



FAITH AND UNITY  
Whakapono Me Kotahitanga

# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Newsletter No. 2 Term 1

22 February 2012

*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 Feb: Keeping Ourselves Safe Parent Meeting 7pm
- 28 Feb: Meet the teacher and goal setting
- 29 Feb –02 Mar: Life Education Van at school
- Weeks 7-9: Dental Van onsite
- 19 Mar: Feast of St Joseph
- 21-23, 28-29 Mar: Swimming lessons at Swimtastic for all students
- 26 Mar: BOT meeting, 7pm
- 29 Mar: Bay Subs Swimming
- 30 Mar: School Swimming Sports at Sacred Heart Pool
- 01 Apr: Palm Sunday Parish School Mass 9.30am
- 2 Apr: Holy Week
- 05 Apr: Holy Thursday and last day of term one
- 23 April: Term two begins

## Message from the Principal

*Kia ora parents and whanau*

Today is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, the season of preparation for the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.

Although Ash Wednesday is not a Catholic holy day of obligation, it is an important part of the season of Lent. The first clear evidence of Ash Wednesday is around 960, and in the 12th century people began using palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday for ashes.

*O Jesus, you place on my forehead  
the sign of your saving Cross:  
"Turn from sin and be faithful  
to the gospel."*

*How can I turn from sin  
unless I turn to you?  
You speak, you raise your hand,  
you touch my mind and call my name,  
"Turn to the Lord your God again."  
These days of your favour  
leave a blessing as you pass  
on me and all your people.  
Turn to us, Lord God,  
and we shall turn to you.*

### CONGRATULATIONS...

To Ms McGarry who became engaged last week. We are very happy for you and Jay, and wish you every blessing as you prepare for marriage.

### GOAL SETTING

Remember to return appointment slips for our goal setting interviews asap. The purpose of the 10 minute interview is for you, your child and your child's teacher to review and confirm your child's learning goals. If you are unable to attend on February 28th please see your child's teacher



to make another appointment. It is important that all parents meet with the teacher as strong partnerships between home and school are vital for student learning.

### ACHIEVEMENT TARGETS 2012

Each year schools are required to set learning targets that are submitted to the Ministry of Education. After reviewing all our 2011 achievement information our learning targets for 2012 are:

- Mathematics: For an identified group of year three students to make more than one year's progress in Mathematics and Statistics, and move from AT to ABOVE expectation, by the end of their third year at school, in relation to the National Standard.
- Writing: For an identified group of Year 3 - 6 Maori and Pasifika children to make more than one year's progress in Writing, and move from BELOW to AT expectation, in relation to the National Standard.
- Reading: For an identified group of children to make more than one year's progress in Reading, and move from BELOW to AT expectation, by the end of their second year at school, in relation to the National Standard.

### IPADS

Thanks to a very generous donation received towards the end of last year we were able to purchase 7 iPads that children have now started using in class.

### SHADE SAIL

Thanks to ASB Trust and the FOSJ for funding our new shade sail over the junior playground.

### KEEPING OURSELVES SAFE PROGRAMME

Reminder - Parent Meeting tomorrow evening, 7pm, in our school library.

*God Bless*

*Kathryn Hira*



### Our Focus School Value is FAITH

"Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe."

~ Saint Augustine



## WELCOME TO ST JOSEPH'S

**Nikau, Harris,  
Alejandro, Catherine  
and Tallulah (room 4)**



### Class Masses

Parents are more than welcome to attend class masses each Wednesday at 9.00am.

Term one masses:

- Wk 5 - 29 Feb - Room 2/3
- Wk 6 - 07 Mar - Room 4/5
- Wk 7 - 14 Mar - Room 1
- Wk 8 - 21 Mar - Room 2
- Wk 9 - 28 Mar - Room 3

**Quote of the week:**

*God has always used ordinary people to carry out his extraordinary mission.*

## ATTENDANCE DUES & SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

\* Catholic Attendance Dues (\$95 per term), are compulsory for all students. These are not a donation but collected on behalf of the Bishop of Auckland to repay loans for major building and capital works in all Catholic schools in the region, including ours. Attendance Dues are a legally binding charge on all parents and caregivers who have enrolled their children at a Catholic school.

\* St Joseph's School contribution (\$60 per term), a voluntary contribution which assists the school to pay the day to day costs not covered by Government funding. We rely on your donation to provide many things the children enjoy including teacher aide hours, ICT equipment and curriculum resources.

\* Special Character contribution (\$10 per term), a voluntary contribution which pays for activities to support the special character of St Joseph's, such as religious education advisors and teacher professional development.

Thank you to those who promptly pay all their fees it certainly makes our job easier. Should there be a problem in paying fees due to financial difficulties please come and see me as there may be assistance available. All term one payments are due by Friday 24th February.

Any unpaid attendance dues will be referred to the Catholic Schools Office at the end of each term which may then lead to referral to Debt Services.

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES SPONSORSHIP SCHEME

The Attendance Dues Sponsorship Scheme - has been created to assist families who may need financial support with the payment of attendance dues, for students attending Catholic schools in Auckland Diocese, both primary and secondary. The purpose of the sponsorship scheme is to allow parents or caregivers facing financial hardship another option to seek relief where they may be reluctant to approach their school for help.

The existing financial hardship scheme – operated by your school – is also available to parents or caregivers facing hardship and we do encourage families facing financial difficulties to please contact your school office.

Application forms are available from school and parish offices, or can be down-loaded from the Catholic Schools Office Website: [www.catholicschools.org.nz](http://www.catholicschools.org.nz) (go to Property and Finance / Finance / Attendance Dues) or phone in confidence, Carol Krebs (Ph. 360 3069) at the Auckland Diocese office.

## BOT News

The Board of Trustees would like the help of someone in the school community to attend Board meetings to record minutes, and then prepare formal minutes for distribution, review and finalization by Board members. The Board meets 8 times a year at 7pm for 2-2.5 hours, and thus it is anticipated that about 4 hours of effort would be required for each meeting. There are also opportunities to help prepare documents and assemble material for the Board meeting packs. Remuneration is available for the work undertaken. Obviously the same expectations of confidentiality that apply to Board members will extend to this position. Anyone interested should contact John Williams (Chair) at [johnkwilliams@xtra.co.nz](mailto:johnkwilliams@xtra.co.nz).



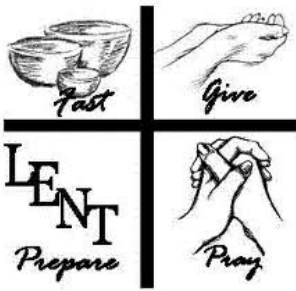
## Congratulations

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

*Scarlett Kang, Jacob Ryan, Stevie Abercrombie, Jack Blakeney*

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

# Special Character News



Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season. During Mass, the ashes which give Ash Wednesday its name are distributed and the words "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel" are said. The ashes that we receive are a reminder of our own sinfulness, and many Catholics leave them on their foreheads all day as a sign of humility. The ashes are made by burning the blessed palms that were distributed the previous year on Palm Sunday.

Lent is a period of forty days of prayer and fasting. Jesus experienced this time, when after his baptism he spent forty days in prayer and fasting in a deserted place. This Lent may we try to change something in our lives that is not right so that we may live more closely with Jesus. It is a time of prayer, fasting and alms-giving to those in need.

Last Wednesday the students in Room 1 experienced a retreat day at the MacKillop Centre in Mission Bay. The day began with the students singing and leading the mass and Father Tony officiating. It was a wonderful experience for both the students and the elderly sisters and parishioners. Father Tony then taught us a meditative dance and encouraged us to look deep within ourselves and encounter God. The students were very receptive and the day was a very happy and memorable one for all.



All classes will be starting the "Jesus" strand next week and I will include the outline and focus for the strand in the next newsletter.

*Justine Agnew*  
DRS

## Learning News from our DP

Every year for the past three years we have chosen a writing genre to focus on school wide, these have been explanation, narrative, and recount. This year our focus genre will be persuasive writing.

Important features of this genre involve the student first of all having, or forming an opinion, on an 'issue' and stating this in their introduction. At level 1 they will write a sentence to back this opinion. As the students progress through the levels they will add more sentences/ideas, until at Level 3 they are writing paragraphs to illustrate each point they wish to make. As they progress through the levels they will also learn the skills of writing their points in order of importance, or power of persuasion. As their skills develop they will be able to include a small counter argument from the 'other point of view'. The writing will end with a concluding statement re-enforcing their stand.

As with all writing it is important to develop the language skills and flow of ideas through oral language first. You may like to encourage your children to 'debate' or put forward their point of view with backing statements on everyday topics of interest to them and you.

As you can imagine this genre stimulates some very creative thinking!

*Sue Bennett*



# FOSJ News

\*\* Chocolate fundraiser, please see Jan Castle to sign for a box if you haven't taken one yet!

\*\* School Monday Lunches, bakers required, please contact Deborah Southern

\*\* Kings Barn Coffee Morning group meets every Friday at 9.15am, all welcome

# fotoman



David is coming to St Joseph's School on Saturday, 3rd March.

To book, please contact Rachel on 021 528 669 or [rachel.ryan@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rachel.ryan@xtra.co.nz)



\*Minimum 10% of sales go to Friends of St Joseph's  
\*Free sitting and proofs in Colour and B/W  
\*Prints from \$17

We look forward to seeing you!



[www.fotoman.co.nz](http://www.fotoman.co.nz)



**WALKING SCHOOL BUS** – This term the walking school bus is operating on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings only from Paerimu Street corner at 8.25am. If you would like your child to join the "Bus" please contact Kat on [katwalter@xtra.co.nz](mailto:katwalter@xtra.co.nz) or 027 222 8855

## Community News

### BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Before school care operates out of the Parish Hall between 7.30 and 8.30am providing breakfast and an educational activity for the children. The cost is \$5 per day.

After school care operates out of the kura at Orakei Marae between 3 and 6pm. Children are collected from school and transported to the Marae. Afternoon tea is provided and different activities planned for each day. The cost is \$7 per day.

Any enquiries can be made by contacting Whaea Celess, ph 022 0798910. These programmes are OSACR approved.

**OPEN DAY 2012** for entry to the school in 2013: Tuesday 6th March at 11am or 1.30pm in the College Hall - parents and boys welcome - registration not required. Enrolment Forms for entry to the school in 2013 are available for downloading from the school website. Applications must be submitted no later than Thursday 31st May 2012 at 4pm.



**BARADENE COLLEGE**  
*of the Sacred Heart*



**OPEN EVENING** will be held Tuesday, February 28, 2012. 6.30pm in the Baradene Auditorium with tours to 8.30pm. We welcome all prospective parents and students to visit the College. Entry at Gate 2 to the Auditorium. Enrolments for Year 7 & 9 close Monday 19 March, 2012.

### "A Walk through the Mass"

Bishop Patrick Dunn and a presenting team from the Diocesan Centre are hosting a series of four seminars to give people the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the Mass.

Dates: Mondays 12, 19 March and Tuesdays 13, 20 March from 7.30pm to 9pm.

Venue: Christ the King Church, 260 Richardson Road, Owairaka

Registration: by Friday 9 March email: [hilary@ctkparish.org.nz](mailto:hilary@ctkparish.org.nz) Phone: 626 7744

Visit: [www.liturgycentre.org.nz](http://www.liturgycentre.org.nz) for more information

Gold coin donation please.



**Our term one music lessons at St Josephs Catholic Primary School commence on Tuesday 7 February.**

We offer group or individual tuition on piano, guitar, keyboard, and ukulele. Saxophone, clarinet, flute, recorder, cello, bass guitar, voice, trumpet, drum kit and violin are also available (subject to sufficient enrolments being received).

Our beginner programmes **Musical Jam** (instrumental prep course for year 1s and 2s) **Blast-off Junior** (one term test-drive of ukulele, recorder and keyboard for year 3s) and **Blast-off Senior** (one term test-drive of drum kit, guitar and keyboard for year 4s and above), **Rhythm and Drumming** are a great way to get started.

If you would like your child to join one of our music programmes at school but have **not yet enrolled**, please enrol online at [www.lewiseady.co.nz](http://www.lewiseady.co.nz) New enrolments will be scheduled for a mid-term start in the week commencing 27 February.

### MARIST JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB

COME AND PLAY RUGBY AT MARIST Milo Junior Registration Weekend

Friday 24th February 3.30-6pm

Saturday 25th February 9am-1pm

Milo packs to all those that register.

On Saturday morning there will be a free milo breakfast cereal & spot prizes.

Contact Hamish Fraser 021 031 6665

### **Become Part of St John Youth**

St John Youth programmes focus on teaching young people aged 6-18 first aid, health care, leadership and life skills – with fantastic opportunities to experience new things and have fun. Our Youth programmes near you have reopened for 2012 and we'd love you to join us.

Glen Innes – Monday at 6:30pm meeting at Glenbrae Primary School, 124 Leybourne Circle, Glen Innes

Orakei – Wednesday at 4.00pm meeting at Orakei Marae, Kupe Street,