

1 February 2018

Dear Parents,

A very happy New Year to you all and a warm welcome back to St. Leo's! We trust you have all had a restful relaxing holiday and are ready for the school year to begin.

The teachers have been working very hard to get ready for their new pupils and we know it is going to be a successful year for learning.

We have five classroom teachers this year and as you will see from the list below we have a number of changes: the new teachers are Mrs Julie Lattimer and Mr Greg MacCarthy Morrogh and I am new as the Acting Principal.

We also welcome the following new and returning students: Anthony Angelo and Isla Kohlberger in St Catherine, Ash Bowden in St Patrick, Tilly Clementson and Seth Webster in St Dominic, Clara Angelo in St Francis and Maria Sandes Branco de Souza and Melody Liu in St Clare.

St. Clare: Year 1: Mrs Adrienne Williams:

I have worked at St Leo's for a number of years. I really enjoy working in the Junior school and love watching my students as they progress through to year 6.

My personal interests are spending time with my family, travel, and staying fit with running and gym training.

I enjoy being a part of the school and church community.

St. Year 1 Miss Lucia Dawbin

This is my third year teaching at St Leo's in the Junior school and I am very excited about the upcoming year. I grew up in Devonport and enjoy going for walks and relaxing at the nearby beaches. I come from a big family and love spending time with my sisters.

St. Dominic Years 3 and 4 Mrs Julie Latimer

I am pleased to be be joining your wonderful school this year. I come to you from Hillsborough Primary School where I have been teaching junior students for the last six years. Prior to that I taught at Sunnynook School, at North New Brighton School in Christchurch and at St Mary's Primary School in Northcote. St Dominic is my new class and I am looking forward to getting to know my new students, their parents and the wider school community.

St. Patrick Year 5 Mrs Fiona Buchanan

As you may be aware Fiona damaged her knee last year. Unfortunately her injury required rehabilitation and no weight bearing. At the moment Fiona is expected to return to school on Monday 19th February. Mrs Dominique Smith, who knows the children very well, has been secured as the classroom teacher until Fiona's return.

Hi all,

What a scorcher Summer. I trust you all had the luxury of spending time with each other as a family over the Summer; swimming, relaxing, eating, discovering new places and generally just hanging out and enjoying being together.

I was fortunate enough to do all of those things and am very grateful for the time spent with my family and friends, creating new memories.

Welcome back everyone to Term 1 2018. We warmly welcome Maureen, Julie and Greg to St Leo's School.

I will see you all in a few weeks.

Aroha

Mrs Buchanan

St. Catherine: Year 6: Mr Greg MacCarthy Morrogh

I am a North Shore lad born and bred. I attended Rosmini College and have previously taught at St Joseph's Takapuna as well as a wide range of schools in Auckland and abroad. I am extremely happy I have now joined the St Leo's family.

Mrs Renee Mossman

This is my 18th year at St Leo's (4th as office administrator). I love my job and being able to help you all out and getting to know the new parents.

I have two grown children, both married. My son and his partner live in Devonport and my daughter and son-in-law and my grandson in the Waikato so once a month I am off down there to spend the weekend. Gardening is a passion of mine and I look forward to running the gardening group again this year and supplying our school community with vegetables

Mr Tima Moata'ane

I'm glad to be back at St. Leo's. In the holidays I worked on the grounds to get them ready for school again. I sent my expensive kids to Grandma in Australia for the holidays. My wife and I are glad school has begun again.

Acting Principal: Mrs Maureen Grimes

I will be in the role of Acting Principal until the Board appoints a new principal for the beginning of Term 2. Last term, I was Acting Principal at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Epsom. I have spent many years in education in New Zealand and in the Middle East and I'm looking forward to meeting the students and parents at St. Leo's.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL IS OPEN ON MONDAY 5TH FEBRUARY.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Emily and Sophie Howcroft who were baptised recently at St. Francis De Sales and All Souls.

Congratulations to past pupil Hank Trenton who has been made Deputy Head Boy at Rosmini.

A few important reminders

- We would like to remind you about hats. These are essential in this hot weather and children without hats will be asked to remain in the shade during outside play times.
- The classrooms are open from 8.30a.m. Please do not drop children off earlier than 8.15 as their safety cannot be guaranteed. Children are not permitted in the classrooms until 8.30 as the teachers need this time to prepare for the day. It is also best that teachers are not in the classroom alone with a student.
- No vehicles are permitted to enter school grounds during school hours. The best
 places to park are on Owens Road or Victoria Road. Please be aware that there is a
 clear way area either side of the driveway on Owens Road that is regularly policed by
 Auckland Transport.
- All children are to be collected promptly after school unless enrolled in an After School Care programme.
- No children are to be in the staff carpark at any time. Parents please walk your children around the admin building to exit the school onto Victoria Road.
- Correct school uniform must be worn to and from school, including footwear.
- Bicycles and scooters are to be walked in and out of the grounds. Children riding bikes to school on a regular basis are encouraged to wear a safety vest. These can be obtained from the office.
- Pupil absences are to be phoned in by 9 a.m. Alternatively you can send in absences via the school app. Messages may be left on the answer phone. The Ministry of education requires us to recognise the reason for the absence so please be specific.
- We would like to remind parents that we have some children who have severe life threatening food allergies. We ask families to assist us to protect these children by avoiding having nuts in school lunches. This includes whole nuts, products containing nuts, nutella and peanut butter. We appreciate this is an inconvenience but ask for your co-operation in this matter. We also ask parents not to bring cakes or sweets to school to share with the class on your child's birthday.

School fees

Your invoice for school fees will be sent early next week.

You may pay the whole amount upfront, by term or by monthly, weekly or fortnightly automatic payments. If you are paying by automatic payment please note that compulsory fees will be paid off first and the non- compulsory ones thereafter. Please see the letter attached to your invoice for explanations of the fees

<u>International Students - Over the next few weeks we will be welcoming 6 International students from China.</u> They will be spread across the classes and we trust that you will make them feel welcome.

<u>Waterwise</u> - The Waterwise programme for Year 6 children will be starting on <u>Thursday</u> <u>15th February</u>. If you have not yet returned your permission form please do so by Monday 111th February.

<u>Sushi</u> - If you would like to do a term order for sushi please note that will be for 10 weeks. The prices have increased slightly to \$4.50 per pack.

Squash - The year 3 - 6 children will be taking part in a 4 week squash programme run at school by Squash Auckland. There will be a \$4 charge for this and this will be included on your Term 1 invoice coming out next week.

Road patrol training - A reminder that the Road Patrol refresher training will be taking place on February 23rd at 9.30am. Any parent that has volunteered for road patrol and has not done the training is encouraged to attend this training.

<u>Parish Sacramental Programme for 2018:</u> The programme of formation for the sacraments of First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion begins with an introductory meeting for parents on Tuesday 20th Feb. 2018, at 7.00pm in the church. The minimum age level is Yr 4 and above. <u>Enrolment forms available at church door or the school office</u>. For further info. ph Stephen 021 0608561

<u>Lewis Eady Music</u> - Term one music lessons at school start on Wednesday 7 Feb!

We offer group and individual lessons on keyboard, guitar, ukulele and piano.

If you would like your child to learn music at school but have **not yet enrolled**, please enrol online at <u>www.lewiseady.co.nz</u> New enrolments will be scheduled for a mid-term start – the week commencing 8 March.

Community Notices

1st Devonport Scouting Group – enrolments now for Keas and Cubs

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Keas: school year one, (age 5 ½ to 8 years old).

Kea sessions are Monday 4.30pm to 5.30pm or Wednesday 4.00pm to 5.00pm *Cubs school year Three (7 ½ to 11 years old).*

Cub sessions are Monday 6.00pm to 7.30pm or Wednesday 5.30pm to 7.00pm All our Leaders are; fully trained, police vetted, dedicated volunteers.

Register now for <u>3 trial</u> visits <u>devonport.scouts@gmail.com</u>



Fun Languages offers an opportunity for children to learn Spanish with our native speaker Marianella. The main focus is on spoken Spanish, the children taking part in fun games and activities with emphasis on immersion.

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For more details take a look at the content of our lessons

https://lcfclubs.co.nz/spanish-for-kids/

Options: Morning time 60 mins \$20.00 Lunch time 45 mins \$15.00 After school 60 mins \$20.00

Please register your interest with school and/or contact me for further details. mary@lcfclubs.co.nz Small groups (minimum of 6/10)



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"The Devonport JETS run accumulator series commences on Jan 31st and continues until March 28th with series prizes and a choice of 3km or 5km routes along the Devonport waterfront. Registration is from 5.45pm every Weds for a 6pm start from the Torpedo Bay Navy Museum. Entry fees are \$6A/ \$5C including a post-race drink and weekly place getter & spot prizes. Further info from paulcornish@xtra.co.nz or 0274 379 423".

"Do you know someone who may benefit from attending a FREE and professionally run day time course for employment preparation and readiness?

Hearts and Minds are running a group starting 19/2 to 26/3 every Monday from 10-noon. Work preparation skills such as cv and

cover letters, the interview and much more, as well as learning skills to lift self esteem and confidence.

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OUR COMMUNITY CONTACTS



Your local Devonport property people.

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If you want to be one of the community contacts, please contact Newsletters Unlimited, Ph/Fax: 09 817 3867, or Email: newsletters@xtra.co.nz