



Senior Syndicate News

Term 1, 2018



Kia Ora Whanau,

A warm welcome to all parents, caregivers and families of Saint Patrick's School. I hope that your child/children have enjoyed the first week back at school as I know the teachers of the Senior School Syndicate have. This year all classes are composite Year 7/8 which will allow us to be more collaborative as a syndicate.

Exciting events in Term 1

At Saint Patrick's School there are many opportunities on offer, so keep on reminding your child/children (we do) about making the most of their time here. For our seniors, this week is the start of four workshops presented by an experienced psychologist and international speaker, Edmond Otis. He is teaching the tools and strategies required to be resilient, so our students can grow their resilience and become more resilient in their everyday lives. Next week the seniors will have a cultural experience where they will learn about the orchestra and hear from accomplished opera singers from the Prima Volta Group. Other fantastic opportunities available are: E.I.T Careers Day, PAL Leaders, Leadership roles, EPro8, Literacy Quiz, NZreadaloud and that's just this term!

Term One Dates

- Week 3: Monday 12th February** - First Technology Session begins (Tamatea Intermediate)
- Wednesday 14th February:** Weetbix Tryathlon & Syndicate Cultural Opera/Orchestra experience
- Friday 16th February:** Art Deco Picnic (12:30pm School field)
- Week 4: Wednesday 21st February:** Whole School Welcome Mass (9:30am St Patrick's Church)
- Thursday 22nd February:** Parent/Whanau Meet the teacher evening
- Week 5: Friday 2nd March:** Senior Athletics (10:25am - 2:45pm)
- Week 6: Tuesday 6th March:** TACS Triathlon (Aquatic Centre - Frimley Road, Hastings)
- Tuesday 6th March:** Swimming starts (Onekawa Aquatic Centre)
- Week 7: Thursday 15th March:** Immunisations for Year 7/8
- Friday 16th March:** St Patrick's Day Mass 9am (at school)
- Week 11: Thursday 12th April:** Senior Swimming Sport (Onekawa Aquatic Centre)

Technology

Technology sessions are held at Tamatea Intermediate on Mondays throughout the year (10am-12:30pm.) Children bus to and from school each week accompanied every session by a Senior School Teacher. Students will develop their technological understanding in the following areas of; **Food Technology, Visual Art, Multi-Materials, Digital Technology** and **Hard Materials**. Children are **required** to wear **correct, covered school shoes** to all Technology sessions (winter school shoes.) Note: Seniors from St Patrick's School receive the same amount of technology time as students from other intermediates.

Leadership Opportunities in 2018 - (Year 8)

This year we have made further changes to the process of selecting school leaders. We have added specific roles: House Leaders, Special Character Leaders, Sports Leaders, Cultural Leaders and Tech Leaders. If a student is interested in being considered for a leadership role on offer they will need to complete a written letter and submit this to their classroom teacher by Friday 9th February 3.00pm. An outline of the criteria for this letter has already been given to the students. From here students will be shortlisted and then interviewed before final selections are made. We are determined to make this process transparent and as fair as possible.

Term Focus

Our term focus is based around the idea of 'Whanaungatanga - relationships and family connections'. We will look at who am I, who we are, where we come from and how we can make connections and celebrate these with others.



Religious Education

We begin the term looking at imaginative prayer. From there, we will look into what makes our school special (Our School Charism.) We will then cover the Jesus strand and Lent. The gospel value for this month is 'Speaking with gentleness'.

Homelearning

Home Learning will be more consistent across all 4 classes this year. Each student will have a Learning Grid (which needs to be signed at the end of each week), a weekly quiz, reading log and maths tasks. This allows you as the parent to see what is happening for your child that week.

Literacy / Numeracy

All of the classes will be participating in the #NZReadAloud this term. This is a great initiative that digitally connects students from schools all around New Zealand through a shared senior picture book. For Numeracy, each class will focusing on Number and alongside this, completing rich tasks on all strands.

Physical Education

All children are expected to have their PE gear at school Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. We begin the term with Athletics. This involves various running distances, shot put, discus, high jump and long jump. In Week Six (6th March) we will start Swimming at the Onekawa Aquatic Centre. All children are expected to swim and have togs, towels and swimming goggles (in a plastic bag). If your child is unable to swim or participate in P.E, a note signed and dated from the parent/caregiver is expected.

Te Reo Maori

We are looking at our pepeha, greetings and responding to instructions. If you have interesting facts about your whanau heritage, please feel free to send it to school so we may share and find out a little more about each other.

Senior Camp

The whole Senior Syndicate will be attending camp at Lakes Ranch in Rotorua. This will be Term 2, Week 2 - Monday 7th May to Thursday 10th May. The cost per pupil will be \$180. We will need to fundraise to help subsidize the cost for students so your help will be needed. A letter will come out next week.

Sports

This term we have teams representing our school in the following sports;

Cricket: Played Saturday mornings at a number of locations in Napier and Hastings.

Basketball: Played Thursdays - Location TBC

Volleyball: Played Mondays - Starting Monday 12th February

Orienteering: Tuesdays for 9 weeks after school - Starting 13th February

Hockey: TBC - currently being organised

Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher either by calling, email or coming into the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards and Blessings

Jodie Webb (M5) Syndicate Leader

jwebb@stpatsnapier.school.nz

Karina Campbell (M7)

kcampbell@stpatsnapier.school.nz

Sam Weber (M6)

sweber@stpatsnapier.school.nz

Meredith Ellingham (M8)

mellingham@stpatsnapier.school.nz