



St Leo's Catholic School, Devonport

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Term 1 Week 1

February 3, 2016

*The Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, **February 2**, which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus and is also known as*

Candlemas day, since the blessing and procession of candles is included in the liturgy.

Prayer

Almighty ever-living God, we humbly implore your majesty that, just as your Only Begotten Son was presented on this day in the Temple in the substance of our flesh, so, by your grace, we may be presented to you with minds made pure. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen

Principal's Piece

Dear Parents,

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou,

He aha te mea nui o te ao He tangata, he tangata, he tangata

What is the most important thing in the world?

It is the people, it is the people, it is the people.

This whakatauki is especially significant as we begin our new 2017 school year.

Welcome back to all our students and their families. It is so lovely to see our students refreshed and enthused for an exciting year of learning. The students are settling well and are ready to embrace another year of learning. The school calendar is full of engaging, purposeful learning that will ensure our students thrive and strive to meet their potential.

On Wednesday we said our farewells to Father John and thanked him for all his work within the school. We also look forward to building a new relationship with Father Larry. Father Larry will be welcomed to our community this weekend at the 9.00am Mass. I encourage all our students and their families to come along.

We warmly welcome to our school community the following students John-Wayne Claassen and Sophie Howcroft to St Clare's, Mikayla Vellekoop to St Francis and Emily Howcroft to St Dominic's classroom. We also welcome Mr John Smallfield to our teaching staff.

We wish them all and their families a long and happy association with St Leo's."

This year we are trying to streamline our communication with our parents. We would like all parents to sign up for the newsletter via the website. <http://www.stleos.school.nz/newsletter.html> This is a very quick and simple process. This will replace the office emailing parents the newsletter. The alternative is to use the school app to receive all the communication from school. If you are not signed up for this app, please pop in and see us and we will get you connected.

Today all the students will have come home with a comprehensive Team newsletter that outlines the learning and expectations for the term. These will also be available on the website and school app.

God Bless,
Elizabeth Walker, Principal

Casual Vacancy on Board of Trustees

A casual vacancy has occurred on the Board of Trustees for an elected parent representative. The board has resolved under section 105 of the Education Act 1989 to fill the vacancy by selection.

If 10 percent or more of the eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held. Any eligible voter who wishes to ask the board to hold a by-election should write to:

Chairperson
Board of Trustees
St Leo's Catholic School
P O Box 32-064
Devonport 0744
by 3 March 2017

Mercy Value - Focus



St Leo's Charism

Central to our Catholic Character is the "Mercy Charism" created by the Mercy Sisters who established the school in 1893. We seek to instill these values in our students and actively uphold them in the everyday life of the school.

The Core Mercy Values are:

Tika - Justice

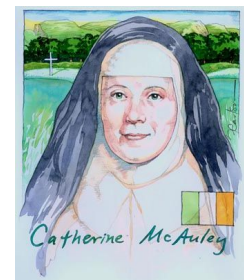
Te Tapu o Te Tangata - Respect

Manaakitanga - Hospitality

Rato - Service

Aroha - Compassion

Panekiritanga - Excellence



Maori Focus Phrase:

Tēnā koutou katoa, nau mai haere mai Hello everyone, welcome back !

Important Messages

Some Safety Reminders

- The classrooms are open from 8.30a.m. Please do not drop children off earlier than 8.15 as their safety cannot be guaranteed.
- 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.
- Girls need hair ties in the school colours or the hair ties available at the school office for purchase. Hair should be tied up nicely if required. Plain studs for earrings.
- The school sun hat is to be worn by children wishing to play in the sun this term.

No Hat No Play!

- Bicycles and scooters are to be walked in and out of the grounds.
- 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.

If you are able to pay for the one off items such as Mathletics, swimming, Hapara, PAT test marking fee and STEPS (spelling programme) straight away that would be helpful as these are costs that the school has to pay at the beginning of the year.

Mathletics is a computer based maths programme used at school and at home

Swimming is for the use of the Devonport School pool.

Hapara is an instructional management tool that is used to support the organisation, management and monitor learning with the support of technology.

PAT tests are administered to the Year 3 - 6 children.

STEPS is a computer based spelling children that all classes except St Clare will be using this year.

If you are experiencing any difficulty paying your fees please see Mrs Walker.

Waterwise

The Waterwise programme for Year 6 children will be starting on **Thursday 9th February**. If you have not yet returned your permission form please do so by Tuesday 9 February.

Mass and Assembly Times 2017

- Prayer Reflection every Monday morning at 9.00am. This will also include a brief reflection on our Mercy Value for the term. Parents are most welcome to attend.
- School Masses Tuesday morning at 9.00am. We will aim to have a full school Mass once a term and classes will then be rostered to attend at other times during the term.
- Ash Wednesday Mass at 12.00pm as a whole school on **Wednesday 1 March**. Please come and join us.
- Assembly: Will take place once a fortnight on Friday at 2.15. The first assembly will be on **Friday 10 February**. This is an opportunity for students to be recognised for their achievements. Classes will also take turns to share their wonderful learning. Parents are most welcome to join us for these events.

Parish Sacramental Programme for 2017: The programme of formation for the sacraments of **First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion** begins with an introductory meeting for parents on Tuesday 28th Feb., at 7.00pm. Instruction classes for the candidates begin at 8.00am on Sunday 5th March 2017. The minimum age level is Yr 4 and above. Enrolment forms available from the school office, at church door, or the parish website - www.devonportcatholic.org.nz For further info. ph Stephen Bell 021 0608561

Lunch Orders

Sushi and Ezlunch orders are available again this year. For sushi pick up an envelope from the office and drop it back before 9.30am Tuesday for lunch on Wednesday. If you are doing a term order there are 10 weeks for the rest of this term.

Ezlunch orders are done online at <http://www.ezlunch.co.nz/>

Scholastic Book Orders

Brochures will be coming home early next week. Please note that orders are now done online by you and the orders are delivered to the school for distribution. Please do not bring your order form into the office.

Shore to Shore

This year the Shore to Shore is being held on Sunday 9th April. Registrations are open now at <https://shoretoshore17.eventdesq.com/>

The Shore to Shore is a 5.9km fun run and walk from Takapuna Grammar to Milford Reserve in Auckland. The course goes along Lake Road, Takapuna Beach, Hurstmere Road and Milford Beach.

You are encouraged to have fun and dress up for the run /walk. There will be spot prizes, competitions and entertainment at the finish line - so bring the whole family.

This event North Harbour's largest annual fun run/walk and helps the community to support their local schools. All proceeds go back to participating schools, in the form of sports equipment grants.

Lewis Eady Music Lessons

Term one music lessons at school are now underway!

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 www.lewiseady.co.nz *New enrolments will be scheduled for a mid-term start – the week commencing 13 March.*

Violin lessons

Lessons are during school time here at the school and can be either group (max of 3) or individual. For further information or to enrol contact Hilary on hilsphillips@btopenworld.com or 021 235 7056.

Calendar of Events Term 1

To see what is happening this term please follow this link:

<http://www.stleos.school.nz/community-calendar.html> or alternatively use the school app.

Community Notices

Soulsprite Kids, Teens and Adult Fitness and Cooking Classes in Devonport Village.
What's so great about these classes? – come try a free class and find out! Check out our website; www.soulsprite.co.nz

YOGI KIDS - CREATIVE KIDS YOGA

WEDNESDAYS at ARTSPACE from 15th FEB, Kerr St. Devonport **4-6yrs** 3.45pm **7-10yrs** 4.45pm

10-13yrs - YOGA FLOW 6.15pm. Exceptional classes! **Info & bookings for Term 1** /trial class:

www.YOGIKIDS.co.nz 021 229 0197

BELMONT MUSIC SCHOOL- Enrolments now open for February 2017! Ages 6-12, affordable classes, instrument hire and performance groups. Enrolments online preferred, please visit us on www.belmontmusic.org.nz or email us at info@belmontmusic.org.nz