



# St. Theresa's Catholic School Newsletter - 14th February, 2019



*"To live, learn and love with Jesus, being the best we can be."*

## Principal's Note

**Hello, Kia Ora, Talofa lava, Namaste, Mabuhay, Ciao, Kia Orana, Ahalan, chao, Bonjour, Bula, Dzien/Dobry, Shalom, Dia duit, Mauri, Halo, Bom dia, Gidday**

**Konnichiwa, Ni hao, Selam, Xin**

*Mai i te Kopae ki te Urupa, tatou ako tonu ai - From the cradle to the grave, we are forever learning.*

Kia ora and welcome back to you all. It has been wonderful having all the children back looking refreshed and excited to begin another year of learning. We are all enjoying the buzz and atmosphere of this new school year. We are mindful however that the end of the summer break can take a bit of time for many to adjust to. Please talk to your child's teacher if there is anything you are concerned or not sure about.

We will be holding our Information Evening on Tuesday, 26 February, 5pm - 7pm here at school. We will have a sausage sizzle at 5pm and then move into the Hall to meet the staff and talk about our initiatives for 2019. After this there will be opportunities to meet with Pod teachers to hear a more detailed outline of the class programme. We will have child care available and would love to see you all here.

This year we will be working with the Ministry of Education using their PB4L (Positive Behaviour for Learning) Framework. We are very fortunate to have been offered access to the resources available to help us as a Community to streamline our values and school-wide expectations. We will be sharing more information with you as we work through the year.

One of our major staff professional development areas this year will be Te Reo Maori/Tikanga Maori. We have engaged Alice Fitzpatrick from Arahia Associates to work with us and we are excited to begin sharing this learning with the children.

Sadly at the end of last year Te Po, our Kapa Haka tutor left to move to Dunedin. We were very fortunate to have had such a high level of support from him and are very pleased to be able to continue Kapa Haka with the support of Anthony Urwin from Aotea College. Matua Anthony will be working with us on Mondays and supporting us to grow our understanding of Kapa Haka and enhance our performance bracket. We are very grateful for the support offered to us, through our involvement in the Northern Porirua Kahui Ako.

Tomorrow is our annual start of the year Beach Picnic. Unfortunately the Taupo Stream end of the beach is not safe to swim in and we have decided to walk down to Karehana Bay beach. We will leave school at 10.00am to walk to Karehana Bay and will leave the beach at 2pm to walk back to school. We are still in need of adult helpers to walk with us and help in the water. Please let us know if you can help by emailing your child's classroom teacher.

Yesterday many of the staff attended an interesting and highly relevant session with Nathan Wallace, focusing on the brain and anxiety in both young children and teenagers. Nathan will be presenting an evening for parents and caregivers on Understanding your Brain and The Teenage Brain at Raroa Intermediate School on 30 and 31 May from 7pm to 9pm. Tickets can be purchased through Eventfinder.co.nz. and I would highly recommend this to you all.

Wishing you all a happy and safe weekend.

*Whai i te Kirihimete oaoa, me te haumaru*

Donna McDonald - Principal



## Welcome to our new families!

Lucy Tohill joined us at the end of Term 4, 2018. She is the daughter of Mike and Yvette and the sister of Hannah and James. Joining us at the beginning of this year, we have **Max Grimwood**, son of Andrew and Camille; **Brianna Ball**, daughter of Michael and Emalinda; **Xavier and Micah Jordan**, sons of Richard and Abi; **Mikee Gayotin**, son of Marvin and Michelle; **Jacob Song**, son of Nick and Wendy; **Isobella Adams**, daughter of Paul and Melissa; **Charlie Wrenn**, son of Anderson and Amanda and brother of Lilyana and former student Ava; **Esther Davies**, daughter of Gareth and Sarah; **Bella Woodley**, daughter of Emma and sister of Ava. We're so happy to have you all here as part of this School community and wish you many, many happy years here at St. T's!

## WeetBix Tryathlon - Sunday, 17th March

Swim, run, cycle - 7 years and older can be signed up at this link <https://tryathlon.co.nz/> When registering, add St. Theresa's as the school and then email Michelle Ablett



([mushki@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mushki@xtra.co.nz)) to let her know that you have registered so she can keep track of the school team. We need a team of 15 to be able to participate in the group prize draws.

## Sunday's Gospel - 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear that things are not always as they appear. Those who we think are unfortunate by our society's standards are blessed in the Kingdom of God; those who we think are fortunate have not found lasting happiness. Jesus is warning us about looking for happiness in money, possessions, superficial pleasures and our reputation.



**Sacramental Programme:** There will be a Parents' meeting on Sunday, 17th February and all enrolment forms need to be at the Parish office by TOMORROW.

## Class of the Week - Room 4

Room 4 has started the year with some awesome fidget spinner maths. Whilst the spinner spins, we build towers as high as we can. Then we count and compare how tall or short our towers are. Teddy, our reading dog, was on hand to help with our counting and we learned to count from 0 -10 using NZSL. Fun days in Room 4!



### Lost Property:

At the end of term last year, Kahukuranui's entire bag containing his school books, reading glasses, artwork, pencil case, etc. went missing. If this mistakenly made its way to your home, please send back to school. He is in Room 10. Please remember that unless all items are named, it limits us in the way we can help you find anything that has been lost.

### Morning tea after powhiri

It's the responsibility of all the families in Rooms 9 & 10 to supply a plate for this occasion. Thanks in advance!

Thank you - from the bottom of our hearts!

On behalf of the School and Parish community, we would like to thank **Kate Nickon**, Sacha Baldwin's mum, for donating a defibrillator to us. Installation and training is underway.



## Stronger Together for Action on Climate – Porirua

Concerned about how to respond urgently to the effects of our warming world? *Stronger Together for Action on Climate – Porirua* will be a series of 3 evenings to inform and inspire people in the Porirua area to consider realistic ways to respond to the challenges of climate change. This initiative is aimed at the grass-roots level and will include guest speakers, time for discussion, reflection and practical action. There's no better time than now to commit to making a change, restoring our common home. It will run each Thursday 7, 14, 21 March from 7.30-9pm in St Theresa's Parish Hall. We encourage young people (12yrs and up) to attend. It is their future that's now coming into focus. More information phone the parish office 2331279 or email Catherine Gibbs [cmgibbs543@gmail.com](mailto:cmgibbs543@gmail.com)

## Carnival 2019 - Saturday, 16th March

**Contributions to Carnival:** A huge thanks to those families who have already donated some items for the Carnival. This week, we're asking everyone to bring in any unwanted but new/unused gifts that they can't or don't want to use. For Week 3, we would love all families to bring in any items in a bottle or a jar e.g. alcohol, cosmetics, candles, sauces, condiments - the options are endless. If you didn't get round to the items requested in Week 2, we'll accept anything at any time!

**Mystery Jars:** If you don't have an empty jar, we have some available at the office, so help yourself. You can fill your jar with anything (non-perishable) that you think a child might like to get and then cover it up so the contents aren't visible.



**Helpers at the Carnival:** It is an expectation that all families help in some way either before or on the day of the Carnival. We have a list in Reception showing the areas where people are still needed. If you haven't volunteered yet, please come to the Office and take your pick and if you can't come in to School, call Gina and she will tell you what's still available. Thanks to all of you who have already put your name down to help.

## Second-hand uniform sale

On **Friday, 22nd February** from about 2.15 onwards, we will be having a wee sale of uniform items that have been donated to us. Whatever we have will be laid out here in the 4Square (outside Room 4). If you need any uniform, come along and have a look. We are asking for a donation to be made at the Office for anything that is 'sold'. Michelle Mair has offered to co-ordinate this - thanks so much!

### Important dates for you to remember:

- Tomorrow: Family Beach Picnic Day Leaving School at 10a.m and back by 2.30
- Fri., 22nd Feb.: School uniform sale here at 2.15p.m.
- Tues., 26th Feb.: School photographs
- Tues., 26th Feb.: Information Evening 5p.m. - 7p.m.
- Wed., 27th Feb.: BoT meeting 6 p.m.
- Thurs., 28th Feb.: Powhiri and Mass of Welcome 9a.m.
- Fri., 1st Mar.: Uniform fittings (for new items) - Appts from 2.15 onwards. Call the Office to book a time.
- Wed., 6th Mar.: Ash Wednesday