

ST PATRICK'S NEWSLETTER



10 March 2020

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to JUSTICE everywhere."
Martin Luther King

In a Catholic way we learn today for tomorrow

CORONAVIRUS – COVID 19 UPDATE

Please read the message on the back of this newsletter (P.T.O). It details what preparations we have made and what **YOU** also need to be aware of.

COOL AT SCHOOL

A HUGE congratulations to little **Jovan Siji**, a Year 3 student who is ALWAYS kind, considerate, helpful, caring and SMILEY. 😊

ST PATRICK'S DAY – WE CELEBRATE NEXT TUESDAY

A fun day is planned for next **Tuesday (17 March)** as we celebrate the Feast Day of our School's Patron Saint, Saint Patrick.

We begin with a **SCHOOL MASS, 9.30am** in the **SCHOOL HALL**. You are all invited to celebrate with us and Fr Barry. After morning tea we will hold **HOUSE TEAM TABLOIDS** and finish our afternoon with "whānau" activities.

Tuesday will be a **MUFTI / HOUSE COLOURS** day so children do not need to wear school uniform.

SCHOOL FAMILY PICNIC – THIS FRIDAY **COME ALONG 5.30 – 7.30PM**

- Free Sausage Sizzle – A sausage for EVERYONE.
- Bring a picnic / blanket and some refreshments.
- Icecream truck & Donut Robot will be here.
- Bouncy Castle operating.

WHERE: St Patrick's School front lawn
Outside Marist Block (near courts)
-Catch up with people and meet new ones.



SCHOOL ACCOUNTS COMING HOME THIS WEEK

Your school account will be posted this week so please keep an eye out for it. We appreciate you paying promptly.

YOUR CHILD'S LUNCH - IS IT OK?

Thank you to all parents who ensure that their child has a **BALANCED** and **HEALTHY** lunch at school. It is **OUR RESPONSIBILITY** as parents, (even though we are busy) to check lunches even if your child makes their own.

We are starting to see a number of lunch boxes full of biscuits, chips and snack bars only – convenient but rubbish! **NOT GOOD FOR LEARNING.**

A piece of fruit, a sandwich etc and water (No soft drinks, cordial etc allowed at school) and your child is set for the day and ready to learn.

CAMP ROTORUA – A LUGE RIDE

As I sit down into my kart the mist covers the track, excitement burst throughout my body. I slowly roll down the slippery track, tingles of excitement rule the atmosphere. **ZOOM!** I speed down the course, bullets of wind strike my face as I drift around the course. Suddenly another kart smashes into the side of me. An eruption of fear paralyses my body as I spin like a Beyblade. As I'm spinning, I ram into my friend Jydes kart.... He flips his kart over and is sitting in the dirt. He looks at me and we have both exploded with laughter. I carry on my adventure down the course, kids high above me on the ski lift **SCREAM** my name and cheer me on! After they cheered me on it was a source of motivation. I feel like I'm in "fast and furious" as I race past everyone. Now for the big drop. I hoon it towards the drop... Whoosh, as I'm in the air I feel like I can fly, waves of wind horde me as I smash back on the ground. I slow back down and get out of my kart. I think to myself... I should be a race car driver.

By Taika King M7



SAUSAGE SIZZLE THIS THURSDAY



Sausage sizzle this Thursday, **12 March \$1.50**. Raising funds for Senior Camp. Orders and money need to be in by **9am** on Thursday.

SCHOOL DISCO – FRIDAY 20TH

Next Friday 20TH – we will be having a "St Patrick's GREEN theme" school disco in the hall.

COST: \$5 (includes a drink and chippies)

Extra drinks / chippies for sale - \$1 each.

Year 1 – 4 (Angel & Mission Whanau) 3.15 – 4.30pm

Year 5 – 8 (St Joseph & Marist Whanau) 5.00 – 7.00pm

Fundraiser for the Year 5/6 Camp to Taupo.

AFTER SCHOOL JOB – A VANCANCY EXISTS

With Caroline leaving Afcare we now have a vacancy for 2 hours (2.45 – 4.45pm) on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons (**6 hours per week**) – **plus a vacancy for "casual work"**. This could be the **PERFECT JOB** for someone. If you have a child here at St Pats they can attend Afcare while you are working. If you are interested or know of someone who might be, please call me (8439238). The position commences 25 March – training provided.

KITCHEN HAND WANTED – WISEY'S BAKERY

Hours are 11am – 3pm, Monday to Friday and some Saturdays. Contact Natalie 843 1066 or email:

wiseysbakery@gmail.com

Regards & Blessings, Tofa soifua
Jurek Wypych
PRINCIPAL

Dear Parent/Guardian

Many of you will be aware that three of the four cases of COVID-19 confirmed in New Zealand have had links to four school communities in Auckland. I appreciate this could be unsettling for some of you so I wanted to provide you with an update.

It was very reassuring to read the information from the Auckland Regional Public Health Service that the children in those families are not showing any symptoms of COVID-19 and are doing well. Because the children continue to not show any symptoms, they were not infectious when they were at school and the Ministry of Health is confident there is no risk for the students and staff in those schools.

You will also be interested to know that research published by the World Health Organisation notes that children and young people under 18 account for only 2.4% of all reported cases of COVID-19. This means we are unlikely to see widespread cases in schools and early learning services in New Zealand. The Ministry of Health's current advice is that with continued vigilance, the chance of widespread community outbreak is expected to remain low. So we all have a role here to minimise the spread of COVID-19.

Our school staff and leadership remain well prepared for the possibility there might be a case in our community. If that were to occur we are confident we can put our plans in place and know we will be supported by regional health authorities and the Ministry of Education.

I am sure you are all keen to do what you can to prevent risk of infection. The best preventative steps are:

- wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and dry thoroughly
- avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- avoid sharing anything that has come in contact with saliva, whether in your living or social environments
- stay home when you are sick and seek medical attention
- cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the rubbish
- get adequate sleep and eat well-balanced meals to ensure a healthy immune system.

If you want to know more about COVID-19 please make sure that any reading you are doing is from a reliable source. The Ministry of Health is the best source of information for New Zealand and they update this information regularly - <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

A reminder that anyone who is ill should not be attending school.

The COVID-19 symptoms are a fever, coughing and difficulty breathing. If anyone has these symptoms and has recently been to a country or area of concern, or have been in close contact with someone

confirmed with COVID-19, please encourage them to contact Healthline (for free) on 0800 358 5453 (or +64 9 358 5453 for international SIMs) or their doctor immediately.

For families and students who intend travelling during the Autumn break, the Ministry of Health have issued the following instructions to travellers:

People who have planned to travel from or transited through countries in category one Mainland China and Iran. The government has announced temporary restriction on travellers arriving in New Zealand from Category 1a countries and territories.

People who have planned to travel from or transiting through Category 1b countries and territories, Northern Italy and Republic of Korea do not have travel restrictions in place. People who have been in Category 1b countries and territories (excluding airport transit) are requested to register with Healthline (0800 358 5453) and self-isolate for 14 days starting from the date of departure from a Category 1b country and territory.

People who have planned to travelled to Category 2 countries and territories (excluding airport transit) Hong Kong, Italy (other than northern Italy), Japan, Singapore, Thailand. You should be aware of the COVID-19 symptoms. You do not have to self-isolate if you are well. Anyone who develops symptoms within 14 days of departing the Category 2 country and territory should contact Healthline (0800 358 5453).

I pray that you and your families will remain healthy
God Bless

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.