

YEAR 7 & 8 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents:

Our Term Two newsletter is full of dates for upcoming events and programmes that your child may be involved in. Please read through the letter to ensure you and your child are aware of the programme for the term.

Year Eight Camp:

This took place at Guthrie Smith Camp at Tutira last week. We were blessed with wonderful weather, enthusiastic parent helpers, and a baby Kiwi who tolerated us all staring at, and patting it. We would like to thank everyone who helped us with baking, transporting and paying camp fees on time. It was a valuable time for students who were provided with a wide range of new experiences

Dates for the Term:

Dance Festival: Yr 7/8 Festival takes place at **12.45 11th May at Hastings Intermediate**

Senior Syndicate Mass: **Thursday 13th May 9am in the school chapel**

Languages: Class teachers will be introducing an international language to their class starting this week on **Thursdays for term two and part of term three.**

Queen's Birthday Weekend; **June 7th**

Ambassadors: St John's will be visiting the school on the following dates
May 14th, 21st and 1st June
Sacred Heart will be here for the girls on the **1st June**

Inquiry Units: We are wrapping up our inquiry unit on Growth and Healthy Food next Tuesday with a visit from a food technician. She will speak to us about the nutritional value of canned food and how to read labels to make an informed decision about food we buy.

Our next Inquiry unit will begin in Week Seven and will be a Science based unit about Heat.

Sports Teams;

This year we have four netball teams

St Patrick's Gold – coach Mrs Brewer – YR 8

St Patrick's Silver –coach Ms Weinert – YR 8

St Patrick's Blue – coach Ms Northover – YR 7
St Patrick's Green – coach Mrs Kelly, and Mrs Clarke – YR 7

We have one YR7/8 hockey team **St Patrick's Goldsticks**
coached by Mrs Bell and Mr Skelly

Thank you to the coaches we really appreciate your commitment. We ask that all parents support our coaches by ensuring students turn up to practices and games on time.

TAC's Netball:

This is to be held at the Onekawa courts in Week Ten – three teams will represent St Patrick's.

Pubertal Change:

Every two years the Senior Syndicate focuses on Pubertal Change as part of our Health Education Programme. We are starting this unit next week in Year Seven and Eight.

This unit of work will provide students with the knowledge, understandings and skills to develop positive attitudes towards the changes that they will experience during puberty.

In this unit the students will learn about:

- 1) The physical, mental, social and spiritual growth and development that occur and the new needs that arise during puberty
- 2) Strategies to manage the changes they will experience
- 3) Factors that influence their choices during puberty (including their families, peers, media and religious and cultural beliefs)
- 4) Their own feelings and their rights and responsibilities

Lesson Topics will include:

Our Changing Bodies – looking at physical changes that take place at puberty

Body Bits: labelling and identifying parts of the body

Personal Hygiene – needs arising from changes in the body

Valuing Myself – self esteem and respect issues

Peer Pressures – managing relationships with friends

Please be willing to discuss material covered in class with your child at home.

If you wish your child to be withdrawn from these lessons please indicate below.

We look forward to a successful, industrious term with your children and, as always appreciate your support in all the activities we undertake.

Yours truly

Senior Syndicate Teachers

I wish to have my child withdrawn from Pubertal Change Lessons

CHILD'S NAME

ROOM

PARENT SIGNATURE
