

Newsletter – Week 8, Term 4 4 December 2018

Kia ora Whanau

“Advent increases our hope, a hope which does not disappoint. The Lord **NEVER** lets us down”
(Pope Francis)

As the year draws to a close school seems to get busier and busier, finalising school reports, class lists, end of year meetings with staff and ensuring the school is organised for the coming year. It is whilst all this hustle and bustle surrounds us that, as a staff, we ensure that we remind ourselves to slow down and reflect upon the many gifts God has bestowed upon us during the year. At Mass on Waiheke this week Father George invited our congregation to see Advent as an opportunity to renew our personal encounter with Christ. So I extend this invitation to you, also. Look past the busyness, and encounter Christ.

Junior Nativity

This coming Friday our dear little junior children will remind us of the real reason for Christmas as they present their Christmas Nativity show to their families. I am really looking forward to enjoying this special event as I know how hard the children and their teachers have been working.

Introducing your Principal for Day (*Winner of the Principal of the Day raffle for the gala*)

On Friday, 7th December, Miss Mary Haddad of Room 6 will be Principal of St John’s School for the day. Mary will have a very busy day as she will have an assembly in the morning and then will attend the Junior Nativity Performance and thank the parents. She will also purchase some Religious Education items and prepare the newsletter for the following week. Mary will appoint herself a Deputy Principal and will attend a business lunch. I hope Mary will have a truly memorable day.

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 Kaitiāia 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.



Blessing of the Class Advent Wreaths

Last Friday, we came together as a school to prepare for the beginning of Advent with a special Advent Wreath Blessing. Father Raphael blessed our Advent Wreaths and candles which are symbols for the coming of the light of Christ into our world.

We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises he made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

Church Car Park

Please do not park either in front or behind the two vehicles parked at the front of St John’s Church under the Portico. **This area is monitored and registration numbers will be noted, traced and rung up and asked to refrain!** Thank you for your co-operation.



Staff News

Mrs Jo Ramsay will be leaving St John's after a long tenure. Jo has been a learning support assistant, looking after our children with additional needs. Jo has incredible empathy and passion for these little ones and is a great advocate for them. Jo is irreplaceable for the many, many skills and talents she brings to St John's. Jo will be studying next year and we hope that one day she may return to us.

We say goodbye to **Mrs Caryn McInroy** in Room 5 who will be leaving us to work closer to her home in Cockle Bay, Howick. We have loved having Caryn with us and she will be missed.

We also farewell **Mrs Tania Davey**, who kindly took up the challenge of fulltime classroom responsibility to ensure we had a full complement of teaching staff for 2018. Tania has been an amazing asset to our team and we wish her well as she takes up her new role as the Life Education Teacher (Harold the Giraffe). This will be perfect for our very creative Tania with less hours of responsibility.

Mrs Robyn Stuart took up the role of classroom teacher in Room 7 when Miss Binns accepted the Assistant Principal role. Robyn quickly became part of our community and will be sadly missed. Robyn will be going to Browns Bay Primary where her young children are placed. This will make it much easier on her family life. We wish her well.

Joining the St John's family next year are:

Mrs Helen Perry who comes to us from Carmel College and previously Holy Cross Catholic School. Helen will also be bringing her two delightful sons to St John's. Helen will be teaching a Year 6 classroom and is also an Across School Leader for our Catholic Community of Learning (Kahui Ako).

Mrs Wendy Whiteman will join us in a part-time capacity. Wendy is a member of our parent community and is very excited to be joining the staff. Wendy will be job-sharing with Helen Perry.

Mrs Christine Worsley, an experienced teacher, will join the Senior Team and will be teaching Year 5. Christine is very enthusiastic and has a wealth of curriculum experience.

We warmly welcome these new team members.

Viki Trainor - Principal



EAT MY LUNCH

Orders for delivery on Friday **must be placed by Wednesday, 5th December**. Please go to www.eatmylunch.nz/st-johns-7th-december-2018 to place an order.

Last time we supported Eat My Lunch we gave an amazing 180 lunches. I'd be thrilled if we could beat this number for Christmas in the true spirit of giving that our school community always demonstrates.

Thank you in advance – Mrs Bridges



TERM DATES FOR 2019

Term 1 - Thursday, 7th February to Friday, 12th April

Term 2 - Monday, 29th April to Friday, 5th July

Term 3 - Monday, 22nd July to Friday, 27th September

Term 4 - Monday, 14th October to Date TBC

LAST SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE FOR 2018 will be tomorrow, Wednesday, 5th December 2.30-3pm in the School Hall. Cash sales only.



GALA RAFFLE TICKETS

Whether or not the raffle tickets have been sold all must all be accounted for. Stubs, monies and unsold tickets should be returned to the school

by tomorrow, Wednesday 5th December

School End-of-Year Mass

and Year 6 Graduation Ceremony

*Tuesday, 11th December
at 11.00am*

St. John's Church

You are all warmly invited to attend if you can.

Parking for Mass Please be aware that the Church Carpark has limited parking and you would be advised to park either in the School Carpark off East Coast Road or on one of our school access roads nearby. Please be considerate of our neighbours access when parking your cars.

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.

SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL AND KEYS FOR SUMMER USE



The school swimming pool is now open (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.

KINDO (online shop) – LIFE EDUCATION TRUST VISIT

A letter was sent home with all children last week 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 is not used for school fees.

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).

Please ensure you have visited the Kindo website and created an account before Thursday so that all payments are finalised before the children visit the Life Education Trust van.

With thanks for your urgent attention to this.

SCHOOL SPIRIT IN ACTION



How lovely to receive this message, well done girls!

A fabulous picture from the Year 5/1 netball team's last game - our opposition team defaulted at the last minute so the Year 5/2 team and a couple of the Year 6 team members all jumped in together for a fun game. Nice team and school spirit!

A big thank you to Karen and Megan for their great support over the summer season. Thanks all, Jo and Jon Redfern

NETBALL AND SPORTS UNIFORMS



Coaches, Team Managers and children please ensure that all sport uniforms and equipment are returned to school **as soon as possible and definitely by Friday, 14th December** at the very latest. It is a big task accounting for all the school sports uniforms and packing them away before school closes on the 20th of December. Please have a good look around at home for any sports uniforms or equipment that you may have had issued to you in the past. It is not only respectful and good manners, but essential that they come back washed. All inventory belonging to the school needs to be accounted for.

All netball players both Winter and Spring, please return your netball uniform (Skirt or Dress and Fleece) **washed in a bag with your name, year level and team** by Friday, 14th December. Managers / Coaches please return your **kit bags with bibs, ball, first aid box, trophy etc.** All uniforms will be checked back in against the 'issued list' we have, so please ensure that you return on time.

LOST PROPERTY

Please ask your children to check the Lost Property bin in the sick bay if they are missing items of school clothing or PE gear, shoes or lunchtime field play clothes, drink bottles, towels, sports balls. At the end of the school year unclaimed items are passed to second hand uniform co-coordinators for sale or donated to charity.

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

PLAYERS OF THE DAY... Orlaith Burns, Amber Saxon, Zara Raffo, Ted Sagar, Parker Simpson, Carter Gilchrist, Orla Watson, Elena Rotaeché (Touch). NiKayla Smith, Mia Williams, Caitlin McKemmish, Nina Harris, Orlaith Burns, Elena Rotaeché, Rachel Qazanchy, Ava Murphy (Netball), Xavier Smith (Cricket), Tara Watson (Basketball). **ALSO TO...** Alora Francis (Kumon), Nina Harris, Elena Rotaeché (Gymnastics), Anushka Kumaran (Swimming).

PARISH NEWS



De Paul House Christmas Market: Making your Christmas shopping easy! Quality and brand new goods including importers clearance of home décor; giftware; Christmas baking; International food. Saturday, 8th December 9am – 1pm, 92 Onewa Rd, Northcote.

NZ Rosary Crusade for Life & Faith, St John's Church, Saturday, 8th December at 3pm under the mantle of Our Lady of Assumption. www.rosarycrusade.co.nz, or Contact Clare Tel: 022 191 886 (after 6pm)

COMMUNITY NOTICES...

Holiday Programme details are available from the school office. We have information on **Kids Choice** in Mairangi Bay, **Kids Care** in Unsworth. **Code Camp** Coding & Robotics Course, Entrepreneurship Courses, Parnell and Takapuna, 17 – 21 December 2018, 21 – 24 January 2019. www.codecamp.co.nz. **Spanish Club** 17 – 21 December, 9am – 3pm, Forrest Hill Primary School, 50 Forrest Hill Road, for children 5- 10 years. For more information visit www.lcfclubs.c.nz or email mary@cflclub.co.nz \$300 for the week.

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. 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. Any further questions, please contact Leanne Deuchrass at deuchrassl@gmail.com.

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.

Homestay Wanted For two weeks starting from 2nd February in 2019. If you are able to host during this period and would like further information please contact James Park on 021-853-282 or email: nz.edu@hotmail.com. James is the parent of two children at St John's.



ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL

www.stjohnsmairangibay.school.nz

87 A Penzance Road

Mairangi Bay

Auckland 0630

Ph: 478 7734

Fax: 478 2597

3 December 2018

Dear Parents

School Fees and Donations 2019

At the November meeting, the Board of Trustees considered the matter of school fees and donations for the new school year, 2019. The Board has resolved to increase the Parent Contribution Donation by \$4.50 per student, per term [2.7%] and the School Development Donation by \$1.00 per student per term, [2.5%].

The Diocese has increased Attendance Dues by \$2.50 [2%] per student per term to allow for inflation. Attendance Dues and the Special Character Donation do not contribute to our school budget but are billed on behalf of, collected and paid in total to the Diocese Common Fund.

In summary, the breakdown of per term fees and requested donations effective January 2019 is:

Attendance Dues	\$110.00
Special Character Donation	\$ 12.50
Parent Contribution Donation	\$172.50
School Development Donation	<u>\$ 41.00</u>
Total Fees per Term	\$336.00

Note that the School Development Donation applies only to the first two children in each family. In addition, the Special Character Donation, the Parent Contribution Donation and the School Development Donation are all tax deductible [\$904.00 per annum.] We advise that you retain your receipts for use in your Annual Tax Return to take full advantage of this tax deductibility.

Please be assured that the Board made its decision to increase the Parent Contribution Donation and School Development Donation mindful of its responsibility to ensure that the school is sufficiently funded to meet our children's learning needs and those of the school environment.

The \$41 School Development Donation contribution will continue to be used solely for school development projects at our school. The school has enjoyed an excellent response to this contribution since its introduction in 1997 which has resulted in many capital works projects being undertaken.

The school fee increases and requested donations are essential to maintain our commitment to offering both current and future students at St John's the best education possible. Should you have any enquiries regarding school fees please contact, in confidence, the Principal's PA at the school office or email michelen@stjohnsmairangibay.school.nz.

Yours sincerely

Lyn Ryan
Chairperson - Board of Trustees

St. John's School – School Fees and Donations 2019

School Fees for 2019 are \$336 per child per term (\$1,344.00 per annum).

These fees are made up of:

Attendance Dues

Attendance Dues are \$110.00 per child per term and are a compulsory payment under the terms of the Private Schools Conditional Integration Act 1975 and a condition of enrolment at St. John's School. Attendance Dues are charged for all students who attend Catholic Schools in New Zealand. Attendance Dues are used to repay loans for building works done at schools in the Auckland Diocese, property related costs including school building works, buildings insurance and costs directly associated with the administration of Attendance Dues. Attendance Dues are collected by St. John's School on behalf of the school's Proprietor, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Auckland. The Attendance Dues collected by St. John's School are forwarded to Auckland Common Fund Limited, a company established by the proprietors of Catholic integrated schools in the Diocese of Auckland responsible for the collection of Attendance Dues. Attendance Dues can be paid in full at the beginning of the school year, per term or by regular instalment. More information on Attendance Dues or if you need any assistance, please contact the Principal's PA at the school office.

Special Character Donation

The Catholic Special Character contribution is a voluntary donation of \$12.50 per term [\$50.00 per annum] per student. This contribution provides the main source of funding for all services provided to St. John's School by the Catholic Education Services Board. No contributions are made by the Government for these services. The Catholic Education Services Board assists schools to provide a Catholic education for your child through the preservation and enhancement of the Catholic Special Character in our schools. The Special Character donation is tax deductible.

Parent Contribution Donation

This voluntary contribution, \$172.50 per child per term, provides funds, additional to Government Grants, for the running of the School. It is reviewed annually. The Parent Contribution donation is tax deductible.

School Development Donation

This voluntary contribution, \$41.00 per child (applies to the first two enrolled children in each family attending St. John's School). Money from this fee provides funds to allow for our school development programme. It is reviewed annually. The School Development donation is tax deductible.

Payment of Accounts: Accounts are sent out through the School Office at the beginning of each term. These can be paid by cash, cheque or automatic payment. For all matters relating to school fees, please contact the Principal's PA, Michele Nash or email michelen@stjohnsmairangibay.school.nz.

Tax Deductions: The Special Character Donation, the Parent Contribution Donation and the School Development Donation, and any other donations to the school are paid on a voluntary basis and therefore are tax deductible (\$882 per annum).