

ST PATRICK'S NEWSLETTER



19 May 2020

"A HUGE WELCOME BACK TO YOU ALL."

In a Catholic way we learn today for tomorrow

After much anticipation, we are back! What a journey it has been and will continue to be. We will hopefully never experience a crisis like this ever again in our lifetimes. No matter your view or how you feel the Government handled this situation, we are blessed and thankful that we did not lose any close loved ones during this time to COVID-19 and that we are now able to return to what is to be our "new normal".

I want to take this opportunity to thank you and our staff for the part each and everyone has played, to bring us here again. Yesterday was MAGIC to see the smiling faces, friends greeting each other, the warmth and compassion and the knowledge that we are once again a whanau/family back together. The last nine weeks have been a steep learning curve for us all and we know everyone did their best. We saw amazing examples of families working, playing and learning together. We also loved connecting with the children on Zoom, Facebook, websites etc. Going forward, we want to keep building the independence, curiosity and motivation that our learning bubble has encouraged. Returning to school means that we begin to move through familiar routines, settle our students and show them that we care about them very much.

I would like to thank our staff for the amazing on-line learning opportunities that they provided during this lockdown period. The variety, challenge and creativity of the on-line lessons was fantastic and I thank all those parents who acknowledged this in your feedback and comments. We now have a new platform that we will build into our future learning.

NEW ARRIVALS – 5 IN FACT

Possibly a good time to have a baby (or expecting one) it seems. So congratulations to Ashleigh and Jacob on the safe arrival of Eloise, a beautiful sister for Xavier.

Congratulations also to Mel and Stacey on the birth of Penelope, a gorgeous little sister for a very proud Charlotte.

Manuia to Vineta and Falangi on the birth of Koleta, a beautiful little sister for Martin and Apaula.

To Shannon and Damien, a little girl, Penelope who has just made big sister Maddi love the lockdown. And finally, Barnaby and Frankie welcome a new little brother, Jeremiah. Congratulations to Jo and Chris.

MUSIC LESSONS AGAIN AT SCHOOL

Music lessons (Campbell from Napier Music Academy) start again this week on Tuesdays. For more information contact Rob 021 305 197.

NEW TEAM LEADER

We are happy to announce that Mr Paul Wallace will now be leading the Marist Whanau. We look forward to Paul's collaborative leadership and the continued of learning opportunities, growth and personal formation of our senior students.

Ms Kerry Lianne will be teaching in M5 for the remainder of term 2.

GOSPEL VALUE FOR MAY

May is the month of Mary (a special time to think of our own mothers).

The value that the school will focus on this month (and Mary must have had a ton of it) is:- **"SELF CONTROL."** We practise self-control in what we say, do and how we react. The rule we need to follow is. **"THINK BEFORE YOU ACT – MAKE A WISE CHOICE"**
WINTER IS COMING – SCHOOL UNIFORM

Over the next week students can start wearing school shoes (black) to school. Remember, we have socks for sale at school which are regulation.

If you have difficulty sourcing/affording shoes please contact Sharon or Marie in the office or myself and we may be able to help you out.

TERM DATES

Term 2 still finishes on 3 July, we now have a 12 week term (including the 5 weeks in lockdown).

THINGS ON HOLD AT SCHOOL

Until we receive more direction from the Ministries of Health and Education in regards to COVID-19 restrictions we have put on hold all sporting, outdoor education and group events. This means no gymnastics, Open Days, Cross Country, School Camps etc until proper health and safety measures are in place.

COVID-19 REMINDERS FOR SCHOOL

- Please drop off /pick up children at the gate.
- If you need to come on-site, please sign in at the office.
- Handwashing, sanitising, safe coughing and sneezing practices are enforced regularly during the day.
- Children need to bring their own 'NAMED' drink bottles as the drinking fountains are turned off.
- Please ensure YOUR CHILD has a PROPER LUNCH as sharing food is not allowed. Please contact us if this is ever a problem.
- Please maintain social distancing from other families and students.
- If your child is sick they MUST STAY HOME.

It is brilliant to be back – we missed your children.

Regards & Blessings

Jurek Wypych

PRINCIPAL

