



29 November 2018

Dear Parents,

Tomorrow we will be blessing our class Advent wreaths at assembly. The Advent wreath is a great symbol in the lead up to Christmas as it reminds the children what the real reason is for the celebration. If you would like to use the wreath symbol in your home, you may find this link useful as it explains what each of the symbols of the wreath mean from a Catholic perspective.



<https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/the-advent-wreath-tradition-meaning/>

We have a very busy couple of weeks to finish off the term. Please take note of the times as some are different from previous years....

Nativity Play



This year the Nativity play will be held on the stage in the **Hall, not the church.**

The start time is **2pm on Friday 7 December.**

The play is put on by the Junior team with the rest of the school helping with the singing.

Everyone is welcome to join us on this special occasion.

Choir Performance

The choir will hold a performance of the songs they have learnt this year under the tutelage of Dominic Blazaar.

This will be held in the hall at **11.30am on Wednesday 5 December.**



Leavers Dinner



The leavers dinner will be held on **Wednesday 12 December** in the school hall. The Year 5 parents will be decorating the hall to make it special for the leavers and we have a catered dinner and other little surprises to make it a special night for our Year 6 leavers.



Leavers Mass

It is a momentous occasion for our leavers and often a sad, but exciting time for them. We will be having a special Mass for them on the last day of school. Mass begins at **9.30am on Friday 14 December**. All families are welcome to join us whether your children are leavers or not. This will be followed by a shared morning tea, hopefully under the trees if the weather is fine. We ask that each family bring a **small** plate of food that can be shared by everyone.

Wine and Cheese evening

Thank you to all the people who attended the wine and cheese evening last night. There were some great conversations and ideas to take forward into our strategic and annual plan for next year and into the future. The Board and I really appreciate the input and support for our lovely wee school.

Scooter Safety training

This will take place tomorrow with Constable Fenton. Make sure you bring along scooter and helmet for the day. The scooters can be left near the bike rack at the back of the hall. It would be a good idea to put your child's name on their scooter.



St Patrick, St Francis and St Clare Buddy Mass

This will take place tomorrow at 12 noon. You are welcome to join them.

School Trips

Next Tuesday 4 December, St Catherine will be going to Rainbows End and the rest of the school will be going to the Maritime Museum and Ports of Auckland. A great way to finish the year off!

Classes for 2019

St Catherine - Year 6 taught by Mr Greg MacCarthy Morrogh

St Patrick - Year 4/5 taught by Mr Stephen Rae

St Francis - Year 3/4 taught by Miss Lucia Dawbin

St Dominic - Year 2 taught by Mrs Julie Lattimer

St Clare - Year 1 taught by Mrs Adrienne Williams

We are very lucky to have kept a stable staff for 2019. There have been a couple of changes of levels by teachers and a change to the composition of some of the classes. The Board have decided to fund Stephen's position again next year in the hope that we will be able to grow the roll in the future.



Sausage Sizzle - cancelled!

Please note that the PTFA will **not** be running a sausage sizzle tomorrow.

Kind wishes

Maureen Harris

Principal

Winter uniforms for sale

Several winter uniforms of varying sizes for sale. See Kate Costello if interested.

Celebration Book

Congratulations to the following children:

St Leo's Celtic Basketball team came third in the North Harbour competition. Well done team

St Leo's Legend Basketball team are playing off in the final this evening. Good luck team.
Honor Hansen for Highland Dancing 1 x commended, 2 x highly commended and 1 x very highly commended

Juliette Goosen for gymnast of the week

The touch rugby team won 6-4 against Vauxhall School

Parker Weekes - player of the day in Touch Rugby

Celebrating Past Pupils

Congratulations to the following ex-pupils who all received awards at Carmel College Junior Prizegiving:

Kate Bell-Booth

Honor Braid

Mary Byrne

Sophie Choi

Sophie Dunlop

Phoebe-Rose Firkin

Isla Gillies

Aurelia Hanlon-Wake

Kasey Isidro

Charlotte Lampen-Smith

Francesca Lockyer

Madison Lockyer

Lily McGivern

Amy Psaila

Diana Umanzor

Amy Usherwood

Millie Wescott

Freya Williamson

Important Notices

Photolife Shoot Keys

These were sent home with your children a couple of weeks ago. Follow the instructions to go online and order your photos. **Please note free delivery ends on 2 December.**

Preserves

There are still some preserves left over from the fair. There are various jams, marmalade, pickles, tomato sauce, lime cordial, pickled onions and apple jelly. Make a donation towards the final fair total. See Renee if you would like some.

Library Books

All library books need to be returned by 30 November ready for stocktake. Please check to see if you have any school library books at home.

Santa Parade

Thank you to those children that are participating in this year's Santa Parade. If you need a costume please help yourself from the boxes in Renee's office (please note these will need to be returned next week as they are needed for the Nativity play). Please look for the St Leo's banner by New World. We are asked to be there by 10am. Under the new health and safety regulations each group must have at least 3 adults with the children so please consider walking with us. Please note that the parade will go ahead rain or shine.

Important dates this term

4 December	St Catherine to Rainbow's End
4 December	Rest of the school on trip to Maritime museum and Ports of Auckland
5 December	Peninsula Athletics 11.30am Choir Performing in the hall
6 December	Year 6 Positive Puberty Talks Year 5 Waterwise Testing and Picnic Lunch BOT Meeting
7 December	Assembly Nativity play Peninsula Athletics Save Day
10 December	Refresher Training Road Patrol
12 December	Leavers dinner
14 December	Graduation Mass at 9.30am 11.30am Short assembly School finishes midday Reports going home today

Water Polo at Belmont Intermediate School in 2019

Is your child coming to Belmont Intermediate School in 2019 and interested in playing water polo? The season starts at the very beginning of term one and it would be great to ascertain how much interest we will have from new year 7 students. If you would like to register your child's interest please email: sports@belmontint.school.nz with your child's name and the fact they are interested in playing water polo. More information will be available to students in week one of term one. There is also a pre-season camp being run by North Harbour Water Polo from 29 January to 1 February which is great for students wanting to play in year 7. Contact admin@northharbourwaterpolo.co.nz for more information.

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Community Notices



SUNDAY 2 DEC 10-3

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PRE-XMAS & JAN TENNIS HOLIDAY PROGRAM, 2018: NGATARINGA TENNIS CLUB

Join us for the ever-popular pre-Xmas and January Holiday Programs, running Dec 17th-21st AND Jan 21st - 25th. **Open to all ages, all equipment provided.** On rain or shine, with the Junior Clubhouse for indoor activities! Casual days or full week; email Rixt at admin@tennisplus.co.nz to book your kids' preferred spot(s).



Hi my name is Mary Laurence and I'm a teacher at Vauxhall School. I will be running a very exciting summer holiday programme suitable for all ages during January.

Over the 2 day workshop the kids will put together plays based on their own imaginative ideas. The performances will take place for you at 3.00 on the Friday. They will also take part in lots of FUN party games, energisers, circle time and art & craft to take home. We'll have access to the shallow, heated outdoor pool to cool off, so bring togs and permission and scooters if you have them! Please see poster for more details.

North Shore Youth Music is a community organisation which runs a variety of orchestras and choirs for young people. Applications are now being accepted for 2019, and auditions will be held on Wednesday 5th, and 19th December. See www.nsym.org.nz for an application form.

Orchestras

Stringalongs (5 - 8yrs), Junior Orchestra (9 - 13yrs), Youth Orchestra (14+yrs)

Choirs

Songsters (5 - 8yrs), Children's Choir (9 - 13yrs), Con Brio Choir (10 - 16yrs), Youth Choir (14+yrs)



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OUR COMMUNITY CONTACTS



Your local Devonport property people.

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Ian Cunliffe Carol Wetzell Cathy Fiebig


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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