



St. Theresa's Catholic School Newsletter - 15th August, 2019

“To live, learn and love with Jesus, being the best we can be.”



Principal's Note

Hello, Kia Ora, Talofa lava, Hola, Namaste, Mabuhay, Ciao, Kia Orana, Ahalan, Konnichiwa, Ni hao, Selam, Xin chao, Bonjour, Bula, Dzień/Dobry, Shalom, Dia duit, Mauri, Halo, Bom dia, Gidday, Gutentag

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

In this week's newsletter we have so many reminders of the great things happening in and around the School and reasons to be proud of our School community.

Thank you to those people who had offered to help on Sunday with the Working Bee. Unfortunately the weather was a bit dodgy and some of our team were unwell so we decided to postpone it until September and have a 'Spring Clean'. Watch out for more details of this date, etc.

Today we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption as a Faith community. My thanks go to Angela Cole our DRS as well as the staff and students for the lovely prayers, readings and singing they contributed. Thank you also to Fr. Maurice for continuing to support our students in their faith journey. Today Fr Maurice goes beyond the call of duty and will be joining our 'Bush Sprouts' group on their afternoon session. Look out for photos and an upcoming story - Fr Maurice goes bush!

On Monday I was privileged to accompany 2 of our Year 6 students to the Rotary Young Leaders Awards. These awards honour leadership in all schools across Porirua City and our recipients, Harrison Croasdale and Flynn Croasdale, were very worthy. It was noted that the boys were not only well presented, well-mannered and very deserving of the award, they are also cousins. Well done, boys - you made both the School and your families very proud.

And the celebrations continue..... Room 4 received a very special letter informing them that Teddy, their class reading and writing dog, had won the K9 Gold Award's Best Office Dog. Teddy actually belongs to Mrs. McKee and has been specially trained to be a companion dog. He has a certificate and wears a special harness. The children nominated him with some very persuasive writing and we are proud of both Teddy and the children in Room 4. They are currently planning how to help Teddy spend his prize of vouchers from Animates. What fantastic motivation for writing!



Over the last 2 days the staff have been attending professional development focussed on Pope Francis' letters. Our Pope writes so well and explains things so simply. On Tuesday I was able to reflect on the idea that as Catholics we are a community. We do not worship or celebrate the Mass individually. This fits so well with our School philosophies of relationships and belonging and that as a community, we are stronger than as an individual.

Anyway, have a fantastic weekend everyone.

Nga mihi nui **Donna McDonald - Principal**



 Let us ask for the grace to remember each day that we are not forgotten by God and that we are His beloved children, unique and irreplaceable. Calling this to mind gives us the strength not to surrender before the adversities of life. - *Pope Francis*

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We don't expect to hear such difficult words from Jesus in the Gospel but it is good to be reminded once in a while, that the decision to do the right thing, the good thing, is not always easy and without conflict. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus reminds His followers to be prepared for difficult decisions that will bring them into conflict with those closest to them.



ROTARY YOUNG LEADERS AWARD

Our recipients **Flynn Croasdale** and **Harrison Croasdale**.

Congratulations from all of us!



WELCOME!

Three new students have joined the St. T's community this week. We welcome **Mya Phillipps** (Room 3) and her parents Fintan and Helen; **Maggie Kang** (Room 4) and her parents

Shao Bin and Ruimin; **Danika Strydom** (Room 6) and her parents Brennan and Chantelle Martin. We wish you many happy and rewarding years as part of this very special school.

Take the risk or lose the chance.

Board Talk – August 2019

The Board of Trustees had our first meeting for the term last week. It's hard to believe that we are already into Term 3 and spring is just around the corner. It was a really productive meeting and our first proper one after the elections back in June. It was a good opportunity to discuss how we are going to operate as a board, ensure we are all focussing on the right things and start to get to know each other. I am impressed with the calibre of people on the Board and looking forward to working together over the next three years to support Mrs. McDonald and her team to keep our school moving on the upwards trajectory that they have us on.

On that note, we received a letter from the Minister of Education, the Hon. Chris Hipkins, congratulating us on our recent ERO evaluation as being 'strong', the highest possible level they give. He commented on the good work our School is doing in providing a high quality of education for our learners. Not all schools receive a letter like this and it is testament to the great work Donna and the staff are doing for our children and I would like to congratulate them all on this really positive endorsement.

We have a busy time ahead as a Board, as the year races by. In the next meetings, we will be looking at the 2020 budget as well as reviewing student achievement and ensuring that our resources are focussed in the right area. There is also a lot going on in the School with the playground development starting to come together and our Production underway. We are looking forward to seeing the results of all the hard work going into these initiatives.

Mike Tohill - Chairperson, St. Theresa's Catholic School Board of Trustees

Sparks of God - Term 3, Week 3



Back: Hannah Tohill, Ruby-Rose Dennison, Isabel Taylor, Keira Savea, Kate Vincent

Front: Maya James, Khyan Elliott, Alex Buchanan, Noah Lewer, Felix McMinn, Ava Stace

CLASS OF THE WEEK - ROOM 6

In Room 6, we have been looking at different explorers. We made slideshows about some of the things that they have done. We worked with different people so we could challenge ourselves to be the best that we can be. After all that, we shared them with the class and they were amazing. We have been reading about Brando Yelavich and his adventure across the Australian desert on a bike. It's really tiring. We are working on our costumes for the production and learning our dance moves. It's really exciting.



Reporters:
Nykeita Elliott,
Willow Dunne,
Teddy Green and
Elice Mzila

AUGUST

Sun. 18th - Quiz night 7.30p.m.

Thurs. 22nd - Powhiri 9a.m.

Fri. 23rd - Disco 5p.m. & 7p.m.

Fri. 30th - Uniform fittings

Fri. 30th - Yellow Mufti Day

SEPTEMBER

Tues. 10th - Production Dress rehearsal

Wed. 11th - Production First night

Thursday 12th - Production Second night

Wed 18th - Board meeting 6p.m.

Fri. 30th - Uniform fittings

Fri. 27th - End of Term 3

Diary Dates

The Year 6 Camp Fundraising **RAFFLE**. You can win a week long Skids Holiday Programme for one child, valued at \$250, valid for a year and is run at Pauatahanui School. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Yummy Apples Stickers

Named
Fence
Pickets

Unwanted flat sheets

Lost Property: Jack in Room 8 has lost one of his trainers. Anyone got an extra one hiding out?

BREADTAGS
for wheelchairs

YELLOW MUFTI DAY
Fri., 30th August
Cancer Society's Daffodil Day
Gold coin donation