



**ST IGNATIUS**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Issue 1 Term 1 2014

# “boardtalk”

**Welcome to 2014.** As always, it has been a busy start to the new year and it is great to see all our returning learners and staff again and a big welcome to all those new to our place. We do pride ourselves on our strong sense of community and hope that you all feel a sense of belonging. This is my family’s 7th year at the school and I still get huge pleasure from the lovely greetings I receive as I walk through the playground, whether it be at drop off or pick up, for a building meeting, or a board meeting. Our children’s happiness and joy is delightful and infectious.

Please read the contents of this BoardTalk. It is published as a communication from the Board to our community to keep you in touch with what we are currently focussing on. This is my last piece as Chair. The Chair is elected at the first meeting of each year and I am not standing for nomination again this year, although I will remain on the Board in my role as a Proprietor’s Rep. It has been my privilege to act as Chair for a number of years now, and to work on the Board with such a dedicated, capable, generous group of people. They truly do have all your children’s learning and achievement as their paramount focus.

Regards  
Marcella

## School Bus Route

Thank you to all those who gave us feedback regarding the school bus route. This has now been confirmed by Auckland Transport so as to cover a broader area and encourage more families to use this service. The new route commences on 3rd March 2014. A map of the route is attached and is available to view at the office.

If your children can use the bus in 2014, we urge you to do so, as this is a great service which could significantly reduce traffic and parking issues around the school each afternoon and encourages our children’s independence.

A school bus leaves our school each afternoon from the designated bus stop on Speight Rd. This bus is only for children at St Ignatius Catholic School. A duty teacher ensures the children board the bus and records their names in our bus register.

The fare is \$1.10 per trip cash and ATHOP Cards can be purchased from dairies and local stationers. Maskell St Dairy sells ATHOP Cards. For more information visit [ATHOP.co.nz](http://ATHOP.co.nz) or phone (09) 366 4467.

The route has been prepared by Auckland Transport after consideration of many factors, including our current bus route, the addresses of all our students, after school care facilities used by our families, traffic and congestion around 3pm on the roads within our school zone, and the feedback received from parents.



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St Ignatius School, in partnership with parents and within a caring and supportive Catholic environment, is committed to quality education and achievement where the focus is on the development of the whole child, guiding each child on their faith journey, and helping them to grow up as caring and contributing members of the community.

Respectful  
Responsible  
Generous  
Happy

The bus will stop at any bus stop en-route. If there is not a bus stop on a particular street, the children ring the bell and the driver will stop as soon as possible. If you want your children to use the bus and there is not a bus stop on the route near where you live, you can propose a safe place for the bus to stop and let them out. Please email this to the Board by 26 February 2014 to:

**StIgnatiusBot@Gmail.com**

with "proposed bus stop" as the subject.

### **Buildings and Development**

There is going to be short term inconvenience for long term gain now that the building work has started at school and we ask for your patience and understanding during this time of change. For those new to our community, the Catholic Diocese is building a two-storey learning space along the Speight Rd boundary in line with our Admin block and Rooms 6,7 & 8.

Please keep the evening of **Thursday 13th March** free for a Parent Information Evening, 7.30pm start. Teachers will present information about Our Learning and the Board will share details of the new building with you. It will be an exciting new modern learning space for the children of our school to enjoy for many years to come.

### **21st Century Education and Learning**

21st century education is about adapting to a changing world and how we teach has to change as well. The current top 10 jobs did not exist 10 years ago, and education must keep pace and stay relevant with access to technology, team teaching and learning communities. In the next 10 years desks, blackboards, CDs and textbooks may be obsolete. Desks and blackboards are already redundant at our place.

In terms of teaching, we need to:

- Make classrooms dynamic learning environments
- Teach children to become life-long learners.

- Look beyond the right answer to more inquisitive learning.
- Focus on individualised learning.
- Rethink concept of one teacher per class (single cell teaching) to team teaching for transparency in order to enhance learning.
- The teacher is more a guide and support person on the side and not standing in front of the students teaching.

### **We need to embrace technology**

Schools need to provide a technology rich environment in order for pupils to access content, publish work, maintain a portfolio of their skills and interact with the world. It also provides a platform for the skills they will need throughout their careers.

### **Schools are adopting Modern Learning Environments ("MLEs")**

While technology has changed rapidly, classrooms have not. New types of learning spaces are more open and flexible with an infrastructure rich in an ICT environment such as the new primary school in Stonefields. The challenge facing catholic schools is to adapt their existing spaces to MLEs as they do not have the luxury or the capital requirements to build from scratch.

### **Now at Our Place**

What does this mean for our school? The Catholic Diocese is building a new classroom block which will be a modern learning environment with open flexible spaces. This is very exciting for the future of our school as team teaching and learning communities will continue as they have for some time now, but in a dynamic new purpose built learning space.

The Board will have architectural plans for the new building on display for everyone to view at school. These will be firstly on display at **Dude's Night** and we will be asking for a donation from all Dude's when viewing them as there are going to be many costs associated with the new building and



the ongoing development and maintenance of the school grounds and property We look forward to your support as we will be asking our community to assist us in many ways as we ensure the very best is provided for all learners at Our Place.

### Comings and Goings

Welcome to Miss Claire Rosser and welcome back to Mrs Elissa McGregor who has returned as a Year 6 teacher for Term 1. Sadly Mrs Dorothy Kemeys did not commence as a Year 6 teacher as planned as ill health lead to her resignation. We wish her well with her recovery.

### Did you know? ...

**The School Uniform Centre has a rewards system for regular and loyal customers, so make sure you get your VIP Club book stamped each time you purchase there.**

### Upcoming by-election

Late last year we advised you that the Board resolved to fill the casual vacancy on the Board by holding a by-election as more than one parent has expressed interest. We are hoping the new Trustee will be keen to take on the co-Treasurer role with Paula Dell. A by-election will allow eligible voters to consider candidates and vote.

Vanessa Kelly has been appointed Returning Officer and the election timeline is as follows:

Call for Nominations by:  
**February 21st, 2014**

Nominations Close:  
**March 7th, 2014**

Voting papers Sent by:  
**March 12th, 2014**

**Voting Day: 21st March**

Count Votes  
**March 27th, 2014**

New Trustee takes Office:  
**March 28th, 2014**

Marcella Thomas (Proprietor's Rep, Chair) All committees  
Ph 5284565 or 021 819979

Carol Sullivan (Principal) All committees Ph 5757081

Paula Dell (Proprietor's Rep) Our Place and Our Faith  
Ph 585 0071

Francisco Serrano (Parent Rep) Ph 521 9587

Therese Arahill (Proprietor's Rep) Our Learning,  
Our People Ph 575 2924

Verna Love (Parent Rep) Ph 521 6222

Mathew Anderson (Parent Rep) Ph 528 1995

Robyn Lee (School rep) Our Learning Ph 5757081

Jasmine Connolly (Parent Rep) Ph 5850181 Our People,  
Our Place, Future Planning

Joanne Humphrey (Co-opted) Ph 5216177 Our People,  
Future Planning