



St Matthew's Primary School Annual Report 2013

Another very busy year, 2013 saw our children involved in many more curricular and extra-curricular activities. This was alongside a real push on the individual engagement of each pupil in their own learning.

We continued to celebrate success, both at fortnightly assemblies as well as at our end-of-term assembly held in the church. Numerous awards and recognitions are given out at this event.

We welcomed Rev. H. Wilderspin to the roles of Vicar and Chaplain. Helen quickly became part of the teaching team with her Christian Living input and continued the role of supporting us in our Special Character. The Christian Living team also includes one of our parents and our Principal.

A continued development in the relationship with our host parish occurred during 2013, with the children being involved in many of the parish happenings, including the intermediate aged youth group called 'HardHats' that services the Anglican Parishes in Hastings and Havelock North. Between 25 and 30 pupils attend this group weekly on a Friday afternoon.

There was a strong focus on sport and recreation throughout the year, with many children with Netball, Gymnastics, Rugby, Hockey and Dance. On top of this, all of our students were involved with swimming lessons, Athletics, Cross Country and the Duathlon (an event that we arrange for the primary schools of Hawkes Bay).

Our involvement with our PPM Cluster (of Patoka, Pakowhai and ourselves) continued to grow throughout 2013. We embarked on an effective professional development programme that dovetailed well into our own school's PD plan. This included looking at Writing, Te Reo Maori, Fundamental Motor Skills and our continuing work focussed on our children with Specific Learning Needs.

We got out and about a lot during the year, with major camps in Rotorua (years 5 and 6) and Wellington (years 7 and 8) for our seniors, Optimist Yachting (years 5 to 8), numerous trips and our regular walks to the city library. This was added to be attending the Earthquake Memorial Service, the Horse of the Year Parade and being involved in the Blossom Parade. Another highlight was the leaver's function where we honour our year 8 leavers and listen to their farewell speeches.

Tim Anderson
Principal



Beach Rugby – a firm favourite on our agenda.



A scene from our production about Moses.



Optimist Yachting at Pandora Pond.

