



# SAINT JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Newsletter  
February 26, 2021

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[www.stjosephsuh.school.nz](http://www.stjosephsuh.school.nz)



## Kia ora koutou,

The new term is well and truly underway with huge student participation in the sporting and cultural events that have been on offer across our region. Congratulations to all of our learners who have put their hand up for these opportunities and thank you to all of the parents and teachers who have made these possible.

This week we have had a major focus on the value of RESPECT and how we can greet others. I have loved walking around the school and having our students come running up to say 'Hello'. Please help us to reinforce this when the opportunities arise at home.

## Property News

We are excited to have builders on site completing the refurbishment of our new intermediate classrooms. Three new intermediate spaces will be available for our intermediate team before the start of term two and will provide the perfect 'Intermediate Hub' on the far side of the school.

In addition, we have begun working on new plans, with the Archdiocese of Wellington, to change the administration area so that is more user friendly for students, whanau and staff. Updates on these developments will be provided as soon as they come to hand.

## Landscaping Masterplan

Mark Newdick, from local landscape architecture collective, has created his first draft of the landscaping masterplan for our school.

To view the current plan please use the following link:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZyXkfq1AmZ1bRej6XWgx6hQdrS77nx9B/view?usp=sharing>

Over the coming months we will be seeking your feedback before finalising the masterplan and beginning the work over a staged process.

Andrew Herrick

## COVID-19

A sincere thanks for your cooperation and support in response to the changes in procedures last week. It was a fast move from Level 1 to 2 for our region and everyone reacted swiftly. Whilst providing a good wake up call, please use this as an opportunity to reassure your tamariki that the chances of a community outbreak remain low.

Join us in continuing to reinforce messages about good hygiene practices at home and school. The best defence includes:

- washing your hands often with soap and water before and after eating as well as after attending the toilet
- covering coughs and sneezes with clean tissues or your elbow
- putting used tissues in the bin
- staying away from school when you are feeling ill.

## Sick Children

Just a reminder that if your child is sick, they must stay away from school. It is quite common for children to become unwell during the school day, in which case we will phone you to get them collected.

## Attendance

You may have read media articles about our continued poor national school attendance rates. As a result, the Ministry of Education will continue to monitor this closely in 2021. The MOE deem satisfactory attendance for learning to be 95% or above. Students who don't meet that will have had at least 2 weeks of **unjustified absences** during the school year.

As a school, we have always monitored attendance data. Each term we note all children who have attendance rates of 90-94% (we monitor these) and those below 90%. We then look at reasons why children are away and where there is a pattern of attendance below 90%, we contact parents.

Research tells us that children who attend school every day are more likely to have friends, to achieve success, to develop good social behaviours and learning skills, and to be ready for secondary school. Please help us make every day a learning day for your children.

## Special Character Report

Kia ora e te Whānau,

During Lent, our loving God takes us by the hand and asks us to listen to our hearts so that we can feel His love and we can learn how to care for others as children of God. Let us put our heads down and think about God's love. Let us think about how great we can be if we can keep our promise to God by treating other people with love and respect.

Dear God,

*Bless our quiet time with you so when we go out to do your will, our focus is on working for you alone. May the work we do always benefit others. Amen*

This coming Sunday marks the Second Sunday of Lent. Time really does go by so fast. In the business of life it's hard to find some quiet time to spend with God in our hearts. Caritas New Zealand put out some great resources to help families make time for prayer and reflection during Lent. If you would like to access some of these resources please check out this link.

<https://caritas.org.nz/lent>

God said, 'Let us make human-kind in our image, according to our likeness.'

Genesis 1:268

Human Equality stems from the Catholic Social Teaching of Human Dignity. This is about understanding that we are all made in the image of God and every person has an innate Human Dignity that no one can take away. Jesus sacrificed his life for all so that we can have a fullness of life, therefore every life is sacred. It is through the season of Lent that we remember this and reflect on how we can appreciate the differences in those around us.

Throughout this term each syndicate will break down what it means to be made in the image of God and how that looks different in individual people, cultures and those who are experiencing difficult challenges.

This term for the Gonzaga students to show an understanding of "Human Equality" we are focussing on who we all are, where our whānau are from and how this makes us all unique, yet special, and made in the image and likeness of God. This will then be presented as an art exhibition which will be displayed across our syndicate to represent who we are.

This will then be presented by students like an art exhibition where students are encouraged to explain their symbolism and share their mihi where appropriate. Keep an eye out for your invite to the art exhibition toward the end of the term.

Last week a group of Intermediate leaders attended a Leadership Day at Sts Peter and Paul School with Mrs Foster. Here they learnt what it means to be a leader, the good qualities of a leader and how they can be leaders themselves. The group will be using these skills to lead masses and liturgies for our school throughout the year.

### Key dates for our two School Masses

Pentecost – Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

First Sunday of Advent – Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November



## Baptism

Sacramental Programme 2021

If you would like your child to do the Sacramental Programme (that is; the learning needed to be able to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation & First Eucharist) in 2021 and they have NOT been Baptised, please contact the Parish office on 04 528 2028 or by email to [stjosephsuh1@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsuh1@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

Enrolment for those children who have been baptised will open in March.



## Sports

### Yeah! Girls Cricket In-School Sessions Y6-8

Thank you so much to the Yeah! Girls Cricket team for delivering some fantastic Have-a-go sessions to our year 6, 7 and 8 students on Thursday! Our girls had an awesome time and many of them are now excited to give cricket a go!



### Have a Go Netball Tournament Y3-6

Best of luck to our year 3/4 and year 5/6 students who are giving netball a go at an Upper Hutt Schools Tournament on Tuesday next week! This is an awesome opportunity for our novice or non-netball players to give netball a try. Hopefully we see them in one of our Saturday season teams!

### After School Sports Term 1

Congratulations to our Floorball and Total Touch teams who had their first games of the season this week! Best of luck to our Miniball students who start next week!

### Non Stop Cricket Tournament Y7/8

We have 2 teams heading off to the year 7 and 8 Non Stop Cricket Tournament on Tuesday at Fraser Park. We wish them the best of luck!

### Girls Futsal Tournament Y3-8

We have 50 of our Year 3-8 girls attending the Girls Futsal Festival at Walter Nash next week on Friday! An awesome opportunity. Everyone is sure to have a great time!

### Bluelight Football Tournament Y7/8

Registrations for our year 7 and 8 football enthusiasts were this week on Tuesday! We have a tournament coming up in week 7 run by the NZ Police. Thank you to those who have completed their online permission form.

If your child is interested in playing but you did not get a form, please email Miss

Harrison [sports@stjosephsuh.school.nz](mailto:sports@stjosephsuh.school.nz)



### Intermediate Netball Trials

Congratulations to our year 7/8 netball players who have been trialling over the last week to win a spot in one of the St Joseph's intermediate teams this year.

Our selectors have been impressed with our student's skills and positivity, we are sure they will have a tough time with their selection!

Best of luck for your last trial this weekend!

### School Swimming

Our year 3 and 4 students have begun their school swimming at H2O this week, with our year 5 and 6 students in week 6 and 7 and year 7 and 8 in week 8 and 9. Please keep an eye out on your email for the swimming ability form and extra swimming information from your child's classroom teacher.

### Top School

Check out the poster for this year's TOP SCHOOL! Tuesday 9 March, 5.00pm - 7.30pm Harcourt Park Football Fields.

A super fun evening not to be missed!

### Movin' March

St Joseph's School is taking part in Movin' March for 2021! Your child may have come home from school with a Movin' March passport all ready to go and get active, walking, biking or scootering to school!

Please check out the Movin' March facebook and website for loads of other ways to win prizes!

<https://www.movinmarch.com/about>

### Basketball League Y7/8 - Term 2: Wednesday's at WalterNash

Keep an eye out for year 7 and 8 Basketball sign ups which will happen towards the end of term 1. We know we have some keen intermediate basketballers out there!





## Items wanted

Kia ora school whānau,

The year 3/4 Camillus syndicate are seeking a few things to help us with our learning. Please drop to the school office if you have any of the following:

- Old business Shirts (will be used as painting shirt)
- Pegs
- Any bed linen or drop sheet
- Tarps (used for art)

Many thanks, Camillus teachers

## Before and After School Care

St Joseph's Before and After School Care is back for another year.

If you require Before and After School care please use our new Enrolmy booking system. It has all our details on it and is very user friendly.

The link is:

<https://enrolmy.com/stjosephsuh/book-now/5-Before--After-School-Care--Term-One-2021>.

If you have any queries or require further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Our email address is [asc@stjosephsuh.school.nz](mailto:asc@stjosephsuh.school.nz) and our phone number is 021 062 1766.

## 2021 Term Dates

Term 1	4 February – 16 April
Term 2	3 May – 9 July
Term 3	26 July – 1 October
Term 4	18 October – 16 December

## Public Holidays

2 April – Good Friday
5 April – Easter Monday
6 April – Easter Tuesday
7 June – Queen's Birthday
25 October – Labour Day

## Teacher Only Days

Thursday 1 April
Friday 4 June
Friday 27 August
Tuesday 26 October

## Uniform Shop Hours

Monday 8.15 – 8.45am
Thursday 2.30 – 3.00pm



*Faith in the Future, Love of Learning, Love of Life*