



SAINT JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Newsletter
December 6, 2019

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www.stjosephsuh.school.nz



Kia ora koutou!

For some of you, this will be the last newsletter for your child's primary school education – an end of an era for many of our families who have made St Joseph's School their home for the past 8 years. To those of you in this scenario may I thank you for your involvement in our school community and wish you the best of luck in your future education adventures.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for all their work this year. Our staff do a wonderful job and it is a privilege to work with them all. Thanks also to the Board of Trustees who work hard to provide effective governance and do a great amount of 'behind the scenes' work to ensure our children get the best deal at school. The Friends of St Joseph's School - FOSS have donated almost \$20,000.00 this year to the school. Many of you may not be aware the extent of what is funded through their fundraising efforts.

This is truly a community school with a heart of faith. A school where parents and families are interested and invested in supporting their child's learning. Thanks for your support this year. I wish you all a happy and safe holiday and a happy new year – whatever you are doing over the Christmas break, I hope you enjoy yourself and have some quality time with your family and friends.

Have a great Christmas and a happy new year. We look forward to seeing you all back at school safe and ready to learn in early February.

Meri Kirihimete

Andrew Herrick - Principal

The season of advent

Santa is coming! This is the reminder for our tamariki that Christmas is upon us. They see their parents stocking up on delicious food for Christmas dinner and joining the massive queues within busy malls to buy presents to wrap and store under the Christmas tree in preparation for Christmas Day.

Please also allow your children to think about, and see, what really matters at this time of year? As the Grinch recognised so nicely for us in the movie

"What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas... perhaps... means a little bit more!" — Dr. Seuss,

During the four weeks of Advent, we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth through prayer and reflection and we look for practical ways to observe the holiness of the season in our everyday lives.

I ngā wiki e whā o te Aweneti, mā te karakia me te whakaaroaro ka whakariterite tātou i a tatou mō te kaupapa nui, arāte whānautanga mai o te Karaiti, āia rā, ia rā ka rapu tatou I ngā tikanga hei whakanui I tēnei wātapu.

Christmas is a time for us to gather as a Christian family to celebrate the coming of God. In the rush to make it a memorable occasion for those we love we can sometimes forget that Jesus is the reason for the season. God loves us so much that he sent his own Son to live among us, in order to show us how to live life to its fullest. So as we get ready for this special time, let us take time to prayerfully prepare to welcome Christ among us.

Religious Report

Greetings Everyone. (Format as Required)

St Joseph's Parish and School Mass

On Sunday, we celebrated our final Parish and School Mass for the year. It was a most special occasion - one in which we were able to reflect upon the events of the year, from both a personal and worldly perspective. Our Mass also heralded the first day of the Advent Season and the Church's New Liturgical Year. The Gospel reading on Sunday challenged us to 'stay awake' and represent our faith in action, in a way that helps to make our world a better place for all to live in, especially those in less fortunate circumstances than ourselves.

Advent: The coming of the Lord

Adventus means "coming." At Sunday's Mass we experienced the wonderment of Hope. In the weeks ahead, we will celebrate and contemplate Advent through the transactions of Preparation, Joy and Love; all in anticipation of the birth of Our Saviour in a modest stable in the little town of Bethlehem.

In preparation for this week's newsletter, I encountered a reflection from Pope Francis, delivered to a General Audience in Saint Peter's Square in December, 2013. Francis' reflection captures the 'gift' of Jesus – the gift of love that transforms us.



"Today I would like to reflect with you on the birth of Jesus, the feast of trust and of hope which overcomes uncertainty and pessimism. And the reason for our hope is this: God is with us and God still trusts us. Hence the great 'gift' of the child of Bethlehem: He brings us a spiritual energy, an energy which helps us not to despair in our struggle, in our hopelessness, in our sadness, for it is an energy that warms and transforms the heart. Indeed, the birth of Jesus brings us the good news that we are loved immensely and uniquely by God, and he not only enables us to know this love, he also gives it to us, he communicates it to us!"

This Advent, may the Light of Faith be Our Star.

May you and your families remain in Christ and enjoy the Advent Season

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

Outstanding Sports Fees

A friendly reminder all outstanding sports fees are now overdue.

Please ensure you are all paid up as soon as possible. Emails and bills will be sent to those outstanding over the next week.

Y7/8 Cricket

St Joseph's School sent 3 teams to the Participation Intermediate Cricket Tournament at Trentham Memorial Park on Tuesday last week.

All our students had an awesome day and showed incredible sportsmanship and team spirit.

A huge thank you to the parents and caregivers who came along to support, score and umpire.

Baseball5 Tournament

Our Y7/8 students have been invited to a Baseball5 Tournament on Monday at Maidstone Park against St Brendan's. We have entered 8 teams into the tournament.

Thanks to the parents/caregivers who have volunteered to support our students on this day.

Regional Athletics

Our Regional Athletics team are competing for a regional title on Wednesday 4th December, we look forward to hearing how they get on!

Best of luck!

Dance Troupe/Jump Jam Prizegiving Performance

Our Dance troupe and Jump Jam students have been practicing at lunchtimes to perform at our school Prizegiving in week 9.

These students love to perform and we look forward to seeing them entertain.

Floorball

Congratulations to our St Brendan's and St Joseph's combined Floorball team the "Catholic Crusades". The team has had a really successful season and our students have enjoyed joining forces with another school.

Thank you to our friends at St Brendan's for inviting us to play with them and our parents and caregivers for your ongoing support of our students.



Flippaball

Congratulations to our 4 Flippaball teams on a great and successful term 3 and 4 Flippaball League.

A huge thank you to the parents/caregivers for supporting our students in this outside of school sport and to those who have been coaching our teams.

An extra shout out to the St Joseph's Sharks who were undefeated, winning the whole league! Well done!



Total Touch

This term Total Touch ran their first module from Heretaunga College for all school years on a Wednesday after school. We entered 6 teams across all year levels and some of our intermediate students were inducted to be paid referees.

The feedback from this league has been awesome! A huge thank you to the parents and caregivers who volunteered their time to coach and manage our teams.

Total Touch has announced that they will be running another league in term 1 of 2020 so stay tuned for email registrations coming out in the new school year.



Uniform Shop Hours in January

Monday 27 January	10am – 2pm
Tuesday 28 January	10am – 2pm
Wednesday 29 January	10am – 2pm
Thursday 30 January	10am – 2pm
Friday 31 January	10am – 2pm

Tuck Shop

Last day the Tuck Shop will be open is Thursday 12 December. Thank you to everyone who has supported it throughout 2019.

PB4L Certificates

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

Room 1: Rochelle Ngu
Room 2: Charlotte Beaumont
Room 3: Cassidy Papier
Room 4: Caleb Malskatis
Room 5: Shadrach Chayil
Room 6: Harper Gillies
Room 7: Sophia Metcalf and Lily Coard
Room 8: Siena Schultz
Room 9: Manuel Bustamante
Room 10: Indey Watkins
Room 11: Evan Dersley and Lincoln Elmiger
Room 12: Faith Morrison
Room 13: Caleb Aguas
Room 14: Sebastian Johnstone
Room 16: Heath Broome
Room 18: Oliver Pailman
Library: Arielle Eslera



2020 Stationery Lists



Our school stationery lists are already online at myschool.co.nz

*Conditions apply. See myschool.co.nz for details

FIND YOUR LIST

Earn **SCHOOL** REWARDS
for our school*

2019 Term Dates

Term 4 14 October – 19 December at midday

2020 Term 1

Year 7 students only Monday 3 February
Rest of school Tuesday 4 February

Uniform Shop Hours

Please note new days of opening starting from 11 November

Monday 8.15 – 8.45am

Thursday 2.30 – 3.00pm

Prize Giving

Date: Thursday 12 December
Venue: St Joseph's Church
Time: Years 1-4: 1.30pm
Years 5-8: 6.00pm

Library Book Amnesty

Please return all School Library books to the School Office as soon as possible.

**PLEASE
RETURN
YOUR
LIBRARY
BOOKS!**

Christmas Concert



Dear Whanau,

You are invited to join our Junior Syndicate for an evening of Christmas Cheer. Bring some fish and Chips and enjoy some Christmas Classics!

When: Tuesday, 17th of December

Where: Junior Area Field

When: 5:00pm bring a picnic tea
5.30pm Concert

DOWNLOAD OUR SCHOOL APP

- ★ Events
- ★ Permission Slips
- ★ Cancellations
- ★ Notices
- ★ Absentees
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