



## Junior Syndicate Term 1 Newsletter 2018

2018 has begun with great positivity in the Junior Syndicate. The children and teachers have spent time getting to know each other and already the classrooms are filling up with displays about challenges they want to meet this year. It has been a pleasure to see so many families coming into the classrooms and exploring them together. Remember you are always welcome to visit us at school.

**Term One is filled with lots of syndicate and school happenings so here is a summary of those involving our Junior classes.**

- **14 February:- Ash Wednesday Liturgy in the Hall 11:30 am**
- **16 February:- Art Deco Picnic 12:30 pm**
- **21 February:- School Mass at St Patrick's Church 9:30 am**
- **22 February:- Meet the Teacher Evening 5:30 pm**
- **16 March:- Saint Patrick's Day Celebrations ( Mass at 9am)**
- **21 March:- Junior Athletics 11:30 - 12:30**
- **29 March:- Holy Week Liturgy**

**Religious Education** this term we focus on the traditions and rituals of the Catholic Church. Children visit the chapel to learn about the symbols found here and how to behave in this holy place. We are learning some traditional prayers of the Church and making up our own prayers to share. We will also be discovering how Jesus lived when he was a boy and comparing his life and times with our own.

Our **Inquiry** topic - Raranga - which is finding out how everything we do is woven together and affects others and our world, links with our R.E. learning and helps develop the social skills of our class treaties - Self Management, Relating to Others and Participating and Contributing. Come and check out the Treaty in your child's class, teachers are all willing to chat with you about this work.

The Junior Syndicate follows a **play based philosophy** where the children practise and explore their thinking, problem solving and social skills through play. Children choose to play outside or within the classroom and teachers observe and work alongside them to support learning through the child's interests and passions.

**Literacy and Maths** are taught daily in guided group sessions so each child works in small groups with the class teacher. These groups change frequently so that the learning needs of each child are catered for in the best way for progress to be achieved. Children will bring books home to share with you and each week and class teachers include a newsletter in home books to keep you up to date with class happenings.

**Reminders:** Please check your child's lunch has items that are healthy and will provide the necessary energy for them to do their best learning. Water is the only drink that we want the children to bring to school and if you forget we do have drinking fountains for children to use. Hats need to be worn everyday. Uniforms must be clearly named, especially sandals. The weekly school newsletter is always full of coming events and children get these each Tuesday to bring home. Please check your child's bag regularly as it might have a collection of items to keep you updated with school happenings.

Ngā mihi nui  
Fa'afetai

### Junior School Teachers

Jan Bevan and Toni Jensen (A4)  
Raewyn Williams and Kerry Lianne (A3)  
Elise Macdonald (A2)  
Nikki Thompson (A1)