



# *St Anne's Catholic School*

WOOLSTON

**NEWSLETTER NO. 39**  
**10 December 2014**

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(x being Class Room number)

## THOUGHTS

What a great night it was last Friday at my farewell party! I was absolutely thrilled and delighted seeing all of you who could attend and I thank you all. The many apologies and calls I received were also great to get and I acknowledge those well wishes.

Thank you to the members of the BOT, staff, parents and students who worked so hard on the success of this evening. I shared the fabulous cake with the students yesterday. I was delighted with the gift of the iPad received from the Board of Trustees on behalf of the school community, it will be very useful, thank you.

To listen to others speak about you and see yourself through their eyes can be difficult. I received a text on Friday night from my oldest son saying "Dad, great night, congratulations, proud of you." Well I have been proud to be part of your community for 24 years.

Kind regards

*Peter Callanan* (Principal)

## COMING EVENTS

### DECEMBER

- 11 Rm 4 & 5 class trip  
Yr 8 Retreat
- 12 School Picnic 11.00—2.00pm
- 15 Prize Giving Mass 6.30pm St John's Church Hall
- 16 Rm 1 & 2 Christmas Concert 2.15pm
- 17 School Finishes following final assembly 11-12noon

### 2015 Term Dates (Amended)

- Term 1 **Mon 2 Feb** - Thur 2 April
- Term 2 Mon 20 April - Fri 3 July
- Term 3 Mon 20 July - Fri 25 Sept
- Term 4 Mon 12 Oct - Wed 16 Dec

**Congratulations** to Nadine Booster who has received the Marian Foundation Scholarship for 2015. This is based on tests set and marked by the University of Canterbury. Well done Nadine!

## PICNIC



**SCHOOL PICNIC**  
Friday 12 December  
11.00am - 2.00pm  
In the school grounds  
Everyone welcome.

Bouncy Maze \* Face Painting \* Water Slide  
Lollie Scramble \* Ice Cream \* Drinks  
Sausage Sizzle (1 Free per child)

Mufti Day - remember to bring your togs and towel.

## Parents & Friends Assn Christmas Raffle

Tickets and money must be returned to the office before 9.00am Friday 12 December to be included in the draw which will be announced at the Picnic.

## Altar Servers

Sat 13 Dec 6.00pm

1. Mimi Cresswell
2. Zana Solodi

Sun 14 Dec 10.30am

1. Madeline Youngman
2. Rosie Pender

## Faith Facts

Pope Francis invites us all to share the joy of God's gift of the Gospel to others. The quotes this term will be from the beginning pages of Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis –**Evangelii Gaudium, the Joy of the Gospel**

A reminder that the entire document can be found at - <http://vatican.va/evangelii-gaudium/en/index.html>

**The Gospel invites us to respond to the God of love who saves us, to see God in others** and to go forth from ourselves to seek the good of others. (EG 39)



## THE SEASON OF ADVENT

**Next Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent.**

As you know the word Advent means coming. It is a time of waiting and expectation. Only God knows when the second coming will be. Our End of Year mass next Monday will focus on us being prepared for the coming of Jesus. We hope to see you all at this most important Mass so that we can also send off Mr Callanan and the Year 8 students with all our blessing as they leave our school.

## Sunday 7 December

### GOSPEL READING - Mark 13:33-37

In this Gospel John the Baptist had a very clear understanding of his role. He was to prepare the way for Jesus. John called the people of his time to raise their heads from their daily work, to put aside their worries and distractions, and to focus on preparing for the coming of the Messiah. The people responded by flocking to hear him.

### REFLECTION AND ACTION-WEEK9

We have things in common with the people who responded to John. Their lives were a daily battle for physical survival; we often have to battle to raise our hearts and minds above the daily demands of work and family, and these things often swamp our spiritual lives; for some of us there is indeed a daily battle for physical survival for ourselves and our family. This can be especially the case at Christmas, where the demands of the year ending, Christmas celebrations, financial pressures and preparing for holidays can mean Advent and its meaning are on the periphery and out of focus. Wherever we live there will be something which can act as our own personal “John the Baptist call” to prepare for the feast of the Nativity, if we give it that association. If we seek John the Baptist in our lives, because we really want to hear his message, we will find him and perhaps in a rather unexpected form.

## Canterbury Athletic Championship

Last Wednesday, four St Anne's Athletes competed in Ashburton at the Canterbury Athletics Championship.

Jack Swain placed 4th in 60 metres ,  
Elisah Umaga 4th in Shot Put,  
Finn Mounty 6th in Shot Put and  
Madeline Youngman raced strongly in her 1000 metre race to finish 17th, well done!

A big thanks to all the parents who helped on the day.

