

YACHTING NEW ZEALAND
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# In term 4 2015, St John's Rotary sponsored three local schools to participate in Yachting NZ's Volvo Sailing...Have a Go! programme.

Volvo Sailing... Have A Go! is designed to give students between the ages of 8 and 12 years old the opportunity to experience the thrills of Sailing in a safe and convenient environment. The programme engages students in the marine environment, promotes water safety, builds confidence and independence, encourages teamwork and is, most importantly, fun!!!

With a focus on water safety and building confidence in and around the water, kids are taught the importance of wearing adequate clothing and correctly fitted life jackets, rigging and parts of the boat, and the basic ideas behind how to make a boat sail. All this education is disguised by fun activities, capsizing and often a sneaky waterfight!

The Sailing...Have a Go! programme was launched by Yachting New Zealand in 2006, looking to fulfil Sir Peter Blake's idea that *all children should get a chance to go Sailing*.





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### **Stonefields School**

16 Students took part over 2 full day

Seven of these students had never been sailing before

What was the most fun? "Capsizing!!"- Reya, Student at Stonefields school



#### St Pius Catholic School

Perfect weather and sailing conditions made for two fantastic days sailing.

42 students Had a Go! at sailing in the two days, over 4 half day sessions. 40 of these students had never been sailing before and, in follow up evaluations, 41 rated the day as "Awesome"!

"Our kids (and staff) had a ball. They could not speak highly enough about the whole

programme and how much they enjoyed it"- Paul Coakley, Principal of St Pius Catholic School



## **Glen Taylor School**



23 students participated over 2 full day sessions. Weather was not ideal for beginner level sailing, but the kids had a great time anyway. A highlight was being

taken for rides by instructor Reuben in the Weta Trimaran! None of these kids had been sailing before.





