

St John Bosco School

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Principal: Mr Dee Luckin



TERM DATES

Term 1
Wed 2 Feb - Thu 14 Apr

Term 2
Mon 2 May - Fri 8 Jul

Term 3
Mon 25 Jul - Fri 30 Sep

EVENTS

Community Group Meeting - Golf Day
Wed 9 March, 7pm

Teacher Only Day
Fri 18 March

Ambrose Golf Day
Sun 27 March



From the Principals Desk...

TEACHER ONLY DAY - On Friday 18 March school will be closed for instruction to enable staff to receive Professional Development. Please accept our apologies for the short notice and for any inconvenience caused.

Covid Update: Last week saw covid become one step closer to St John Bosco School. Our current situation as of Monday morning is, a number of children and 2 staff isolating as household contacts and 1 confirmed student as a case. We are expecting more cases will come. Our contact with a case last week allowed us to action our systems of identifying contacts and informing whanau. Our management team and myself were really happy with how it worked.

I want to thank families for keeping me informed of any developments in relation to covid. I also want to congratulate families who have a positive household case for their very calm and professional way of working through the 10 days of isolation. I also want to say thank you to our families who have been keeping unwell children at home to prevent the spread of a number of bugs.

Last week we had a daily average of 10 children away. Many schools are talking about 30-40% of their school roll away. So this gives a picture that last week we were very early on in our covid journey. Today we have 37 children away, the playing field is changing.

Over the past week, our goal has been to place our energy on focused teaching and learning programmes for all learners onsite, whilst facing and preparing for the challenges of students and staff being impacted by the effects of COVID in our community. We are expecting more children and staff will soon be in a situation that they will be isolating. We have considered many variables and teachers are aware that there is going to be a need to be flexible and agile in our

planning and organisation in the weeks to come. Our staff have been finalising their teaching and learning plans for our COVID Response plan. I am incredibly proud of the way our staff are responding to the demands of this time. They have been and will continue to work hard for our children.

As we move through different phases we will keep you informed.

Please continue to follow our basic guidelines of...

- Staying away if you are unwell.
- Washing / sanitising hands when and where required.
- Adults on site wearing face masks and social distancing.
- Children in Years 4-6 wearing face masks inside.
- Leaving the school premises as soon as you can after school.

Arrival of Children to School:

Just a reminder that staff prior to 8:30am are involved in meetings or preparing teaching resources for the day. They may not be available to supervise or meet children prior to this. Children are asked to stay in their classes prior to 8:30am as this is a safe place for them.

Welcome: I would like to welcome the following new students and families to St John Bosco school and our school community:

Puriri: Jai Te Pau Konui-Whiting and his parents Jamie and Hayden and Isabel Phipps and her parents Laura and Regan.

Koromiko: Freya Padman, Freya joins her two big sisters Ruby and Stella at school.

School Leaders 2022:

Congratulations to all of our Year 6 Students who prepared and submitted their C.V's for advertised leadership positions across our school in 2022.

Positions were announced earlier in the term at a special leadership assembly for our Year 5 and 6 students. Our leaders have already begun their roles and have started with great ideas and enthusiasm. We are very proud to announce our 2022 School Leaders as follows.

Ambassadors: Indie Pretty-Taylor, Arabella Thomson, Nanda Kosuru, Maxx O'Callaghan

Special Character: Jade Hinga, John Cyrus Duya

House Leaders:

Darnell - Georgia Watson and Harith Ramesh
Rewarewa - Keira Siffleet and Nolan McFadyen
Barbier - Jaida Heal and Will Blackburn
Waiwhakaiho - Daisy Youngman and Rex Byelich

Librarians: Alvena John, Alakai Gupwell, Alivia Viju Mathew

Sports Leaders: Silito Sisifa, Shae Collins, Emily Hobin, Coleman Greenaway, Joshua Isaac, Dylan Croot, Isabella Prince, Talia Keys, Max Gardener

Cultural Leaders: Billie Stenning, Arabella Thomson

Mediators: Georgia Watson, Asha Broadmore, Keira Siffleet, Peyton Wratt, Aaliyah Keys, Daisy Youngman, Ari Mekalick

ICT Leaders: Will Blackburn, Charlie Stephens

Environmental Leaders: Lucy Elliott, Reymar Bonete, Travis Naughton, Nathan Jimenez

Media Leaders: Archie McKinnon, Anyah Pelletier Morales, Holly Sinclair, Alexis Lamb

Swimming Sports: We are so glad that we went ahead with our modified school swimming sports of Friday. The day was quite different to other years with only small groups of children timetabled to take part over the day and no parents to cheer them on. The day was a huge success regardless. The children in Year 3-6 also enjoyed a new addition of putting into action survival skills learnt wearing life jackets in the very deep diving pool. A special thanks to Ashley Carradus, Kayla Pretty-Taylor, Joanna Sisifa and Aiden Stenning who braved the pool for a few hours to be our life guards and in water supports. Thanks also to Mr Stirling for being a key driver behind the event going ahead.

Once again the best outcome of the day was all the children from Year 1-6 in the water trying their best and having fun. There was great perseverance and resilience shown to get to the finish and take part in every race. We hope to get some photos up on Facebook soon..

Ambrose Golf Day: We are tracking really well for our Ambrose Golf Day on being held March 27th. We have a Community Group meeting this Wednesday in the Staffroom 7:00pm. Please come along if you are keen to help out on the day. We have once again received amazing support in the form of sponsorship and also teams entering. Our next big push is spot prizes for the day. Please keep these coming in.

Parking on Darnell Street: I'm getting feedback for our community that people are parking in the calder sack on Darnell Street. Parking on Yellow lines and in calder sacks prevents safe traffic flow and means traffic has to undertake multiple turns to get out of the street. It is also against the law. I do want to thank all the families that park and walk into school each day from various safe parking spaces. It allows those that really need a park close to school the ability to have one.

Teacher Only Day: Once again apologies for the late notification of our next Teachers only day. I have decided to go ahead with the professional development day with Dr Christine Braid from Massey University despite the current covid situation. **This means that school will be closed for students on Friday 18th March.**

Te Ara a Maria.

On Thursday Rooms Totara and Kauri had the opportunity to visit and learn some quite specific information about a beautiful piece of commissioned art - Te Ara a Maria or Mary's Way and the rededication of Aotearoa to Mary Mother of God. There were many special links between the piece of art, the Gospel and our Faith. The following is some more specific information. On Sunday 15 August, 2021, the New Zealand Catholic Bishops renewed our country's dedication to Mary, Mother of God, Assumed into Heaven. The Bishop's have called this Te Ara a Maria – Mary's Way. Bishop Pompallier was New Zealand's first bishop. He journeyed from France to support the growth of our Church in Oceania. Pompallier made his dedication while celebrating his first Mass here in 1838.

In the Hokianga, Pompallier learnt Te Reo and developed an understanding of Māori spirituality. The partnerships he built helped encourage local iwi to explore the Catholic faith. These important steps would see Hokianga become the cradle of Catholicism in Aotearoa. Pompallier's dedication honours Mary as the Virgin Mother of Jesus. To mark the renewal of the dedication, our Bishops held a special Mass at St Mary of the Angels in Wellington on 15 August, 2021.

This service saw the unveiling of artwork specially commissioned to honour Mary. To celebrate the rededication, the Bishops had commissioned a new piece of art. They wanted a depiction of Mary that connects her to Aotearoa. The piece challenges us to see her as a woman of incredible strength and the place she holds in our hearts and our community today. The artwork aims to respect our different cultures and backgrounds. The painting captures details which are unique to our country and Catholic identity.



Gabby Devine left us a beautiful legacy of Random Acts of Kindness (She started Starlit Hope, a charity that does Acts of Kindness to kids and their families in hospital). Since she gained her angel wings in 2015, we have started our own SJB tradition of celebrating/ remembering her on her birthday (March 9th) with a week of Random Acts of Kindness. This year our RAK week will take place from the 15th - 18th March. This ties in beautifully with our LENT traditions too.

We would love to know what you are doing in your class or at home to celebrate our SJB RAK week in memory of Gabby. Take photos and share them with your teacher! You might like to write a nice thank you card for someone, save your pocket money to donate to Caritas or Gabby's Starlit Hope, do some baking for someone, help your parents with emptying the dishwasher etc... the opportunities are endless! No matter how big or small - it all counts!

Thank you God for blessing us with beautiful Gabby. "Small things with great love"



Second Hand Uniforms:

The Community Group are planning on having a second hand uniform sale at the end of the term, if you have any old uniforms at home that you would like to donate to the sale, please drop off to Andrea in the office.

Our School Core Values

Love

Resilience

Co-operation

Service



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT SJB

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION MARCH 2022 A Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges:

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

ASH WEDNESDAY:

Yesterday we began the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday celebrations. Each collaboration held an Ash Wednesday Liturgy and the children received the Blessed Ashes. This is a reminder to try to turn away from sinful things and be sorry for any wrongdoing. Lent is a season of repentance and turning back to GOD!



Ashes and Ash Wednesday: The origin and custom of using ashes is discovered in part in the *Old Testament*.

They accompanied prayer in the case of Abraham when he said to God: "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my Lord, I who am but dust and ashes."

The prophet Jeremiah uses ashes when he calls for repentance: "O daughter of my people, gird on sackcloth, roll in ashes" (Jer. 6:26).

The prophet Daniel pleaded for God to rescue Israel with sackcloth and ashes as a sign of Israel's repentance: "I turned to the Lord God, pleading in earnest prayer, with fasting, sack-cloth and ashes" (Dan. 9:3).

In the New Testament, Jesus refers to the use of sackcloth and ashes as signs of repentance: "Alas for you, Chorazin! Alas for you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes" (Mt 11:21; Lk 10:13).

Lenten Blessing

Lent calls us to make daily choices that will help us to grow in our relationship with ourselves, God and others.

As we journey through Lent, let us also be mindful of those currently faced with uncertainty and conflict in the world - especially in Ukraine.

May our fasting fuel a hunger for justice.

May our acts of almsgiving promote peace and hope.

May our prayers be the chant of grateful hearts that unite and empower your one human family to strive for harmony.

Amen

Ash Wednesday 2022



Do you know what is so special about Ash Wednesday? We commemorated the beginning of Lent yesterday, on the 2nd of March by joining together for a liturgy led by Mrs Baldwin, Mrs Welsh and Nana Mary.

Firstly we lit our purple candle, said some prayers, listened to some readings and sang the song "Out of the Ashes". We had a purple prayer mat to signify the beginning of Lent based on our liturgical calendar.

The ashes are usually placed on the forehead as a visible sign that we are followers of Jesus. Normally we receive the ashes in the Sign of the Cross on our forehead. They remind us that we need to make changes in our lives to be more like Jesus. Yesterday some ashes were sprinkled on our heads as we were being mindful of our covid restrictions.

The ashes used on Ash Wednesday are made by burning the palms that have been saved from the previous year's Palm Sunday. The ashes are then blessed by a priest before they are distributed.

During Lent we will be generous, we will be prayerful, we will think of others and we will get ready to celebrate Easter.



First Reconciliation / Holy Communion 2022:

At this stage the Sacramental programmes being organised by the New Plymouth Catholic Parish have been postponed because of the current Covid situation. Due to the delay there is still time if you are interested, to register your children for First Holy Communion, Reconciliation and Older Children's Baptism programmes for this year. To register your child or for any further information, please contact Karen on: youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

JESUS

His Only Son, Our Lord

HEHU KARAITI



*Jesus is my friend and role model.
We see him in creation, others and ourselves
and we try to be like him every day.
Jesus in our hearts forever.*

Mission Statement

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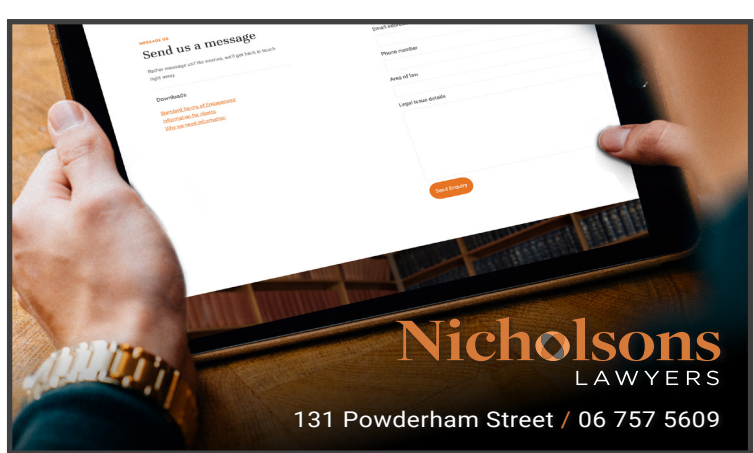


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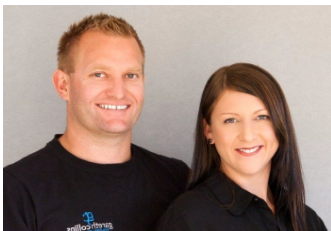
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