



# Newsletter 3

## Term One: 16 February 2012

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends

### Important Dates

Wed-Fri 15-17 Feb	Yr 7&8 – Hamner Springs Yr 5&6 – Living Springs
Wed 22 Feb	Ash Wednesday School Liturgy
Fri 2 Mar	Grace Vineyard's Fun Afternoon
Fri 9 Mar	Zone Swimming Sports
Thurs 5 Apr	Term 1 ends

**BOT Meetings:** You are most welcome to attend our BOT meetings which are held at 7 pm in the meeting room on: Tuesday 20 March, 8 May, 12 June, 31 July, 11 September, 30 October and 4 December.

### NBC Footsteps Virtue Wk 4: **Reflectful**

*To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often.*  
John Henry, Cardinal Newman

At New Brighton Catholic School we are Reflectful. When we live reflectively we delight in the signs and wonders that appear in our lives: the family that surrounds us and loves us, our friends, the beaches, the mountains, everything that God has created. One person who lived a very reflective life was St Grimonia. She lived in a forest for most of her life and although this was a very solitary life she was never alone. St Grimonia saw God in everything - the sky above, the sun and the clouds. She received much strength from thinking about the Word of God and from her awareness of God's presence. By delighting in the signs and wonders in our lives, we can live reflectively too. Then we may experience a greater depth of faith, love and respect for the mysteries and wonders of life.

**Assembly:** Rm 5 is the Assembly Class for prayers next week.

## RE

### RE Classroom Programmes

To make it easier to follow your child's RE programme in your Family Whanau Book, we have identified the programme by colour.

Rm 1 Red	pg 35-37
Rm 2 Blue	pg 32-34
Rm 3 Purple	pg 26-28
Rm 4 Purple	pg 26-28
Rm 5 Green	pg 20-22
Rm 6 Orange	pg 17-19

All students will cover the RE programme over eight years but because of our mixed classes, the order is different from that stated in the Family Whanau Book. All families should have the book, which you purchased at enrolment at a Catholic school. (We are waiting for our order to be delivered from Catholic Education Publications.) If you require another, they will be available at the office for \$25.

## Welcome

We welcome Jessica Bottomley (Luke's sister) to school this week. Jess has started in Rm 6.



## Student Details – Update and Permission

We are still waiting for 23 families to return the pink form. Please save us the trouble of ringing and reminding you.

## Free Computers

The McPhail Foundation Charitable Trust and The Computer Broker have donated recycled desktop computers to the school to pass to two families without computers. Please see me if you would like a computer.

## Wanted!

Have you any girls' winter clothing, size 8-10 years? Please drop off to the office. Thank you.

## New Brighton Free Family Fun Day 25 February – Thomson Park

Our Kapa Haka will be the first performance.

*God Bless  
Deb Daines  
Principal*

## School Community

Jay Verry and Neko Tohiariki (Rm2) were in Wellington's Chinese New Year parade and performed their Kung Fu in front of a large crowd at the waterfront with Shifu Song (our Kung Fu teacher). 2012 is the year of the Water Dragon.



## IBOT

At Tuesday's meeting:

- Alister Stevenson was re-elected Chairperson.
- The 2012 Charter, which is a working document that sets out, among other things, the Strategic Aims for NBC learners, was discussed.
- Final Approval for camps was given.
- The 2012 Budget was approved. The drop in our roll means our MOE Operational Grant has reduced by approx. \$70,000.
- The resignation of Mont McKeefry, a Parent Rep, was accepted.
- All fire extinguishers in the school have been updated by replacement.
- The BOT is looking to uplift the profile of our school. If anyone has a marketing background and is able to help, can they please see Deb, our Principal.
- Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions, our founding order, are celebrating 175 years on 14 April. We are honoured to have Sr Martina on our BOT as a Bishop's Rep.

## PTFA

Our aim is to unite the school community through social events and to fund raise for our school.

**Next Meeting:** 7 pm Tuesday 6 March. The meeting will be held in the staff room and everyone is welcome.

### Easter Raffle

*We need your help please!*

We are asking every family to please donate an Easter Egg towards our Raffle. Please leave in your child's classroom and we will collect them next week. The Easter Raffle has amazing prizes:

- 1st - Apple iPad with Easter treats
- 2nd - Hamper to the value of \$500 with Easter Treats
- 3rd - Hamper to the value of \$300 with Easter Treats

We will also be asking for every family to help sell tickets - more info soon.

Have a great week

Thank you for your continued help and support  
Melinda Ernst (382 8995) [melinda\\_ernst@yahoo.com](mailto:melinda_ernst@yahoo.com)

**Lunch – Thursday 23 February:** Sausage Sizzle \$2

Order forms available in the library. All orders and money in an envelope in the blue tin in the library by 9am Wednesday.

## Parish

Mass at St Mary's Parish Centre at 10.30 am on Sunday.  
Everyone welcome.

You are also welcome to attend mass at St James:  
6 pm Saturday or 9 am Sunday.

### Attendance Dues

The Parish Attendance Dues invoices were sent out to you last Friday. Thank you to the school for facilitating this.

Fr Bryan Parish

## Earthquake Recovery

The Red Cross recently announced two new grants

- Storage grant for homeowners who have had to relocate. Up to \$500 per household.
- Winter Assistance Grant to assist vulnerable families who live in damaged homes or have had to move into damp or hard to heat accommodation, with electricity bills. *Vulnerable* means a member of the household is either disabled, has a pre-existing medical condition, is over 65 years, or is a child.  
\$100 a month for 4 months.

Other grants: Targeted Moving Assistance Grant (\$1000 per household); Enhanced Water Filter Grant (up to \$5000) and Independent Advice Grant (up to \$750 per household). For more info, go to

<http://www.redcrossgrants.org.nz/Overview/Information/Available-Grants.htm>

or pop into the office.

## Community

**Catholic Cathedral College Reunion 23-25 March**

Including Xavier and Sacred Heart College students.

Info: Justin Field 03 9821690, [jf@cathcollege.school.nz](mailto:jf@cathcollege.school.nz)

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

### Kids for Castles

A sandcastle competition for children – 26 February.

### On the Library noticeboard:

- NB Free Family Fun Day 25 February – Thomson Park
- Children's Day Sunday 4 March Groynes Park – free bus transport – ring 388 5459 to book.
- NB Rugby Club – registration dates
- *Bottle Lake Forest* Orienteering Day – Sun 19 February – Walk run or bike 1.5-10 km courses.

### The Green Paper for Vulnerable Children

Norm Hewitt asks us to *Say something and change children's lives*. Like me, as parents I'm sure you feel angry and sad every time another child is deliberately hurt – or worse- by their caregiver.

Each year around 10 of our children – our own tamariki – are killed by the very people they are supposed to rely on for protection. While at least 160,000 children are living in conditions that mean they are unlikely to reach their potential.

We know the factors that make these children vulnerable – the big question is how can we fix them? What needs to change to make New Zealand a great, safe place to bring up kids? These are the types of questions the Government's Green Paper for Vulnerable Children asks. Released in July last year, this discussion document is asking what we think should be changed to ensure all children reach their full potential. We need as many New Zealanders as possible to answer – it doesn't matter what you say; you just need to say something. We aren't powerless to stop child abuse. This is something we can all do to help.

Please take the time to go to <http://www.saysomething.org.nz/> and have your say. You can also mail in a submission, or post comments on Facebook or Twitter.

After the submissions are read, a Children's Action Plan will be developed and released during 2012. As parents, you know what it's like to raise a child in New Zealand; you are the experts. So, please, do your part to become part of this critical conversation. Submissions close on 28 February 2012.

Nāku noa, nā

Norm Hewitt

Champion. Green Paper for Vulnerable Children