



St Joseph's School

TE KURA O HATO HOHEPA PAPANUI

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



NEWSLETTER ~ TERM 1 - No. 1 - 1 February 2018

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK - Aaron Richards

WELCOME BACK

It was wonderful seeing the smiling faces of the children walk through the school gates yesterday morning. The children's presence has brought back vibrancy and a sense of enthusiasm for the start of the school year.

On behalf of the St Joseph's community I would like to warmly welcome the new children and their families to the school. A special welcome to new members to the faculty: Mrs Burt (Ashby 2), Mrs Woods (Ashby 3), Miss Kickhefer (Kealy 1), Miss Johns (Hanrahan 1) and Mrs Pieters (Librarian).

The start of year was celebrated with a special Waitangi Liturgy. This was our first opportunity to come together as a school and prepare for another successful year ahead.

TEACHER ONLY DAY

The school has planned a Teacher Only Day on **Monday 5 February**. As a result, the school is closed for instruction. Teacher only days do not affect students' learning as the academic year is extended accordingly. We have purposefully planned the teacher only days to coincide with public holidays.

WAITANGI DAY

Please remember it is Waitangi Day on **Tuesday 6 February**. As this is a public holiday the school will be closed.

BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ

The PTA is hosting a Back to School Breakfast BBQ from **8.15am, tomorrow Friday 2 February**. Current and new parents are encouraged to take five minutes out of their day to pick up a free coffee or bacon butty. It is a fantastic opportunity to meet the parents of your children's friends or just catch up.

MEET THE TEACHER EVENING

The school is holding a Meet the Teacher Evening on **Thursday 8 February**. This is an opportunity for parents to meet their child's teacher, listen to the teacher explain the classroom expectations and understand the academic programme.

We have two sessions, making allowances for parents with more than one child at the school. The first session starts at 7:00pm and the second session at 7:30pm.

All meetings will take place in individual classrooms

SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

Over recent years the media has filled the slow news month with editorials relating to school fees and the cost of education. It was reported on television and in the newspaper that the cost associated with sending your children to school had increased 15% over the last 10 years. On the surface this may appear a lot, however it actually equates to an increase of 1.5% a year which is significantly below the inflation rate over the same period. So I would like to congratulate my fellow educators for maintaining educational standards with proportionally less funding.

The fact of the matter is that Board of Trustees charge school fees to supplement the funding by the government so that the school can provide children with an education that meets parents expectations. Parents want a quality education so the board work hard to provide this as cheaply as possible.

At the end of the year a document relating to the school account was sent home. The board's intention is to provide parents with timely information to help families manage their finances. If you have not seen this document, please check the school website

<http://www.stjopapa.school.nz/Web/106/>

If you have any questions about your account please talk to the friendly ladies in the office or make an appointment to see me.

The 2018 school accounts will be emailed to all primary caregivers by the end of next week.

HOME/SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Home and school partnership has been the cornerstone of the New Zealand Education system for over 25 years. In many instances the success of the school is determined by the support provided by the community. St Joseph's is a good example of this partnership as the school has a long history of providing quality opportunities to our children through the strong support of parents.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

The PTA do a wonderful work for the school. I urge all parents to consider joining the PTA and helping them with their work, raising funds for the school or organising social events. If working on a committee is not your thing, there are plenty of ways you can help out at the school. Information will be sent out shortly about how parents can help make St Joseph's School a great place for children today.

EXTRA CURRICULA

We want education to be an opportunity for children to reach their full potential. The School has organized a range of external organisations and individuals to provide children with access to diverse learning experiences. The school provides the learning space free of charge to ensure children have easy access to these opportunities. As these experiences are additional to the curriculum they are provided outside class time at cost to parents. Details relating to these extracurricular opportunities are available on the school website - <http://www.stjopapa.school.nz/Web/94/>.

Opportunities include: Mandarin, Korean, French, Band and Guitar.

CONGRATULATIONS

Bridie, who recently competed at the Canterbury West Coast Junior Champs in Ashburton, had an amazing meet winning 7 medals in total and is now the Canterbury Champ in the 200 Backstroke and 50m Breaststroke for 10 & Under. She also broke the Canterbury record for the 9 year olds in 50m Backstroke. Congratulations, Bridie.



PTA NEWS

BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ

"The PTA would like to invite all parents – both new & returning – to the **Back To School BBQ Breakfast, tomorrow Friday February, from 8.00—9am**. We'll have **free bacon sandwiches & breakfast sausages** for everyone, big & small. Thanks to the generous support of Northlands

PAK'nSAVE

Plus, there will be a **free coffee cart** on-site too, so you won't miss out on your morning cuppa. Come along & catch up with everyone you haven't seen over the summer holidays; the whole St Joseph's whanau will be there!

FRIDAY LUNCHES

There will be **no PTA lunches tomorrow**. These will resume on Friday 9 February.

AGM

Don't forget the PTA's AGM at 7pm on **Monday 12 February**; new members are more than welcome. Mums and Dads, it's a great way to meet other parents & get more involved in your children's schooling."

PRE SCHOOL MUSIC

St Joseph's Parish center Magnific Monday Music start date for 2018 is the 12th of Feb. Come for a chat and cuppa at 9. 9.30 - 10 Music for all. \$3 per child \$5 per family. Hope to see lots there to keep this great thing going! Phone Nessa on 0273040392

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2018



We warmly invite children from Year 4 and older to join this year's First Holy Communion Sacramental Programme.

Enrolment Forms are now available from St Joseph's School office, St Joseph's Parish office, or the St Joseph's Parish website.

Introduction Evening: Wednesday 7 March 7.00 pm

First Reconciliation: Wednesday 30 May 7.00 pm

First Holy Communion Days: Saturday 9 June 6.00 pm Mass or Sunday 10 June 10.00 am Mass.

For further information please contact Irene Maguire on 027 6229415 or irenemaguire100@live.com

FAITH FACT—Week 1, 29 January to 2 February

Welcome back to the 2018 academic year. Now is a good time for you as members of a Catholic school community to take a look at, and perhaps bookmark, some significant websites. These site may help you with your role as a parent/guardian, and also provide really some useful material for your own personal spiritual formation. Here are some examples to explore... <https://chchcatholic.nz/>, <https://www.catholic.org.nz/>, <https://www.catholicenquiry.org.nz/>, <http://foodforfaith.org.nz/>, <https://www.pray-as-you-go.org/home/>. Check out your local parish website as well.

Bless us, Spirit of Life, during this new school year.

Bless us with

the light of the new dawn

the radiance of the rainbow

the gratitude of thirsty ground in the rain

the steadiness of the mountains

the delight of the morning song of birds

the industry of the insects

the glory and beauty of the flowers

the same awe and wonder of the children that we teach and the resolve of a mountain stream. Amen

In Sympathy

*We offer our deepest sympathy to **Sophie, Hannah and Pippia O'Sullivan** on the death of their step brother during the holidays. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their family at this sad time.*



MARIST ALBION RFC JUNIOR RUGBY

Marist Albion Rugby Club: Online registrations are now open for new and returning junior players. They can be completed online at www.maristalbion.co.nz between February 1-28. All new players must also attend a registration event on Feb 18 (3-5pm) or Feb 26 (5-7pm) at our clubrooms located at 181 Condell Avenue, Papanui. Please bring copies of a passport or birth certificate for age verification. Further membership enquiries can be directed to: Brendon Feary 021 226 4003, Greg Ford 0275 899771 and Steve Kinder 027 271 6671