

# News From St Patrick's Catholic School



**Faithful, Responsible, Life-Long Learners**  
**Te Kura Katorika o Hato Patariki**

**9 February 2017**

Newsletter No. 17-02

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MESSAGE BOARD		WEEKLY REFLECTION
<b>Week 2</b> Fri 10	Picnic Evening 5.30-7.30pm	<p>The scriptures tell us of many different leaders in the history of Israel and in the early Church. Some of these people seem to have been born with great leadership qualities (Saul, Joshua, Samson in the Old Testament, and Paul in the New). There are also plenty of examples of those who were not obvious leaders, and who seemed to emerge out of nowhere to take on an important leadership role and meet a need in the faith community of the time (Moses, David, Jeremiah in the Old Testament and the apostles in the New Testament). For all of these people, their leadership was seen as a gift from God. This gift was made known to them in a call to serve a particular function or perform a specific task on God's behalf, and was confirmed by a heightened sense of God's presence with them as they performed their role.</p> <p><a href="http://www.catholicireland.net">http://www.catholicireland.net</a></p>
<b>Week 3</b> Mon 13	Swimming	
Tue 14	Swimming BOT 6.30pm	
Wed 15	Swimming	
	Parent/Whanau information evening	

Kia Ora everyone

Our powhiri went off really well on Wednesday last week and it was truly special to welcome our new students and new families to our school. We hope you enjoy your time with us. It's wonderful to have new friends join our St Pat's family.

We have had a busy two weeks at school getting routines and work procedures set for 2017.

Great to have the sausage ladies hard at work again, cooking our Friday sausages!

The staff have discussed house colours for our three houses and have come up with white for Trinity, orange for Sacred Heart and purple for Holy Cross. So now when we have school house events, the children can dress in their house colours. On St Patrick's Day, of course, everyone will dress in green.

Swimming has got off to a good start. Children have been grouped and are now learning and practicing water skills. It's good to see all the children remembering their togs – thanks parents!

## INTRODUCING OUR STUDENT LEADERS FOR 2017



Today was our beginning of year Commissioning Mass. It was very prayerful and uplifting. Our leaders were blessed and presented with their badges. We know they will be awesome leaders, being good role models to the other students and for our school. Well done Year 8s:

HOUSE LEADERS: HOLY CROSS – Chloe Porter, Tammy-Lee Taylor

SACRED HEART – Kataraina Hepi, Anna Seby

TRINITY – Shaquan Aramoana-Te Moananui, Zola Thomas

SPORTS LEADERS – Rilee Austin, Renaysha Naidoo, Liam Perez

Tomorrow night, Friday 10 February, is our family picnic and fun evening, beginning at 5.30pm at our school and finishing at 7.30pm. Please come along, relax with friends, join in the fun and watch the children having a great time together.

Thanks so much for the support you give to your children, other children and to our school in general.

God Bless

Margaret Leatuafi, Acting Principal

## ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY PICNIC TOMORROW 5.30pm-7.30pm (FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY)

We are going to have a school picnic for all whanau, staff and students on Friday 10 February, here at school. We'll have a slippery slide and children can bring their scooters. This is an informal occasion which we hope will be a chance to mingle and get to know each other. Bring a picnic for your family, rugs and chairs, and we will all eat together. The picnic will run from 5.30pm until 7.30pm.



### PLAYDOUGH FUN

What do you do when you run out of playdough? Make some yourselves of course! Thanks to Louis, Charlotte and Jayden for rising to the challenge.



**SAUSAGE SIZZLE TOMORROW - \$2 FOR SAUSAGE, SAUCE AND BREAD – PLEASE PAY YOUR TEACHER**

## Our Rooms – What's Happening?

St Mary MacKillop  
Y1 Mrs Leatuafi

This week we have been swimming at the high school pool. I can go under the water and blow bubbles. I can do a starfish and I like being in the water. I jumped off the side into the pool. It was fun. By Sonny Hepi.

St Lawrence Y2/3  
Mrs Moore Whaea  
Theona

We have been doing our waka. We are drawing ourselves on a piece of paper and then sticking all the pictures of the people onto a very long paper where we painted an enormous waka – the size of the school! It will fit everyone in the whole school and it is going to go in the hallway for our families to look at. Whaea Theona brought in a book with a song that we can all sing called Row Row Row the Waka. By Zoe Ng and Arnie Wannasut.

St Margaret Mary  
Yr4/5/6/7/8  
Whaea Liz  
Ms Stevens

We did lots of activities – comprehension cards, wink murder, painting and scribe time. The Year 8s met as a student council to discuss ways our classroom and the school in general could improve. Some of us went to the powhiri at Taumarunui High School for the new Year 9s starting there. We went to support our friends from last year. We were given our leadership badges in church. By Zola Thomas, Anna Seby and Renaysha Naidoo.

### THE WALKING BUS

We offer a walking bus service for children needing to get into town after school. A teacher escorts them down the zig-zag path and watches them through the subway. If you wish your child to take the walking bus, please let us know. All children on the walking bus **MUST** walk with the teacher (not run ahead) and **MUST** wear full school uniform until they have reached their destination.

## **SPECIAL CHARACTER**

### **STAGES OF FAITH OF THE PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILD**



#### **FAITH**

Catholics commonly use the word faith in two ways:

- The faith in which people believe, in this case the Catholic faith passed on by parents, whanau, teachers and catechists
- The faith by which people believe, which is the gift from God that is nurtured in the environment of faith created by parents, whanau, teachers, priests and parishioners

#### **THE FAITH JOURNEY**

The life of faith is not static. Just as people grow and develop in other areas of life, so too they grow in the spiritual faith dimension of their lives. This growth is often compared with a journey – a journey toward God or a faith journey. As with any journey, people's faith journey may move smoothly at times while at other times progress may be slow or difficult. People can become side-tracked or stall or even go backwards. People's journey in faith takes a life time and it is different for each person according to their life situation. However, just as it is possible to see common patterns and predictable stages in people's physical or intellectual development, stages in people's faith journey can also be seen. Parents and teachers may find the work of child development researchers useful in understanding their children's physical or emotional growth. In a similar way the research of patterns in growth in faith may be helpful to parents in assisting their children's growth in faith.

#### **THE STAGE OF FAITH OF CHILDREN IN THE JUNIOR SCHOOL**

Children in their first years of primary school, about five to six years old, are mostly in what is referred to as the "experienced" stage of faith. This means their faith is likely:

- To be heavily influenced by the example of adults such as parents and teachers
- To be highly imaginative and fantasy filled
- To hold different or even conflicting images of God
- To find stories an important means of raising religious questions of love, joy, good and the overcoming of fear and evil
- To find symbols an important means of conveying religious meaning

#### **THE STAGE OF FAITH OF CHILDREN IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Children in their middle years of primary schooling, about seven to 10 years, are mostly in what is referred to as an "affiliative" or "belonging" stage of faith. Some of the main features of this stage are:

- They value belonging to the whanau and share its faith
- The influence of parents is still very strong so parental example in relation to their faith journey is important
- Stories are a very important part of their learning and they like hearing their family faith stories, Bible stories and saints stories
- They tend to have a literal understanding of these stories

#### **THE STAGE OF FAITH OF CHILDREN IN THE UPPER SCHOOL**

Children in their final years of primary school, about 11 to 13 years, are mostly in the same stage of their faith journey as those in their middle years, however there is a tendency for the physical changes of puberty and the personal and social behaviour associated with adolescence to occur at an increasingly younger age. This means that some 11 and 12-year-olds in the upper primary school may be expressing some of the characteristics of the faith journey common to many, not all adolescents. Some of the features of this stage are:

- A searching faith which adopts a more critical approach with a tendency to question what was previously accepted
- A tendency to be influenced more by the beliefs, attitudes and values of peers
- A tendency to distrust those in authority

In teenage years young people are often in a conventional stage of their faith journey. This means they are greatly influenced by what others say and do in matters of faith and religion as on other areas of their lives. This can be the influence of parents, other whanau members and other significant adults. It may also increasingly be the influence of friends and the peer group. All of these influences may be positive or negative in terms of a young person's growth in faith.

Margaret Leatuafi, Director of Religious Studies (from the RE Whanau Booklet)

## SCHOOL FEES – STATIONERY AND TECHNOLOGY

You will soon be sent a statement of fees showing the money owed on your school account. This statement will include \$50 per child, to cover all their stationery needs for the year. We buy all the stationery and equipment your children use at school, so you do not need to provide anything extra.

Families of children in Years 7-8 will also be charged \$70 to cover technology fees for the year. This pays for the cost of their weekly technology lessons at Taumarunui High School, which take place on a Monday afternoon with our students travelling to THS by bus.

Other items on your statement will include outstanding fees for uniform, sports teams or trips. Please ensure you pay your account promptly, or set up a regular automatic payment to pay by instalments.

## SPORTS NEWS

### Swimming

Our swimming programme is going really well. Please check the school calendar on our website if you are unsure of swimming days, or see the timetable attached to the notice that went home at the start of term, a copy of which is also on the website. Don't forget your children need togs, goggles and a towel on these days, all named. It is also essential that all clothing items are named (even shoes) to avoid confusion when everyone is getting changed!

Don't forget to collect Yummy Stickers on your fruit for free sports gear. Hand in your forms at the office.

### Soccer

Thank you to everyone who has returned forms for soccer, especially to those parents who have volunteered to help coach a team. Denise Stevens will be in touch with you in due course. There is still time to get your notice in to your class teacher. If you have lost it, there is a copy on our website

The soccer tournament will run for five weeks, starting Friday 24 February and finishing Friday 24 March. Each school must provide two nominated people to referee a game each week. There is a small fee to enter the tournament for each team.



### Netball

A message from the Taumarunui Netball Centre: We are entering the 2017 Netball Season and we are looking to find volunteers to fill a number of positions. If you have a can-do attitude and are a team player, please apply. Find someone from your club or school who is prepared to put their hand up for one of the positions. If you would like to volunteer your time to help with certain areas, throughout the 2017 Season that would be most appreciated. All applications to be emailed back or by post (KCE Taumarunui Netball Centre Po Box 397) before the 23rd of February 2017, no late applications will be accepted. KCE Taumarunui Netball centre AGM. Monday 6th March 2017 at 7 pm. For more information contact Eneta Chase, [nutta.chase@windowslive.com](mailto:nutta.chase@windowslive.com)

## AWARD WINNERS

**Caught Being Good** Renaysha Naidoo, Kataraina Hepi, Analicia Phelan

**St Patrick's Award**

**Principal's Award** Chisom Akulue, Nadianna Phelan x2

Nadianna Phelan

## TOHU AOTEAROA FREE CREATIVE WORKSHOPS – WAR MEMORIAL HALL – 11-17-YEAR-OLDS

Saturday February 18 and Saturday March 4 - Dance 10am-12pm – Acting 1pm-3pm -

With KAYNE PETERS – presenter for TVNZ Kidzone, RIA WINITANA-PAKI – presenter Maori Television, dancer MAU Dance Company, actor Deadlands, MATIU HAMUERA – dancer JGeeks, Aotearoa Aerial Theatre Company, CARLOS SKIPPER – Identity Dance Crew, Da Bradas (World Hip Hop Champions)



## BADJELLY THE WITCH – LITTLE THEATRE TAUMARUNUI

Starring dozens of students from St Pat's plus their friends from other schools across the district.

THURSDAY FEB 16 6PM - FRIDAY FEB 17 6PM - SATURDAY FEB 18 2PM AND 6PM

Tickets are \$12 (adults, students and children) but if you book four or more to the same show then the price drops to \$10 each. **TICKETS GOING FAST – OPENING NIGHT NOW SOLD OUT!**

For tickets go to <https://www.iticket.co.nz/events/2017/feb/badjelly-the-witch>

Or buy from the Taumarunui iSite. Please return your colouring competition posters to Mrs Long via your class office bag. Make sure you have added your name and telephone number for a chance to win art goodies!

## Parish of the Immaculate Conception Taumarunui

Mass each weekday: Mon-Tues 9am, Wed-Thurs 9.30am, Fri 12 noon

Fr Lawrie Bishop  
078968030

Sunday 12 9.30am Mass – 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sister Win 078958532

