



SAINT JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Newsletter
October 25, 2019

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www.stjosephsuh.school.nz



Welcome to Term Four

I trust that all of you were able to find time to spend with family over the break. The children have certainly returned with great enthusiasm for learning and life.

Our traditional start of term Powhiri and School Mass provided the perfect occasion to welcome our newest members to our school whanau. We also welcomed Mrs Teina McVey back to the teaching team this term. Teina is teaming up with Mrs Gemmell and Mrs Herrick in the Year One class that are based in the school library. I recommend dropping by and seeing the amazing learning that is happening within the space in this newly developed environment. We have some very happy kids in this room that's for sure.

Ministry of Education Donation Scheme

Under the donation scheme, the Government will pay our kura \$150 per student per year if the school board agrees to opt in to the scheme. This funding can then be used at the schools discretion to support and resource our teaching and learning programme.

Thank you to the parents who completed the donation scheme survey. A whopping 94% of parents believed it was in the best interest of the school to opt into the scheme. Additionally, 96% of parents were still comfortable making a contribution towards the overnight camps and the course materials relating to Intermediate technology.

This information provided the re-assurance we needed to confirm a decision to opt into the donation scheme for 2020. As a result you will see some automatic changes to the school fee notice that is traditionally sent home at the end of each year. School stationary will be the only thing that is contained in this letter at the end of 2019 as it will no longer ask for the \$100 family donation or the \$100 fee to cover swimming, EOTC week and athletics.

School Structure & Class Placements 2020

Thank you to families who have already advised us of their intentions for next year. This is something we value dearly as it allows us to use the most accurate information to decide on the structure of our school and the size of our classes.

Getting the structure right is never an easy job in a school that continues to grow in size. To keep our class sizes as low as possible, the structure of the school is likely to be as follows at the start of the 2020 year:

Junior Syndicate

1 x Year 1 class

1 x Year 1/2 class

2 x Year 2 classes

Middle Syndicate

3 x Year 3/4 classes

Senior Syndicate

1 x Year 4/5 class

4 x Year 5/6 classes

Intermediate Syndicate

5 x Year 7/8 classes

We are still in the process of confirming the year levels of the teachers and employing staff to meet our changing needs. As soon as we have confirmed these we will begin placing students into these classes. Staff make every effort to ensure classes are well balanced with gender and ability mixes, as well as ensuring students are placed with others who they work well with.

It is worth noting they do not always work to their full potential alongside their best friends! Our ultimate aim is to place students in classes where they can be catered for most effectively and in which they will be happy and well matched to the strengths of the teacher.

We acknowledge that parents sometimes have information about their child we may not be aware of that can make their class placement more effective. Please return the class placement sheet to help with this process. Please note that there are a range of factors to consider in this process and therefore we cannot guarantee to accommodate all requests, rather we consider them alongside other factors.

Andrew Herrick

Religious Report

Greetings everyone. I hope you have all enjoyed the Term 3 holidays and had an opportunity to share love and memories with your family and friends. It is incredible to think we will soon be entering the last month of spring and enjoying Labour Day this coming Monday.

Last week we celebrated our first School Mass for the term. The Gospel focus from Luke, reiterated the importance for each of us to consider our journey of discipleship and the need to promote the Common Good in both our dealings with others and care for preservation of our beautiful world. Our Mass also provided an opportunity to welcome and pray for our new students and teachers.

The Extraordinary Month of Mission – October 2019

Pope Francis has asked that the whole Catholic Church revive her missionary awareness and commitment and challenges us to 'Go and make disciples of all nations.' Francis encourages us to nurture our friendship with Jesus Christ living in his Church: In the Eucharist, in the Word of God, and personal and communal prayer. It is anticipated, with this in mind, students and teachers at St. Joseph's will consider how we can commit to promoting the Common Good during Term 4.

One element that encapsulates our commitment is dedication to prayer - in particular, praying the Rosary.



October: A Month of the Holy Rosary

By God's grace, we are already in the last quarter of the year. The month of October has traditionally been dedicated to the Holy Rosary, one of the best known of all Catholic devotions. It was Pope Leo XIII who in 1891 declared October as the month of the Rosary. The word Rosary means "Crown of Roses," and each prayer in the Rosary is considered a flower presented to Mary. It is called the "Breviary of the common people" and the "Psalms of the illiterate."

Father Patrick Peyton, who is known as the "Rosary Priest" says that, *'if families will listen to my message and give Our Lady ten minutes of their twenty four hours by reciting the daily family rosary, I assure them that their homes will become by God's grace, peaceful, prayerful places - little heavens, which God the author of home life has intended they should be.'*

Pope Francis tells us that ***"Praying the Rosary together, as a family, is a very beautiful and a source of great strength."***

*Perhaps as the long weekend looms large, we may find some time to rekindle this age old Catholic tradition of praying one decade of the Holy Rosary as individuals, families and communities and come to experience for ourselves what this devotion promises. **Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary, pray for us.***



Ma te Atua tatou e manaaki e arahi e tiaki I nga wa katoa
May God bless, guide and protect us always

Leyton Walker (Acting DRS)

Scoop on Sports

Neon Walk4Good

On Saturday 5th October, during the school holidays, St Joseph's School sent a crew of 58 students and caregivers to the Neon Walk4Good event. This event was run in the evening at Camp Elsdon in Porirua and all funds raised went towards our chosen charities.

As a group we all walked up over 700 steps (in the dark and torrential rain) and over 8km.

This was an awesome opportunity for our students, they displayed such determination in themselves and were extremely supportive of each other and others participating in the event.

A huge thank you to our FOSS community who were marshalls at the event!



Flippaball - Y4/5/6 and Y7/8

A friendly reminder that Flippaball continues this term. Please keep an eye out on your email for communications from Ms Harrison regarding any changes to the term 4 draw.

Total Touch Module

We are excited to have entered 6 teams across all year groups into this awesome new after school sport opportunity, Total Touch. Games are commencing in week 2 of term 4 at Heretaunga College from 4pm. All communication has and will be via email. Please contact sports@stjosephsuh.school.nz if you have any questions.

Have-A-Go T-ball & Softball

On Tuesday 22nd October, we sent 3 teams to the Have-A-Go T-Ball and Softball Tournament down at Whakatiki Park.

The teams were made up of students from Y1/2, Y3/4 and Y5/6.

This was a great opportunity for our students to have a go at a different sport in a fun and positive environment.

A huge thank you to the parents and caregivers who came along and supported our students this day.



Scoop on Sports

Miniball/Basketball

Unfortunately we will not be entering a Y5/6 Miniball team or Y7/8 Basketball team into a league this term. This is due to the busy time of year, being unable to field a full team.

Super Starter Skills Cricket

In week 2 our full school has been really lucky to have the opportunity to participate in the Super Starter Cricket Skills series with coaches from Upper Hutt Cricket.

These sessions are designed to show children how cricket has evolved into a fun, fast paced, action packed sport getting them active and healthy while developing all the fundamental movement skills – throwing, catching, running and jumping! The feedback from these sessions has been really positive, we are extremely grateful for this opportunity!

Thanks Upper Hutt Cricket!

BMX Challenge reschedule

A friendly reminder that the postponed BMX Challenge that was taking place last term, has been rescheduled to week 4 this term.

All communication has been sent to registered students via email.

Any questions please email
sports@stjosephsuh.school.nz

Y4/5/6 Athletics

Our Y4/5/6 students are participating in our school athletics next week to qualify into the interschool athletics taking place in week 5 of term 4.

If your child qualifies in any event please keep an eye out on your email for an electronic registration form into the inter-school event.

Any questions please email
sports@stjosephsuh.school.nz

2019 Term Dates

Term 1	4 February – 12 April
Term 2	29 April – 5 July
Term 3	22 July – 27 September
Term 4	14 October – TBC

Teacher Only Day 25 October

Uniform Shop Hours

Tuesday 8.15 – 8.45am

Wednesday 2.30 – 3.00pm

Emergency Contact Details

Please advise the School Office of any change of address, email or phone numbers.

Second Hand Uniform Wanted

If you would like us to sell any school uniform items on your behalf, please bring to the School Office. They must be in excellent condition. We are especially looking for small sizes.

Prize Giving

Date: Thursday 12 December

Venue: St Joseph's Church

Time: Years 1-4: 1.30pm

Years 5-8: 6.00pm

Scholastic Book Orders

These are due on 30 October.



SCHOLASTIC

Intermediate Hats

These are now in stock. The cost is \$23.

Photo Orders

Final date for ordering photos is 8 November.

To order either visit www.schoolmemories.co.nz or drop the envelope to the School Office with cash or cheque.

Calendar Art Orders

These are to be ordered online only. The office is not accepting any orders. Your child's code was sent home on Monday this week. This is required when placing an order.

PB4L Certificates

Congratulations to the following students who received PB4L certificates at this week's School Assembly.

1. Rose-Star Sok
2. Evan Nixon
3. Seb Mundell-Miller
4. Danika Ross
5. Xavier Kirton
6. Tyra Cant
7. Laila Rodriguez
8. Kotalea Hunt
9. Siosaia Sina
10. Oliver Mailangi
11. Regan Thi
12. Samuel Remnant
13. Kaitlynn Bin
16. Jakson Bentley
17. Dominic Rogers
18. Jianming Xie



School Gala News

Baking for Gala

Plates will be coming home with the eldest child on 29 October for you to fill with yummy home baking and return to school on 1 or 2 November for us to sell at the Gala. More details to come.

White Elephant Items

We will start to collect donations of goods for white elephant and much more after the holidays.

As you spring clean, if there is anything you would like to donate, we will be opening up the garage at the school from the start of the term to commence storing items.

Hangi

Presales only, limited number of tickets for the Hangi so get in quick.

\$15.00 per ticket, pick up Sunday 3rd November 1 pm, St Joseph's School.

Tickets on sale at the school office.



School Gala Mega Raffle Tickets

Raffle Tickets are still available from the School Office.

Raffle will be drawn at 2pm on 3 November.

All prize winners will be contacted on the day.