



FAITH AND UNITY
Whakapono Me Kotahitanga

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Newsletter No. 4 Term 1

23 March 2011

Our Mission: St Joseph's School is a place of learning where everyone grows towards his or her full potential in a Catholic environment.

Our Vision: Enthusiastic, successful learners, living their Catholic faith with strength of mind and gentleness of heart.

UPCOMING EVENTS



- 23 Mar: Bay Subs Swimming
- 28 Mar: BOT meeting 7pm
- 30 Mar: Bay Subs Softball
- 01 Apr: FOSJ Family picnic
- 08 Apr: School Swimming Sports at Sacred Heart College
- 12-14 Apr: Room 1 EOTC activities
- 15 Apr: Last day of term. School Mass at 2pm
- 17 Apr: Palm Sunday
- 22 Apr: Good Friday
- 24 Apr: Easter Sunday
- 02 May: Term 2 commences 8.55am
- 02&09 May: Rippa Rugby sessions
- 16 May: BOT meeting 7pm
- 19 May: Mary MacKillop Show
- 22 May: Parish School Mass

Message from the Principal

Kia ora parents and whanau

FEAST OF ST JOSEPH

March 19th is the Feast of St Joseph. The school celebrated the feast of our Patron Saint with a liturgy last Friday. It was lovely to see so many parents there to join us in prayer and hear and see what the children had learnt about St Joseph.

HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD

What you can do, and in most cases are doing, to support your children so that they reach their potential in their learning:

- ◆ Communicate with your child's teacher or any staff member if you have any concerns about your child's learning
- ◆ Make sure your child/children come to school every day and that they are on time – arriving late or missing school disrupts learning.
- ◆ Talk to your children about their learning. This helps them to think about what they have learnt at school and we know that this makes it meaningful for them.
- ◆ Read to your children and encourage them to read to you or independently – reading is one of the greatest skills children learn.
- ◆ Make sure that your children have 10-12 hours of sleep a night. Lack of sleep can cause irritable behaviour and may make it difficult for children to pay attention in school. It is important to have a consistent bedtime, especially on school nights.
- ◆ Make sure your children are well fed! Children learn better with a balanced diet and regular meal times - a good breakfast is essential before a 6 hour school day.
- ◆ If you can, visit the parents' section of the Ministry of Education website at www.minedu.govt.nz – it is especially de-

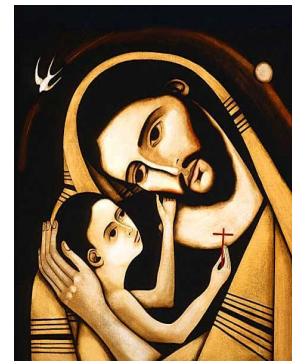
signed for parents and families with lots of tips, ideas and information to help you get more involved in your children's learning, and research shows this can make a big difference to their future.

2011/12 ENROLMENTS

If you know of any child turning 5 during 2011 or 2012 please contact the school for an enrolment appointment. There are only a few places left for any further 2011 enrolments.

God Bless

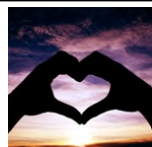
Kathryn Hira



Joseph, be our patron today and every day. Show us how to stand in readiness for the revelation of our God.... how to embrace the surprises, the wonders God has prepared for those who risk their lives to follow.

Joseph, give us some of your courage, your confidence, to face the unknown "Egypt-lands" through which we will be led.
Joseph be our patron,

Amen.



Our Focus School Value for Term 1 is AROHA

(Love, compassion, respect)

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. *John 15:12*



In the interests of the environment and sustainability it is our preference for newsletters to be distributed via email.

If you are currently receiving our newsletter in hardcopy and would prefer to receive it electronically please send an email to principal@sjorakei.school.nz with 'School Newsletter' in the subject line.



Class Masses

Parents are more than welcome to attend class masses each Wednesday at 9.15am.

Term one masses:

Wk 9 - 30 Mar - Room 2

Wk 10 - 06 Apr - Room 1

Wk 11 - Whole School
Mass on Friday, 2pm



Student learning room 3

On Monday 7th March the Variety Bash stopped in at St Joseph's. Not since Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, have cars provided so much fun for children. Each year the Variety Bash aims to capture the heart and imagination of New Zealanders in true charity style. Visually the Bash is a parade of colourful, funky, wonderful vehicles, carrying people who are passionate about the purpose of Variety and the children they meet. The Variety Bash is an annual week long event that travels through different parts of New Zealand every year. This event has become a major fundraiser for Variety and was launched in New Zealand in 1990. Committed Bashers come together each year to raise funds, distribute grants and bring a unique brand of sunshine to children across New Zealand.

Here are some of the letters that room 3 wrote to Variety Bash.

Dear Variety Bash

I was so surprised when you came. I also heard your sirens. I jumped to my feet to see and then I saw a police car and vans came. When you left you squirted us.

From Aleksander

Dear Variety Bash

Thank you for coming to our school. Thank you for the games and great books and Frisbees and lollies. I liked Bryan and Bobby and I liked going into the fire trucks. Then we watched the All Whites and Spain play some soccer. It was really fun.

From Natanielu

Dear Variety Bash

Thank you so much for coming to our school. I was really surprised. Because of the police everywhere I thought that something had gone wrong. Thank you for the books and goodies.

From Molly

Dear Variety Bash

Thank you for the books that you gave us yesterday and thank you very much for the games that you gave us. I was so excited when you came. Thank you for the lollies and the Frisbees and the bags. I liked Bryan and Bobby. Thank you for coming to our school.

From Riley

Dear Variety Bash

Thank you for the books and the great games. We had so much fun. I loved all the lollies. I was so surprised when I saw all the fire trucks. I liked the funny clown, he did lots of funny things.

From Olivia



Congratulations

Congratulations to the children who recently received a **"CATHOLIC SPECIAL CHARACTER AWARD"** ...

*William Baker, Aleksander Lee,
Harry O'Connor, Elesus Waaka*

This award is given to children who through their thoughts, words and actions show the Catholic special character of St Joseph's.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

The essential thing is not knowledge, but character.

Joseph Le Conte

Special Character News

Last Friday we celebrated St Joseph's Day. We began with a Liturgy in which each class took responsibility for portraying a different aspect of Joseph's life. Room 1 dramatised Mary and Joseph presenting Jesus at the Temple, Room 2 led us in the Prayers of the Faithful, Room 3 shared the stories they had written about Joseph and how much he loved Mary and Jesus. Rooms 4 and 5 shared symbols that reminded them of Joseph such as the carpenter's tools.

Father Tony then blessed the school leaders' badges and presented them to the students. We congratulate the Year 6 students and wish them well as well as leaders of our school. I look forward especially to working with our two Liturgy Leaders, Patrick Donegan and Kyron Manarangi-Brown.

After a short morning tea the students joined their buddy partners and spent 45 minutes working cooperatively on a 'Joseph' activity and much fun and sharing was had by all.

This March let us be reminded of Joseph's humility and acceptance of God's will. These are beautiful words that Pope John Paul II used to describe Joseph and I leave them with you this week:

*St Joseph is a man of great spirituality.
He is great in faith, not because he speaks his own words,
But above all because he listens to the words of the living God.*



Justine Agnew
DRS

DP News

Key competencies are part of the NZ Curriculum. **They have been chosen as the key capabilities for living and lifelong learning.** The New Zealand Curriculum identifies five key competencies:

- ⇒ thinking
- ⇒ using language, symbols, and texts
- ⇒ managing self
- ⇒ relating to others
- ⇒ participating and contributing



This term St Joseph's spent the first five weeks focusing on **Managing Self**.

This competency is associated with self-motivation, a "can-do" attitude, and with students seeing themselves as capable learners. It is integral to self-assessment. Students who manage themselves are enterprising, resourceful, reliable, and resilient. They establish personal goals, make plans, manage projects, and set high standards. They have strategies for meeting challenges. They know when to lead, when to follow, and when and how to act independently.

We are now looking at **Relating to Others**, this will continue up to Week 5 in Term 2. Relating to others is about interacting effectively with a diverse range of people in a variety of contexts. This competency includes the ability to listen actively, recognise different points of view, negotiate, and share ideas. Students who relate well to others are open to new learning and able to take different roles in different situations. They are aware of how their words and actions affect others. They know when it is appropriate to compete and when it is appropriate to co-operate. By working effectively together, they can come up with new approaches, ideas, and ways of thinking.

Sue Bennett

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Due to the warm weather we often experience in early May, children may wear either summer or winter uniform **BUT** not a combination of both for the first two weeks of term 2.

All children need to be in winter uniform by **Monday 16th May**.

BOT News

Hello everyone

Your Board has been together now for almost a year, and it has certainly been a busy time – but for all the right reasons. The revised New Zealand curriculum has been implemented, National Standards have demanded constant attention, we are just finalising our school charter, and we have experienced significant roll growth. Because the Board has undergone training, and meets regularly to consider strategic issues for the school and student achievement, we can sometimes fall into the trap of assuming parents understand what we are doing and why. This is why we have our consultation sessions, and with this newsletter you will be receiving a “Q+A” document on our school charter. Please do review this and if you have any questions, please ask.

John Williams

BOT Chairperson

FOSJ News

CAR BOOT COUNTRY FAIR! COUNT DOWN!

**Thursday & Friday 9am – 6pm
Parish Hall to drop off your:**

- **Sweet Treats & Cakes**
- **ANY pre-loved, good clothes, books, toys, and jumble**
- **Still time to volunteer your help!
Pls call or email Saffron
0220 400 600 – saffron@ihug.co.nz**
- **THANK YOU VERY MUCH to those you have offered to help - we will be letting you know the plan ASAP!!!**
- **See all those ‘Sorting’ on Thurs/Fri and pray for a sunny Saturday!**
- **PS - Don't forget to bring your Dogs!**



Community News

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE Celess is once again offering a before school care programme in the Parish Centre each morning from 7.30 - 8.30am. If you are interested in enrolling your children please contact Celess on 0210589427. Celess also runs an after school care programme based at Orakei Marae. Enrolment in the programme includes pick up from school. This programme is OSACR approved.

SOCCER: Girls and boys of all ages and abilities are welcome to give soccer a go at Eastern Suburbs Soccer Club at Madills Farm. Ages 5 and 6 play in mixed teams, Age 7 onwards can choose between all girls team, all boys team or mixed team. Games start May 2011 and enrolments are now open. We welcome new members at any age. Visit www.easternsuburbs.org.nz for more info or to enrol now.