



# St Joseph's School

TE KURA O HATO HOHEPA PAPANUI

EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO BECOME CONFIDENT, MOTIVATED LEARNERS, LIVING GOSPEL VALUES.



## NEWSLETTER ~ TERM 4- No. 3-1 November 2018

### **FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK** - Aaron Richards

**School Carnival** - It was wonderful watching the community come together. It provided children an opportunity to play with their friends. It provided an opportunity for parents to meet or catch up. It provided teachers an opportunity to work alongside parents in an informal setting. It provided an opportunity for a number of past pupils and families to visit the school again.

The atmosphere was awesome. Kim, Mel and the rest of the Carnival committee need to be congratulated for an excellent job and a great result.

**Athletics Postponement** - Trust me when I say that the teachers and I are just as frustrated as parents when it comes to the weather, requiring the school to postpone Athletics day a number of times. The fact is that the school can not control the weather. The reality is the school can not hold running or jumping events on a wet or slippery surface as this could cause severe injuries. Unfortunately we are running out of time.

As a result, we will no longer be running a school-wide Athletics Day. Instead, the **Middle and Senior School** will run their athletics events **tomorrow, Friday 2 November**. This event will start at 11am, weather permitting. The Junior and Junior Middle teams will not be running their athletics event tomorrow. The Junior and Junior Middle teams will try to reschedule their events for another week. We will keep you advised. Parents are welcome to attend the Middle and Senior athletic events tomorrow.

The Zone sports are next week so entries need to be in tomorrow. Next week students will be advised if they have qualified to represent the school at the North Zone Athletics. Representation at the Zone Athletics is restricted to students in Years 5 -8. The Zone Athletics will take place at Rawhiti Domain on Wednesday 7th of November. Information regarding this event will be sent out to the appropriate children very soon.

**Teacher Appointments** - It is with great pleasure that I can announce that Mrs Woods, Mrs Burt and Ms Johns have all been appointed as permanent teachers at St Joseph's School Papanui. All three teachers were employed at the start of the year as fixed term teachers. Throughout the year they have proven themselves as valued members of the team.

**Teacher Strike** - A reminder that the Primary Teachers and Principals union (NZEI) has planned a strike for **Wednesday 14 November**. As the board is unable to staff the school on that day, the school will be closed.

NZEI has decided to take this action due to an impasse in current contract negotiations. NZEI believe that the country is in the grip of a chronic teacher shortage. NZEI believe that a number of changes need to be made to teachers employment conditions to attract quality people to the teaching profession. Teachers and principals are calling for:

- Better pay.
- More release time so that teachers have time to prepare quality learning opportunities for students.
- The employment of specialist teachers to provide ongoing support for students with special learning needs.

### **From the Board - Wendy Skinner (Chairperson)**

**Food and Nutrition Policy** - On Tuesday night the Board of Trustees considered feedback from parents relating to it's Food and Nutrition policy. Amendments have been made to the policy to ensure that we are providing a consistent healthy food message to students.

There has been an increasing trend for families to bring treats to school to celebrate a birthday or special event. The amended policy means that confectionery can not be used for this purpose. Families wishing to provide appropriate food to celebrate special events need to discuss this with the classroom teacher. We have many children with allergies and dietary requirements that need to be considered.

#### *Amended policy*

*St Joseph's School maintains a no confectionery and no soft drink policy. As a result, confectionery and soft drink are not supplied to children on school grounds during school hours and students are not permitted to bring confectionery or soft drink on to school property for the purposes of consumption. The school understands that different cultures use food to celebrate special events. Parents wishing to provide and distribute food to students as part of a cultural celebration must seek prior approval from the classroom teacher. The teacher will oversee the distribution of food. Baked goods such as a cake or biscuits are appropriate celebration food.*

**Maori Consultation** - Last night the Board consulted with members of the school's Maori community. A huge thanks to the families who attended. The Board and Management Team will use this information to review the school's policies and practices.

The school's Improving Educational Outcomes for Maori Students policy will be reviewed this term. All school parents have the ability to read and provide feedback on this policy. If you would like to provide feedback, please follow the instructions below.

1. Visit the following website—<http://stjopapa.schooldocs.co.nz>
2. Use the following user name (stjopapa) and password (sjspapanui)
3. Click on the "Policy review" link
4. Scroll down the table until you find the "Improving Educational Outcomes for Maori Students policy".
5. Read the policy.
6. Click the red Policy Review icon at the right-hand top corner of the page. A new screen will appear.
7. Select your role (parent/caregiver) from the drop-down list.
8. Enter your name.
9. Submit your ratings and comments.

### COMING EVENTS

7 Nov	North Zone Athletics
9 Nov	School Dances
13 Nov	Cultural, sport, Timoney 1,2,3 class photos
14 Nov	NZEI Teacher Strike, school closed
15 Nov	Teacher Only Day
16	Show Day

**Teacher Only Day** - A reminder that the school is holding a teacher only day on **Thursday 15 November**. This day was planned at the start of the year. The day will be used to provide teachers with professional development and an opportunity to start planning for the 2019 school year.

We appreciate that the clash of dates with the teachers strike will have an impact on working families. We appreciate your ongoing support regarding this issue.

**Uniform Shoes** - Students are required to wear black school shoes with leather uppers and rubber soles (see the images on the school webpage). Active-wear school shoes may be worn as an alternative, however they must have a black upper and sole. They must not have a white sole or noticeable branding.

In summer, students have the option of wearing black roman-style sandals.

**Road Works** - The road works are another frustration for parents this week. The school was advised of the plan to close the top end of Vagues Road a month ago. However, we were advised that the work would only take place between 6pm at night and 8am in the morning. We were told that the works should not have any effect on the school during the day.

The plan has obviously changed so I have been on the phone to the Council and City Care to express my concern about the lack of communication and the lack of care shown. If we had been advised of the change we would have provided parents with a warning. We would have also worked with the Council to develop a safety plan that would ensure the safety of our children.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Certificates last week:

**Bryan Abu, Ruby Allnut, Austin Golding, Elysha Medillo, Sadie Raines, Benji Kearns, Mckenzie Slee, Marco Octaviano, Brody Leadley, Lucy Mackenzie, Toby Knill, Olly Staiger, Caitlin Hefford, Alexander Lane, Joshua Thornley, Lean Silmaro, Zea Octaviano, Zach Broomhall, Bailey Rennell, Gabriel Tofilau, Wilbur Sullivan, Vincent Walmsley, Luke Norton, Brittany Batilong, Madison Wickett, Bianca Skilton-Woods, Randall Young, Jessica Williams, James Fowley, Louis Sharp, Romeo Saldana, Molly Bone, Ciara Lemalu-McDowell, Jett Anglem, Finn O'Donnell, and Corey Sharvin.**

### **LUNCHES TOMORROW—HOT DOGS \$2.50**

Thank you to our volunteer helpers -  
**Jolene Bothwell and Jamie Tibble**

### PTA NEWS

“Well, another School Carnival has been and gone, and what an amazing event it was! We were blessed to have a lovely fine weekend – especially in light of the atrocious weather that has followed this week – and everything went off without a hitch on the day. We made just under \$20,000 in the end, which is a fantastic fillip to the PTA’s coffers. All of the money raised will go directly towards a number of projects that we have been fundraising for this year, including more shaded areas and a number of new drinking fountains for your children. HUGE thanks must go to our Fair Co-ordinators, Kim Ric-Hansen and Mel Kelly, along with the rest of the Fair Committee; they have worked tirelessly all year to bring this marvellous event to fruition. And finally, a great big THANK YOU to all of the sponsors, whanau & friends that donated their time, goods, services, food and/or cash – we really couldn’t have done it without you! Whakawhetai ki a koutou, arohanui, kia ora.” *Matt Darnbrough – President, St Joseph’s School PTA.*

### LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week, the major fundraiser for the library, is on between 19 and 23 November. The library will be transformed into a bookshop where you will be able to purchase fantastic books and stationery (also handy for Christmas presents!). A percentage of the proceeds will go to the school so we can buy much needed new books. After a big sort out of the old and worn out books in the library earlier this year, we have space for inspiring new books.

We are holding a big competition in the lead up to Book Week - open NOW! We are creating our own library magazine and our students will be the writers and artists! You have until 3pm on 19 November to submit your creative works to the Librarian (preferably via email, [library@stjopapa.school.nz](mailto:library@stjopapa.school.nz)). These will be displayed during Book Week.

There are prizes for each year group AND one for coming up with an awesome name for our magazine AND one for staff, Yes that's YOU, staff. You can submit anything from illustrations & photos, to writing such as poems and short stories. If you create some 3D art, we can photograph it for the magazine. Some things to note: keep in mind the Catholic character of our school and that the magazine will be for years 1-8 when creating content; we won't accept anything with any violence for example. Information on the library homepage or in the library (posters on the walls). See a librarian if you need more information or inspiration.