

# FRIDAY, 17<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2012

## Ash Wednesday

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent – a season of reflection when we remember the days of Jesus' life as he travelled towards that first Easter. It is also a time when we consider whether we are the best we can be, and look to ways to change so we can become the person that God made us to be. We will be joining with the Parish for Mass at 9.15am. It would be wonderful if you could come and join us.

### School-Wide Trip to Auckland Zoo

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March we are planning to take the whole school to the Auckland Zoo to take advantage of their Celebrate Sea-Week interactive theme, this fits perfectly with our Science focus of examining the relationship between people and the environment, and our theme for 2012 **God Creates ~ We Caretake**. We will be travelling by bus. The cost of the bus plus the entry fee to the zoo is \$28.20. We are asking parents who have paid (or are planning to pay) their Term 1 school donation for \$13.20 or the full price of \$28.20 for those who have chosen not to pay. I am aware that this is an expensive time for everyone with stationary, uniforms and fees etc so if you have a difficulty with the cost please call in and see either Barb or myself and we will work something out. No one will be left out – all things are possible!! Could you please fill in the permission slip and return to the school office as soon as possible.



### Irish Fling

At the BOT meeting it was felt that families would much prefer the Irish Fling to be on a week-night, not on a Saturday which is St Patrick's day this year. So in true Irish style we have now changed the date of the Fling to Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> March. With this in mind we plan to have a planning meeting on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 3.15pm. We would really appreciate your help with this – don't worry you won't be asked to do anything your not completely happy with!



### Contact Information

As information regarding your children is constantly changing, e.g. cell phone numbers, emergency contacts, doctors etc. Could we please get you to fill in this updated contact information sheet and return to school next week. Thanks

### Scholastic Book-orders pamphlet

Brochure number 1 went home this week. If you wish to place an order please have this along with the money to the school office by Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February. Please remember – all cheques to be made out to **St Francis School**

### Junior White Cluster Swimming Sports

There has been a change of date for the Junior White Cluster Swimming Sports which is held at Moanataiari School. This has now been changed from Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> February and is now being held on **Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February** beginning at 11.30am. We will leave St Francis School at 11am, returning around lunchtime, and will involve all children in Rooms 1 & 4. We will be transporting the children in cars so if you are available to help out it would be greatly appreciated. Could you fill in the permission slip at the end of this newsletter and return to the school office as soon as possible if you haven't already done so.

**Keep these days free!**

### White Cluster Senior Swimming Sports

The senior swimming sports will be held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March at Thames Centennial Pool beginning with warm ups at 9am, races to start at 9.30am. South School organise the sports but they do require each school to provide some assistance. This year we are asked to supply...

- ↳ 2 timekeepers
- ↳ A teacher as team manager
- ↳ Additional helpers e.g. in the kitchen, as runners,

and false start operators.

If you can help please send in the return slip as soon as possible. The sports are for students 9 years and over. Any questions or queries please see your class teacher or give me a ring.

### Swim Splash

The prizes for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> swimmers in each of Rooms 3 and 5 who gain the most sponsorship prize money and who complete their challenge are on display in the school foyer. Each student is asked to set their own target – one that will challenge them, be it 1 length or 80 lengths. Sponsorship forms for the great swim splash were given out last week, if you have misplaced yours there are more available at the school office

### From the Public Health Nurse

**Year 7 Booster Immunisation** (*Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis/Whooping Cough*) There will be an information presentation for Year 7 students on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 2pm. Parents/caregivers are welcome to attend.

**Year 8 Girls HPV Immunisation Programme** There will be an information presentation for Year 8 girls on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 2pm. Parents/caregivers are welcome to attend. This immunisation is now being offered every year as part of the school based immunisation programme.

Students will bring home an Information/Consent Form after these sessions. These forms need to be completed and returned to school as soon as possible. For further information you can contact your Practice Nurse or Public Health Nurse Wendy King 07 868 6550 ext 25233 or 021 341 845

# COMMUNITY

## Young Franciscans Youth Group

Don't forget Family Splash and BBQ at Centennial Pool tonight 17 Feb at 6.30PM. Bring your swimsuit and towel plus \$3 for pool entry. For more information, call Mary Hamilton at 868 3362.

**The Great Rugby Roadtrip** - Monday 20th February, Rhodes Park Thames 3pm-6pm. The NZRU presents rugby and all its silverware to the NZ public. Come down and take a tour through the huge interactive marquee, get up and close with all the trophies -Rugby World Cups Webb Ellis, Bledisloe trophy, Womens World Cup, World 7's trophies, try your skills at competitions and find out what rugby has to offer or has done in your area. Free entry to all and plenty of photo opportunities. Food and refreshments available.

**Thames Junior Rugby Club 2012 Season weigh in for All Grades.** Monday 20th February from 3.30 – 6pm and Sunday, 26th February from 3 – 5pm. New Players welcome, - please bring a copy of birth certificate and current photo. Thames Rugby Clubrooms Rhodes Park. Any enquiries please ring 027 846 5860

**Omahu Rodeo & Fun Day** Saturday 25th Feb 2012. 9am start with Early bird gate prizes. Omahu Valley Rd, SH 26. Featuring kids games, sheep riding (weight/size graded) steer & bull riding

**Ukulele Lessons** at Thames Youth Centre  
Be quick, only 7 places left, 45 minutes lessons at \$4 each. Instruments are supplied by Lotus Realm, Friday, 3:30pm 126 Kirkwood Street, Thames. Please phone 07-868 6110 and leave your contact details.



## White Cluster Junior Swimming Sports

I / We give permission for ..... to participate in the Junior White Cluster Swimming Sports.

I can / cannot help out with transport for ..... seatbelted children.  
(please circle one) (please state how many children)

signed

## Auckland Zoo – Sea Week trip

I / We give permission for ..... to travel to the Auckland Zoo on Thursday 8th March 2012.

I have enclosed...

- \$13.20 as I have (or plan to) pay my Term 1 School Donation
- \$28.20 as I have not (or do not plan to) pay my Term 1 School Donation

signed

**Muffin Break NZ** is giving one lucky school from both the north and south island the chance to win a 500 Muffin Break package. Simply go to their website <http://www.facebook.com/MuffinBreakNZ> 'like' them, find St Francis School Thames and vote for us and we could be that lucky school

## Next week in Brief

Date	Event
Sunday, 19th February	Altar servers - Anna and Luci
Wednesday, 22nd February	Ash Wednesday Mass 9.15 White cluster junior swimming sports 11am Irish Fling planning meeting school library
Sunday, 26th February	Altar servers - James