

# St Joseph's Whanau Newsletter

## Term 1 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to the start of the school year. Again, we have had changes to our team and along with all the new students to our whanau, we welcome Mrs Thompson. She is enjoying getting to know her former pupils again and seeing the difference being a few years older can make.

The school year seems to get busier every year and the start of 2020 is no exception! Next week as you know our children are going to Westshore Beach for the Education programme - a big thank you to all those parents who are able to help with transport and supervision.

**REMINDER** for those parents who are helping with transport and supervision. Please be at school by 9am as we need to leave as close to 9 as possible.

The children are able to wear suitable mufti clothing, must have their togs, a sunhat(school one is perfect), plenty of water to drink and the food for morning tea and lunch. **Parents**, who are staying, you need to have your togs as you will be in the water with the children.

We also have 24 of our children participating in the Weetbix Tryathlon on Tuesday 18 February. We know they will represent us well and have lots of fun!

There are many opportunities for extra-curricular activities and we have a number of children who are taking on leadership and responsibility with road patrol, Vinnies and PALs. Many children are playing a variety of sports which include cricket, miniball, and hockey. We also have a group of children who are representing us at the Coastal Cluster Swimming Tournament on 18 March.

Our school focus this year is Putatara - 'Called to Action'. We are linking our curriculum areas to this theme which is also being broken down into four terms. In Term one our theme is 'Turangawaewae -Being in and of this world', so we are focusing on who we are, where we came from and what we can do for our world. Alongside our integrated curriculum our R.E. will also focus on Lent, Caritas and Easter.

The whole school is working alongside the House of Science. The children will be exposed to science thinking, reasoning and conducting experiments that link to our

theme, Putatara so they know why it is, we need to take action to help keep our beautiful world safe for future generations.

We are continuing with our second year of the DMIC mathematics programme and are looking forward to seeing the children working cooperatively in problem solving tasks.

On the 3 March the educators from the National Aquarium of Aotearoa are coming to the children to help kick start Sea Week.

This year we plan to go to Motutere again, which is on the shores of Lake Taupo. We are in the process of confirming the site so will let you know as soon as we can. In order to keep costs manageable for families we will need to fundraise. We will hold a short fundraising meeting on Wednesday 4th March in the staffroom at 7pm with those who are able to come and who wish to help fundraise.

Our Meet the Teacher evening is on the 26 February and we are looking forward to meeting you. If you have any concerns that you think we need to know about your child please contact us. Your children are our priority and together we will work for them.



Thank you in advance for all the wonderful help you will give us over the coming year! Without our families' help many of what we plan for the children is unable to happen.

Nikki, Todd, Kate