

Newsletter – Week 1, Term 1

7 February 2018

Kia ora Whanau

“Let your light shine”

“No one lights a lamp and then hides it...Instead a lamp is placed on a stand, where it can be seen by all...” Luke 11:33

A very warm welcome to the 2018 school year. I trust you have all had a wonderful holiday. I spent the majority of my break at Waiheke and it was glorious. Glenn and I were blessed to have both of our children, their partners and our beautiful grandbabies join us for an extended time. The time was spent swimming (not with Orca's) walking, and socialising. I am well rested and thoroughly looking forward to a very exciting St John's year.



The theme for our Teacher Only day this year was “Let your light shine”. I was inspired by our stunning Harbour Bridge display over Anniversary Weekend which caused me to think about how we, as teachers allow our ‘lights’ to shine for our children and for our community. This year we will encourage our children to “Let their lights shine” also. They may shine academically, or in the sporting arena, in the Arts, in leadership, in kindness and caring, but mostly they will be encouraged to let their Faith and love of Jesus shine for all to see.

Uniform

Our uniform review will continue again this year as a small team from the Board work on this project. You will be kept well informed throughout the process. In the meantime the first **second hand uniform sale** for the term will be held on Thursday, 8th February between 2.30 and 3pm in the Hall. Second hand uniform sales are held throughout the year on the first Thursday of each month, unless otherwise notified.

Before and After School Care at St John's

Please note that the Board is currently working on the proposals put forward from a variety of school care providers and considering the potential of hosting this service at St John's. You will be kept informed throughout the process.

Sports Coordinator

Mr Vaughan Thompson has resigned from his role of Sports Coordinator. Vaughan has been selected to play in the New Zealand Lacrosse team and this along with his University studies requires more time commitment. We will be looking to appoint a new Sports Coordinator. In the interim, Miss Lauren Spencer will look after sport related enquiries.

Other Staff News

Mrs Vivienne Ball has chosen to work four days per week in 2018. She will continue her very valuable role as our Special Needs coordinator. Mrs Ball will also relieve in classes when teachers are released for specialist roles. Mrs Ball will work from Monday – Thursday. Mrs Maureen Harris (Assistant Principal) will be responsible for Years 1-4 (Rooms 1,2,3,4, 9,10,11,12,13). Mrs Jill Marsh (Assistant Principal) will be responsible for Years 5 & 6 (Rooms 5,6,7,8).

Thank you form Catholic Social Services

John Metherell from the Catholic Social Services sent a lovely letter of thanks for the 321 sets of presents that our school donated for children less fortunate for Christmas. As requested 21 boxes were sent to Father Carlo in the Kaitia Parish who distributed the gifts amongst needy families at his school and the rest of the gifts were shared with schools in South and West Auckland. I know from having worked in a West Auckland school just how many families are so grateful to receive these gifts, in some cases the only ones their children will receive. So thank you all very much for your generosity and love. Should you have any concerns for your child, please speak to your child's teacher in the first instance.

Viki Trainor – Principal

DIARY DATES FOR TERM 1

FEBRUARY

Thursday, 8 th	:	Year 6 Camp Parent Meeting, 6.30pm
Wednesday, 14 th	:	Ash Wednesday
Friday, 16 th	:	PTFA Family Picnic (Savaday TBA if needed)
Monday, 19 th	:	Yr 6 Camp begins at Hunua Falls
Monday, 19 th – Friday 23 rd	:	Yrs 1 – 4 Outdoor Education Week
Tuesday, 20 th & Thursday, 22 nd	:	Yr 5 Outdoor Pursuits Programme at the Millennium Centre

MARCH

Thursday, 1 st March	:	Netball Trials, Years 4 - 6
Tuesday, 13 th March	:	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thursday, 15 th March	:	School Swimming Sports (Tuesday, 20 th March)
Friday, 30 th March – Tuesday 3 rd April	:	Easter Break (school closed)

APRIL

Friday, 13 th	:	School closes at the usual time for the holiday break and reopens on Monday, 30 th April
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CLASS MASS DATES & CLASSROOM ASSEMBLY LEADERS

Mass is at 9.15am on Wednesday in St John's Church

Assembly is at 9.30am on Fridays in the School Hall.

MASS			ASSEMBLY	
Date	Wk	Room	Date	Room
14 February	2	Ash Wednesday, Whole School Liturgy, 11am.	9 February	Welcome
28 February	4	Rooms 1, 3, 2, 4	16 February	House Captains
14 March	6	Rooms 5, 6, 9, 13	23 February	EOTC Week
21 March	7	Rooms 7, 8, 11, 12	2 March	Rooms 5 & 6
29 March	8	Easter, Whole School Liturgy at 2.15pm, School Hall	9 March	Room 4
			16 March	Room 12
			23 March	Room 7
			29 March	Room 6, Easter Liturgy
			6 April	Room 1
			1 April	Room 3

MEETINGS

- The first Board of Trustees (BOT) monthly meeting is on Thursday, 1st March at 6.30pm
- The PTFA Annual Meeting is on Tuesday, 27th February

Both groups meet in the staffroom.

FAMILY – WHANAU PRAYER KETES



Each class has their own special Prayer Kete. The Prayer Kete is a special way for you to pray together as a family. Included in each Prayer Kete are items that your child may choose to use to assist with praying at home. Some items include: Rosary Beads, a Cross, a Prayer book and a Prayer cloth. There are some suggestions of things to do inside your class Prayer book.



Please ensure that the Prayer Kete is looked after and all items are returned to school.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMME

This year, Religious Education strands will be taught at varying times during the school year to reflect an integrated planning approach. During Term 1 the Junior team will participate and engage in the **God strand** whilst the Middle and Senior teams will participate and engage in the **Jesus strand**.

You can find out more about the programme by using the online Faith Alive website [<http://www.faithalive.org.nz>] Simply click on the FAMILIES tab and open the pdf file.

This year, the children's Religious Education Learning Journals will have a front cover which is to be designed by each child. This honours the Tapu and Holiness of our Religious Education Learning Journals. There will also be two pages inside the children's Learning Journals that display our school Values and our special Josephite Charism. The journals will be sent home regularly for you to discuss your children's learning and when possible make a comment.

ECB PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2018

The Sacramental year commences with Reconciliation with the program targeted at children 8yrs & older. We require a parent to attend each session. The sessions are a wonderful environment to share your spiritual relationship with your child and with our community.

Sessions are held fortnightly on **Sundays, 8.00 - 8.45am** beginning with Registration on Sunday, 11th February. Sessions finish in time for 9am Mass at St John's Church and we encourage you to stay for Mass, it helps to build your community. We follow the Diocesan program with our own flavour added!

If you have any questions please contact Liz in the parish office. Liz@ecbparish.org.nz or 09 320 3127

ANNUAL SUMMER PTFA FAMILY PICNIC

Friday, 16th February - 5.30pm onwards

Diary this event now and come along with a picnic tea, catch up with friends and welcome in the new school year.

SCHOOL SWIMMING PROGRAMME

The Physical Education programme is focused around the swimming pool for the first weeks of Term 1. All children are required to take part in this programme. You are asked to send a written note to the classroom teacher if your child is unable to take part because of illness. Children should bring their clearly named togs, towel and goggles in a plastic bag each day. Any wounds or sores need to be covered with a waterproof bandage/plaster prior to arriving at school for Health and Safety reasons.

2018 BACK TO SCHOOL STATIONERY

All children should have brought their stationery supplies with them to school today ready for the start of term. Please ensure stationery is at school no later than Monday, 12th February and 'Other School Charges' have been paid so that the necessary accounting reconciliations can be done. We teamed up with OfficeMax to make Back to School easy – details are on the school website. If you have any questions about OfficeMax MySchool please don't hesitate to contact Anneliese in the office email: office@stjohnsmairangibay.school.nz. **For New Entrant children** joining St John's between Term 2 and 4 and **for additional stationery items** needed throughout the year for all year levels, these will still be available to purchase from the school office.

EZ Covers for children's stationery The PTFA have registered an EZ15 rebate for our school which will mean the PTFA will get commission on all orders. From the drop down list choose to support 'St John's School (Mairangi Bay)'. www.ezcover.com/nz

SCHOOL FEE INVOICES are coming home this Friday. Payment is due by 28th February. School bank account details are on the invoice. If you need more time please contact Michele in the school office. Families that pay via automatic payment, weekly or fortnightly instalments, your invoice is also coming home so that you have a copy of the invoice for Term 1.

ASB SCHOOL BANKING

At the end of 2017, our school representative from the ASB advised all children's school banking is moving to electronic 'Kashin banking'. As a result the ASB banking deposit box outside the sick bay is being removed and all banking for children should be done direct with your own branch. Other banks also offer schemes for children's banking so you would need to refer to your own bank if that is the case.

CYBERSAFETY

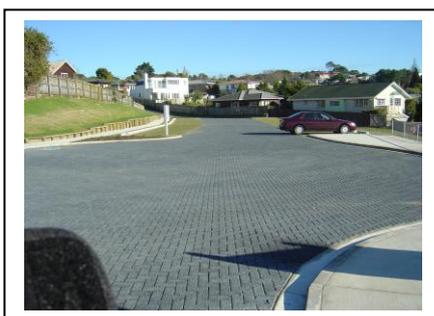
As part of the start of year activities teachers will be revising Cybersafety with all students. On enrolment parents/guardians sighted and signed the School Cybersafety Policy & Use Agreement. Our Policy states that students from Year 3 and up should sign the student section themselves. If we do not have a copy on file your child may be bringing a copy home for signature. Please discuss as a family to ensure your child understands about keeping themselves safe online. Forms should be returned by Friday, 16th February.

**To Parents, Grandparents, relatives and friends of families
who drop off or pick up children at St. John's**

CARPARKING AT ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL

There are three alternative carpark areas for you to use.

1.



SCHOOL CARPARK

Access via
East Coast Road going down
the hill from Rangitoto College

2. CHURCH CARPARK Access via Hastings Road

Please do not use the Church driveway off East Coast Road.

Please use this carpark for long term parking only if you are using the Church
or staying on at school after you have dropped your children off.

For short term drop off and pick up of children, parents are asked to use the
School Carpark or the school side of St. Ives, Penzance or Hastings Roads.



3.



Hastings Road



Penzance Road



St. Ives Terrace

Children are not allowed in the carparks unless accompanied by an adult.

CHURCH CARPARK

Children wait on top court and must be collected from there.

PENZANCE / HASTINGS / ST IVES

Children wait at Penzance Road front gate and must be collected from there.

SCHOOL CARPARK

Children will wait in the carpark shelter. Parents using the No
Parking Pick Up / Drop Off Circular Zone

Children will be able to move to your car via the footpath at the instruction of the Duty Teacher. If using this service
you are **not permitted to leave your car.**

SOME FINAL MATTERS

1. Cars are prohibited from parking in the circular drop off and pick up area of the School Carpark and along the driveway to the carpark.
2. Please obey the signs and yellow 'No Parking' lines.
3. Drive slowly and safely in all carpark areas.
4. Use the DISABLED park only if you can display a disability parking pass.
5. Access to the school via the Penzance Road entrance is prohibited.
6. The School Carpark will be closed after 4pm and on the weekends. Church weekend access is via Penzance Road as will weekday traffic after 4pm.



SCHOOL CAR PARK AFTER SCHOOL PROCEDURES

THE CIRCLE

- There is space for 6 cars in the circle. Cars are to move forward to fill all 6 spaces.
- Parking is not allowed in the circle area.
- As cars leave the circle, move forward to the front of the circle; It should always be full.
- 'After School Care' vans park in a parking space while waiting for the children.



PARKING

- It's best to arrive at school between 2.30 – 2.45pm to get a park.
- Fill car parks from the top (near circle) back. Do not leave gaps, as these will be difficult for others to access once the queue moves into the car park.
- If you arrive at school after 2.45pm, please join the queue, or find alternative parking.



THE QUEUE

- If you arrive at school prior to 2.45pm, and the circle is full, and you are not parking, stop and queue just before the car parks begin.
- The car park is usually mostly full by 2.45pm. Therefore the queue can at that time move forward to join the queue at the circle. If the front car parks are filled earlier, cars in the queue can move forward.
- No pushing in/cutting in front of first car in back queue unless parking.
- Those in the queue, please keep in mind those queued right back to the entrance, and around in Tudor Place, so move forward as soon as is appropriate prior to 2.45pm, and definitely after 2.45pm.
- If the queue is right out to the entrance, turn into Tudor Place, and queue there. When clear, move around the corner into the entrance, so as not to block traffic.
- Do not use the right turn into the drive if the queue is up to the entrance as this blocks the vision of those trying to exit.



DRIVING OUT

- Cars driving in (queuing) please be aware of parked cars wanting to leave and leave room for them to do so.