



St Leo's Catholic School, Devonport

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Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day 11 February

Oh ever immaculate Virgin, Mother of Mercy, Health of the Sick, Refuge of Sinners, Comforter of the Afflicted, you know my wants, my troubles, my sufferings. Look upon me with mercy. When you appeared in the grotto of Lourdes, you made it a privileged sanctuary where you dispense your favors, and where many sufferers have obtained the cure of their infirmities, both spiritual and corporal.

I come, therefore, with unbounded confidence to implore your maternal intercession. My loving Mother, obtain my request. I will try to imitate your virtues so that I may one day share your company and bless you in eternity. Amen.



Mercy Value - Focus

He atawhai.....ta matou kaupapa matua Mercy....the business of our lives



*Mercy today invites
our shared wisdom and vision,
the uniqueness of our individual journeys,
the paths that flow beneath our varied meanderings,
the unique spiritualities that guide our ways.*

*Mercy calls us to be, in hope,
a compassionate presence of God
in the reality of this time,
this place, this earth, this universe.*

Catherine Mc Auley

*in body as well as spirit.
the world less cold and more just.*

Pope Francis

Term 1 Week 3

February 16, 2017

Principal's Piece

Dear Parents,
Nga mihi nui ki a koutou,

We have had a great start to the year; and listening to both the students and teachers it seems the learning conversations held on the first day of school have been a valuable tool to help develop those important relationships that support learning. This year we are focussing on the importance of really getting to know each of our students as individual people and as learners. Current research supports this notion.

At St. Leo's we strive to build on our Catholic tradition and Mercy Values in all that we do. Each of us has individual gifts and talents, which when shared with our school community, enable our school's effectiveness to be enhanced.

We look forward to working with parents, whanau and the community to continue to develop the strong partnership that epitomises our very special little Catholic school.

Over the year we will also be revisiting our school vision. We will unpack what this means for all learners in our school, both students and teachers.

We have looked at our National Standards data, familiarised ourselves with our strategic and annual plans and discussed the targets we have set for our school in line with Ministry of Education requirements for all New Zealand Schools.

Next week the teachers from Year 3 to Year 6 will be assessing the students in their classrooms to update our data for tracking student progress. Unless sick, it is important that your children are at school for these assessments. Please check with your child's teacher before making out of school appointments for your child.

Congratulations to the Gutierrez family on the birth of their son Leo. We warmly welcome Leo to our community.

We have been fortunate to once again have the services of Whaea Lani to support our te reo and lead the kapa haka for our students. This will mean that we will have to change the structure of the day for Fridays.

The day will be:

- **Assembly will now be 9.00am from Friday 24 February-** *(please note the change of time for assembly)*
- Morning tea 10.30 - 10.50
- Lunch 12.15 - 1.00

God Bless,
Elizabeth Walker, Principal

Maori Focus Phrase: Tēnā rāwā atu koe Thank you

Important Messages

Newsletters

We are always trying to streamline our processes to make life easier for everyone. We would like parents who currently receive their newsletter via email to sign up for this via our website. <http://www.stleos.school.nz/> Go to **What's On** and scroll down to the **Newsletter** link. From there you simply need to enter your email address to register. This will be the way you will receive your newsletter this year.

Great Kiwi Science, English and Mathematics Competitions 2017- *Please note we will be taking part in this competition in place of ICAS*

The competitions are open to our Year 5 & 6 students. A separate notice has been sent home. This year the University of Canterbury is delighted to launch the great Kiwi English, Mathematics and Science competitions for primary, intermediate and secondary schools. The Kiwi competitions are written by New Zealand teachers for New Zealand students and are based on the New Zealand curriculum. The online competitions will be run in the last 2 weeks of Term 2. All participating students will be awarded a certificate and prizes will be awarded to top students in each year group. The cost for a student to participate is \$8.50 per competition entered.

Accounts

Fees accounts were sent out last week. Please note that these are for the year and may be paid all at once, termly, fortnightly or however you want. They may be paid by cash, cheque or automatic payment. Attendance Dues are compulsory and must be paid for each term.

ASB Banking

Is still available. Put your deposit envelope in Kashin. This is cleared and banked weekly. For further details on how to take part in this see Renee.

Bicycles and Scooters

If you would like your child to ride a bike to school without parental supervision you should advise the office in writing. It is the parent's' responsibility to ensure that their child is aware of the safety requirements of using the road and footpaths. It is important that the correct safety gear is worn. For those children who cycle to school on a regular basis, a yellow vest is available at the school office, free of charge. All bikes, scooters etc. must be walked inside school grounds between 8.30am and 3.30pm. Bikes and scooters are brought to school at the owner's risk and must be stored in the racks provided.

Cricket

Free Cricket Fun every Tuesday morning from 8am

Want to come and learn all about cricket? Plus learn some cricket skills and play in an exciting match? Boys and girls any year all welcome. Come and join the fun at St Leo's playing field every Tuesday morning.

Bruce Warner used to be Head Coach at North Shore Cricket Club and will be running the sessions every Tuesday during Term 1.

Homestay

We are looking for a family who would be willing to be a homestay family for a Chinese family of Mum and twin 8 year old girls from July 31st to August 25th. The children will be attending St Leo's during this time. If you are able to help please contact Renee or Liz.

Medications

Please note that for safety reasons children should not be holding medication in their school bags. This includes asthma inhalers. These should be clearly labelled and handed into the office. This also means that your child's medication will be taken when their class is off site in case it is needed.

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 in the church. 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

Playgroup

A reminder that we have a play group that meets weekly on a Wednesday from 9am - 11am in the hall. This is for parents and children to meet and get to know other St Leo's families. A \$2 donation at the door helps cover the cost of tea and coffee for the parents and resources for the children. Any queries contact Denise Sweedman on denisesweedman@gmail.com or 021 197 7588

Uniform

Could all parents please check their child's PE uniform and jackets to ensure they have the correct ones. There are a couple of named jackets missing already this year.

Vetting forms

Under the Vulnerable Children's Act all parents that help with school trips, parent help in classroom, sport etc need to be police vetted. If you think you are likely to help out in any of these areas this year could you please collect a form from the office so that we can get this under way as it takes about two weeks to process an application.

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 please contact Hilary on hilsphillips@btopenworld.com or 021 235 7056.

Yummy stickers

Keep collecting the Yummy stickers off your fruit (not just apples, check your other fruit as well). Charts are available from the office. Once your chart is full return it to the office and get another one. Later in the year these are tallied up and sent off and we are awarded money to the value of our stickers to buy sports gear.

Dance Classes

"Made to Move Dance school sessions: Year 1-2 & Year 3-4 classes. Fun class where kids learn a variety of dance styles and have the opportunity to perform. Classes run term time. Contact chloe@madetomovedance.com for more info or visit www.madetomovedance.com to enrol "

Shore to Shore

Sunday 9th April. 5km run/walk from Takapuna Grammar to Milford Beach. Sign up now to support our school. Don't forget to nominate our school when you sign up. Shore to Shore <https://shoretoshore17.eventdesq.com/org>

School Awards

Principal Awards	Spirit Awards
John-Wayne Claassen Mikayla Vellekoop Christian Haggitt Ben Dunlop Lily McGivern	Alice Gillies Rosemary Dobbs Samuel Law

Congratulations to Jessie Wescott - Principal's Writing Award

PTFA News

You are invited to attend the first PTFA meeting of 2017... **Wednesday 22 February, 7.30-9pm in St Clare's classroom.**

With only a handful of current members continuing in 2017 and the rest stepping down due to work or BOT commitments, we are seeking new PTFA members.

The PTFA raises essential funds for the school and without the work put in by PTFA members over the years, our kids would not be enjoying the many resources now available. PTFA events also help to flourish relationships not only with the children but within the school community.

We are a small school and PTFA members don't need to commit a huge amount of time - even a small amount of help is greatly appreciated.

Our continuing members are experienced in finances, sponsorship, fair logistics and coordinating key events. We are looking for....

A new Secretary, to prepare agendas and take minutes at our monthly meetings, to start ASAP.

Five class representatives, to communicate between the PTFA and parents and help run sausage sizzles and other ongoing events.

A few more people to help grow our committee up to a minimum of 12 members. Our aim is to have two volunteers from each school year. Wouldn't it be awesome if each St Leo's family joined the PTFA for at least one year of their time at our school? Is 2017 your year?

Please join us at our first meeting to find out what we are planning for 2017 and how you can get involved. Nibbles and drinks will be offered to kick off our first meeting. For catering purposes please RSVP to charlotte.goosen@gmail.com.

Thanks and we look forward to another fantastic year at our lovely school!

Calendar of Events Term 1

Please check the calendar on the school website <http://www.stleos.school.nz/> or alternatively the school app.

Community Notices

For sale:

P.E kit – top 28” chest, shorts 25” waist – both 9-10 years, 2 x girls summer dresses, both size 67 (ages 8-10), 1 winter dress, size 67 (age 8-10), 1 blue fleece zip-up top – age 6 (but would fit up to a 8/9 year old I think!) Please contact Claire 027 324 6745

Fundraising Manager - refurbishment of St Francis de Sales and All Souls parish and school hall

The parish and school are committed to completing the refurbishment of the hall ready for celebrating 125th anniversary of St Leo's school late 2018. This has created the opportunity to appoint a person to lead the fundraising effort. The position will be paid part-time estimated to be 8 hours per week.

The skills for the role include:

- project manage the fundraising programme to raise money for refurbishment of the hall
- lead a team of volunteers to deliver a number of events and fundraising initiatives
- recruit, inspire and steward volunteers and donors
- implement a peer to peer fundraising platform like Give a Little to grow revenue
- communicate with stakeholders such as the Pastoral Parish Council, Property & Finance Committee and St Leo's Board.

Please direct enquiries with Resume (CV) to Liz McMaster elisabethmcmaster@gmail.com

Optimist yacht - Free to a good home for family wanting to get into sailing - Fully operational but in need of a bit of TLC, we have outgrown our little "Kiwi" .

Formerly owned by Russell Coutts and sailed by several St Leos families over the years. Please contact Cushla 021 473 469.

Fast response to fires

If you wish to support the families and individuals impacted by the recent fires in the South Island, you can donate to The Catholic Caring Foundation online www.caringfoundation.org.nz, (please write FIRE in comments section) by phone (09) 360 3045, by post to Catholic Caring Foundation Fire Appeal, Private Bay 47904, Auckland 1144 or by direct banking to 02-0100-0242648-00 with your name as reference and FIRE as code. All donations receipted.

YOGI KIDS - CREATIVE KIDS YOGA

WEDNESDAYS at ARTSPACE, Kerr St. Devonport **4-6yrs** 3.45pm **7-10yrs** 4.45pm **10-13yrs - YOGA FLOW** 6.15pm. Exceptional classes! **Info & bookings**, also for trial class: www.YOGIKIDS.co.nz 021 229 0197

The Devonport JETS Run continues every Weds evening until 29th March with registration from 5.45pm at the Torpedo Bay Navy Museum (end of King Edward Parade) for a 6pm start. Features 3km & 5km scenic routes, entry fee \$6A/ \$4C with a free electrolyte drink and heaps of prizes. More info from jetsrun@xtra.co.nz or 0274 379 423



Made to Move Dance

FREE IN FEBRUARY!
NEW STUDENTS CAN TRIAL ANY CLASSES FOR FREE FOR ALL OF FEBRUARY.
OFFERING BALLET / JAZZ / HIP HOP / TAP / CONTEMPORARY
/ MINI MOVERS / PRESCHOOL CLASSES / ADULTS
STRICTLY LIMITED SPACES.
BOOK YOUR SPOT NOW BEFORE THEY'RE GONE!

made to move
DANCE | WWW.MADETOMOVEDANCE.COM
| CHLOE@MADETOMOVEDANCE.COM

Girls Rippa Rugby Free Skills Day – Have a Go!!

This Saturday 18th Feb at Marist Club grounds Stadium Drive, Albany from 11-1pm (For all girls' ages 5-13yrs)

Register online at <http://www.maristnh.co.nz> or come in and see us on these dates below.

Marist Jnr Rugby Club registration days

Thursday 16th February 4.00pm to 7.30pm

Friday 24th February 4.00pm to 7.30pm

Saturday 25th February 10.00am to 2.00pm

For more Info contact

juniorcaptain@maristnh.com or Ken on 021 774144

ASB - If you're a parent, staff member or a member of the school community and draw down a new ASB home loan of \$250,000 or more, ASB will donate \$500 to your chosen participating school. Mention this school donation offer to your ASB banker when you apply for a new ASB home loan. The supporting success in your school promotion is only available when you apply for a new home loan through an ASB branch, Mobile Lending Manager or by calling us on 0800 100 600.

Your new home loan application must be received, approved and then documented in a facility agreement, along with the completed school voucher, before the 30 June 2017. This home loan offer is only available on loans secured by an owner-occupied residential property provided to ASB, with a minimum of 20% equity. Once your home loan is fully drawn down, ASB will donate \$500 to your chosen participating school. Download and complete the school voucher to participate in the supporting success in your school promotion.

Terms and conditions apply, see voucher. Promotion ends 30 June 2017.

North Shore United Football Club would like to invite all prospective players, **Boys & Girls ages 5 - 17**, to attend a trial for the 2017 season. New season commences on April 1st.

Junior and Youth registrations are now open online, please refer to the NSUAFC website www.nsu.org.nz for more information, trial dates and times.

Come along to our **Muster Day on Sunday 26th February** from 2pm-5pm at Allen Hill Stadium. Bring the kids for a fun afternoon, there will be an opportunity to purchase kit, watch some football, join in some games, and generally find out more about the club. Contact Fiona: office@nsu.org.nz for more information.

Thank you to the businesses below for supporting St Leo's Catholic School.

