



## Senior Syndicate News Term 1, 2017



Tena koutou katoa,

A warm welcome to all parents, caregivers and whanau of Saint Patrick's School. I hope that your child/children have enjoyed the first weeks back at school as I know the teachers of the Senior School Syndicate have.

At Saint Patrick's School there are many opportunities on offer so keep on at your children (we do) about making the most of their time here. For new students to the school their first weeks have been about finding their way and getting to know one another and for those returning settling back into a new class environment. In week four there is an opportunity for you to meet the teachers however we would love you to pop in and say hi before or after school.

### Senior Syndicate Location

The Senior syndicate consists of 4 classrooms (M5, M6, M7 and M8) which are located along the front of the school by the courts. The set up is fantastic and a wonderful, modern teaching and learning space. You are always welcome to visit.

### Term One Dates

*Thursday 9th February:* Whole School Welcome Mass (9:30am St Patrick's Parish)  
*Friday 10th February:* Year 7 Activity Day at Stoney Creek Ranch (All day)  
*Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February:* First Technology Session begins (Tamatea Intermediate)  
*Tuesday 14th February:* Swimming starts at the Onekawa Pools  
*Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February:* Art Deco Picnic (12:00 pm School field)  
*Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February:* Parent/ Whanau Information Evening Picnic (5.30pm School Hall)  
*Tuesday 7th March:* Senior Swimming Sport  
*Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March:* St Patrick's Day (School fun day)  
*Monday 27th: Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March:* Learning conferences (Your child's classroom)  
*Friday 7th April:* Senior Athletics

### 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 or our Deputy Principal Pip Simmonds. Developing their technological understanding in the following areas is the main focus in the areas of; **Food Technology, Visual Art, Multi-Materials, Fabric Technology and Metal Technology.** Children are **required** to wear **sensible, 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 Tamatea Intermediate.

### House Leaders-Year 8

This year we have made changes to the process of selecting house leaders. If a student is interested in being considered for the House Leader role on offer they will need to have completed a written or computer generated letter and submit this to their classroom teacher by Friday 10th 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

*St Patrick's Seniors; The opportunity to do more*

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 'Raranga- we are connected'. We will look at who am I, who we are 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 the Holy Spirit strand. The gospel value for this month is- Speaking with gentleness.

### **Homelearning**

Home Learning expectations and learning tasks will be outline by each individual teacher in a separate class newsletter.

### **Literacy / Numeracy**

All of the classes will be participating in the #NZReadAloud this term. This is a great initiative that connects students from schools all around New Zealand through a shared novel and digital platforms such as Edmodo.

For Numeracy, each class will focusing on the needs of the students in their class, covering different strands specific to their year group.

### **Physical Education**

All children are expected to have their PE gear at school Tuesdays and Thursdays. We begin the term with Swimming starting Week Three 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 a note signed and dated from the parent/caregiver is expected. Week 6 sees the start of athletics. This will involve various running distances, shot put, discus, high jump and long jump.

### **Te Reo Maori**

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

### **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 13th February

**Orienteering:** Wednesdays for four weeks after school.

**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

Meredith Ellingham (M8) Syndicate Leader  
Kaehler Dawson (M7)

Karina Campbell (M6)  
Jodie Webb (M5)