



## He Kupu nā te Tumuaki (Note from the Principal)

Here we are - another school year has begun! I wish to extend a very warm welcome back to all parents and caregivers, and a warm welcome to the following children and families: Welcome (back!) to Ashleigh Jones and her parents Cassie Ellery and Peter Jones who return to us from Featherston after several years away; welcome to Lachlan Woodsmith, son of Katrina Wood - I'm sure you will both enjoy being in Year 6. We also welcome Aifili, daughter of Vanessa and Jacob Patelesio; Finn, son of Sally-Ann O'Reilly Nugent and Scott Leighton and brother of Nia, and Joshua Davitt, son of Bev and John, and brother of Sarah. We hope you all settle quickly into our school.

A very warm welcome to our new Director of Religious Studies and teacher in Room 2, Mrs. Angela Cole and to Mrs. Lisa Cowley who is teaching in Room 4 for the first half of the year. This year we will focus on our new school Vision. We will use the metaphor of the 'spark of God' to express what it means when we are being the best we can be. We will be making a few changes to our weekly Assemblies (see box) so that we can focus better on what it means to be this spark of God.



It's a joy to see the children looking smart in their uniforms and enthusiastic about being part of St. Theresa's.

May God continue to bless us all and to give us an appreciation of the gifts we have, especially in our faith, our community and our school. It is wonderful to be here. We are greatly blessed. Kia tau te rangimarie kia tatou katoa.

Zita Smith

## RUBBISH

This year students will take home anything they bring to school in their lunch boxes (that they have not eaten)!

The purpose of this is twofold:

- ◆ We are working towards becoming a true 'enviro' school with as little rubbish to dispose of as possible, *and*
- ◆ You will see what it is your child is eating/not eating (we had HUGE waste of food last year).

## We all have the spark of God in us.

*How is the spark of God in me today?*



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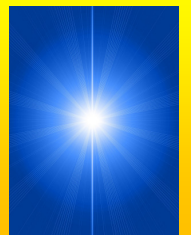
## Assemblies 2012

This year Assembly will be held on **Friday MORNINGS at 9a.m.** The format will be slightly changed, with a greater focus on growing our relationship with God through our friendship with Jesus using the special seasons of the Church, feast days and of course, with reference to our school Gospel values.

In the 'light' of our new vision and focus, we have modified the Kid of the Week Award. Instead of four, there will now be *eight* children who are identified during the week as being **Sparks of God** in their behaviour and work. These children will be acknowledged with a certificate at Assembly and photographed as a group. This photo will be published in the next week's newsletter and on a special display board in the school. We are excited about this fresh approach to celebrating excellence and being the best we can be! This will be explained to the children at Assembly.

## The Gospel Value for Term 1 is **INCLUSION**

**When we show a welcoming attitude to others, especially those who are not our special friends, we are bright sparks of God!**



## BEACH PICNIC NEXT FRIDAY 11 - 2.30pm



We walk over to North Beach and will need lots of parents to come with us to help supervise, enjoy the day together and swim with the children if you want to! Email coming soon.

<b>FEBRUARY</b>	
Mon. 13th - Thurs. 16th	Mobile Dental Clinic at the school
Fri. 17th	Beach Picnic 11-2.30pm
Mon. 20th	Information Evening - 7pm
Wed. 23rd	Ash Wednesday –Mass 9am
Tues. 28th	Powhiri - 9a.m.
<b>MARCH</b>	
Mon. 12th	School Photos
Tues. 13th (morning)	Junior Swimming Sports
Thurs. 15th (morning)	Senior Swimming Sports
Sat. 17th	St. Patrick's Day
Tues. 20th & Thurs. 22nd	Parent Teacher Interviews
Sat. 24th	<b>!SALSA! CARNIVAL</b>
<b>APRIL</b>	
Sun. 1st	Palm Sunday
Thurs. 5th	Holy Week Pageant School Closes for the holidays
Fri. 6th	Good Friday
Mon. 23rd	Start of Term 2

### CLASS OF THE WEEK - ROOM 10

Room 10 children all have the Spark of God in them. In our class, the spark within us will become a burning fire when:

- We do the best we can in everything we do, in our work and in our relationships with each other.
- We always make sure that everyone is included.
- We actively share ideas with others.
- We always listen attentively with each other.
- We always strive for excellence.

### **Spanish Lessons**

Beginners' group starting this term.

Contact Doris 0226774534 or [kiwidoris@gmail.com](mailto:kiwidoris@gmail.com)

### **EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Many people view Catholicism primarily as a belief system or philosophy that is not really a part of their lives but it is better understood as a story; a story of a relationship between God and us, a story that can change our lives. The Catholic Porirua Pastoral Area is again running a CaFE (Catholic Faith Exploration) programme on the above topic over Lent following a very enjoyable and successful programme last year entitled "Knowing God Better". This year's programme consists of a series of eight short (35-40 minutes) video talks on subjects such as "Who Needs the Catholic Church?, What is the Mass? and Keeping a Pure Heart". Each talk is shown in a welcoming café style environment and is both enjoyable and informative. The purpose is to provide the opportunity for exploring aspects of the Catholic faith with no pressure or hard sell. Light refreshments are provided. Come and see.

**When:** Tues. Evenings 7.30 - 9.00 starting 14 Feb.

**Where:** Tu Hono Hall in the Viard College grounds.  
All are welcome. Bring a friend.

### Contact Details Updates

You will have been sent a

**PINK**

form with the contact details that we currently hold on file. PLEASE check everything and return the form to the Office as soon as possible and not later than **MONDAY, 13th February**. It is imperative that we have up-to-date information in cases of emergency.

### Dental Service

The mobile Dental Clinic will be here from next Monday, 13th February for the week and then back again in Week 4 (27th February).



**School Accounts** have been sent out today. We encourage anyone who is not paying their account in full, to set up an Automatic Payment. The form for this is attached to your account.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Any amounts that have been paid to us since the 1st January, 2012 will not be reflected on your account.

### **Scholastic Book Club Orders**

Orders with payment should be in to the Office by next Thursday, 16th February. If paying by cheque, please make payable to Scholastic Books.

