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Term: 1

Week: 5 Date: 01/03/2021

Saint Joseph's School, New Plymouth

Newsletter 2021



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Tena Koutou, e hoa ma. Nga mihi nui kia koutou. Dear Parents, Caregivers and friends of the school.

Welcome everybody to our second newsletter for the Term. As the Acting Principal for this term, while Mike Dowd is away on Sabbatical leave, I would like to thank you in advance for your participation and support of our school; in many ways and on many levels.

The school is buzzing with the many rich learning experiences that are happening for our students, through out this term. The staff are committed to getting the students out into our community and participating in education out of the classroom. The senior students were off to camp at Te Wera for three days at the end of this week, but unfortunately, due to now being in Covid-19 Level 2, the senior camp has had to have been postponed. We hope to be in touch with parents later in the week, around the possible re-scheduling of this.

Next week, Middle school students are walking the Huatoki walkway, hearing about some of the history of the area along the way from Matua Damon Ritai and then having lunch and a swim at the Aquatic Centre. The Junior school students are off to Ngamotu Beach for the day, for a Teddy bears Picnic next week also. Our school is blessed to have teachers who are keen to make these education out-of-the-classroom events happen for our students. It takes a great deal of time, energy and planning to organise experiences outside the classroom. I would like to acknowledge family members and parents who have supported the staff with these events.

We held our tryathlon/duathlon a couple of Fridays ago. It was super to see the 8C's of Confidence on display, our students certainly "gave it ago". The Christian Living from our senior students was outstanding as they supported our little people around the course. Thanks to Ms O'Neill for organising the event.

We have a busy second half of this Term ahead of us, with Student Learning Conferences after Easter in the last week of school before the holidays. Please make sure you keep up to date with the calendar of events and keep an eye out for notices and notifications in school bags and on the school app.

Ngā Mihi Nui
Fiona Hopkirk, Acting Principal



We give it a go

Teacher Only Days 2021

The Collective Agreement for Teachers settled with the Ministry of Education allows for eight Teacher Only Days to be taken across three years.

The Board of Trustees have approved the following dates as Teacher Only Days this year:
Tuesday 8th June and Friday 20th August.



Monday 1st March

Dear Parents/Caregivers

COVID-19 UPDATE – The Prime Minister has announced that New Zealand (outside of Auckland) has moved to Covid-19 Level 2.

Please read below regarding our Level 2 requirements. We do ask that parents stay out of the grounds. If entering the grounds adults must use the track and trace function on the School App. (Check in on the app when arriving and check out when leaving).

At school we will continue to emphasise the importance of:

- Good hand hygiene, and cough and sneeze etiquette.
- Staying away / going home if sick.
- Keeping the appropriate physical distance from others.
- Cleaning and disinfecting our high touch surfaces.
- Sanitising hands when entering learning spaces, before meals, after sneezing, coughing, etc.
- The Ministry of Education/Health has sent information that the wearing of face masks for staff and children is not necessary at school. Children and staff who do wish to wear masks will be supported.

Please make sure parents continue to:

- Not send unwell children to school.
- Ensure all children have a named drink bottle containing water.
- Organise for drop offs and pick-ups to happen outside the school entrances.
- Use the school app track and trace function if entering the school grounds or sign in at the office. The NZ Covid Tracer QR Code is available at the office door and inside.

OSCAR

- At alert Level 2 OSCAR is still available.
- Parents are to wait outside the building when collecting their children.
- The staff will sign the children out.

SWIMMING

- Class swimming will continue.
- The pool will not be available for community use.

While we remain at Alert Level 2, students will continue to gather for events such as School Prayer and Assembly. Unfortunately, due to both numbers and space, we cannot accommodate parents at such gatherings.

Thank you for your continued support for all we are doing to keep our community safe.

Mike Dowd & Fiona Hopkirk

COVID-19 LEVEL 2

ADULTS:

- **No entry to buildings.**
- **Do not congregate.**
- **Maintain 1-2m distancing.**
- **Students not to be on-site until 8:15am.**
- **Afternoon pick-ups from 2:45pm only (no earlier).**
- **No stay and play after school.**
- **Leave school by 3:00pm.**



A warm welcome to our new students and their families:

In Trinity: Rozie Macalalag, Herbie Murray, Siahna Brunello & Hannah Sanju

In Lawn: Naysa Duggempudi

THE 8 C'S CERTIFICATES: Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded certificates in recognition of how they are living the 8 C's and Gospel Values at school. This week two certificate were issued for each classroom and the students had morning tea with Mrs Hopkirk.

Thursday 25th February

Trinity	Coco Clifton	Settling into school with Confidence and giving everything a go.
Trinity	Harry Christiansen	Setting into school with Confidence and trying really hard to write the sounds he can hear.
Barbier	Sophia Seguin	Showing greater Confidence during class swimming sessions.
Barbier	Lachie Begg	Showing the 8C of Christian Living by being kind and caring towards others - a wonderful classroom helper.
McKenna	Aden Wells	Showing Christian Living in all that he does. Aden is a kind and caring member of McKenna who is always doing the right thing and always helping others.
McKenna	Marley Wegman	Being an amazing role model and always being ready for learning - keep up the great work.
Mission	Solara Collis	Being a role model to others by always doing her best and showing Christian Living.
Mission	Edan Fleming	A great attitude toward his learning and top efforts in his work. A great role model to others.
Carroll	Maria Luiza Zuliani	Showing Christian Living by being kind and helpful to everyone.
Carroll	Elijah Faga	Showing Christian Living by always helping others and showing Confidence by giving everything a go.
Te Hononga	Melah Williams	Showing Confidence in maths when working with large numbers.
Te Hononga	Ivy Forster	Fabulous Christian Living attitude in class - always showing pono and kindness to all.



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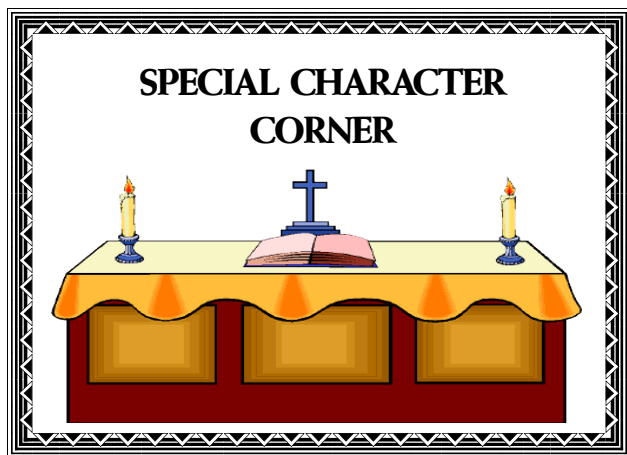


Thursday 25th February

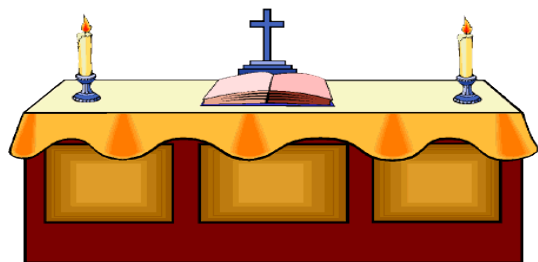
Lourdes	Christa Binoy	A Confident and positive attitude to everything, especially swimming.
Lourdes	Elsie Rose	Settling into a new school smoothly by already showing our 8 C's especially Christian Living, Collaboration and Communication.
Redwood	Enzo Dizon	Showing Christian Living and great leadership in the way he speaks to everyone.
Redwood	Rose Bayliss	Showing Christian Living by helping others and having the Confidence to give everything a go.
Lawn	Huxley Bolger	Great Confidence and effective Communication when Collaborating with learning buddies and in learning conversations.
Lawn	Prima Brunello	Making a wonderful start in her new learning community, showing fabulous Confidence and Courage.
Heidelberg	George Bromell	Christian Living by showing kindness and being a helpful friend to others - a fantastic role model.
Heidelberg	Zoe Moses	Christian Living by showing patience and kindness towards others in her class.
Cullinane	Koby Meddings	Showing positive leadership skills as a new Year 6 by walking humbly and being a great role model.
Cullinane	Anika Pryor	A great start as a Year 6 leader by working really hard in class and displaying great leadership skills.
Fatima	Kiwara Patu	Making a fantastic start to the year by being Connected and Confident. Thank you for giving everything a go and asking when unsure.
Fatima	Rosa Pulotu	Constantly displaying Christian Living by offering to help and support others and by being a genuinely kind member of Fatima.



We live life like Jesus



SPECIAL CHARACTER CORNER



CHILDREN'S MASS

Our first Children's Mass for the year is on **Sunday 14th March. 9:00am at St Joseph's Church.** I would encourage all families to make sure they have arrangements in place to be at our School Mass at St Joseph's Church.

The Friends of St Joseph's (FOSJ)

NEW MEMBERS: If you are interested in becoming a Friend of St Joseph's you are most welcome to come along to the meetings or contact the school on 758 0364.

Our major fundraiser this year will be xxxxxxxx to be held later in the year.

New members are always welcome. Our next meeting is:

**FOSJ AGM
Tuesday 16th March
7.30pm
in the Staffroom**



FIRST RECONCILIATION & COMMUNION

A new format is being trialled across the Parish, with children's preparation sessions being delivered during school time at their respective primary school. Preparation for First Reconciliation began on 28th February and will be celebrated at an evening liturgy on **Thursday 25 March at St Joseph's church and Friday 26 March at OLHC church**, times to be confirmed. Please note - the new format will be reviewed prior to confirming First Communion preparation which we anticipate will run in Term 2.

Part of being a Catholic is participating in the Sacraments and it is something we believe is important for your children to celebrate with their peers whilst in primary school. It helps create a sense of belonging to our faith community.

During Lent we encourage the children not necessarily to 'give up' something such as lollies or devices but to do extras e.g. bake for an elderly neighbour, help at home without expecting pocket money are some ideas. Children will talk about lenten promises at school.

*The
Season
of
Lent*



This year the focus is is "A New Way Forward" inspired by Pope Francis' words in Laudato Si' highlighting God's infinite presence throughout both the highs and lows of our life on earth.

Throughout our lives, we face obstacles and challenges that change our world and lead us to adapt in unexpected ways. Most notably over the past year, we have all been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic which has swept the globe, touching the lives of every person and compelling us to shift our ways of living and interacting with each other. Through these seasons, God's love constantly impels us to find new ways forward.



TRAFFIC SAFETY: We urge parents to please be vigilant when crossing children to and from school.

- Please use the pedestrian crossing, particularly after school when there is much more traffic on Calvert Road.
- Please get out of your car and escort your children across the road rather than calling them to your car - we have had a couple of near misses already this year.
- Whilst the roadworks are taking place on Moulton Street, please obey the traffic rules and instructions from the road workers.



LEARNING CONFERENCES



Mark your diaries now ... Learning Conferences will be held on Tuesday 13th April and Thursday 15th April.

School will close at the usual time of 2.50pm on 13th April and at the early time of 12.40pm on 15th April. OSCAR will be available.



SWIMMING

Please ensure that your child is suitably equipped for daily swimming instruction during the first half of this term.



All classes will swim each day.

As the teaching of swimming is a formal part of the Health and Physical Education Curriculum, the expectation is that all children will actively take part.

A parental note is required if children are not swimming.

SUNSMART: Please ensure that your children have school sunhats to wear for outdoor activities.

Those children 'without hats' during lunchtimes are required to spend their time safely under shade.



It is advisable for children to apply sunscreen (day-long sunblock) at home before coming to school.

WEETBIX TRYATHLON 2021

When: 31st March 2021

Where: Ngamotu Beach, NP

Registration is now open on the website: www.weetbix.co.nz. Families are responsible for registering their children.



This year we will have staff in attendance who can supervise your child at the event and walk them and their bike to Ngamotu Beach and back to St Joseph's at the end of the day.

Please let the office know if you wish for this to happen for your child.



Kerry Larsen
Traffic Controller

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SCHOOL & PARISH COMMUNITY EVENTS

MARCH

- 3-5 Year 5 & 6 Camp, Te Wera - ***Postponed due to Covid-19 Level 2***
- 8 Taranaki Anniversary - School Closed**
- 10 Middle School Huatoki Walk
- 11 Junior School Picnic, Ngamotu Beach
- 14 School Mass, 9.00am at St Joseph's Church
- 16 FOSJ AGM, 7.30pm in the Staffroom
- 19 St Joseph's Feast Day Liturgy, 9am in the Scout Hall
- 25 BOT Meeting, 5.30pm
- 25 First Reconciliation Celebration at St Joseph's Parish (time to be confirmed)
- 29 Community Digital Citizenship Evening, 7pm
- 31 Weetbix Tryathlon

APRIL

- 1 Easter Liturgy, 2.10pm in the Scout Hall
- 2 Good Friday - School Closed**
- 5 Easter Monday - School Closed**
- 6 Easter Tuesday - School Closed (OSCAR available)**
- 13 Learning Conferences
- 15 Learning Conferences
- 16 Last Day of Term 1**

MAY

- 3 First Day of Term 2**
- 5 Kids Lit Quiz
- 13 National Young Leaders Day
- 19 Kaboom Percussion Show
- 20 Otago Problem Challenge
- 27 BOT Meeting, 5.30pm

2021 TERM DATES

Term 1	Thursday 4th February	Friday 16th April
Term 2	Monday 3rd May	Friday 9th July
Term 3	Monday 26th July	Friday 1st October
Term 4	Monday 18th October	No later than 20th December

ASSEMBLIES

During Term 1
Certificate Assemblies
will be held on Thursdays. Check the School App
Events Tab for updates.



We will also continue to come together as a
school on Mondays at 9.00am for combined
School Prayer.