



St Mary's Primary School

www.stmarysschool.co.nz Friday 23 February 2018



Our Values

"Learning Values, Valuing Learning"
"Te ako i te Uara, Te Uara i te ako"

Our Vision Statement

St Mary's students will be independent young people learning for life and living the Catholic faith

This month's Virtue

Respect

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 23rd	St Mary's Family Fete	March 26-30th	Holy Week, Stations of the Cross TBC
February 26th	Junior school Fun Swim	March 29th	Holy Thursday
	TBC	March 30th	Good Friday (School closed)
February 28th	St Mary's Swimming Sports	April 2nd	Easter Monday (School closed)
	10-2.00pm	April 3rd	Easter Tuesday (School closed)
March 2nd	Mass 9.30 am <i>All welcome</i>	April 5th	Canterbury Primary School's Swimming
March 5th	1.45pm Red Riding Hood show	April 13th	Mass 9.30am <i>All welcome</i>
March 7th	Hokitika District Swimming Sports		Last day of Term 1
March 14th	West Coast Swimming Sports-Westport		
March 16th	Mass 9.30am <i>All welcome</i>		

Virtue The virtue for February is **Respect**. Respect is an attitude of caring about people and treating them with dignity. Respect is valuing ourselves and others. We show respect by speaking and acting with courtesy. When we are respectful we treat others as we want to be treated. Respect includes honoring the rules of our family or school, which make life more orderly and peaceful. It is knowing that every man, woman and child deserves respect, including you. You are practising Respect when you... Treat others as you want to be treated, Speak courteously to everyone, Take special care of other people's belongings, Are receptive to the wisdom of elders, Honour the rules of your family, school and nation

Welcome Lucy Rolleston to St Mary's it is lovely to have you with us. The term has started well with some beautiful sunny days.

House Tabloid Sports What a great day! Thank you to everyone who helped to make the day such fun! A special thank you to our Year 7&8's who prepared chants to teach their House groups and guided their team through the activities. Mr Tyler thank you for your enthusiasm and organising us all. Thank you to the teachers for your enthusiasm, dressing up and preparing fun activities. Parents/caregivers you can be very proud of your children, they were so enthusiastic and worked together and supported each other during the different activities.

Shrove Tuesday The school celebrated Shrove Tuesday on the 13th of February. Pancake Day is another name for Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent. Thank you to Maria Lockington, Sandra Pfahlert and Alexis van Dissel for preparing pancakes for the children to eat and to Anne and Dave Sollitt for their support with this day. Unfortunately the rain prevented pancake races but the children certainly enjoyed eating them.

Ash Wednesday The school celebrated the first day of Lent by attending Ash Wednesday Mass on February 14th. The school and the church are getting ready for Easter.



Family Fete Thank you to all the parents who have offered their time to help with the St Mary's Family Fete! We really appreciate it! We look forward to seeing you tonight from 5pm onwards for fun times with your family! Check out the St Mary's Facebook page for regular updates.

UPCYCLED FURNITURE POP-UP SHOP Old Renton's Hardware Building, Hamilton Street, Hokitika

Items are all priced. Please phone Jane on 021 150 5568 to secure your favourite piece. All proceeds to St Mary's Family Fete.

Health and Safety: Many thanks for all your understanding this week with the school closure. Although the Hokitika township was relatively calm, others experienced the very windy conditions and have trees down and other debris on their properties.

During the previous storm, the school got through essentially undamaged with only a few trees on the back field lost and a shade sail ripped down.

The St Mary's teaching staff have sat down since and reviewed our systems and procedures for possible evacuation of pupils in these situations. We decided that the current systems worked well as all students were safe and accounted for and there was no immediate risk in keeping the school open. By keeping students safe at school parents were able to decide when it was most appropriate to collect their children.

We found that our communication systems were affected by the power outages and lack of consistent internet data. This limited our ability to update parents via facebook or our school app called SkoolLoopNZ. We also had a few parents directly collecting their children from classes and therefore no master list at the office was possible.

Therefore changes St Mary's have implemented include:

- All students must be collected and signed out at the office with time of departure and who collected them. This is a normal procedure that should be used everyday.
- Some "good intentioned" parents were trying to take other students without their parent's knowledge. To avoid confusion parents are only to collect their own children unless they have explicit permission from other parents.
- We need to make parents more aware of the school mobile phone number 027 415 1924 (for receiving calls only).
- The parent teacher app has been upgraded on your phone and will look different from last year.

Thanks again for your support. Hopefully we will never need to use these new procedures, but if so, we are ready.

What have we been up to?

Room 2: Izzy Renton: We are learning to write— keep on the lines, find the word on a card, find the letter that it starts with. **Tristan Evans:** We have been learning to be kind in Lent. We are getting ready for Easter.

Room 3: Kate McNish: We have been making an 'All About Me' poster. It has our favourite things and what we like to do. **Kruz Routhan:** We are writing about our family. We are doing a family poster.

Room 4: Uliano Gilmour: We picked vegetables and marrows from the garden and made lasagne. A few days after that we found snails and caterpillars to find out how much they grow and eat. **Sienna Muir:** We learned about Vincent van Gough and we saw some of his paintings. Then we did our own paintings of sunflowers.

Room 5: Ryan Adams-Torres: We have been doing portraits of ourselves. We use a vivid and draw around a photo of ourselves and then we rip pieces of paper out of magazines and stick these onto the picture. **Isla Kwant:** We have been learning to use Google Apps and other programmes on our computer.

Room 6: Tim Maitland: On Friday we went to Shantytown for the Chinese New Year. We learned about the Chinese gold mining times. The Chinese used to wear ponytails called a queue. **Ella Stanton:** On Friday when we went to Shantytown we learned that it is the Year of the Dog.

Room 7: Frank O'Gara: I am new to St Mary's and I am enjoying it here. I have made lots of new friends at school.

Ella Tacon: In our class we have been using a website called 'Banker' which teaches us about money and life skills.

Room 8: Ben Barry: For tabloid sport we did lots of game. Each house group had to make up their own chant— Disciples won. We had games such as. An obstacle course, musical chairs, wet sponge race and Cross the Swamp.

Oliver Nixon: For the tabloid sports the overall top score was Saints by half a point! Scores were for teamwork, leadership and skill.

Kind regards
Karen Payne

You may have noticed...

The Parent Teacher Calendar App
Is now... **The Skool Loop App**

The same fantastic app with a smart new look

✓ Remember to check your App/Play store regularly for updates.

