Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful holiday and are looking forward to the year ahead. A very special welcome to any new families to our school. We look forward to getting to know you and working with you.

The Gala is just over 6 weeks away......WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our annual Gala will be held on Sunday 22nd of March – put this date in your calendars now 😊

Parent Power: Please start thinking now about how you can help out. We require at least one adult from each school family to work on both or either days over Gala weekend. To help make our Gala run smoothly and make as much money as possible for your children’s school, it takes approximately 180 people to run the Gala on the day. We also need people to help with the set up the day before - many hands make light work! Whether you are new or were on a stall in previous years and are happy to do your part please contact us as soon as possible. There are also many jobs to be done in the weeks leading up to the Gala so to offer your assistance in any way please contact:

Jennifer Walker on 027-695-5553 or email galahelpers@stmaryspapakura.school.nz

Sponsorship: Does your workplace or those of your family and friends have items they could donate? We are always looking for items which could be used as prizes on the various games or for our raffles and gift hampers. No amount is too small. Items can be dropped into the office or please contact:

Courtenay Kilpatrick on 021 853930 or email gala@stmaryspapakura.school.nz

Did you have a big clean out over the holidays? We will happily receive your second hand goods for our Gala. Please ask your family, friends, neighbours and work colleagues to gather up all the things they no longer need and donate them to our Gala. Items can be dropped off in the collection box in the foyer of our school hall during school hours. If you require any larger items collected please contact: Cory Bramwell on 021-613-370

Gate Collections/Mufti Days: The following days have been set for school mufti days in return for each child bringing along one of the listed items. Please add these dates to your calendars and when you are doing the groceries or out shopping please think about what your child could bring along on these days to donate.

Friday 14th February – Groceries (Bethlehem & Nazareth), Garage, Garden and Laundry Items (Jerusalem & Emmaus). Grocery suggestions: biscuits, crackers, spreads, muesli bars, chips, cereal, baking ingredients, spices, dessert mixes, dried pasta/rice/noodles, tea & coffee. Garage/Garden/Laundry suggestions: garden tools, power tools, car care products, tool boxes, cleaning equipment & products, brushware, plant pots, torches, garden art & ornaments, hoses & fittings, storage/containers, paint brushes & equipment, gloves, BBQ utensils.

Friday 28th February – Mystery Envelope Items (Whole School). Our Mystery Envelopes are gift packs that we make up with donated items such as toiletries, stationery, vouchers, gift sets etc. On Gala day people can “Pick an Envelope” for $10 and get a prize pack matched to the number inside.

Friday 13th March – Groceries (Whole School). Grocery items are used in raffles and on the various food stalls.

If you are new to our school and have any questions or for any general enquiries about our school Gala, please contact:

Kate Howarth on 021-622-167 or Gabby Postill on 021-504-018, or email galapr@stmaryspapakura.school.nz