



St Thomas More Catholic School

School Newsletter
Panui
Week 7, Term 3
September 6, 2018

Nau mai , Haere mai.

This week we welcome Susan Pengelly from Omanu school who joined Tuatuas.

Father's Day Breakfast – a wonderful success.

The junior teachers were overwhelmed by the support they had on Friday morning. It was really heartening seeing our Pipis and Tuatuas celebrating having their Dads at school. We appreciate the effort Dads made to get away from work for a couple of hours and to meet up with other dads from school. After the prayers and blessings they received I'm sure they had a great day and weekend with their families.

Choir Festival

On Monday our Year 6 students wowed the Baycourt audience with their individual item...the Final Countdown. The use of white gloves and black light really made the item pop. Thank you to Mrs Pirini, Mr Mills and Magda James for their time and creativity. Our festival choir is different from other schools and it is a very successful formula. We include every member of the senior classes every year...and practices happen during class time.

In other schools the choir trainer asks for volunteers and interested singers to come to lunchtime practices.

The difference is that our teachers are teaching music to their own classes and they are able to fine tune performances during the school day i.e. the children aren't penalised by losing their lunchtimes for their art as happens in other schools. It is a big ask having to choose between sports and music for many children. At St. Thomas More we are committed to developing the whole person- academically, spiritually, physically.

Why do we choose to include all the senior students every time? Because this may be their only chance to perform on stage in front of a large audience in a professionally run concert. If they enjoy the experience then we are opening up doors for more drama, music and the performing arts when they head to College. They will always have the experience and discipline that is needed to learn and grow through music.

Congratulations to Fritz and Bailey for their solo performances throughout the programme. Noella, Saskia and Maia were fabulous "Rock around the clock" chicks...great moves and choreography. It was obvious how much you enjoy dancing.

Also on stage were the Aquinas Year 7/8 choir. Congratulations Alana, Caitlin, Keisha, Gregory, Lucyhana on your clear sound - and Lucyhana your acrobatics were fantastic.

Paua Camp @ Ngamuwahine Lodge (November 26th to November 30th)

Our senior camp will soon be here! Invoices have been sent home with the children today to give you as much notice as possible. Can you please arrange payment in full by November 16th. If you would like to pay by instalments or may need assistance/longer to pay please contact Jane in the office.

Science of Sound

Our Kina and Paua teams are working on integrated inquiries focussed on sound and making noise. This involves finding out about how our ears hear and the structure of our ears, how musical instruments are designed and also the way we describe sound through a musical language. There are two Celebration of Learning nights planned- please read the attached notices. The teachers have sent these notices home with children as well because they need to know how many people to expect...in order to produce enough sausages for the barbeque and snacks to keep people's energy levels up.



Paua Celebration of Learning - 'The Science of Sound'

In Paua this term we have been learning about 'The Science of Sound'. As part of our program we will be hosting a 'Celebration of Learning'. This is an opportunity for you as parents to see some of the learning that has taken place this term. During the evening our students will share with you:

- The planning and design process used to create their musical instruments.
- A performance of compositions using their instrument.
- Evidence of their understanding of the science of sound.

When: Wednesday 26th September

Time: 5pm - 6:30pm

Where: Paua Learning Space

During this celebration our students will also share:

- Two songs which were part of the Tauranga Primary Schools Music Festival
- Three musical instrument compositions
- Paua speech finalists (Year 5 and Year 6)
- A recording of their speech
- A new maths strategy via Seesaw.

To make the night run more smoothly we will have QR codes set up for your child to show you links to their own learning. We ask that you please download a QR Code Reader to your smartphone so that you can access the content. If you search the App Store or the Google Play Store there will be lots of free apps that will work fine.

If you have any queries, please contact us.

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Kina Celebration of Learning 'The Science of Sound'

In Kina this term we have been learning about 'The Science of Sound'. As part of our program we will be hosting another 'Celebration of Learning' in Week 10 of this term. This is an opportunity for you as parents to see some of the learning that has taken place this term. During the evening our students will share with you:

- The planning and design process used to create their musical instruments.
- A performance of compositions using their instrument.
- Evidence of their understanding of the sound.

When: Tuesday 25th September
Time: 5pm - 6:30pm
Where: Kina Learning Space

During this celebration our students will also share:

- A song and a Sound RAP
- Musical instrument compositions
- A compilation of learning in Seesaw (Numeracy, Literacy, R.E and Connected Curriculum)



To make the night run more smoothly we will have QR codes set up for your child to show you links to their own learning. We ask that you please download a QR Code Reader to your smartphone so that you can access the content. If you search the App Store or the Google Play Store there will be lots of free apps that will work fine.

If you have any queries, please contact us.

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Dates for your diary

TERM 3

Sept 6 th	Tonight, BOT meeting at 6 p.m. in the staffroom
Sept 11 th	PTFA Meeting @ 7pm in the School Staffroom
Sept. 17-28 th	Pipi Syndicate Swimming programme every day for two weeks
September 23rd	Sunday Mass with the Bishop - Our children are receiving the sacraments 😊
Sept 25th	Kina team's Celebration of Learning - all parents and families invited.
Sept 26th	Paua team's Celebration of Learning – all parents and families invited.
Sept. 27 th	St Mary's Tauranga, St Mary's Rotorua Sports Exchange (Paua students)
Sept 28	Last day of term & Mc Auley ice cream treats (Green House)

TERM 4

15 th Oct	First day and also knowledge-athon questions being given out to learn
22 nd Oct	Public holiday for Labour weekend.
23 Oct	Aquinas Orientation evening for Year 5 and 6 @ Aquinas College
26 th Oct	Knowledge-athon testing - PTFA helpers.
29 th or 30 th Oct	General information night for parents of Year 5 and 6 interested in Aquinas College being held at St. Thomas More - to be confirmed.
31 st Oct	Hand in fundraising from Knowledgeathon
1 Nov	All Saints Mass at 9.00 am
5 th Nov	Prize assembly for Knowledgeathon
21 Nov	Evening of Puberty talks for Year 6 girls at St. Thomas More- TBC
22 Nov	Evening of Puberty talks for Year 6 boys at St. Thomas More – TBC
26 Nov	Only Year 5 goes to camp
27 Nov	Year 6 transition day for Aquinas College 2019
28 Nov	Year 5 return from camp and Year 6 go up to camp
30 Nov	Camp kids return home
7 December	Final reports posted out
14 December	Last Mass and prize giving for Year 2-6 TBC evening in church
18 December	Last day & Final assembly for Year 6 at 11.00 in church

Speech Competition



Yesterday Miguel & Matthew represented our school at the Cluster Speech competition, congratulations to Matthew who placed 3rd in the year 5 boys 😊

How you can help our school
Bayfair – points for the school. Look out for our school box when you go

into Bayfair. For every \$20 you spend there you can drop in credits for our school. At the end of the promotion the school that has the most credits per head of students will get a fabulous prize. Your child will be bringing a pamphlet home today with more information to help us win. **THIS IS THE LAST WEEK...**we are the second to smallest school in the area...the others are three times the size of our school...we have a very good chance of winning if every one of our families gets involved. Thank you 😊



Bakers Delight
YOUR LOCAL BAKER

Collecting points from Baker's Delight, Owen's place. Please remember to mention St Thomas More School when you make a purchase at Baker's Delight @ Owen's place as the school is part of "The Dough Raiser Programme". Thank you.



Term 3 FAITH FORUM

Celebrating the Catholic Character of our School



First Communion and Confirmation

This term a group of our Year 4-6 students have been preparing to receive the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. This is a very significant milestone in their faith journey. First Holy Communion provides our candidates with the opportunity to now receive Jesus in the Mass through the Eucharist which is His Body and Blood.

Confirmation recognises that these students want to 'confirm' their faith in Christ by receiving the Holy Spirit.

The children have been attending classes after school on Tuesdays to learn about these special Sacraments. They will officially receive these Sacraments at Mass which will be celebrated with Bishop Steve Lowe. We would like to extend a warm invitation to all children, whanau and community to join the celebration and support our candidates as they receive these sacred Sacraments. You are all invited:

When: Sunday 23 September

Time: 9:30am

Where: St Thomas More Catholic Church

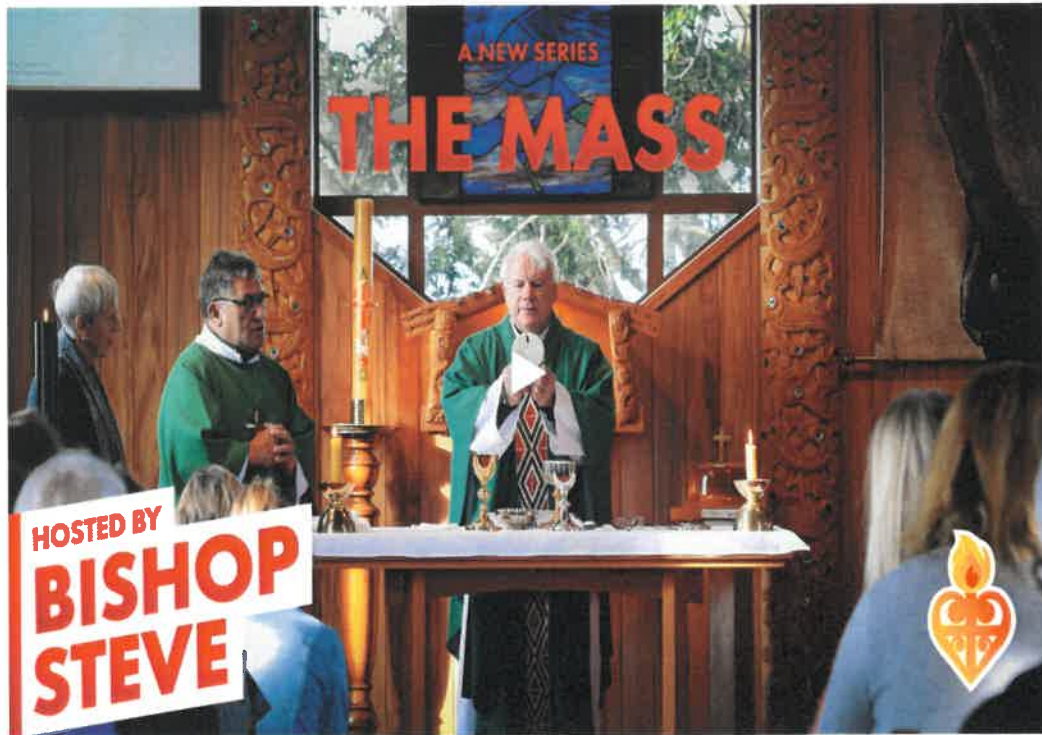


Please continue to pray for the following children who will be receiving Confirmation and First Holy Communion: Eva Price, Isla Frazer, Selene Tan, Sophie Ormsby, Cole Frazer, Ethan Dragovich, Jayden Antrobus, Josh Bisley, Liam Gaffney, Lucas Tan, Luke Ryder, Micah Samuels, Reuben Hodge, Thomas Magill, Tessa Collett, Sarah Dunne, Julia James, Alba Richardson, Ella Grace, Bella Deering, Olivia Daly, Hannah Watson, Ollie Murrell, Quinn and Bede Barton, Oscar Tutt and Xanthe Prietos.



Welcome Father Prakash

We welcome Father Jaya Prakash who has just joined our All Saints by the Sea Parish. Father Prakash has come from India and is living in the Presbytery at St Thomas More. He is an assistant Priest to support Father Stuart with his growing workload! Please make Father Prakash feel welcome and introduce yourself to him.



The 'Mass' Video Series

Bishop Steve has just recently released a new video series which focuses on the Mass. In this series he helps us to rediscover a love for the Mass and gain a deeper understanding of the Mass. He shares how Catholic Mass has its foundations in scripture. It is a great series to watch at home or with a group. Perhaps it could become a regular prayer group resource. Please check it out at: www.proudtobecatholic.org.nz

Click on the 'Resources' link and head to 'Videos'. Season One kicks off with a three part introduction from 5th-7th September. This is followed by weekly episodes which are added every Friday at 7pm.

We have posted this on our facebook page for you to watch...it's only 3-4 minutes long and easy to follow.

For parents who are married to Catholics and would like to know what it's all about...this is a good series to watch every week.

Sports Update from Paula Farrell - STM Hockey 2018

2018 and the surge hockey's popularity saw STM enter 3 teams into the local school competition run by Tauranga Hockey.

Our three teams were the STM Pumas (Year 6), STM Tigers (predominately Year 5) and STM Cheetahs (mainly Year 3 and 4 students). STM was very fortunate to have a grandfather and two dads that were keen and more than able to oversee the delivery of hockey for STM students in the 2018 season.

The Pumas were coached by Clive Martin and managed by Alissa Aubertin, the Tigers were coached by Mike Plunkett and managed by Bridget O'Connor and the Cheetahs were coached by Ben Frazer and managed by Barbara Wood-Frazer.

Thank you to all of our STM hockey coaches, managers and umpires for all of your time and effort this season. STM is heavily reliant on our parent community to assist with these roles, so we are all very grateful for your time and the sporting opportunities that you have ensured our STM students experienced this season.

Our hockey teams have a weekend off this Saturday and then fun games to end 2018 on the 15th September.

We also had five Year 1 and 2 students participate in the Funsticks Hockey module this season.

STM PUMAS

The STM Pumas was coached by Clive for 2018 season. Clive has been involved with his granddaughter's STM hockey over the past few years. Clive is also the coach of the Wanderers Hockey team. On behalf of STM, we would like to thank Clive for all of his support and expertise over the past few years. He has assisted with the growth and popularity of hockey at STM. With Saskia leaving STM at the end of the year, we will miss your skills and expertise Clive, but the knowledge that you have shared with Mike and Ben, our managers, and our students will be passed on for years to come. A great legacy for hockey at STM.



The Pumas played Katikati in their final for first and second place in their division on Saturday morning last weekend. They played well as a team, supported each other, but just couldn't stop Katikati scoring in the first half. They rallied back in the second half, losing 5-2 in the end.

Second place is a very respectable result for this team, who worked hard and gelled well as a team. Thank you too to all the parents and supporters who encouraged these kids positively throughout the season.
Regards Clive

STM Tigers

This is Mike's second season coaching Mackenzie's hockey team and the team's skills are improving each season. We look forward to seeing how our budding hockey players go in 2019. The STM Tigers finished 6th in their division for 2018. Well done Tigers!

The Tigers really roared this season. We had some good wins and some competitive losses. They came together really well as a team. Good old Noah flew the flag for the boys, (the only boy in the team) and the girls looked after him well.

All of the kids' skills have developed really well this season and they are gaining a better awareness of tactical play, especially around the set piece plays. Another enjoyable season on the Turf. Go Tigers! Thanks Mike.



STM Cheetahs

Ben, Barbara and their family are new to STM this year, but that has not stopped them getting fully immersed within the STM sporting scene. Ben's passion for hockey has been a huge asset for STM and we were very happy to have his services and expertise this year with our junior hockey team.



The STM Cheetahs came together this year as a team of year 2s, 3s and 4s. None of the team had ever played hockey before, but showed great enthusiasm in taking on a new game. The team played competitively through the season with many good wins mixed with a few hard fought losses. It has been great to see the fantastic development of skill in all of the team, which will give them a great platform going forward. Most importantly we had a fun and safe season and always played as a team. Thank you to all the parents for your support and commitment to getting the kids to games and practices. I look forward to seeing you all back next year to continue on the good work of this season. Regards Ben.

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