

30 November 2010

In a Christian way we learn today for tomorrow

“It’s December tomorrow!”

Dear Parents, Pupils and Parishioners,

WELCOME – A NEW TREASURE

Jack Connolly, who started in A4 on Monday. Welcome also to his parents Michael and Megan. We hope you all enjoy being part of the St Patrick’s School family.

COOL AT SCHOOL THIS WEEK

We are very proud of **Renee Menzies**, a Year 7 pupil who truly lives out our School Values of C.A.R.E (Compassion, Act with Integrity, Respect, Excellence). Not only does she visit rest homes with our Vinnies group during school time, but she has taken it upon herself to spend her own time after school and at weekends to carry on helping – brilliant!

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

The Hooper family, their much loved Grandfather passed away on the weekend. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, may he rest in peace.

THANK YOU OUR ROAD PATROLLERS

A fun day has been organised for **Friday the 3rd December** to thank our wonderful road patrollers and recognise the important job they do in keeping our pupils and families safe. Each day they carry out their duties well, rain or shine.

Have a great day out – you deserve it.

RECONCILIATION AT SCHOOL

Our pupils will have the opportunity for reconciliation at school this Thursday as they prepare for the Christmas season and the birth of Jesus.

JUNIOR ATHLETICS – NEXT TUESDAY

They all run fast!! Join us for a fun morning **next Tuesday, 7 December 9:00am – 12.00** at school. Lots of races, effort and **BIG SMILES**. Love to see all parents, grandparents etc (may even have a race for you!)



ADVENT WREATH (ADVENT BEGAN SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER)

The Advent wreath dates back to the celebrations of the winter solstice (northern hemisphere), the time of the year when the sun reaches its southernmost point in its heavens. Because they longed for the return of the sun’s light, the ancients stopped their regular activity, sacrificed the use of their wagon wheels and hung them up, decorated with lights and greenery. They awaited the return of the Sun God, thinking of the light and warmth he brought. Celebrations culminated in the ‘nativity of the sun’, the turning point of the year. As Christians we use the same custom to anticipate the feast of light and life – the Nativity of the Saviour.

The Advent Wreath is significant in that unlike holly or floral wreaths, it has candles standing upright, representing the four Sundays of Advent and the thousands of years that God’s people awaited the promised Messiah.

The round ring of the Advent Wreath represents eternity – time without end. As the circle is never-ending, so time with God goes on and on. The evergreens stand for eternal life, life without end. Evergreens don’t die in the winter and, like them, God is always fresh and new. The candles remind us of Christ, “the light of the world”. A new candle is lit each Sunday as the celebration of Christ’s coming draws nearer. Three candles are purple – reminders of the spirit of penance. A red candle (for joy) is on the third Sunday.



PTA RAFFLE TICKETS

A reminder that all raffle books need to be back by Friday 3rd December – sold or unsold.

PIZZA LUNCHEES – THIS FRIDAY FOR INTERMEDIATE (SENIORS)

Pizza lunches this **Friday 3rd December** for the Intermediates. \$5 each (snack size) with \$1 going to the school. Order forms need to be in to teachers with money by Thursday morning. Middle / Upper Syndicate 10 December.

KELLY SPORTS

Are running an exciting **HOLIDAY PROGRAMME** during the Christmas Holidays. Children from 5 – 13 can attend and it will be held on **Monday 20th to Thursday 23rd December** and **Monday 24th to Friday 28th January** from 8.30am – 3.30pm at the Napier Tech Sports Clubrooms. Activities include:- T-Ball, Unihoc, Cricket, Scavenger Hunt, Soccer, Dodge Ball, Sidewalk Chalk Challenge and plenty more! Get your registration forms from the office or for more information visit www.kellysports.co.nz or contact Donna on 843.4219 or donna@kellysports.co.nz



2011 CLASSES

We are currently working on our class organization for 2011. There will be a number of changes due to roll numbers, maternity leave and internal staffing.

Our structure will most likely be:-

Junior Syndicate

Mrs Bartlett (A4) – Year 0 / 1. Mrs Williams / Nikolaison (A2) – Year 1 / 2.

Mrs Alexander (A3) – Year 2. Mrs Draeger (A1) – Year 1.

Middle Syndicate

Mrs Marshall (M9) – Year 4. Mr Nicholas (M10) – Year 4. Ms Bevan (M11) – Year 3.

Miss Jobbins (M8) – Year 3.

Upper Syndicate

Mrs Smith (M5) – Year 6. Mr Warren (M6) – Year 5/ 6. Miss Halas (M7) – Year 5.

Senior Syndicate

Ms Dudding (SM13) – Year 8. Ms Sutton (SJ16) – Year 8.

Mr Hickling (SJ17) – Year 7/8. Mrs Alderson (SM12) – Year 7.

Mr O’Neill (SM15) – Year 7.

We look forward to 2011 – it should be a great year.

END OF YEAR SCHOOL EVENTS / PRIZEGIVING (FOR YOUR CALENDAR)

9th December – End of Year School Mass – **9.30am, St Patrick’s Church**

12th December – Year 8 Meal

15th December – Syndicate Prizegiving / Final Assemblies

9.45am - Upper Syndicate in school hall

11.30am - Junior and Middle Syndicates in hall

7.00pm - Senior Syndicate at **St Patrick’s Church**

17th December – End of Term. **School finishes at 12.30** – No Afterschool Care

Regards & Blessings

Pam Bartlett
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

A man walks into a bar, and orders a beer. As he sits there, the bowl of nuts on the bar tells him what a nice shirt he is wearing. Disturbed by this, he goes to the cigarette vending machine to buy a pack of cigarettes. As he approaches the machine, it starts screaming and shouting abuse at him. He returns to the bar and explains this to the barman. The barman apologises and says, “The peanuts are complimentary, but the cigarette machine is out of order.”