

St Joseph's Catholic School

"Excellent Education befitting our Catholic Character"



94 Seddon St, Pukekohe 2120

Week 9 Term 4 2019

12 December 2019

Newsletter #54

Principal's Message

Tena Koutou Katoa Talofa Lava Kamusta Malo e lelei Mauri Hello Everyone

It is hard to believe where this year has gone as we approach the end of the 2019 school year. We are mid-way through our Advent season of preparation for Christmas. At St Joseph's, we have had numerous end-of-year celebrations which have been enjoyed by many.

Mrs Fleur de Farias' farewell assembly was very special - a tribute to her 34 years service to our school. There were tribute songs from each level of the school along with performances by our choir, Pasifika and Kapa Haka groups. Our Maori whanau presented her with a beautiful Korowai which she will treasure always.

Our family picnic and Christmas carol night, the first back in our school hall, was a great success and enjoyed by all - a mixture of modern and traditional song and the nativity tableau acted out by some of our younger children. I hope you didn't miss out on the staff's star performance! Special thanks to the PTA who manned the sausage sizzle.

On Tuesday, our Year 8 students went to the Tyburn Monastery for their Retreat organised by Mrs Francis. Fr Robert celebrated mass for them. This was another special occasion for them as they graduate from our school and head off to high school. Last night they had their Graduation dinner supported by their parents and teachers. It was a lovely occasion. The children had become most proficient in their dancing and looked amazing dressed in their finest. Our end-of-year prizegiving will be held tomorrow at 11:30am in the school hall.

Tomorrow, Friday, your child's End of Year Reports will be sent home. Included with this is a placement letter for next year letting you know your child's next classroom and teacher. Please understand that there are many factors that come into play when making these decisions in your child's best interest. Please continue to encourage your child to read or to do some maths over the holidays. Without continued practise, your child's progress may not be maintained over such a long period away from school - something educators call the "summer dip".

Next week we have more celebrations with our final Year 8 assembly on Monday at 1.45pm. Another special tradition at St Joseph's is the annual gift-giving for the elderly in our parish community. Each year, groups of Year 8 students visit specific people. It would be wonderful if you were to send a gift to school, before we deliver them on Wednesday morning, as at the moment we have only a small number of gifts. The elderly are often waiting for our young ambassadors and look forward to talking to them.

Our End of Year Mass is on Wednesday at 1pm. At this mass, the Board will present service awards... While we farewell Mrs de Farias as assistant principal, she will be back for one day a fortnight and possibly some relieving. We also farewell Mrs Jennifer Nazereth who has been a teacher aide in our school for the last 2 years. Mrs Nazereth and her family have moved out of Pukekohe and we have appreciated that she continued to travel here daily until the end of the term. We also wish Mrs Karen Nunes a restful break as she takes a year's leave and look forward to her return to the staff in 2021.



"Let the most gentle charity reign among you and take great care of the health of each other. Do not feel obliged to work too much, but give both body and soul plenty of rest."

**Euphrasie
Barbier
1868**



www.rndm.org

Next year, on our first day back at school, Tuesday 4 February 2020, the children will go directly to their allocated classrooms at 8:45am, and at 9:00am our school year will begin with a Powhiri for new staff, students and their whanau in our school hall.

Lastly, I wish to acknowledge the dedicated staff of St Joseph's School who go beyond their roles to give your children the best opportunities for their needs. We are blessed to have such a wonderful group.

Thank you to you all for your ongoing commitment to our school. We are privileged to have your children in our care. We wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas, and a safe summer holiday.

Ursula Hall
Principal

Key Dates		Special Catholic Character
Fri 13 Dec	School Prize Giving in the School Hall 11.30am Reports & Class placements go home	<u>End of Year Mass 2019</u> Our End of Year Mass will take place next Wednesday 18 December at 1:00pm. This is a special Mass to farewell our Year 8s and acknowledge staff who won't be with us in 2020. We look forward to this celebration of the year and welcome our whanau to attend.
Mon 16 Dec	Assembly - Year 8	
Wed 18 Dec	Y8 Gift Giving End of Year Mass 1.00pm BOT Meeting 7.00pm	<u>Carol Evening Last Week 4 December</u> Thank you to all who attended our Carol Evening last week on Wednesday. This is something we have been unable to do the last two years due to the fire in the hall. It was lovely for whanau to enjoy their picnic, followed by joyous Christmas Carols and our Nativity Tableau.
Thu 19 Dec	Term Ends 1.10 pm School Holidays	
Tue 4 Feb	School Commences Powhiri for new students and whanau @ 9.00 am	
Thu 6 Feb	Waitangi Day Holiday	
Fri 7 Feb	School Closed	
Thu 19 Feb	Dedication Mass (TBC)	
Wed 26 Feb	Ash Wednesday Liturgy (Time TBC)	
Tue 3 March	Yr7 & 8 North Group Swimming	
Fri 6 March	Yr5 & 6 North Group Swimming Tuakau	
	Please note these dates are subject to change For further dates in Term 4 see calendars on the Skool Loop app or at: www.stjosephs.co.nz	
		<p><u>Christmas Masses at St Patrick's Parish, Pukekohe</u> 24 Dec, Tuesday, 6pm – Christmas Vigil Mass for Children and Whanau 24 Dec, Tuesday, 11.30pm – Midnight Mass beginning with Carol Service 25 Dec, Wednesday, 9am – Christmas Day Mass – Nativity of the Lord</p>

School Notices

Gifts for the Elderly: On Wednesday 18th December our Year 8 students will visit the elderly and deliver Christmas gifts to them. They often sit with the elderly and talk with them. It is a time for giving and caring. We would appreciate if you could give a small gift for a woman, man or unisex so that our students can deliver these much-awaited gifts.

Lockdown: A lockdown practice took place last week on Thursday 5th December during morning break. This practice was to help the children to know what to do should a situation happen during a school break when they outside and need to get back inside quickly.

Staffing 2020

Senior Leadership: Ursula Hall - Principal

Lori Mravicich - Deputy Principal

Year 1 & 2 Lesley Wallace - **Team Leader**
Joanna Wilcox
Claudia Farrell
Sharon Hawke

Year 3 & 4 Linda Sokimi - **Team Leader**
Maree Clark
Ashley Clarke

Year 5 & 6 Patricia Kenny - **Team Leader**
Alan Surrey
Samuel Kim
Jody McCort

Year 7 & 8 Kerri Egelmeer - **Team Leader**
Bridget Hartland
Anna Francis/Sarah Hughes

Support Teachers: Briar Shackleton, Jillian Saia, Fleur de Farias

Administration Staff: Aimee Cunningham, Helen Farrell, Fiona Marlow

Support Staff/ Teacher Aides: Jeannette Irwin, Deborah Chapman, Patricia Roberts, Joan Murphy, Nia Afoa, Caroline Harrington, Helen Farrell, Alison Murphy

Caretaker: Mike Hooper

Book Amnesty: We are in the process of doing our school resources stocktake. If anyone has any books please return them asap. Thank you

Second-hand uniforms: The second-hand uniform shop is in need of good quality used summer uniforms for both boys and girls. If you have any please drop them into the school office thank you. On **Thursday 30th January 2020** the second hand uniform shop will be open from **9.00am til midday** for parents to buy used-uniform.

School Events

Future Dates:

On **Tuesday 4th February 2020** we return to school. The day will begin with a **Powhiri** in the school hall at 9.00am to welcome our new students, families and teachers. All whanau are welcome to attend.

The school will also be **closed** on **Friday 7th February 2020**.

The following dates will be **Teacher Only Days** during the 2020 year. Please add them to your calendar.

- **Friday 29 May 2020**
- **Friday 14 Aug 2020**
- **Friday 23 Oct 2020**

Save the date! School Fun Fair Saturday 14th March 2020

Year 8 Graduation: was held last night at the Pukekohe Racetrack and the children looked wonderful in their formal dress as they danced the night away. Here they are after receiving their graduation certificates.



Community Messages

Congratulations to Rupert Archer (Y4) who has been nominated for the 2019 iTICKET NAPTA Awards! As **Best Male Youth Performer** as 'Young Simba', in Disney's The Lion King JR., produced by Majors 'n' Minors Music & Theatre Studio

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Kia Ora!!

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sKids St Patricks Pukekohe

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After School Care 2:45pm-6:00pm / 2:45pm-4:00pm
Holiday Programme 7:00am-6:00pm
@ St Patrick's Church

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