

# St Patrick's School Newsletter

## Welcome back!

Term 1 (Week 2) 7th February 2023

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome back! It has been a very surreal one for me as last year I departed as Miss Gardiner and I have returned as Mrs McLean. The children have been very impressive in embracing my name change and tend to be more onto the new name change than me!!

A very warm welcome to our new families. What an exciting start we have had! So many new faces - we are certainly a happening place! This morning it was a beautiful moment welcoming all our new people. The spirit of community is really shining through.

Once again, please do not let the fence deter you from coming in. We want you to come right in and be a part of our wonderful school and be right at the heart of "us!"

We have organised some new signage out the front to let the Community know that the turf is open for use over the weekends and school holidays - we will also keep it open in the daylight savings evenings. We will be removing the signs that Tiger Turf hung saying no-one is allowed in after hours and that doesn't reflect who we are. We have fences and cameras now to protect our lovely environment and keep everyone safe. Seeing the community using the turf at weekends etc has been so awesome! In this week's newsletter I have show cased some of our Lead Team and in the next newsletter the lens will be on our new children, families, and staff.

Blessings

Gemma McLean - Principal



## Mr Wallace - Deputy Principal and smiliest driver of the ride on mower!!

Kia Or Whanau

My name is Paul Wallace. I am married to Kim who is a teacher at Eskdale and have 2 sons, Sam 11 and Logan 9. I have worked at St Patrick's School since 2019 and there is no other school I would rather be at. From teaching at other schools both in Napier and the UK, I am lucky enough to know how amazing St Pats is. The children, the families, the staff and wider community are truly amazing. We are blessed to be part of the school.

This year I feel honoured to have a new position at St Patrick's as the Deputy Principal and SENCO. Before becoming DP I was the Marist Whanau Team leader with the Year 7&8 which I absolutely loved. I am looking forward to meeting the many new faces of the school. If you are keen on sports, especially fishing please feel free to come and have a good old yarn!

2023 is going to be the best year ever and I am excited for what lies ahead.

Ngā mihi maioha

Paul Wallace. - pwallace@stpatnapier.school.nz

## Waitangi Day 2023

It is worth reflecting on the words of Cardinal John Dew at Waitangi in 2020.

At Waitangi - on 6th February 1840 there was a hope, wishes, a vision of what Aotearoa New Zealand could be... We are all brothers and sisters, made by God. We thank God for our diversity. We thank God for New Zealand's tradition of religious freedom and equality... It is religious tolerance, religious inclusion and religious acceptance that is our heritage. We honour and celebrate that today.'

Extracts from the Homily given by Cardinal John Dew at the Interdenominational church service at Te Whare Rūnanga, Waitangi. 6 Feb 2020.

In a Catholic way, we learn today for tomorrow





## Thank you to our Diocese!!!

We would like to formally thank our Palmerston North Diocese for making this happen. The Diocese paid for our Turf and all of the equipment such as new tennis nets, netball hoops etc. As a result our children are more active than ever! The turf is a happening place and we especially love that the community are joining in the fun. Everyone has been showing manaaki for our school! The new fence and security cameras have certainly worked in keeping any opportunist rebellions away and we have witnessed nothing but joy and respect out on the turf. The turf is open on weekends and during daylight savings



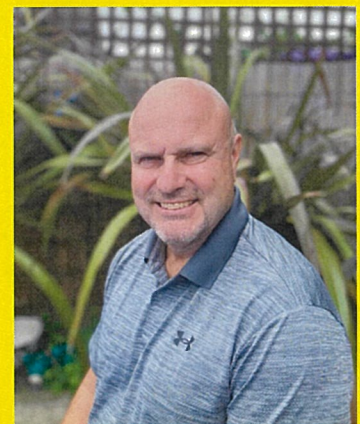
## We wore out Mr Everard!!

Last week we had two fabulous Teacher Only Days where all of our staff engaged in exciting learning and development. The laughter and joy was felt widely. It was wonderful to see our new staff happy and engaged from the get go. We are one big family!



## A warm welcome to Mr Exeter

Ki ora, my name is Gary Exeter, most students call me Mr Ex. It is my pleasure to be the team leader for our Marist whanau this year. I attended St Patrick's school, a long time ago, when it was called Marist. I am passionate about teaching and I believe in creating a learning environment that is engaging, supportive, and challenging for all students. I love sport and I have a passion for surfing, student growth and well being. I look forward to getting to know our community whanau and working with my team to ensure student success and personal growth.



**"There are no strangers here, only friends you haven't met." We hope that you find this out for yourself.**





Kia ora,

I'm Crystal Hewett, team leader of the Mission Whānau (Year 3&4). I have a passion for innovative learning and teaching that promotes the individuality of each child and seeks to support and grow their strengths. I am an avid book reader and share my love of stories through the NZ Read Aloud, taking any chance I can to read to my class! I am a proud Auntie to two boys, who are now both off at St John's, and I dote on my fur baby, Shadow. I sing with the Napier Civic Choir and have been the Secretary for them for a few years now. I am looking forward to continuing my learning journey in play and am excited to support our staff in their professional growth. I am ready for a new year and new challenges!

## Our Angels in the far far away land...

Day one and what a joy it was to be all together again and in our far, far away land too!

Having prepared a little at the end of last year our far, far away land came as no surprise and play and friendship picked up just where we left off.

We have had to learn new ways of doing a few of our everyday things but our Angels have been amazing in adjusting to our new environment!

We also welcomed nine new Angels to our whānau - Miller, Arlie, Isaiah, Emily, George, Rose, Reuben, Lottie, Alyssa and Zarah - we are so happy to have you as part of our St Pats whānau.

The Angel whānau teachers are excited about what our year holds and look forward to all the learning that we'll share in together.



Kia ora.

My name is Kate Smith and I am the team leader of the St Joseph Whānau- the year 5 and 6 students. I have been at St Patrick's for a few years now and I love being part of this school community. One of my favourite things to do is spending time with my friends and family and in 2022 I became a grandmother for the first time.

I see quite a bit of the town of Feilding now!

Reading is a passion for me and I always hope that I can pass on the love of reading to my students.

I am looking forward to 2023 and the experiences it will bring.





## TH501 What Catholics Believe

Starts Term 1 every Wednesday  
from 08 Feb - 05 Apr 2023  
3.30-5.30pm via Zoom  
from Palmerston North Diocese

For more information, contact Br Kevin Dobbyn  
at k.dobbyn@ctc.ac.nz or call (04) 819 8380  
For fees info go to [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/fees](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/fees)

[www.tekupenga.ac.nz/palmerston-north](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/palmerston-north)

TEKUPENGA  
CATHOLIC  
THEOLOGICAL  
COLLEGE

## Easter Children's Choir

### St Patrick's

Would you like to come along to learn and sing  
some songs for Easter?

If you are interested; please contact me directly  
027 5951 or after the 10.00 am Mass on Sunday.

Forward to hearing from you, Karen Briggs.

## "Belonging to a Parish Family"

Do you feel like you 'belong' to our parish family? Passionist  
Groups are one way people can connect with people  
in the parish. On Sunday 12 February Paul Traynor is  
leading a meeting for family group members and all  
other parishioners at St Mary's Parish Centre @ 11am to  
discuss what 'belonging' means in a Parish.

How do we best welcome new parishioners? How do we  
welcome one another?

We will follow our session with a shared lunch. This event is  
for everyone.

Norma 06 650 1679 for more information.

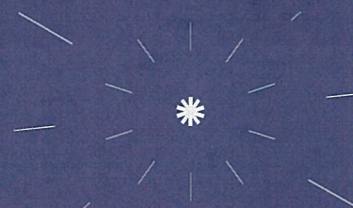
## Key dates

- Art Deco Picnic and dress up- Friday 17th  
February 12.30pm
- Marist Technology starts - Monday 13th  
February
- Rob Music Academy starts - Wednesday 8th  
Feb
- Gym starts-Angels A1/A2 - Tuesday, 14  
February
- Weetbix Tryathlon - Wednesday, 15 February
- Commissioning Mass @ Reiginer School, 5:30pm  
- Thursday, 16 February
- Gym starts - Angels A3/A4 - Thursday, 16 Feb
- Longworth Education in working with Marist &  
St Joseph's Thursday, 16 February
- St Joseph Opti Yachting all week: Week 4 -  
Monday, 20 February
- Welcome evening - Mix and mingle Picnic  
Friday, 24 February 5:30 - 7:00pm

## Be the light

Loving God,  
at the beginning of this new term remind us to:  
Love as you love us.  
Look to Jesus for guidance as a role model of  
compassion and aroha.  
Share the light and love of Jesus wherever we go.

When people are in the dark it can be frightening, and  
they could bump into things.  
Light has a purpose - to guide us, to keep us from  
being afraid, to illuminate what is hidden, and to  
provide warmth and comfort.  
This reading reminds us that... Jesus is like a light to  
show us the way!



Gospel

Matthew 5:14-16

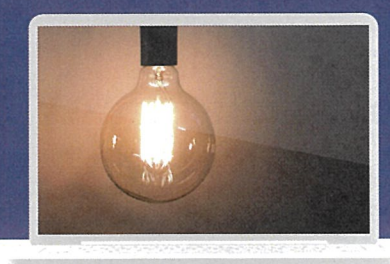
"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill  
cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it  
under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it  
gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let  
your light shine before others, so that they may see  
your good works and give glory to your Father in  
heaven.

Jesus' light can shine through YOU!

Think about:

How is Jesus a light for us?

How can we let the light of Jesus shine through us  
this year?







Our faith journey centres on the life of Jesus and his call for us to draw closer to God and look to be love and light to others. Every Gospel story has Jesus as the main driving force overcoming challenges, providing life, and restoring hope. We seek to make these connections for our children to what we do everyday at school and home and how they can shine their light, how others shine a light for them and how God is their light. We will be reading stories of Jesus and exploring how they can apply these teachings in their own lives.

## The St Pat's Way

'The St Pat's Way' and how we act with Whakaute, Manaaki and Nanaiore has an integral part of who we are and how we 'shine our light'. We love celebrating and shining a light on our tamariki who walk the talk! For new families, when you hear these words being used at school and home, this is what these key values mean to us:

- **Kia Whakaute** is showing respect, appreciating and treasuring.
- **Kia Manaaki** is supporting, caring, protecting and being generous.
- **Kia Nanaiore** is striving to be our best, reaching for our goals and being resilient.

**Play is essential to development because it contributes to the cognitive, physical, social, and emotional well-being of children." ~ Kenneth R. Ginsburg**



## Staying in touch

### Learning Hub:

During lockdown we developed a google site called the Learning Hub: <https://sites.google.com/stpatsnapier.school.nz/home-learning>. We suggest you spend a little time exploring the Hub so you are familiar with what it contains. You will find links for every area of the curriculum. You can encourage your child to spend time on Hub activities and links if you are looking for more home learning.

### Class Seesaw:

Each class will have a seesaw account to share your child's learning through photos and videos. We will share learning stories here and the children will learn how to post their own learning moments to share with you. You will get a QR code to scan for yourself to connect to your child. You will also get one your child can use if they want to work on it at home. Please note they will use a different app to you.

### School App/Facebook:

Don't forget to sign up to the school app and our school facebook page to keep up to date. When you join the app click on the menu in the top left corner. Click on Alert Subscriptions then select all the sports your child plays and all the classes in your child's whanau group eg Year 5/6 Team. This will mean you will only get alerts that you need. You may need to update the groups you have ticked at the moment!