

St John Bosco School

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e-mail: office@sjb.school.nz, www.sjb.school.nz

Principal: Mr Dee Luckin



TERM DATES

Term 1
Wed 29 Jan - Thu 9 Apr

Term 2
Tue 28 Apr - Fri 3 Jul

Term 3
Mon 20 Jul - Fri 25 Sep

Term 4
Mon 12 Oct - Fri 11 Dec

EVENTS

Meet the Teachers & School Picnic
Thu 20 Feb, 5.30pm

Ash Wednesday
Wed 26 Feb, 9.10am

School Mass
Sun 1 March, 10.30am

Swimming Sports - Aquatic Centre
Wed 4 Mar, 9.30am - 1pm

Ambrose Golf Day
Sun 22 Mar



From the Principals Desk...

Meet the Teachers and School Picnic TONIGHT: We are looking forward to holding our Meet the Teacher evening TONIGHT Thursday February 20th, 5:30pm. At 5:30pm the teachers will introduce themselves to our families. This will then be followed with an opportunity for families to move to the school field with their picnic dinner. We'll have sports equipment out and the school pool will be open. It'd be great to see you there.

Taranaki SteelFormers Ambrose Golf Day: The Community Group have decided to hold our Ambrose Golf Fundraiser again in 2020. We are really grateful to again have Taranaki Steelformers as our major sponsor for the day. Over the next few weeks we will be seeking hole sponsors, teams to play in the event, items for spot prizes and also support from families to help out with organisation prior to and on the day. Historically this has been our major fundraising event for the year, meaning we have not had to continually request support over the year for other events. Please support us. Keep an eye on the newsletter, our school app and also Facebook for more details.

School Swimming Sports: We have booked our school swimming sports day at the Aquatic Centre for Wednesday March 4th. Children will leave from school at 9am. Events for children in years 3-6 will begin at 9.30am and finish at 1pm. Juniors -

years 1-2 will leave school a little later at 9.30am and will be ready to start events at 10am. You should have received a note from your child's teacher in relation to timings, the events and our organisation for the day. Children will need to bring warm clothing for the day as well as their school sunhat and sunblock. They may also choose to wear a swim vest as well to keep the sun off. Our Parent vs Student race is a very popular event and a highlight for the children. If you are interested please bring your togs for the end of the day relay race! This is always a fun day with our major focus being participation and simply giving things a go. We want to see children getting out of the pool with a huge smile of personal accomplishment.

Ash Wednesday: The whole school will be attending the Parish Mass for Ash Wednesday at 9:10am on 26th February. We would really love families to join us.

Ash Wednesday begins the holy season for the Catholic Church. It marks the start of the 40 days leading up to Easter (not including Sundays). This 40-day period is known as **Lent**, and it usually includes a focus on **fasting** and prayer. **Fasting** is an act of giving up something for a certain period of time. You are probably wondering why people mark their foreheads with ashes on this day every year. What exactly do the ashes represent, and where do they come from? The

ashes symbolise several important things: the dust that God created humans from; the 40 days Jesus spent praying and fasting in the desert, according to the Bible; sadness over the sins and mistakes people have made; and a visible sign of **penance**. **Penance** is an act that a person takes to earn forgiveness. The source of the ashes is also symbolic. Burning the palms used at the previous year's Palm Sunday service (held the Sunday before Easter) makes the ashes used on Ash Wednesday. Most Christians receive the ashes during a church service. They are given by a priest or another trained person and are placed in the shape of a cross.

School Mass: Our Termly School Mass has been scheduled for Sunday 1st March. Mass times have changed this year at Our Lady Help of Christians. They are now scheduled for **10:30am** on Sundays. It is an expectation that families attend School Mass. This is the one weekend in the school term we come together to celebrate being a Catholic School and Community.

We have a school App that helps us keep all families in touch with the latest newsletters, notes, events, cancellations, Alerts or letting us know of a child's absence.

The following is an overview of how to get the app and how to set it up.

1. Go to the **App store** on your android or Apple Device.
2. Search for **SchoolAppsNZ**
3. Download the App.
4. Once App has been downloaded, search for St John Bosco
4. When opening it will ask which **groups** you would like to belong to.

Once you have selected the groups you'd like to belong to any notes or alerts sent from each of these groups will appear on your App as an Alert.

This is a quick and easy way of finding out what is happening at school. We have also loaded events on the calendar and all contacts are there also.



St John Bosco School

RE NEWSLETTER

Term 1, 2020



R E S I L I E N C E

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13

Dear Parents / Caregivers

Tena kotou katou, welcome to Term 1, 2020 at St John Bosco School. Our school value that we will focus on this term is 'manawaroa' demonstrating resilience. The key competency we are focusing on is 'managing self'. Managing Self when in relationship with Jesus means learning to live according to the Gospels of Jesus.

St John Bosco

We have begun our school year learning more about our patron saint, Saint John Bosco, and we attended a lovely Mass on his feast day, January 31st.

Communion of Saints

We have begun our first unit for the year - learning about 'God'. A reminder that the Family Whanau book is available to view online www.faithalive.org.nz then click the Families tab; this book has lots of practical ideas on how parents can support their child's faith journey.

Prayer for the Beginning of the New School Year

Dear Lord, as we begin this new school year, we gather once again as your community of believers. We thank you for the energy and the spirit that you renewed in us through the summer months.

We thank you for the time to enjoy our family and friends and to reflect on what is important in our lives. Let this year be marked by enthusiasm and love so that, with the inspiration of your Spirit, we may continue to grow in our faith.

Help us to fulfill Your hope for us with honest intentions and works of faith.

Let us be gentle with ourselves and bring laughter, joy and love to others.

We ask this in your name. Amen.

COMMUNION
OF SAINTS
TE KOTAHITANGA O TE
HUNGA TAPU



Overarching Statement

**By our Baptism we are called to be Saints.
The Communion of Saints is a great family of all those
who have responded to Christ's grace. We join with
them in making choices to be Holy.**

RE Learning

Your child's learning in RE will be shared from time to time on Seesaw, and their RE book will come home at least once a term. We encourage you to discuss what they are learning with them, and to please comment on their learning in their book and on Seesaw, in a positive way.

Prayer Packs

This year each class has a Home Prayer Pack, which will be sent home at some stage with your child. Please treat this as a special time with your child/family to pray together.

Mission Statement

To provide a Catholic environment where children's rights and individual needs are always considered, independence and confidence are fostered and children are challenged to produce their best efforts.



Ashes Burning Ceremony

NEXT WEEK, we will be having a liturgy to burn the Blessed Palms from Palm Sunday last year, to prepare the ashes for Ash Wednesday Mass. If you have any Blessed Palms at home that we can use, can you please send them to school.



Lent

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday 26 February - ASH WEDNESDAY. The whole school will be attending Ash Wednesday Mass at 9am and we would like to invite families and friends to join us.

During Lent we encourage the children not necessarily to 'give up' something such as lollies or TV (although that would be great) but to do extras such as bake for an elderly neighbour or to do extra helping at home without expecting pocket money.

The Lent 2020 theme is "**Renewed by the Spirit**". Pope Francis challenges us all to be transformed and renewed by the Spirit so that we can follow the path of love. When we do this we become God's ambassadors on Earth.

We are called to live our lives with genuine love - for others and for God.

Each year the Lent Appeal is run by Caritas on behalf of New Zealand's Catholic Bishops to support our work of charity and justice for the poorest and most vulnerable around the world, including in Aotearoa New Zealand. Usually the funds go towards one project, however this year all funds raised during the Caritas Challenge in 2020 will go towards many different projects where communities across a range of countries face a host of varied challenges. Every dollar donated will be matched by the New Zealand Aid Programme! For more information you can visit the [Caritas Website - Lent in Schools](#).

On Wednesday 18th March, we are fortunate to have staff from CARITAS visiting our school. They will be attending a school assembly and speaking to the children about their work. You are welcome to join us to learn more about this worldwide, Catholic charity organisation.

First Holy Communion

Preparation for those who made their First Reconciliation last year is going to be a one day session on 29th March. There will also be a practise in the evening on the 30th April followed by

First Communion Celebration on Sunday 3 May.

Michelle the parish Young Families Minister will send out more information regarding this, to those who are participating.



Baptism

If at any time you are considering having your child baptised, please see Mr Luckin for information on when the next course will be held.

Our School Core Values

Love

Resilience

Co-operation

Service



THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS for February 2020

"Listen to the Migrants' Cries: We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered."

School and Class Mass

Attending Mass is important for supporting the RE program in classrooms. This year we will again be going to weekday Mass on Wednesdays. Each class will go to weekday Mass several times a term. We invite and encourage you to attend these Masses where possible. During February we will continue to go to Adele Chapel at Sacred Heart for weekday Mass, until the OLHC construction works are finished.

This term **School Mass is on Sunday 1st March at 10:30am**. We encourage all families to make the commitment to attend school Mass. It is important that we gather as a community and support our children's faith development.

Class Mass Timetable

Week 4	Wednesday 19 Feb	Ruma Rimu, Nīkau
Week 5	Wednesday 26 Feb	ASH WEDNESDAY Whole School Mass
Week 6	Sunday 1st March Wednesday 4 March	School Mass Ruma Karaka, Horoeaka
Week 7	Wednesday 11 March	Ruma Kauri, Pohutukawa, Koromiko
Week 8	Wednesday 18 March	Ruma Tōtara, Kōwhai, Kawakawa
Week 9	Wednesday 25 March	Ruma Rimu, Nīkau
Week 10	Wednesday 1st April	Ruma Karaka, Horoeaka
Week 11	Daily during the Week	Stations of the Cross / Holy Week Liturgy

Important dates this term:

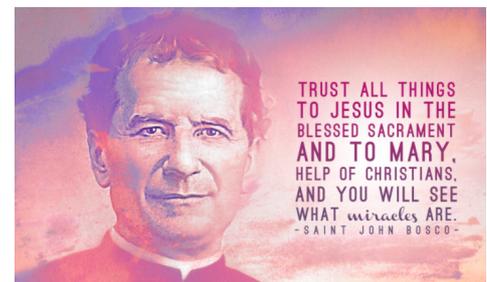
Week 5	Wednesday 26 February	- Ash Wednesday / LENT begins
Week 6	Sunday 1st March	- School Mass
Week 8	Thursday 19th March	- St Joseph (Spouse of Mary) Feast Day
Week 9	Wednesday 25th March	- Annunciation of the Lord
Week 11	Sunday 29 March	- First Communion Preparation

School Mass Dates for the rest of this year:

Term 2	7 June
Term 3	30 August
Term 4	22 November

Thank you to all those in our parish and school community who continue to work with us to support and nurture the faith development of our tamariki. If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to see us anytime.

Nga mihi nui and God Bless
Jodie Mehana

**Our School Core Values**

Love

Resilience

Co-operation

Service



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