



Date: Wednesday 21st March

Time: 2:30pm on the grass next to the school on Grenada Park

What you need to bring: Shoes, mouth guard, shin pads, hockey stick, hat and water bottle

Games are anytime on a Saturday morning in terms 2 and 3 and are held on the Tauranga Hockey turf (next to Blake Park, Mt Maunganui). There are 2 divisions for primary schools: Mini Sticks (Years 3 – 4) and Kiwi Sticks (Years 5 – 6). Hockey clashes with Netball, Rugby and Football and players will need to make a choice as to which code they would prefer for the 2018 season.

Winter Sports for STM:

An online sports registration form has been sent out to all families listing the winter sports that STM will be hoping to enter teams into (if we have enough players and coaches). If you have not received the email or are having any problems completing and submitting the form please let me know.

Please note that Football / Soccer and Rugby are not offered by schools in the WBOP. If your child is interested in playing these codes, you will need to contact the Clubs directly.

FunSticks (Year 0/1/2 Hockey) will be offer in Term 2 / 3.

Please note I am still awaiting information from Tauranga Hockey regarding what day and what subs will be charged for our junior students. I am aware Tauranga Hockey would like to set up a satellite module in the Mount, but I have no details on what day and time yet. Last year our students went to the Tauranga Boys college turf and learned skills and played some little games at the end on a Saturday morning. Once I have the confirmed information from Tauranga Hockey I will let everyone know.

Netball:

Our muster numbers looked promising on Tuesday for our senior netball teams. We have enough players to form 2 teams. A final trial will be conducted on Thursday 15th March at school during lunchtime. Can everyone please bring the appropriate footwear for this trial. Thanks so much to Kyra Ormsby and Theresa Price for overseeing the Muster.

STM Swimming Sports:



Our swimming sports were a great success on March 1st. Loads of smiles, everyone supporting each other and some great skills on display. Thank you to all the parent helpers. The day cannot run without your support. We loved having all the parents and whanau that came to support our students too. To our Year 6 parents who have supported this event for the past 3-6 years, thank you all so much for your unwavering assistance and support with this event. A big thank you to the Greerton Swim Club for the use of their club stop watches. Here are some photos of the day. A big thank you to Katie and Quinn from Quinn & Katie Photo & Video for their awesome photos. Treasured memories forever.

Waikato – BOP Inter Catholic Schools Swimming

Our team was rearing to go and so excited about qualifying and being selected for this event. Unfortunately, it was cancelled this year due to lack of numbers.

Mt Swimming Cluster – Papamoa Pool – Thursday 22nd March

Congratulations to the following STM students that have qualified and been selected to represent STM at the Mt Swimming Cluster next week.

This event is only available to our Year 5/6 students who meet the qualifying times. Also only 2 students per school are allowed to swim in any individual event.

Qualifying times for the Mt Cluster are extremely competitive and we are very proud of all of your achievements.

Congratulations to

Year 5's: Fern, Maggie, Ruby, Damon, Matthew, Michael and Ronan.

Year 6's: Lily, Maddi, Sophie P, Ben, Rico, Shelby.

The team will be heading to the Papamoa pool next Thursday 22nd March to swim against other swimmers from primary schools within the Mount and Papamoa area. We wish the STM swim team the best of luck with all of their races. Many thanks to Maria Mooney for Team Managing on the day and to all our STM parents that are helping with time keeping or transport to and from the venue for our students.

Gymnastics:

Any students interested in competing at the School Gymsport Festival please contact me.

World Cup Ripa Rugby:

World Cup Ripa Rugby is scheduled for Wednesday 23rd May (Term 2). STM are hopeful of being able to register 2 teams again this year. A senior team and a middle school team.

Trials for these STM teams will be held this term.

A date is yet to be confirmed.

Please note that each team must comprise of 5 boys and 5 girls.



The poster for the ARGOS Gymsport School Gymsport Festival features a red background with a white cloud-like shape containing the event title. Below the title are three small images showing students participating in various activities. At the bottom, there is a white box with text providing details about the event, including dates for Years 3 & 4, 5 & 6, and 7 & 8, the venue at 22 Coronik Street, Tauranga, and the cost of \$6 per student per code. The ARGOS logo is also present at the bottom right of the poster.

ARGOS Gymsport
School Gymsport Festival

Years: 3 & 4 - Friday 22 June 2018
Years: 5 & 6 - Friday 29 June 2018
Years: 7 & 8 - Friday 4 July 2018

Venue: 22 Coronik Street, Tauranga

Hosted by: ARGOS Gymsport
Cost: \$6 per student per code

Events:
Artistic
Gymnastics
Rhythmic
Trampoline

ARGOS

Football Holiday April Programme Football

Tauranga Holiday Fun Football

Where: Te Wati Park, Maungatapu, Tauranga

Date: Wednesday 18, Friday 20 April, Tuesday 24 April and Thursday 26 April

Time: 9am - 3pm

Who: Boys & Girls of all abilities aged 6 - 12 years

Price: \$30 per player/per day

Contact: Juan Bautista Propato, email: juan.p@waibop.co.nz

Papamoa Holiday Fun Football

Where: Gordon Spratt Reserve, Papamoa, Tauranga

Date: Monday 16 April, Tuesday 17 and Monday 23 April

Time: 9am - 3pm

Who: Boys & Girls of all abilities aged 6 - 12 years

Price: \$30 per player/per day

Contact: Juan Bautista Propato, email: juan.p@waibop.co.nz

ASB Baypark Holiday April Programme

Holidayprogram

Sports Fun Day (10am – 1pm)

Wednesday 18th April 2018 – ASB Arena at Baypark

fully supervised

\$19 per child

Inflatable Fun Day (10am – 2pm)

Thursday 26th April 2018 – ASB Pavilion at Baypark

Fully supervised

\$25 per child

Sports Carnival Day (10am – 2pm)

Friday 27th April 2018 – ASB Arena at Baypark

Fully supervised

\$25 per child

To register email Baykidsactive@bayvenues.co.nz

Tauranga Hockey

April Holiday Programmes

- During the week of 16-20 April 2018
- More information and registrations will be added mid-march.
- To give you an idea what it was like last year look at our facebook photos.
- Keep an eye on our facebook page for updates.
- <http://www.tgahockey.co.nz/holiday-programmes/school-holiday-programmes>

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