



## Newsletter 33

### Term 5 : 8 December 2011

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends

### End of Year Activities

- Thurs 8 Dec - 7pm Yr 8 Leavers' Dinner – school hall.  
Tues 13 Dec - 11 am Rm 3&4 to Foodstuff's Ilam New World  
Wed 14 Dec - 9-9.30am Recital by our music students  
- 9.30 am Rm 3&4 – Castle Park  
Thurs 15 Dec - 2pm Yr 0-3 singing carols in the hall.  
- 6pm Yr 4-8 final School Mass at St Mary's

### NBC Footsteps Virtue Week 8 T4: **Loving/Aroha**

*Keep on loving each other as brothers.* Hebrews 13: 1-3  
At New Brighton Catholic we are loving. Love is putting yourself in someone else's shoes and caring about what they feel or what they might be going through. It is accepting them just as they are. You can be loving to strangers, just by caring what happens to them and sending loving thoughts. At Christmas we remember those who are less fortunate than ourselves and who don't have anyone to love them. Through our donations of food we are showing our love to them. Love is treating other people just as you would like them to treat you – with care and respect.

### Yr 8 Leavers Dinner – Tonight

Our traditional Annual Leavers Dinner for Yr 8 pupils and their parents will be held tonight. It is a night of celebration, fun and reminiscing.

Our Yr 7 parents provide some of the dishes and help make it a special night. Next year they will be Yr 8 parents and on the receiving end – *paying it forward* as it were. Thank you to those helping Megan Stewart, our DRS, to make it a special night.

### Assembly – Tomorrow 9 December

At tomorrow's assembly the Mainfreight-Duffy Award for Excellence in Attitude will be presented to a Yr 8 student by a Mainfreight representative.

### End of Year Mass – Thursday 15 December

Our final mass of thanksgiving and to farewell our Yr 8 pupils will take place on Thursday 15 December at 6 pm. Due to available space in the Parish Centre (now our church), this important thanksgiving mass is compulsory for Yr 4-Yr 8 pupils. Younger siblings and junior pupils are welcome to attend the mass but will sit with their parents and do not need to wear the school uniform.

### Junior Celebration - Thursday 15 December

Our Yr 0-3 pupils are busily rehearsing. Carols will start promptly at 2 pm and the children will be free to go home with their parents at the end.

### 2012 Stationery Lists

The 2012 stationery lists will be going home with each pupil next Wednesday. They will also be on our website – just in case you mislay the list during the holidays.

### Classrooms and Levels for 2012

Rm 1 - Yr 7/8; Rm 2 - Yr 5/6; Rm 3 - Yr 4/5; Rm 4 – Yr 3/4;  
Rm 5 - Yr 2; Rm 6 - Yr 1; Rm 7 - Yr 0 (Term 2)

Teachers will shortly look at the class-split planning. With camp, class trips, and illness, it has been difficult to get all staff together for this discussion. Thank you for your patience.

### Rooms 3&4 – Change of Date

Rm 3&4 are going to Castle Park next Wednesday 14 December

**Food Donation:** Children can give their item of donated food to their classroom teacher please. Thank you.

**Put a gift under someone else's tree:** Our Young Vinnies will take your donated gifts to the Wishing Tree at The Palms – just leave under the tree in the grotto area of the hall. Please label gifts *boy* or *girl* and age group. *Megan Stewart, DRS*

### Drumming!

What an amazing experience on this our Feast Day morning.

We would like to thank the Catholic Parish of Rangiora for so generously organising this wonderful activity for us.



### Rm 2 Camp

No camp report, unfortunately, as Sam Harliwich and half the students had a viral bug on Tuesday. I thank the camp parents who so ably looked after sick pupils through the night and hope that everyone recovers quickly.

### Chipmunks

On Tuesday Rm 5-8 went to Chipmunks. The children and teachers had a great time and were sad when we had to leave. We had our lunch at Thompson Park - what a great resource this is on our doorstep. Thanks to all the parents who came along for the trip - without your support these things are impossible! *Junior School*

### Teaching Interns

The children have responded well to the interns' teaching, and the staff would like to offer a big thanks to Emma, Rachael, Marie and Heather, who finish this week, for all their hard work. All the best with your beginning careers.

*Nick Gray*

### Congratulations

Our team of athletics represented NBC fantastically last week at the Canterbury Athletics in Ashburton. Congratulations to Shakira Fukofuka (2nd 12Y Girls Shot Put) and Claudia Roberts (3rd 13Y Girls High Jump). There were 1800 children at the event from 180 schools in Canterbury. Many thanks to our parent helpers.

*Sam Harliwich*

### First Aid – Staff-style

We had great fun renewing our practical first aid certificates and found the course helpful in affirming what we have been doing and can do to help people in need. Surely this should register as a step towards our Footstep Challenge for 2012? (No dummies were harmed in the making of this article.)

*Nick Gray*



### Whanau Barbecue

Tena koutou, katoa,

I would like to offer whakamoemiti/a big thanks to the PTFA for donating the food for our barbecue last week. It was great to see so many families enjoying food and entertainment as a community. I would also like to thank the Whanau Group for working hard to provide for everyone who came along. It was an awesome night and the children loved sharing what they have been practising during their busy lunch hours.

Tena rawa atu koutou, no reira, tena koutou katoa *Nick Gray*

## Room 1 Ice Skating Trip

On Tuesday Rm 1 had a fun day out! We began the day playing games at school which was a lot of fun, then we went by bus to the Alpine Ice Skating Rink. We got there by 11 am, collected our tickets and our skates, and began to enjoy the experience on offer. Some of us had never skated before, or had only skated once, while others were more experienced. There were a few cases of nerves! There were games to play and prizes to be won. A DJ played music and ran the competitions. Claudia McKenzie and I won a competition doing a Sponge Bob dance!. Fintan, Liam, Carl & Josh won the slow dance prize! Hilarious! Abby amazed us all by skating on one leg like the figure skaters on TV. There was a lot of falling over! It was a lot of fun and we were all tired when we got back to school at 2.30 pm.

*Maddie Meier (Rm 1)*



## Seniors Pamphlet

The Yr 7/8 pamphlet for 2012 went home with Yr 5-7 pupils last week – have you see the opportunities for our seniors in 2012.

## School Uniform - 2011

We are proud of our uniform and our students wear it with pride. Please remember our correct uniform when purchasing replacements over the holidays, especially shoes: black closed school shoes or black sandals. No black runners, no black canvas shoes, no *fashion statements*.

## Staffing 2012

As you know, falling roll numbers following the earthquakes have meant that many schools have lost teachers. NBC is one of these schools and we lose 1.3 full time teachers in 2012. So we must farewell Julie Casey, although she will be back as a day reliever for us, and Pina Lissaman, whose second child is due early next year, who will also be a day reliever for us. We thank them for their work particularly in such a demanding year.

Thank you to parents and families who have helped the School in any way in 2011 to further the opportunities for our pupils. The School office will be open on Monday 30 January and the answerphone will be checked regularly over the holidays. The staff and I wish you all a safe holiday and a holy and joyful Christmas.



*God Bless  
Deb Daines  
Principal*

### Going home with newsletter:

- Family Times
- Sheet of Hoyts vouchers

### Going home tomorrow:

- Yr 7/8 students – Technology Reports
- All students - End of Year Report  
(Rm 2's reports will probably go home on Monday)

### 2012 Term Dates

- Term 1: Wednesday 1 February - Thursday 5 April
- Term 2: Monday 23 April - Friday 29 June
- Term 3: Monday 16 July - Friday 28 September
- Term 4: Monday 15 October - Wednesday 19 December (note)

## School Community

**Congratulations:** At the South Island Primary Schools Surfing Competition Bella Wilson came 2nd Y8 and Matt Robin came 2nd Y6 and 3rd Y7.

## Community

### On the Library noticeboard:

- St Mary's/St James' Advent timetable.
- Carols in the Community – various locations
- Family-friendly (alcohol-free) New Year's Eve party –Parklands Reserve–free sausage sizzle, bouncy castles, family film
- Imagine Youth Theatre *Jack and the Beanstalk* – auditions
- EQC notice

## BOT

### At Tuesday's meeting

- 2011 SAT results in Maths-Basic Facts, Literacy-Written Language, and RE; Special Needs report; Reading Recovery report; and 2012 draft Budget and draft property were presented.
- MOE requirements for reporting national standards were explained and discussed.

The BOT is looking at ways in which NBC can raise funds:

### Wanted

Is there a parent who could help us by taking on the task of making applications to charitable trusts. If you are interested, please chat to Deb about what would be required.

### Wanted – Corporate Sponsorship

One possibility is corporate sponsorship of NBC. Do you have any contacts in the business world. Please chat to Deb.

### Wanted – Cleaner

We would like to employ a cleaner at the school for 3 hours a day/42 weeks at year. Please see Deb for a job description.

The BOT thanked all NBC staff for their wonderful care and hard work during this very trying year.

Wishing you and your families a Happy and Holy Christmas and a safe and restful holiday break.

*NBC Board of Trustees*

## PTFA

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

**Next meeting:** Tuesday 7 February at 7pm in the staffroom.

Everyone is welcome.

### What a year it's been!

We would like to send our thanks to all the people who helped over the year. Without your continued support we would not have achieved the great success we did this year.

### Merry Christmas to the whole school community

We would like to wish everyone a lovely and safe Christmas/New Year and we look forward to seeing everyone in 2012.

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

## Earthquake Recovery

### Have you been assessed yet?

If you have not yet been assessed by EQC – please call them so they can come and assess your property as soon as possible. They are trying to complete all assessments by Christmas.

To book an assessment – call 0800 326 243 (0800 DAMAGE)

Visit [www.eqc.govt.nz](http://www.eqc.govt.nz) for more info

## Parish

### Advent Timetable

13 December	Reconciliation	7 pm	St Mary's
18 December	Reconciliation	5 pm	St James'
24 December	Christmas Eve Mass	7 pm	St Mary's
		9 pm	St James'
25 December	Christmas Day Mass	10 am	St Mary's