

21 February 2012

In a Christian way we learn today for tomorrow

Dear Parents, Pupils and Parishioners,

“What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.”

R.W Emerson

A NEW TREASURE

We welcome **Cara Kuzman** to St Patrick’s School. Cara started last week in A4 and has settled in beautifully.

COOL AT SCHOOL

We are blessed at St Patrick’s School with the children and families that form our community. The care that is shown to others is often self-effacing but very practical and from the heart. One of these people is **Jasmine Hannan**, a year 6 pupil who shows care and compassion for others in an unassuming and practical way.



PRINCIPAL’S SCHOLARSHIPS 2012

Congratulations to **Monica Cacho-Bevin** and **Connor Smith** who were awarded the 2012 Principal’s Scholarships (St Patrick’s) to assist with their Intermediate Schooling. These scholarships are awarded to two pupils who have attended Reigner School and are valued at \$100 each.

OUR SCHOOL’S VISION AND VALUES

If you attended last Thursday’s “Meet the Teacher Evening” you would have seen our ‘vision.’ It reads:-

At St Patrick’s School, pupils will receive a high quality education in a rich Catholic environment. They will be encouraged to reach their full potential as life long learners, recognising the richness and diversity of our multi-cultural society and their role in caring for our environment.

JUST BRILLIANT

A great turnout and feedback from our ‘Meet the Teacher’ evening last week. Thank you to all who attended and for the phone calls and visits subsequently. Our children’s welfare and education is paramount, together we can work to do the best for them.

BIG BUDDIES

All classes at St Patrick’s School have been paired up with a buddy class. Our Junior classes have someone from the senior end of the school as a buddy and our seniors have a duty to be good role models to their younger buddy. A great way of interacting and making our school an even more special and caring place.

CONGRATULATIONS

Kathleen Nahora, who has been selected for a Basketball Academy and will be trained by two of the Hawkes Players. Well done Kathleen!!

SCHOOL STATIONERY ACCOUNTS

All your children have their 2012 stationery that we supplied to them at the beginning of the year. Their account for this plus other school activities will be sent home this week. We would appreciate (we actually need you to) that these are paid promptly. Call us if you need to discuss payment arrangements – we can always sort something out.

All accounts either **paid in full** or on **Automatic Payment** by **5 April** will go into a draw for a **FAMILY PASS TO THE MOVIES.**



ASH WEDNESDAY – TOMORROW (40 DAYS OF LENT)

We celebrate Ash Wednesday Mass tomorrow at 9am and distribute the “Ashes” to pupils. (Years 1-3 in Chapel and Years 4 -8 in hall)

THE ‘40 DAYS’ OF LENT

Our “40 days” is a round number with symbolic meaning. The Jews spent “40 years” in the desert on their way to the Promised Land. Jesus spent “40 days and 40 nights” fasting in the desert before beginning his ministry. In the early centuries of the Church, the fasting days leading up to Easter varied – in some places two days, in others a week. Gradually this grew longer and longer, and by the mid-fourth century, lent began six weeks before Easter on the first Sunday of Lent.

However, fasting was always prohibited on Sunday, which meant the there were only 36 fasting days in the six week period. To make the Lenten fast include 40 days, the Church added four days of fasting (Ash Wednesday, and the Thursday, Friday and Saturday after Ash Wednesday). Lent itself ends on the evening of Holy Thursday (the vigil of Good Friday). We then begin the **Triduum**, the most sacred three days of the year, lasting through Easter Sunday evening.

GOSPEL VALUE FOR FEBRUARY

Each month the school will focus on a Value that is intended to develop our pupils . This can be practised at home as well as at school. **February Focus: - SPEAKING WITH GENTLENESS.** How do we speak to each other? Do we use people’s proper names? Is our language appropriate? Do we greet people in a friendly manner?

So a good way for everyone to practise this skill is to say GOOD MORNING / TALOFA / KIA ORA – to everyone they see when they arrive at school.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS and ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (I.C.A.S)

Entry forms are available from classroom teachers for all Year **5 – 8 pupils** wishing to participate in the Australasian tests as part of our enrichment programme. Tests in Computer Skills, Science, Spelling, Writing, English and Maths are available.

ENTRIES CLOSE 16 MARCH (no late entries accepted).

All entries **MUST** be accompanied with the **CORRECT FEE.**

If your child **did not** bring an entry form home and you would like to participate, please contact the school office

HELPING OUR CHILDREN READ – WE NEED YOU

If you, or grandparents etc have some free time and would be interested in supporting our children with their reading please let us know. We would like to provide additional opportunities for our children to read to and with an adult. We will provide some training and tips. Just call into the office and leave us your details or phone 843.9238.



SCHOOL BANKING

NZCU Baywide is once again offering school banking for your children. If you would like to open an account for your child, packs are available from the school office. Banking day is **Thursday**. Bank books and deposit slips are to be handed into the office.

THE GREAT RUGBY ROAD TRIP

The Rugby World Cup and other trophies will be on display at the Napier Sound Shell, **1st March, 3.30 – 6.30pm.**

LAST WEEK’S QUIZ

Rings under your eyes

Tofa soifua

Jurek Wypych
PRINCIPAL

THIS WEEK’S QUIZ

**STAND
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