

A Message from Lisa Broadmore: Reflecting on Term 3

Kia ora koutou,

As Term 3 draws to a close, I'm filled with gratitude for a season rich in learning, creativity, and service. I'd love to share some of the many highlights that have shaped these past ten weeks.

We embraced Te Wiki o te Reo Māori, celebrating our treasured language through activities and conversations that deepened understanding and confidence. As part of this celebration, local author Kimberley Kearney (Ngāti Maniapoto, Tuhoe) visited to share her new book *The Lost Words*, a beautiful reminder of the importance of reclaiming and cherishing te reo Māori and reconnecting with our heritage.

Our tamariki shone well beyond the classroom. One of our students earned 2nd place in the Mount Cluster Speech Finals, and we were delighted to be named winners of the Caritas Kaitiaki2Share competition for writing and artwork inspired by Matariki dune planting—an achievement that brought a garden prize and the gift of a native tree planted in our school's name. We also celebrated another standout success when one of our talented young artists wowed judges in the Multicultural Tauranga Art Competition with a poster themed "The Great Ocean of Diversity," beautifully promoting inclusion and unity.

Service was another highlight. Our Vinnies Youth Group led *Tin Tuesday*, collecting an impressive number of groceries for the Tauranga Community Foodbank and later visiting to see first-hand how even the smallest contributions can make a profound difference.

We also enjoyed many joyful gatherings. Grandparents' Day began with a special Mass and morning tea, followed by a dazzling recycled-materials fashion parade. Our tamariki embraced winter sports with enthusiasm, building teamwork and resilience, cheered on by wonderfully supportive whānau. A visit from the Marist Rugby development tour group filled our grounds with haka, song, and fun rugby drills, while Dianne Porter, Hamilton Diocese Primary Schools Advisor, helped students create thoughtful and inspiring prayer focuses.

Our senior students shone at the Coastal Catholic Schools Cluster Tournament at John Paul College in Rotorua, showing remarkable sportsmanship and determination in cultural activities, netball, rippa rugby, and football—despite wild weather. And during Social Justice Week, guided by Caritas' theme "*Peace Begins with You and Me – Kia tau te rangimārie*," the children transformed our courts into a vibrant mural of chalk messages and symbols of hope and peace.

Thank you to our staff, tamariki, and whānau for making this a term filled with faith, learning, and connection. As we look toward Term 4, we look forward to nurturing curiosity, celebrating achievement, and continuing to grow together as the caring, vibrant school community we are blessed to be.

Ngā mihi nui,
Lisa Broadmore
Principal / Tumauaki

