



# St Joseph's Catholic School, Fairfield

88 Clarkin Road, Fairfield  
PO Box 957, Hamilton Phone: (07) 855-5434  
Email: [admin@stjosephs.school.nz](mailto:admin@stjosephs.school.nz)  
Website: [www.stjosephs.school.nz](http://www.stjosephs.school.nz)

3rd June 2020  
Issue 6

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### Principals Piece

E ngā mātua, tēnā koutou katoa, talofa  
Dear Parents/Caregivers,

It is nice to be back to our regular newsletter cycle again! A huge thank you to our school community as we continue to navigate Alert Level 2. Although the limit on mass gatherings increased to 100 last week, nothing changed for us as a school in the way we operate under Level 2 guidelines; contact tracing and hygiene continue to be prioritised, and our staggered start and end of day remain in place to manage congestion at our entrances. It is actually lovely to see we are together growing such independent children who are smiling and waving at drop offs! Thanks to parents for your ongoing support and patience with our Alert Level 2 practices.

It is Term 2, which means that students need to be in either their PE gear or old clothes to play on the field when it is open, to keep their uniforms and our classrooms clean. Please remind your child to bring their gear. It is also a good time to check that every piece of their school uniform is named, so that it can be easily returned to them if misplaced.

Reporting to parents - we are currently working through how this will look at mid-year. We will not be reporting curriculum sublevels as we usually do at this stage of the year, as teachers are focussing on teaching the children in class, not doing the 1:1 assessments which take a lot of time to administer. We are planning on giving parents the opportunity to book a Learning Conversation with teachers at the end of this term or early next term.

These will be held over several afternoons so that we can manage contact tracing and have a limited number of parents onsite at once (if we are still under Level 2 at that point). Look out for more information soon.

It is great that Winter Sports are beginning to get up and running again, for a shortened season. Covid has definitely had an impact: we have just 9 school teams across Football, Netball and Hockey, and it has been a challenge to pull them together with constantly changing guidelines. We thank those parents who are volunteering their time as coaches and managers, and look forward to seeing the children playing again!

Some of our onsite school activities are also up and running again, although they are being run differently so that we can meet the social distancing guidelines. Mrs Hughes will be taking small groups of band and choir students, and our Yr 5-8 kapa haka will be starting again next week, also split into smaller groups. We are also looking forward to the medical staff from St John's coming into school to teach basic first aid to our Year 4-8 students on 15-17 June.

We look forward to next announcements from the government about NZ's progress with the Covid-19 situation and we will keep you well informed about what the next step means for our school when the time comes.

God Bless,

*Tracy Svendsen*  
Acting Principal

## Term Dates, Public Holidays & Teacher Only Days for the rest of 2020

**Put these on your calendar at home!**

- **Last day of Term 2** - Friday 3 July
- **Term 3 starts** - Monday 20 July
- **Teacher Only Day** - Monday 17 August
- **Last day of Term 3** - Friday 25 September
- **Term 4 starts** - Monday 12 October
- **Labour Day Holiday** - Monday 26 October
- **Teacher Only Day** - Tuesday 27 October
- **Last day of Term 4** - School ends for 2020 - 12.30pm Wednesday 16 December

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## Pentecost Sunday, Cycle A 2020 (John 20:19-23)

The Season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in today's Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John's Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is enough that we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.

We already heard today's Gospel proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter this year (Lectionary Cycle A). That Gospel passage, however, also included the description of Jesus' appearance to Thomas. In that context, we were led to reflect on belief and unbelief.

In the context of the Feast of Pentecost, John 20:19-23 reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Jesus' act of breathing the Holy Spirit mirrors God's act of breathing life into Adam at the time of Creation. In fact, both the Greek and Hebrew words for "spirit" can also be translated as "breath."

This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. The reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated in the Church's sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God through the forgiving of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people.

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## School Focus

### **Fruit of the Holy Spirit: Joy - Hari**

*We take delight in the world and **celebrate our successes** and those of others.*

*The joy of the Lord is your strength.*

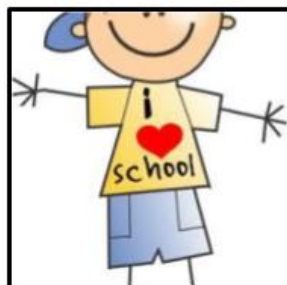


Weeks starting Monday 25 May & Tuesday 2 June:

## ENJOY LEARNING

Learning isn't always easy, but it feels really good when you persevere and learn something new.

During lockdown, we couldn't learn alongside our classmates, so this week enjoy learning together at school!



## PTFA News

### PTFA Annual General Meeting

We will be meeting next on Tuesday 9th June at 7pm in Room 1.

If you intend to come, you will need to advise us by emailing [ptfa@stjosephs.school.nz](mailto:ptfa@stjosephs.school.nz). We need to know in advance for contact tracing purposes, and to keep track of numbers. All welcome.

### PTFA Annual Easter Raffle

Our Easter raffle this year made \$4,623 which is an amazing effort considering the reduced ticket selling period and disruption caused by the lockdown.

Congratulations and thank you to our top ticket sellers: Veronica (24 sheets sold), (23) Amanda (20) Harper (12), Katana (8), Nate (7).

We thank families for their support in making it such a success each year. These were the winners of the Easter hampers which were drawn and distributed last week (a bit late due to the circumstances): Anne Hartshorne, Bryan family, Bulamba family, Juanita Dargaville, Beardshaw family, T Fau, Drent family, Lee family, Ford family, Tim Milina.

### PTFA contribution to purchase Chromebooks

At our last PTFA meeting, the committee agreed to make a financial contribution towards Chromebooks for the school.

The PTFA is pleased to report we have now paid \$10,000 towards the purchase of these.

### Quiz Night Delayed

Unfortunately, the lockdown meant the Quiz night had to be postponed. It is such a great night, we are still keen to hold it!

Watch out for further details on when this will be.

### PTFA Fundraising – Entertainment Book

The Entertainment Book is only available as a digital subscription this year. If you are planning to buy a subscription, please buy through this link as we get a commission on each one sold.

[www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/15411q0](http://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/15411q0)

## Celebrating Success

Congratulations to Kayla (Year 8) who entered the Young New Zealand Writers Competition. Her short story "The Secret Of The Living Library" has been selected to be part of the anthology to be published in June.

This is a great achievement in a competition where a large number of high-quality entries are received, well done Kayla!

## Year 7&8 Immunisations: Wednesday 10th June from 11.30am

The public health nurses will be in school next Wednesday to do the first round of immunisations for those students whose parents gave consent. (Boostrix for Year 7 and HPV for Year 8's). These immunisation dates have been rescheduled as the original date was during lockdown. The second dose for the Year 8's will now be on Wednesday 11th November.

## Smith & McKenzie Cheesecake Festival

St Joseph's have again entered in the annual Smith & McKenzie Cheesecake Festival.

Our delicious flavour for this year is **Raspberry, white chocolate and macadamia**.

Head into Smith & McKenzie and try our cheesecake and vote for St Joseph's. \$1 from every slice goes back to our school. The school with the most votes wins \$500 worth of book vouchers.

A voucher for one Complimentary Kid's Main meal are going home today so keep an eye out for them. In your child's bag.



**CHEESECAKE FESTIVAL**

THE 11TH ANNUAL SMITH & MCKENZIE CHEESECAKE FESTIVAL IS BACK THIS JUNE

SAMPLE SOME DELICIOUS CHEESECAKES TO HELP SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS BY VOTING FOR YOUR FAVOURITE!

\$1 PER SLICE GOES BACK TO THE SCHOOL OR ORGANISATION THAT CREATED IT. WINNER OF THE MOST VOTES AND SALES WILL RECEIVE A...

**\$500**

BOOK VOUCHER  
OR  
SMITH & MCKENZIE VOUCHER

WE ARE GIVING AWAY ONE WHOLE CHEESECAKE PER WEEK!  
GET YOUR VOTE IN NOW TO BE IN TO WIN!

131 LYNDEN COURT, CHARTWELL, HAMILTON TEL: 07 555 1488  
WWW.SMITHANDMCKENZIE.CO.NZ

# FOCUS ON FAITH

*"When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting." Acts 2:1-3*



## **What is Pentecost?**

Pentecost is the festival when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is celebrated on the Sunday 50 days after Easter. Pentecost is regarded as the birthday of the Christian church, and the start of the church's mission to the world. The Easter Season has now ended and we begin the period of Ordinary Time.

## **The Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is the third part of the Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## **Celebrating Pentecost**

Pentecost is a celebration. Priests in church often wear robes with red as a symbol of the flames in which the Holy Spirit came to earth.

## **Pentecost Symbols**

The symbols of Pentecost are those of the Holy Spirit and include flames, wind, the breath of God and a dove.

## **The first Pentecost**

The apostles were together in one place when the Holy Spirit descended on them. It sounded like a very strong wind, and it looked like tongues of fire. The apostles then found themselves speaking in foreign languages, inspired by the Holy Spirit. People passing by at first thought that they must be drunk, but the apostle Peter told the crowd that the apostles were full of the Holy Spirit.

## **An Important Message from Bishop Steve:**

### ***UNITED HEART & SOUL: Parish Support Appeal***

*We invite you to visit <http://parishsupportappeal.cdh.nz> to read Bishop's Steve's letter and prayerfully consider if you are able to support our parish communities during these difficult times.*



## A snapshot of some of our Religious Education learning so far this term...

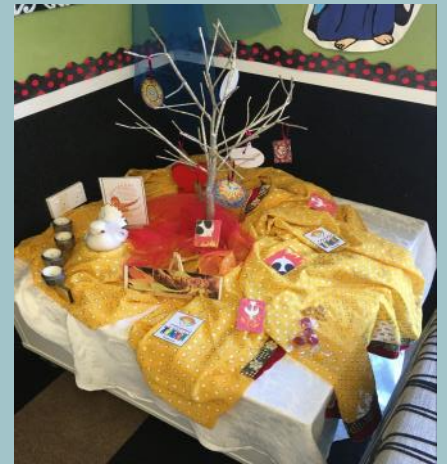


Our new house patrons:

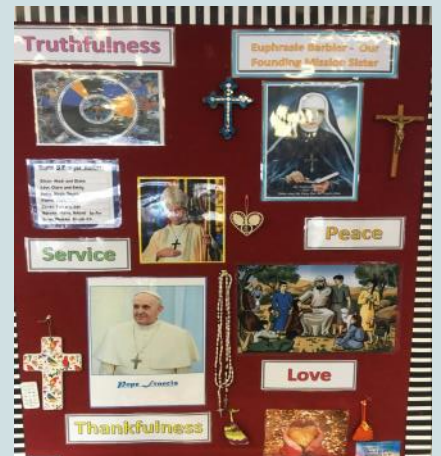
- Barbier
- Chanel
- Pompallier
- Aubert



We are Jesus' disciples



Symbols of Pentecost



"Look at Jesus. His deep compassion reached out to others. It did not make him hesitant, timid or self-conscious, as often happens with us. Quite the opposite. His compassion made him go out actively to preach and to send others on a mission."

Pope Francis  
*Gaudete et exsultate*





## Meet the Principal & Tour our School

Visit [shgcham.school.nz](http://shgcham.school.nz) to book now

“Set your heart on **Sacred Heart**”

Ignite the Passion: *inspiring young women to  
change the world - me aro ki te hā o Hineahuone*



**St John's College**

# ENROL NOW

APPLICATIONS  
ACCEPTED IN TERM 2

[WWW.STJOHNS-HAMILTON.SCHOOL.NZ](http://WWW.STJOHNS-HAMILTON.SCHOOL.NZ)



PREPARING YOUNG MEN FOR LIFE