

Newsletter – Week 3, Term 3 6 August 2018

Kia ora whanau

Qoheleth, the author tells us “Love God and be with your family and friends, don’t go striving to try and build kingdoms or fortresses, the idea is to focus on our own life and the day-to-day development of our life” (Father George Carlos, St Peters, Waiheke Newsletter).

Just being with family at home seems like a perfect idea, as it appears the wild winter weather has finally found us. The wind was howling on Waiheke this weekend, and the clouds were heavy and sky was grey on the ride to school on Monday. Time to wrap up, stay dry, enjoy family time and try to avoid the lurking bugs.



Teachers from Korea

This week we have four English teachers from Korea joining us for a short time. This is the third year that we will host a group of educators from Korea as we find that these lovely people bring such a richness to our students, staff and school. Jongsu Lim will be in Room 2 with Mrs Baddeley, Hanny Park will be in Room 5 with Mrs Perry and Mrs Whiteman, Soowon Hwang will be in Room 1 with Mrs Zaisluik and Songhwa Chae will be in Room 10 with Mrs Blind. Our Korean visitors were welcomed with our traditional school powhiri on Monday morning.

Professional Learning Groups

Our teachers have formed Professional Learning Groups (PLGs) to further their professional knowledge in curriculum and pedagogy. These groups will meet before school a couple of times per term. The first of these meetings will take place on Monday, 12th August. There will be no change to classes, however, teachers will not be present in their rooms before school on that morning should you wish to see them. Miss Binns and I will be on duty supervising the school until 8:50am.

Viki Trainor - Principal

**There will be a PTFA meeting TONIGHT at 7.00pm in the school staff room.
Everybody welcome!**



Big THANKS to our PTFA who generously helped kitting out our Flippaball teams with school caps.

The teams are now easily identifiable in the pool with the school name on the front of the cap and school logo on the back. Go St John's!



A special Holy Day Mass

The New Zealand Bishops have dedicated New Zealand to Mary giving her the special title – Mary, Patroness of New Zealand and **Thursday, August 15th** is her special patronage Feast Day and the National Feast Day of New Zealand. It is a Holy Day and we will be attending **Mass as a whole school at 9.15am** in St John's Church. You are all warmly invited to join us.

It has always been a tradition in the Church to decorate Our Lady's altar with flowers on her special Feast Day. The children can bring a flower from your garden to school on Thursday, 15th August. Please do not go to any expense buying flowers. What is important is the feeling and thoughtfulness.

FEAST OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS



On Thursday we celebrate the Feast of Mary MacKillop.

Mary MacKillop is the founder of the Sisters of St Joseph who founded our school in 1961.

Mary had a heart for the poor and worked to ensure that all children had access to quality education. Her work with Julian Tennison Woods served the children in outback and urban areas of Australia before the Sisters journeyed to New Zealand.

Mary was canonised in 2010 by Pope Benedict XVI and was named St Mary of the Cross.

Psalm written by Isaac Hames, Room 6

1. Shout praises to the Lord, for he has given us his beautiful world.
2. For he is the one who created the Stars, the Sun, the Planets. The Ocean, the land and all the creatures and critters.
3. Give thanks to the Lord, for he and his army of angles will guard you and protect you.
4. Give praises to the Lord, and he will reward you with eternal life.



ICAS ASSESSMENTS

Letters came home today with all children in Years 3 to 6. ICAS is designed to target students' higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills in English, Mathematics, Science and Writing. The assessments are suitable for students wishing to extend themselves academically and take up the personal challenge of competing in an international assessment. **These assessments are optional.** We encourage you to discuss this opportunity with your child. Students may select as many or as few assessments as they wish to sit. The cost is \$15.00 per assessment.

INTER-SCHOOL BASKETBALL

At the basketball tournament me and Cody had so much fun, St John's School had two teams competing in this tournament, year 5 and 6 boys, and year 5 and 6 girls. In the tournament the boy's team came 6th out of 8 teams. The girls came 5th out of 6 teams. The teams that we beat were Pinehurst and Pinehill. It was really hard for some of us, the boys had 5 games and the girls had 4. In this tournament there were 8 schools including us. Thank you to Mrs Dorrington and the parent helpers for helping us.

By Cody and Yann in Manuka



POSITIVE PUBERTY PARENT MEETING

A reminder that this meeting for parents of children in Years 5 and 6, is

Monday, 12th August in the School Hall at **7.00pm**.

SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHS – Tuesday, 20th August.



The following school teams will be having their photo taken - Netball, Hockey, Basketball, Flippaball and the Inter-School Representative teams for Swimming, Basketball, Soccer and Rugby including Rippa teams. All children will need to have their sports uniform at school for the photos. They will be photographed in the uniform they play in. If you are a Coach or Manager you are welcome to come and be included in the photograph. Photos will begin at 9am promptly and we envisage that they will be over by 10.30am. Unfortunately we are unable to give coaches and managers more precise times for the individual photographs. All photos (sports, individual & class) will be available to order with your individual shoot key. Details will follow closer to the time.

CLASS AND INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS – Monday, 26th August

Family Photographs If you wish to have your children photographed as a family you will need to complete a 'Sibling Photo Request' form so that the children can be photographed together. No family will be photographed without this form which should be completed and returned to the school office by end of school day on Friday, 23rd August.

A notice will be sent out as soon as these forms arrive and are available.



Get a few friends together, dress up in your best disco fever gear (from yesteryear or today) and join us at the St John's PTFA parents disco. Tickets \$15 and will be available from Tuesday, 13th August. BYO your drinks and a plate to share. Parents, caregivers and friends of the school welcome.

HELP WANTED

Looking forward to summer, our School Pool Caretaker, Mr Dixon will be taking some well-earned holiday overseas between 20th December and 13th January 2020. In his absence the water quality of the pool still needs to be checked daily. Therefore, to enable our pool to stay open for the full summer season we are looking for local members of our community who would be willing to be trained in water testing procedures so that a rota can be established.



Please contact Mrs Bridges in the school office (office@stjohnsmairangibay.school.nz) if you would like further information or would be happy to volunteer your time.

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

PLAYERS OF THE DAY... Marist J7 Rugby Team, Phoenix Mountjoy, Julia Landon, Parker Simpson (Rugby), Gabriel Rendle, Olivia Ward, Chloe Barrett (Flippaball), Isla Lumsden-Blincoe, Annabel Ko, Olivia Ward, Bella Yang (Netball), Isaac Hames (Soccer), Aimee Young (Hockey).

ALSO TO... James Vaughan, Jude Hames, Brooke Thornton, Zara Raffo, Teresa Rotaache, Elena Rotaache (Gymnastics), Cecilia Zeng (Tae Kwon Do), Cecilia Zeng (Swimming), Rachel Qazanhy (Piano), Cecilia Zeng (Ballet & Tap), Kirra Redfern-Hardisty, Brooke Ritson (Spartan Obstacle Course, *pictured*).

