

Newsletter – Week 7, Term 4 27 November 2018

Kia ora Whanau

“Ko taku reo taku ohooho, ko taku reo taku mapihi mauria”
My language is my awakening, my language is the window to my soul

Kapa Haka



Last Friday I sat cross legged on the asphalt court of Onepoto School right in front of the stage so that I could have an uninterrupted view of our tamariki performing Kapa Haka. It was such a moving experience. The power, passion, and mana oozed from each and every one of them. Although their performance was faultless, what was more important was the way in which our multi-cultural children embraced New Zealand's bi-cultural heritage. I was so proud of our school that day. Ms Tina Peters (Whaea Tina) comes fortnightly to work with our Kapa Haka group and she is well supported by Mrs Cara Mountjoy. I thank these two beautiful ladies for immersing our children in tikanga, te reo and performance. Nga mihi maioha – Viki Trainor

Sewing help required

We are in desperate need for people to sew hems on our new altar cloths. There are approximately seventy 1m square poly cotton cloths that require hemming on two sides. We would be very grateful for this help as they are really needed for our classroom prayer focuses. We don't require them until the beginning of 2019 so if you are able to help please contact Laura Baddeley our DRS, email: LauraB@stjohnsmairangibay.school.nz.

Athletics Day

Unfortunately the weather was not in our favour for our School Athletics Day, however, a group of our Year 4, 5 and 6 children braved the rain and trialed with excellent spirit. Many thanks to Mrs Dorrington and to all the staff for their preparation for the sports day and for the parents who helped. Our Athletics team are participating in the Super Cluster Interschool Athletics Day on Thursday, 29th November and we wish them the best of luck for this.



JUNIOR SCHOOL NATIVITY

Friday, 7th December at 11.00am in the School Hall. Family & friends are welcome to come along and enjoy our Junior School Nativity performance. **Special Request** – Does anyone have a black light that the Junior Team could borrow for the Nativity? With many thanks in advance.



EAT MY LUNCH – Save the Date

Following the success of the children's 'Buy One, Give One' lunch with Eat My Lunch last term we are supporting them again with the Christmas campaign. **Friday, 7th December will be delivery day.** More details regarding ordering to follow.



PTFA CHRISTMAS BOOK & GIFT FAIR

It's time for our last PTFA fundraiser of the year. A new initiative, 'The St John's Christmas Book and Gift Fair' will run from the afternoon of **Friday, 30th November through to Sunday, 2nd December.**

We've worked directly with a supplier to make available a fantastic array of books; fiction and non-fiction, childrens and adults, coffee table books, activity books and all at incredible prices. Everything is priced from \$5 to \$20 and everyone is welcome - tell your friends, family, neighbours and work colleagues. We want this to be a roaring success as we make one last effort to gather funds for our school playground upgrade.



We need a variety of volunteers to collect stock from Albany, set up the hall and man the sale itself. Further details on how you can help and the timing will be included in messages from your CLP in the coming days. If you'd like to get involved, please contact Rachael on 027 875 7095, rachobrien@ymail.com or Brie on 021 369 116, Brianna@poetryandmotion.co.nz

ADVENT



This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent, a time for preparing for the coming of Christ. Each class has an Advent wreath and on Friday at 11.00am at St John's Church they will be blessed by Father Raphael. It is a special part of our spiritual preparation for Christmas.

The Advent wreath is a circular evergreen wreath with four candles, three purple and one rose. The candles symbolise the light of Christ coming into the world. Each candle is first lit on the appropriate Sunday of Advent, and then the candles may be lit each day as a part of the individual's or family's daily prayers.

The candles have been given various names:

Candle 1. Hope [purple] Candle 2. Peace [purple] Candle 3. Joy [rose] Candle 4. Love [purple]

Taken from <http://www.churchyear.net/adventwreath.html>

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Both in the school foyer and at St John's Church there is now a Christmas Giving Tree for the collection of gifts for children who live in the Northland Kaitia Parish. Please place gifts under either tree or drop into the Parish Office **prior to Sunday, 9th December** to allow enough time for them to be shipped for delivery by Christmas. Gifts should be marked with a tag 'boy or girl' and age suitability; under 2yrs, 3-5yrs, 6-9yrs, 10-12yrs and teenagers.



School End-of-Year Mass

and
**Year 6 Graduation
Ceremony**

*Tuesday, 11th December
at 11.00am*

St. John's Church

You are all welcome to attend this special Mass as we celebrate the year and thank God for the many blessings we have received.

We also farewell our Year 6 children and wish them well for the next stage of their school life to Year 7 and beyond.

YEAR 5 PARENTS

A lovely tradition has developed at the school involving the Year 5 parents organising a cup of tea in the Hall for the families of the Year 6 children after the Mass and their Graduation Ceremony.

Year 5 parents will be contacted by email, via the CLP's, asking for assistance with food and help on the day. Many thanks to Sarah Augenstein and Nicola Ritson who are co-ordinating this.

BOT Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on Thursday, 29th November 2018 at 6.30pm.

GALA RAFFLE TICKETS

These were sent home last week and must all be accounted for. Stubs, monies and unsold tickets should be returned to the school no later than Wednesday, 5th December.

SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL AND KEYS FOR SUMMER USE



The pool will be open for swimming from 26th November **unless indicated otherwise by signage at the pool**. You are offered a family key to take advantage of the pool for family swimming. The cost is \$70 for the entire season plus a \$30 key bond [refundable]. The season end is flexible, around 31st March.

Keys are numbered and must be returned at the end of the season when the refund of the bond will be given back to you. If keys are not returned by the 29th of April following the close of the season, the refund is forfeited as these keys need to be refigured and replaced each year. Keys can be purchased at the school office up until noon, 20th December, when the office closes for the year.

ONLINE SCHOOL SHOP – KINDO

Coming home this week will be a letter regarding the visit of the Life Education Trust and how to set up an account on our new Kindo Online School Shop. We have made the decision to use Kindo following the increase of transactions in recent years being made through the school bank account. To reconcile and keep track of payments has become a very cumbersome and time-consuming task for our administrative staff

Kindo will enable parents:

- To pay anytime, anywhere – mobile friendly website.
- Complete permission forms electronically – no more lost bits of paper, more environmentally friendly!
- Fast one-click ordering: all siblings on one page – know what all your children are doing.
- Pay-as-you-go or prepay account topped up by Visa
- Mastercard, American Express, Union Pay, POLi and Internet banking
- Flexible payment amounts

If you have any queries at all please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Bridges in the school office or if you have difficulties with the Kindo website their helpdesk is but a phonecall away (Freephone 0508 454 636).

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

PLAYERS OF THE DAY... Maria George, Jamie Beckett, Jasmine Coulam, Ashley Smith, Lily Saxon (Netball), Ashley Smith, DeAngelo Alsabie (Basketball) Bella Murphy, Leo Moore (Cricket), Pearla Raffo, Karney Prendergast (Touch). **ALSO TO...** Maria Deles (Swimming), Elena Rotaeché, Wren Chilek (Gymnastics), Charlotte Moore (Brownies)

PARISH NEWS

Parish Pantomime Sunday 2nd December – 3.00pm at St John's Church, Hastings Road. Gold coin donation to help build the community at St Johns.

COMMUNITY NOTICES...

Weetbix Kids Tryathlon Registrations are now open for the 2019 Weetbix Kids TRYathlon. To register and for more information, please go to www.try.weetbix.co.nz or call 0800 WEETBIX. Early-bird entry before 24th February 2019 costs \$40 per child and includes; event T-Shirt, swim cap, gear bag, medal, downloadable certificate and other sponsor goodies. St John's is registered as a participating school for the Hibiscus Coast event to be held on Sunday, 24th March 2019 at Manly Reserve, Whangaparaoa. If you are interested in participating in this event please check "register as part of a school team" box and name "St John's, Mairangi Bay" when prompted during the registration process. Flyers are available at the office. Any further questions, please contact Leanne Deuchrass at deuchrass@gmail.com.

Advent Vespers and Carol Service - A service of Carols and Readings for the Season of Advent at the Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph. Saturday, 1 December at 7.30 pm. Entry is free but there will be a retiring collection. Validated parking is available at the Wilsons' car parks on Hobson Street (\$4) and Durham Lane (\$2 entry from Queen St only). **Masses for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary at the Cathedral** - Saturday, 8 December at 8.30 am and a Choral Mass at 7.30 pm with the Cathedral Vocal Ensemble directed by James Tibbles. Validated parking will be available for both Masses.

North Shore Youth Music is a community organisation which runs a variety of orchestras and choirs for young people. Applications are now being accepted for 2019, and auditions will be held on Wednesday 5th and 19th December. See www.nsym.org.nz for an application form. **Orchestras:** Stringalongs (5 - 8yrs), Junior Orchestra (9 - 13yrs), Youth Orchestra (14+yrs) **Choirs:** Songsters (5 - 8yrs), Children's Choir (9 - 13yrs), Con Brio Choir (10 - 16yrs), Youth Choir (14+yrs).

Good as New Pre Loved Kids Market, Saturday, 1st December, Orewa Community Centre, 9am – 12.00 noon.