

From the principal....

We were thrilled with the number of parents and family members who came to the *Meet the Teachers* evening on Tuesday night. These occasions are very important to the children's learning as they provide opportunities for teachers and families to exchange information. Along with being introduced to, and hearing from the teachers about classroom programmes, parents were given the opportunity to put forward their views on the question "What skills, attitudes, and values do we want the children leaving CTK to have at the end of Year 6 (boys) and Year 8 (girls)?" Thank you for your participation in this important discussion and we will be reporting back to you the results in newsletters and other communications. Summarised below are some of the messages we heard last night from the classroom teachers about what you can do, and in most cases are doing, to support your children so that they reach their potential in their learning:

- Communicate with your child's teacher or any staff member if you have any concerns about your child's learning (we have an 'open-door' policy that welcomes such communications, although sometimes we may ask you to come at another time).
- Make sure your child/children come to school every day and that they are on time – arriving late or missing school disrupts learning.
- Talk to your children about their learning. This helps them to think about what they have learnt at school and we know that this makes it meaningful for them.
- We heard about expectations at different levels for homework – support your children by encouraging them to manage their time well and complete homework tasks thoroughly and on time.
- Read to your children and encourage them to read to you or independently – reading is one of the greatest skills children learn.
- If you can, visit the parents' section of the Ministry of Education website at www.minedu.govt.nz – it is especially designed for parents and families with lots of tips, ideas and information to help you get more involved in your children's learning, and research shows this can make a big difference to their future.

We are very blessed with our school and parish community and are confident that we can work in a meaningful partnership for the benefit of all our children.

As we enter this special period of Lent we encourage the children to think and pray about the three traditional Lenten practices: Fasting, Praying and Almsgiving (acts of charity). The latter fits in very well with our term charism value of *kindness*. We hope you enjoy discussing and supporting your children's learning when they bring home material to share with you.

God bless.

Jane Hahn

Important Dates for Term 1

19 February	Ambury Farm Rms 6,7,8
22 February	BOT Meeting
22 Feb-3 Mar	Swimming Rms 1,4,5
4-15 March	Swimming Rms 6,7,8
7 March	Parish Children's Mass
7 March	School & Parish Fun Day
19 March	Feast of St Joseph
22 March	PTFA Annual General Meeting
29 March	BOT Meeting
1 April	Term 1 ends
2 April	Good Friday
19 April	Term 2 begins

First Sunday of the Month Mass 2010

These times when we join the parish in celebrating the Eucharist are a very important part of our special Catholic character. Please fill in the form coming to you with this newsletter if you would like your family to take an active part in these monthly Masses.

Swimming Lessons

This term all of our students will be having a series of 8 swimming lessons at the New Windsor School Pool. The children will travel to and from the pool by bus and the pool is heated so lessons will not be affected by the weather. The lessons will be taken by qualified instructors from the Dean Greenwood Swim School. Learning the physical skills that are needed for safe swimming and fun in the water is an important part of the Health and Physical Education Curriculum and we are very excited at being able to use these great facilities so close to our school. As always, if your child is unable to participate in a lesson we require a note explaining this. Children will be required to wear appropriate swimming togs for the lessons.

Coming to you with this newsletter is a self-evaluation form for you to fill out for each child and return to school. Please return it to your classroom teacher by Friday 19 February so that we can make the most of this opportunity.

**Christ the King PTFA News
School and parish Family Fun Day**

Sunday 7 March (Children's Day)

11.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. in the school grounds

The PTFA are planning a celebration to welcome in the new school year. This will be a joint school and parish event and we will be encouraging everyone to come along to enjoy music, fun and games. There will also be lots of food available for sale so you can bring a picnic and/or enjoy a variety of hot food while also supporting the PTFA fundraising efforts.

PTFA Annual General Meeting

Monday 22 March 7.00 p.m. in the staff room

Why do people become involved in the PTFA?

Because the PTFA is an important part of the school family and gives parents and families of our children the chance to:

- hear about what's happening in the school
- give feedback on anything to do with the school
- make important decisions about resources that support children's learning
- get to know other parents and become involved in their children's learning

All of this in a friendly, welcoming environment!

Please come along to the AGM to meet up with other members of the school community, enjoy a supper and make your views heard.



Welcome to **Jade Jugum** (Room 1) and **Denzel Robertson** (Room 7) and their families to CTK. We are very happy to have you as part of our learning community.

Board of Trustees

Then next meeting of the CTK Board of Trustees will be on Monday 22 February at 7.00 p.m. You are welcome to attend this meeting.

After School Care

Thank you to those families who have shown interest in using an after school care facility at CTK. We are currently looking at our options and will keep you informed of our progress in this area.

Winter track pants (payment required)

Pre-orders for the winter track pants are now being taken. The track pants are the same black with gold lettering style that we have had for the last few years. Payment for these is required at the time of placing your order as this order will be placed only once this year and extra stocks will not be held at the school. Your order with payment is required no later than Thursday 18th March. **Late orders will not be accepted.** Please send all orders to the office (see form below)

2010 WINTER TRACKPANT ORDER

Size	Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
6	\$25.00		
8	\$25.00		
10	\$25.00		
12	\$25.00		
14	\$25.00		
Adult-small	\$28.00		
Adult-medium	\$28.00		
Total payment enclosed			

Room Number:

Parent's Name:

Parent's Signature:

Date:

Uniform sales are available from the office on Tuesday 1.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.