

28 February 2017

In a Christian way we learn today for tomorrow

“Speak humbly, listen respectfully, smile gently.”

Dear Parents, Pupils and Parishioners,

OUR LATEST TAONGA

We welcome (all the way from Sydney) the Vo family. **Lena** (A2), **Vincent** (M5) and **Taylah** (M8) have settled in beautifully. Enjoy your time at St Patrick's, we are delighted to have you in our school whanau.

COOL AT SCHOOL

Congratulations to **Tyler Schofield**, a Year 5 student who has impressed us with his “never give up” attitude, persistence in the classroom and effort each and every day to better himself. A polite and friendly boy who makes our school a happier place.

SCHOOL LEADERS FOR 2017

After much consultation, consideration and application I am delighted to announce our 2017 School Leaders.

HOUSE CAPTAINS ARE:

Aubert: **Lily Burt & Luke Chamberlain**

Barbier: **Charlotte Hooper & Reid McGrath**

Forest: **Charlotte Grant & Oscar Cooper**

Marcellin: **Rachel Klem & Finn Downing**

BUS PREFECTS ARE: **Bailey Booth & Mark Zyskowski**

NEW IN 2017 are a group of Year 8 “Support Leaders” who will have an important role this year.

They are: **Ashleigh Madams, Charlotte Clayton, Brooke Truman, Maggie Hare, Kara Flynn, Scarlett Powell, Bailey Booth, Leonardo Taii and Matthew Gordon.**

We wish our leaders all the best for 2017 and pray that they will make a positive difference to themselves and the school.

ASH WEDNESDAY – TOMORROW (40 DAYS OF LENT)

We celebrate Ash Wednesday tomorrow and distribute the “Ashes” to pupils.

Years 1-2 in the Chapel, 2.20pm and Years 3 -8 in the hall, 9am in a special liturgy.

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.

However, fasting was always prohibited on Sunday, which meant 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.

SEAWEEK – BEACH CLEAN UP (CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION)

A Catholic Youth project – **THIS FRIDAY 3RD MARCH**. Meet on grass area by Fish Bike rentals (behind Ocean Spa) **5.00 – 6.30pm** – clean the beach then stay for a shared picnic.

EPRO 8 TEAMS

We have 3 teams (12 students) representing our school today in the EPRO 8 Technology Challenge. Our seniors were regional winners in 2016 (no pressure).

Teams are: Year 5/6 (at Clive School today) **William Greer, Brock McGrath, Lauren Downing & Jack Hendery.**

Year 7/8 (at Tamatea Intermediate tonight) **Saoirse Kenny, Amelie Van Florenstein, Cramer Hannan, Thomas Hollands, Finn Downing, Lily Burt, Oscar Cooper & Georgia Allen.**

MUFTI DAY THIS FRIDAY (3RD MARCH)

This Friday, dress up as a “SPORTS STAR” or your “favourite sports” for a fun day.

A GOLD COIN donation to go towards school sports teams.

Parents: NO NEED to go and buy something – look around, shorts and a top make you a footballer!

SCHOOL CULTURAL ROTATION

As part of this terms “Raranga” (weaving our cultures together) we have starting next week 14 classroom activities that groups of children will experience over the next 6 weeks. If you would like to help or share something special from your culture then please see one of our teachers.

SCHOOL ACCOUNTS – YOU HAVE ONE!

School stationery and activity accounts were sent out last week in the post. **THANK YOU** to all who have set up payment options and A.Ps. \$4 or \$5 a week will make all the difference (over \$56,000 in accounts were sent out!)

PLEASE contact me if you have difficulty paying this account – we can work something out (over \$56,000 on accounts were sent out!)

2017 ATTENDANCE DUES INFORMATION

2017 invoices will be posted to all families in early March 2017. These will confirm that the Primary charge (Year 0-8) per child for 2017 is **\$447.00** payable in 4 equal instalments, by the following dates: **31 March 2017, 31 May 2017, 31 July 2017, 30 September 2017**. Payment of the total amount may also be made by regular weekly, fortnightly or monthly deductions from your bank account or credit/debit card.

For assistance with payment options or to set up a regular deduction, please contact Marcy, Susan or Mark at Attendance Dues or your school principal.

We can be contacted either on 0800 200 208 or by email dues@pndiocese.org.nz.

TO DISCUSS A “REBATE” PLEASE CALL THE PRINCIPAL, JUREK WYPYCH.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL (SOCCER) FOR 2017 – MARIST & PORTHILL

Marist – Visit their website or email juniors@maristfc.co.nz to register.

Porthill – Visit the website sportsground.co.nz/porthilljuniors to register by 17th March.

HAVE YOU HEARD THE ONE ABOUT.....?

How do you communicate with a fish?

Drop him a line.

Tofa soifua

Regards & Blessings

Jurek Wypych

PRINCIPAL

