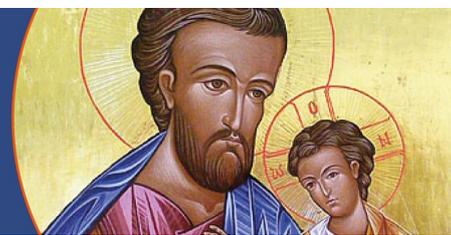




St Joseph's School

TE KURA O HATO HOHEPA PAPANUI

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



NEWSLETTER ~ TERM 2 - No. 2 ~ 11 MAY 2017

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK—Aaron Richards

Cross Country

A huge thanks to the parents and friends of the school who turned out to support the children competing in the cross country. It was wonderful watching all the children trying their best. Not only do we have a number of children who have remarkable running talent but we also have many children who demonstrate grit and determination. I congratulate those children who achieved their personal goals. A special congratulations to the following children who gained a placing in their respective races: **Zack Ryder, Toby Knill, Lucas Claridge, Amelia Kelly, Amarlie Graham, Rosa Baxter, Lachie Walsh, Jacob Robertson, Izack Paku, Lola Romero, Zea Octaviano, Olivia Vivian, Rory Webster, Tom Kreft, Saxon Allen, Emma Corry, Tayla Ryder, Jessica Brosnahan, Lachie Bendall, Lucas Romero, Angus Patrick, Eliza McDonnell, Zara McDonnell, Aimee Octaviano, Harrison Short, Louis Sharp, Callum Knill, Jorja Rennell, Quinn Baker, Gabi Segar, Hamish Meates, Caleb Stevens, Harry Gorman, Isla Martin McKenzie, Johannah Wylaars, Emma John, Finlay Neale, Sam Woodgate, Finn O'Donnell, Mia Gorman, Zoe Blacklow, Jarrah Prentice, Cam Rawlings, Ben Sutcliffe, Brent Entese, Gemma Lysaght, Greer Gillies, Caitlin Andrews.**

The top six from Yr 5-8 will go through to represent the school at the North Zone competition on Wednesday 17 May. These athletes have received a separate letter.

School Supervision

It is important that the school and families work collaboratively to maintain the safety of the children in our community. Parents need to be aware that while some staff may arrive at school early in the morning we cannot guarantee staff will be at school before 8.15am. As a result, we are unable to provide student supervision before 8.15am.

Similarly, after school staff are very busy attending meetings on and off site. We respectfully request parents to pick up their children by 3.15pm each day. We understand that from time to time circumstances may result in some parents being late picking their children up after school. In these circumstances any children remaining outside the school gate after 3.15pm will be asked to relocate to the courtyard in front of the office so that we can ensure the children are safe. If children are not picked up by 3.30pm we will start the process of contacting family members.

No process is perfect so we rely on our community to help out where necessary. If you see a child who looks lost, please stop and help them out.

Modern Learning Environment

Modern Learning Environments (MLE) is a difficult topic to discuss because there is no agreement on what a modern learning environment is. I believe that this is one of the reasons why the label creates a high level of anxiety with parents.

The school is building two new classroom blocks similar to Cremin. These buildings consist of 2 classrooms separated by a kitchen, offices and a multipurpose space. The buildings that are provided by the diocese are very generous in size and space. The design of the buildings reflects the school's teaching philosophy - one teacher working with a class of children.

The school is not considering a move to the open plan environment that is commonly criticised in the media. The buildings we currently have and the new buildings that are being built will not accommodate an open plan teaching style.

However, any suggestion that St Joseph's is an old fashioned school could not be further from the truth. St Joseph's School has always been, and will continue to be, a school that utilizes technology and research to enhance the quality of education that we provide children to ensure that each individual realises their full potential.

The St Joseph's Board and I are committed to providing a quality Catholic education that satisfies the educational aspirations of our parents. Decisions regarding the curriculum that we provide at the school is not determined in isolation from the community. The beliefs and ideas of community play a huge part in designing the teaching and learning programme. I encourage all parents to help the school understand the educational aspirations parents have for their child by attending the community workshop later this term. The feedback you provide will directly influence the learning opportunities that are provided to students at St Joseph's school in the future.

Signing-in and Signing-out of school

Thanks to all the parents and students who are using the new sign-in and sign-out system. This system has enhanced our ability to monitor student's presence at school.

Mufti Day Tomorrow

As per last week's newsletter there will be a mufti/wacky hair day tomorrow to raise money for the children of Edgecumbe. The Young Vinnies will be collecting gold coins, and we thank you for your support.

Congratulations

A huge congratulations to Sarah Manley and Charles, who are celebrating the birth of their first child, George Arthur Whatman (9lbs 1oz). Sarah taught in Ashby 3 last term before taking maternity leave. We extend warm wishes to the happy family.

FAITH FACT ~ 1 May-5 May

Pope Francis breaking ground again! - In a trip to Egypt designed to forge Muslim-Christian brotherhood, Pope Francis stressed the importance of unity in shaping world peace and emphasized the incompatibility of violence and faith. "Let us say once more a firm and clear 'No!' to every form of violence, vengeance and hatred carried out in the name of religion or in the name of God," the Pope said in Italian in a speech at a peace conference at Al-Azhar University, the premier seat of high learning among Sunni Muslims. Let us pray that in imitation of the Merciful Jesus, may we too will give prophetic witness to reconciliation, justice, and peace.

LUNCHES TOMORROW ~ Bacon—\$2

Thank you to our helpers, **Kay Hickey and Pip Wylaars**

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL DANCES

As per last week's newsletter two dances will be held on **Friday 26 May** for our Yr 4 to Yr 8 students.

The School Council will be selling tickets during the week of the dances before school in the Library—Cost \$5.00

PMP PROGRAMME

Thank you to our helpers on next week's roster:

Monday 15 May— **Fraser Lane**
Tuesday 16 May— **Edmonds-Howse Woodnutt**

JROCK

Our JRock performance will be held at the **Homcastle Arena next Friday, the 19th of May**. All students must arrive in the Hall at 8.15am. to ensure that they are on time for the bus. A detailed letter went home with all students involved on Monday. Please read this carefully as it gives you an outline of the day, and it lists what your child needs to bring along with them. If you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mel Walsh via email:

mel.walsh@stjopapa.school.nz

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The final First Holy Communion meeting is this **Wednesday 17th May 7.00 - 8.30 pm at St Gregory's Parish Centre** for both you and your children. It is very important that you attend this meeting. During this evening, we will explain Reconciliation and have a 'practice' of Reconciliation for your children. The last 3 worksheets will be handed out then. We will conclude this meeting with a shared BYO supper. During supper, the parents will complete an evaluation sheet for feedback to the Parish.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLOTHING

If there is anyone who is keen to sell any First Holy Communion dresses, shirts, trousers, shoes or ties please contact Kate Clarkson on 0211242840 or at kate@renascence.co.nz.

ST JOSEPH'S TABLE TENNIS

St Joseph's Parish is happy to announce that Table Tennis is now available to play. Four tables will be set up in St Joseph's School Hall every Sunday from 2pm-5pm. Bats & balls will be provided, and coaching will be offered to those willing to learn the sport. We ask for a gold coin donation to help cover the costs. All members of the Parish and the School Community are welcome to come along and have fun playing this very enjoyable sport. For more details, contact John Ralston on 0212288326.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

We wish all our Mothers a wonderful family time on their special day of celebration this Sunday.

MOTHER'S DAY MASSES 13/14 MAY

We warmly invite ALL mothers to our Masses this weekend to celebrate Mother's Day. There will be a special presentation and blessing offered to each mother during each of our four Masses.

Morning tea will be offered to everyone after the 8.30 and 10.00 am Masses – please feel welcome to join us in the Parish Centre after those Masses.

WELCOMING TEAM AT OUR PARISH MASSES

Greeting people as they arrive at Mass is one way we can make sure everyone is welcomed into our community. We need new members to join our team.

The most important part of the role is to greet people with a friendly smile, hand them a bulletin, and offer any assistance if needed. Each team of three is rostered once every 4 or 5 weeks. More instructions will be given once you are on the Team.

We need more people at all the Mass times over the weekend so if you would like to join the team please sign the clip board in the foyer at St Gregory's or contact Irene Maguire 0276229415 or irenemaguire100@live.com for further information.

St Bede's College
Red & Black Winter Ball
Saturday 27 May 7.00pm - 12.00midnight
St Bede's Gymnasium

- Drink on Entry - Ticket draw for Hamper
- Canapes on Arrival & Supper Provided
- MC for the evening Steve Gurney
- Entertainment by THE AYR STREET BAND
- Live Auction
- Cash/Eftpos Available
- Formal Dress

\$75
Per Person

Contact School Office or Tracy Ahern for Tickets
tracy@ahernconsulting.co.nz
Direct Credit 03 0826 0086760 00 – St Bede's College Parents Ass.
Please use your Name as a Reference

All proceeds go towards purchasing a new school van