



ST PATRICK'S NEWSLETTER



8 December 2020

Our final newsletter for 2020.

What a year it has been.

We have a great school and community.

We are truly blessed.

In a Catholic way we learn today for tomorrow

WELCOME – LAST FOR 2020

New to A1 and St Patrick's is **Ranumi Warsha Hannadige**. Look out for that smile! And all the way from Wellington we welcome **Joseph** (M17) and **Lily Hicks** (SJ13) and their family. May you all enjoy being part of our St Patrick's whanau.

COOL AT SCHOOL

Congratulations to **Jake Coffin**, a fantastic Year 8 student who is a great classmate, friend and role model. He is a hard worker, never seeks the limelight or glory and lives out "The St Pats Way."

A REAL CHAMP

Congratulations to **Jyde Lowe** who won the individual triathlon competition for H.B schools last week. Jyde is Year 7 and his individual time was also 2 minutes faster than the Year 8 competitors. Our team all competed well and showed great sportsmanship (a lesson **all** our teams need to learn and follow).

END OF YEAR PRIZEGIVING/FINAL ASSEMBLIES TOMORROW

Join us to celebrate the year and your children.

10am – Angel whanau Nativity.

10.50am – Mission whanau Crafts & Carols.

11.45am St Joseph's whanau - Christmas songs & Prizegiving.

7.00pm – Senior (Year 7/8) Prizegiving at St Patrick's Church. A chance to thank and farewell our Year 8 students formally.

END OF YEAR REPORTS – NEXT WEEK

These will be given to pupils on **Tuesday 15th** at school and should be opened at home with you. Please be positive about the reports when you discuss them. There has been some great progress made by your children this year.

FAREWELL AND GOOD LUCK YEAR 8

What an amazing group of young adults. Thank you for a great year of leadership and for all you have done during your time here at St Patrick's. Every one of you is a blessing and we all wish you the best for your High School years. **WE WILL MISS YOU ALL X.**



END OF YEAR SCHOOL MASS WEDNESDAY 16 DECEMBER

Please join us next Wednesday **16 December at 9.30am** in **St Patrick's Church** as we celebrate our **SCHOOL END OF YEAR MASS**. Should be a beautiful occasion, so join us and end the year on the best note.

DONATION BOX – CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Each class will have a "**Giving Box**" this week (M17 and the Mission whanau have started the ball rolling beautifully and so generously). We ask all students to bring "Christmas treats and non-perishable foods" that can be given to families in need to make their Christmas a little bit brighter.

St Vincent de Paul will collect boxes **THIS FRIDAY**. Thank you for your generosity in advance.

THE CURSE OF SOCIAL MEDIA – YOUR CHILDREN SUFFER

At St Patrick's, our children are not immune to the harmful effects of social media (intimidation, bullying, gossip, alienation, threats and a load of rubbish) and a small number choose to engage in and promote this stupidity.

These children lack the maturity to deal with this and for them (and others) it is devastating and takes over their lives – which is totally avoidable and ultimately pathetic and cynical. To have a social media account, you need to be 13 (Instagram, snapchat etc). As PARENTS it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to ensure that any social media they have is monitored and appropriate. At school we have noticed a huge increase in the problems, anxiety and heartache that social media can cause.

We can only do so much... the rest is up to you and your child. It is a problem that escalates out of school hours – we deal with the fallout.

START DATE FOR 2021

First day back for students is:-

WEDNESDAY 3 FEBRUARY – 8.45AM.

The office will be open:-

TUESDAY 2 FEBRUARY 9am – 3pm for uniforms, enrolments etc.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 2020

We finish school at **12.30** on **Thursday 17 December**.

There will be no afternoon AFCARE.

All buses will run at 12.30.

Please make sure you pick up your children at **12.30**.

*Thank you all for the support you have given us this year. On behalf of all the staff at St Patrick's School.
Have a safe, happy and holy Christmas.*

**Jurek Wypych
PRINCIPAL**

