

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Caregivers and Whanau



Kahui Ako (Communities of Learning)

Since the Ministry of Education approved our Kahui Ako comprising of Our Lady Star of the Sea, St Marks, Sancta Maria Primary Catholic School, Sancta Maria College, Elim Christian College (Junior and Senior) and Kingsgate Christian Primary School, Pukekohe, school leaders have been meeting on a regular basis to discuss, plan and make decisions about the several phases of development for working together on shared goals and achievement challenges that will best serve the students in our communities

based on the particular needs of the young people. We have begun to develop a shared vision, protocols and ways of working. In doing so, we are developing effective relationships which will support our ongoing work.

Ka Hikitia (Accelerating Success)

A group of staff have come together to form the Leadership Team that will have a particular focus on making explicit to others how identity, language and culture are integrated into what we do as important contributors to educational success. With support from the Ministry of Education, an increased understanding is gained and actions can be developed towards building our cultural competence to ensure that as a college we are all responsive to assisting all our learners to achieve their full potential. This includes strengthening productive partnerships with students, parents and whanau and working together to achieve better outcomes for our students.

SMC Hosts Visiting Educators from Australia

We recently hosted a visit from the Cairns Diocese, Australia to plan towards the visit from several school principals in Northern Queensland later in the year to observe effective classroom practices and engage with staff and students.

Senior Leaders from Mary McKillop, Canberra also visited our college to engage with us on the place of 'Student Voice'. Student voice enables students to make a valuable contribution that will inform decisions, planning and leadership as well as provides feedback to the teacher about their learning. It is very powerful and is integral to making continuous school improvement.

I will be co-presenting with Steve Bryant, Principal, Sacred Heart College, Napier to the Australian Catholic Secondary School Principals who are joining the NZ Catholic Secondary School Principal's forum at the end of this term.

Upcoming Significant Events

NB: Click the link below for Sancta Maria College Website Portal for calendar details of schoolwide events

<https://portal.sanctamaria.school.nz/student/index.php>

June

26 BOT Meeting

July

5 6.30 pm - J Rock
ASB Theatre, Aotea Centre
7 7pm - Stage Challenge
ASB Theatre, Aotea Centre
End of Term 2
24 Term 3 Begins

August

4 Teacher Only Day
16 Assumption Mass
23-29 Senior Exams
28 BOT Meeting



SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Family Mass

The Family Mass that has been advertised for this month on the 2017 calendar has had to be changed as a result of unforeseen circumstances. In Term 3, we will advise the new date and provide further information. Thank you for your understanding.

With Blessings
Louise Moore
Principal

CHAT FROM THE CHAIR

Traffic Management update

The Board, Principal and Senior Leadership Team are working with the Diocese to work through the concerns we have regarding traffic management.

The Police continue to support the College with ongoing safety training and advice.

Sports Sideline Protocol

We are proud of the achievements and commitment that our students continue to make in the various range of sports that we as a school are involved with.



It has been brought to the Board's attention by some parents and teachers that the side-line behaviour of a small number of supporters has on occasions been abusive.

Some of this behaviour is directed at coaches/umpires some of whom are students who give up their time for the love of the game.

The Board asks that all supporters give students, coaches and umpires the positive feedback they deserve. As supporters, we are all on display and are representing the School and our values.

School Fees

As we are now well into Term two, if you pay by term, please ensure that you have paid your Dues and Contributions for this period. As a Board we rely heavily on your contributions to provide a high level of education for our children.

Warren Brabant
Chairperson
Board of Trustees

SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

For many people
Life is so terribly busy.
Perhaps it is for you too,
There simply isn't enough time
To do everything you would like to do.
Then sickness comes.
And with it comes
Frustration and irritation
Because you are no longer the master
Of your own affairs.
You are simply no longer in control,
You need help.

Sickness, therefore, gives you
An opportunity to learn patience.
God Himself sometimes lovingly
Slows you down a bit from the frenzied pace
Of your normal life.

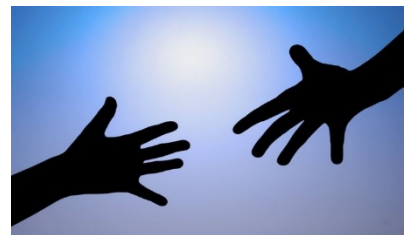
He gives you the opportunity to look up,
To look up to Him,
To start talking with Him again,
To take a new look into His Word.

Patience! Don't be so restless!
Try to make the most
Of this interruption in your life.

Learn to wait upon the Lord.

*"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find;
Knock and the door will be opened to you.
For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds;
And to him who knocks, the door will be opened."*

Matthew 7: 7,8



SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

FEAST DAY – 31 MAY 2017

Feast Day is a very important day for all students, teachers and staff in Sancta Maria College. This day marks the time when our Mother Mary our school patron (Sancta Maria) visited her cousin Elizabeth who was soon to give birth to John the Baptist.

She went to not only comfort her but also to proclaim the good news that she was pregnant with the Son of God, who was soon to be called Jesus and would be known as the Messiah. Feast Day is celebrated every year at Sancta Maria College to remind us all about the Visitation and how these two women are two significant people, role models and great followers of God.



Not only the Sancta Maria community was celebrating this special day but also some of the prefects from the schools around East Auckland. Furthermore, the parish priests from St Mark's alongside with Fr. Craig, Fr. Kevin and Fr. Ezio led the Mass and made us aware of the importance of service to one another. During the Mass, some of our students took on the role of serving the community by being accredited as Eucharistic Ministers. As the Mass was ending, a gift was given from a sweet and generous couple, Mr George Thompson and Mrs Barbara Thompson, who donated to the school a statue of Mother Mary. This was then blessed by Father Ezio and will soon be placed inside the school grounds.

To sum it all up, the day was brilliant! All thanks to staff and people involved in preparing this amazing day. And on behalf of the SMC school community, love and thanks to Mr and Mrs. Thompson for gifting us the statue of Mary.
Franchesca Fernandez



SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Pompallier Shield

This year, Sancta Maria College was adeptly represented at the Pompallier Shield 2017, which was hosted by Marcellin College. Our competitions consisted of: Lorenzo Cruz (Junior Speech), Adam Martis (Junior Scripture), Henry Elliot (Maori Scripture), Cuan Pillay (Senior Scripture) and Elizabeth Leaning (Senior Oratory).

We also took part in the Drama event which saw five of our students act out how to be people of mercy. The Drama team consisted of Meggy Leguda, Kelly Mascarenhas, Mia Gilchrist, Sydney Causer, Hailey Samasoni. The Pompallier Shield team were polished, professional and proficient and we were proud of their efforts. Special congratulations to Henry Elliot for his third placing in the Maori scripture reading and Cuan Pillay for his second placing in the Senior scripture reading.



SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Service to the Community

Today, members of the SMC Young Vinnies made a trip to the Bruce McLaren Retirement Home to serve their local community.

Although the students were surprised to have been asked to sing, they happily took the task upon themselves and gave an entertaining performance that left the elderly clapping in their seats.

The students sang songs such as 'Can't Help Falling in Love' by Elvis Presley, 'O Come to the Altar' by Elevation Worship and the song popular amongst SMC students and surprisingly amongst the elderly, 'O Sancta Maria'.

The students also got time to chat with the residents and to get to know them, with some of the students even receiving pearls of wisdom from them. It was surely a memorably experience. *Angelika Bilbao*



A Helping Hand On Motuihe Island

Congratulations to the 5 students and 3 teachers/parents who spent the day on Motuihe Island.

They volunteered to experience a new way of helping the environment. We were collaborating with other schools to plant native trees. Volunteers were partnered to shovel dirt, dig holes and plant trees around a specific area, where they will grow for the next 100 years.

We also walked in the forest to collect seeds, so that they would be available to be planted by the next group of volunteers.



Everyone had fun on the island, and happily set off back to Half Moon Bay.

It was a great experience learning about the environment and how we should replant areas with native trees to benefit flora and fauna alike. *Lorenzo Cruz*

SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL BALL 2017

Glitz, Glamour And All Things Gorgeous

In a scene which could be easily mistaken for an exclusive red carpet Hollywood event, Sancta Maria's very own Hollywood themed school ball at the famous Ellerslie Events Centre was a night to remember for all involved.

With the boys in their dashing Black Tie attire and girls in their stunning floor length gowns, each and every celebrity enjoyed a night of scrumptious fine dining, photo shoots by clamouring paparazzi and graceful dancing.

Months of hard work went into planning the logistics of the event and, of course, outfits, make-up and hair, typical of an A-List celebrity occasion. As the hotly anticipated night finally arrived, the excitement reached a deafening crescendo reminiscent of a climatic opera.

As at every Hollywood awards evening, winners must be crowned and this ball was no exception, with Samuel Munday and Elizabeth Ralph-Smith winning Ball Prince and Princess respectively and Lewis Ng and Kelly Feng being crowned Ball King and Queen.



After two months of hard work and practise, a large group of the Year 13s were finally able to show everyone their amazing 'First Dance'. With grace and elegance, they were able to wow the already impressed audience. Many others followed them on the dance floor and danced their hearts out until the final act came to a close.

In the same vein as the credits in a summer Hollywood blockbuster, credit must be given to all those involved in directing and producing Sancta Maria College's latest smash hit. Special thanks to the Ball Committee comprising of: Jenny Joseph, Kian Dougherty, Niamh Rhodes, Jacqueline Ho, Shaun Wright, Taniel Motala, Katjia Smillie, Gemma Deftereos, Dominique Sevele, and also Aidan van Heerdan for helping with the printing of the tickets! Because of their dedication, all students had an experience they'll never forget. *Manvis Wong*

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STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Rock Musicians Shine at Rock Quest

Sancta Maria College's budding rock musicians step up on stage for the Manukau heats of Smokefree Rock Quest, which is the national school competition for rock and pop music.

We took 13 musicians who made up three bands (which is a record for our school) and they covered a wide range of ages and styles. All acts had to perform their own compositions.

First up were Half Time, our Year 13 band, featuring Jason Crombach, Liam Richardson (both performing in their third consecutive Rock Quest) and Van Joseph Belinario. The boys cut a dash in their School Ball suits, then made a dash from the stage in order to get to the ball!

Next on were Young Nation (pictured above), our Year 11 band, featuring Maris Balili, Audrey Mamaradlo, Anna Nguyen, Rico Chan, Patrick De Vera and Daniella Joven, who presented a more mellow song and were praised by the judges for their togetherness and the maturity of their composition.

Finally, High Voltage took the stage for us, fresh from their first gig at the recent Young Star Country Music competition. Rad Atienza and Sean Hancock from Year 9 and Reuben Ferguson and Laurence Stewart from Year 7 (definitely the youngest performers on show) won the crowd over with their rowdy number and earned one of the biggest reactions of the night.

All students enjoyed the experience and are itching for another go, so we will all be aiming to enter the Stand Up Stand Out competition in August.

Mr Stuart Gibbs



SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

The Hard Work of the J Rock Members

Tables overflowing with smooth, soft and creamy confections were soon crowded by swarming students and teachers who rushed to examine the aromatic goods in C Block courtyard.

Soon, decisions were made and the sweets were rapidly sold and devoured throughout Thursday and Friday interval and lunch.

The delicious baked foods were sold as a fundraiser for J Rock, which according to Ms Shen, one of the teachers in charge, is, "the junior version of Stage Challenge." It is where young students compete with other schools in various dance forms in New Zealand.

The amount fundraised from these past two days will not be calculated until a later date. However, the money from the bake sales will go towards covering J Rock's costs and expenses.

Bake sales at the college have not been the only fundraising initiatives from the group. A bake sale at the nearby Buddhist temple a few weeks ago, proved to be very successful. Raffle tickets for adults will also be sold at a later date to further raise money for the competition.

Members of J Rock have been working diligently for the competition which will be held in week 10 of this term at the Aotea Centre. With the teachers Mrs Croxford and Ms Shen, the group consists of 47 boys and girls from Years 7 and 8.

Not only is raising money and training important, but props and equipment are also needed. Four Year 8 boys have been working on the backdrop for the competition. Numerous hours have been spent already on the blue backdrop with the groups theme this year to, 'never give up,' painted in colours graduating from light to darker hues.

With excellent progress being made in all areas, this year's J Rock has already proven to be better and more successful than last years. Hopefully with the inspirational theme to, 'never give up,' the group will be triumphant this year, bringing back a victory for the College from the competition. *Zoe Chou*





SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

PARENT INFORMATION

GUIDANCE NEWS

It seems we are returning to the days when parents had more say in what their children and teenagers were doing in their spare time. Research across all demographics is showing that careful parenting and improved supervision is occurring in response to the threats present in modern life.

One of these threats is the current fad for challenging programmes and games that target young people and seem designed to threaten and shock. We have written to you about the Netflix programme, *Thirteen Reasons Why*, and now we are aware of two games that encourage young people to self-harm.

A consultation group of older students has been formed at school and they are providing us with a young person's view of these events. Their comments on *Thirteen Reasons Why* included the observation that parents don't really know what is going on in the world of their adolescent children and the students feel it is good to let parents know about some of the pressures they face. These same students might be reluctant to talk at home about their concerns but the lesson is that they really do want to be understood.

We are aware of a game called Blue Whale, for older adolescents, and now there is one for younger children that encourages them to self-harm and to do dangerous things like turn on the gas in their homes. This one is called Fire Fairy and has been presented to look like a programme called "Winx Club". We are advised by the Police that these have appeared in other countries but not yet in New Zealand as far as they know. One wonders who the creators of these pernicious games are.

Again our advice is to form the habit early of chatting to your children after school so they have multiple opportunities to bring up difficult issues. In addition it is essential to be part of their on-line world from an early age so they accept your authority in this matter. It is not enough to "tell" your children not to access the games. Once it is on their phone it is apparently difficult to delete. The game is presented as a series of challenges. It issues a series of directives to take more and more destructive actions, ending in the directive to compete suicide, with Blue Whale, or to turn on the gas in your home, in the case of Fire Fairy.

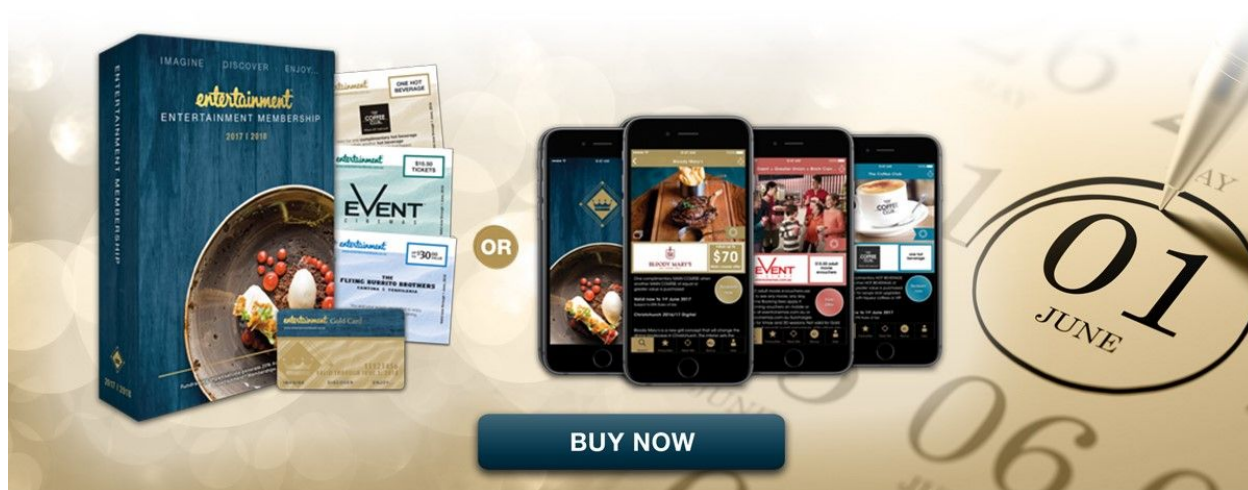
I know from working with children and adolescents that if they are told to do something they most often do it. They find it hard to resist a challenge, as we do ourselves. We now need to teach them to stop whenever anything is unusual and seek the advice of an adult. To this end we need to make ourselves user-friendly. They need to know that there will be no punishments or negative consequences if they tell. It is more important that we know what is going on in their lives.

Jennifer Goddard
School Guidance Counsellor.

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2017 | 2018 Entertainment Book Available Now

Support Sancta Maria College by buying the NEW 2017 | 2018 Entertainment Membership. Filled with hundreds of valuable offers for everything you love to do, your purchase will also be helping our fundraising at the same time. Follow the link to the Sancta Maria page, <https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/966n29> or you can call into the Uniform Shop and purchase a book there. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**
Robyn Leaning



SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Jazz Band Makes an Impression at the Botany Night Market

Botany Town Centre was lucky enough to hear the beautiful pieces played by the school's Senior Jazz Band on Wednesday evening.

The purpose of the busking is to raise funds so that they may be able to travel to Wellington for two days in order to compete in the 'Wellington Jazz Competition'.

Overall, it was a 'great experience', as one of the students involved said, 'it was a good warm up for the upcoming jazz competition. People would stand by and watch for long periods of time and the warm tone of the jazz pieces made up for the chilly night-market weather.'

The Senior Jazz Band was very successful, raising a whopping \$508.20 for their trip. *Angelika Bilbao*



CAREERS DEPARTMENT

All of Year 13 and has now been seen by the Careers Adviser to plan their career pathway. They may request to have another appointment at any time. If the students are thinking that tertiary is an option for next year they need to start checking closing dates and may apply on line when they are ready. There will be workshops on tertiary scholarships and finance in Term 2 and 3 to help the students as well as university liaison representatives coming in to assist with course planning. It's really important that both Year 12 and 13 students attend open days at any tertiary institutions they are interested in.

The Year 12s are now underway with their appointments with the Careers Advisor which covers goal setting, subject choice for next year and career planning.

If you have any questions please email or call me on l.rogers@sanctamaria.school.nz or phone 274 4081 ext 227.

Lucy Rogers
Careers Advisor
Sancta Maria College

SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

SPORTS DEPARTMENT

Eli Lesoa, Chasing Baseball Stardom As He Anticipates His Journey To The USA

Baseball prodigy, Eli Lesoa is on his way to the bright lights or as some may like to call it, The Mecca of Baseball – The United States of America.

The Howick and Pakuranga Baseball Club member qualified for the under 13 Cal Ripken World Series in Missouri, this June, and will be representing New Zealand. He competed in a National Tournament before going through a trial to qualify for the event.

The Year 8 student will be travelling to his very first overseas competition and it will also be his first time in America. When asked about how he feels receiving this once in a lifetime opportunity, he said he is excited and so he should be, because what he's about to accomplish is amazing.



Eli has been playing baseball for six years now and began playing Tee ball, a simplified version before moving onto baseball. Eli also plays basketball but says that he loves baseball more. He told us what he most enjoys about baseball saying: "I like pitching and hitting the ball."

He also said that he admires Aroldis Chapman – a Cuban American pitcher for the New York Yankees and he dreams of one day pursuing baseball as a career in the Major League Baseball competition, which is the best in the world.

We know that he's going to do his family, Sancta Maria College and the whole of New Zealand proud. So watch out America because a Kiwi kid is proving that anything is possible. *Shontelle Matano*

Under 15 Hockey Boys Show Fighting Spirit

The boys came back from 1-0 down to draw level, 1-1 in the last 5 minutes.

An excellent result for their first game, especially as a number of the boys had not played a competitive match before and certainly had never been on a full size hockey pitch.

At the beginning they struggled with where and how to play positionally, but with some substitutions and quick explanations they improved considerably, as did their tenacity and determination, which were major points in their response to going a goal down. Effort will equal results ...the more the team put in the more they got out of the game.

The equalizing goal was no less than their fighting spirit and improved second half performance deserved.



SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Premier Netball

What a day it was for the Sancta Maria Premier squad. With their first game in the Premier 2 grade at Auckland this season, the girls were fired up and ready to go from the get-go. Wanting to win against EGS Premier 2, whom they lost to by 3 points in grading, these players went in with nothing to lose.

Leading the end of the first quarter by 2 points, the girls kept on lifting each quarter. Different combinations were put into place going into the last quarter and the girls were able to transition very well and keep on playing with the same intensity as in the previous 3 quarters. With such intense and consistent hustling, the girls were able to come out with a well-deserved win scoring an impressive 43-28 victory. A great way to start the day and there were only better things to come.

After being able to play indoors in the morning, these girls had to brave the wet, windy and wild weather at HPNC. This, however, did not stop them from playing their own game and putting up a good fight. Despite the crazy weather, the Premier squad were able to come out with a great win against the Howick Senior 1 team with a score of 31-17.

Martina Kleis



SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Successful Day For Year 7 Girls

The Year 7 girls' football team had a triumphant campaign at the South Eastern Zone Football tournament on Thursday as they played extremely well and learnt a lot about the different aspects of the game and were guided by Their coach – Mrs Churton.

They were able to get 3 wins under their belt, against Mission Heights, Farm Cove and Howick. But unfortunately weren't able to carry on that same intensity and energy into their last pool game against St Kentigerns and lost by 4 goals.



Regardless of this tough loss, they did an incredible job to achieve what they did throughout the day and should be very proud of themselves. Standouts were Genevieve Churton, Tayla Spence, Amanda Pai and Kiera Heffernan.

The overall winner of the competition was St Kentigern. Bucklands Beach finished in 2nd place, Somerville came 3rd, Sir Edmund Hilary came 4th and our Sancta Maria College girls came 5th. *Shontelle Matano*

Year 7s Soldier On Until The End

The South Eastern Zone Football Tournament on Tuesday saw the Year 7 boys' football team take on a number of schools from East Auckland. They were placed in Pool 2 and lined up against Mission Heights; St Kentigern, Bucklands Beach and Howick.

The competition was just about to be postponed at the last minute after the referees pulled out. But there was no need to worry because help was on its way, as the Year 10 under 15 football players from Sancta Maria College saved the day and ended up doing a superb job controlling the games, working tirelessly to referee 6 games each. Those students were Francisco Siasoco, Gustav Schlusaz, Kohan Paterson and Adam Martis.

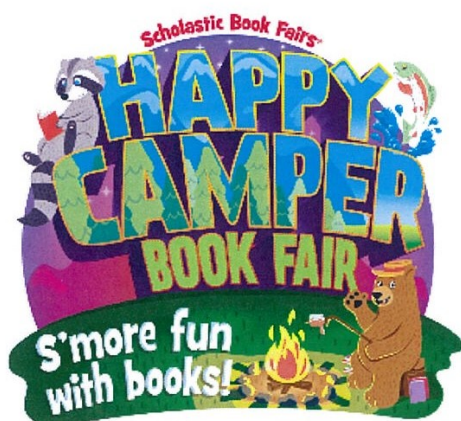


It was a great opportunity for the Year 7s to go out there, enjoy themselves and just give it a go, and although they weren't as successful as they would have liked to be, their tenacity and attitude of never giving up helped them to grab momentum and set up some great plays on the field. This led to an excellent goal by Jayden Lai that won them a game. There was also some game-changing defence by Navhil Singh and Liam O'Rourke, who were able to stop the opposition from scoring on several occasions. In fact all of the defending players put up a tremendous effort while the mid-field and attack initially found progress difficult.

Throughout the day the passing at the front improved a lot and it was one of the many positives to take home. They ended up tied with Mission Heights on the standings by the end of pool play. The boys led by example and were gracious in defeat, displaying the values of our College, leaving with that fighting spirit still alive in them as one team. *Shontelle Matano*

Library week: 31st July to 3rd August

Happy Camper Book Fair: S'more Fun with Books!



We are holding a Scholastic "Happy Camper" Book Fair in the library as part of Library week.

Open at interval and lunchtime for students, and **3:15-5:00pm for students and families**. All welcome, come and see exciting new books from scholastic and other publishers.

Eftpos, Credit Card and Cash payments accepted.