

# St Joseph's Catholic School, Fairfield

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#### **Principals Piece**

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

As we approach the end of the most unusual term of school, it is important to catch our breaths and reflect on what we have achieved in the most challenging of circumstances. It seems a long time ago now that we started this term with Distance Learning, before moving to a dual mode of delivery under Alert Level 3, when most students were at home Distance Learning and some at school in bubbles. Then came the transition back to school for all under Alert Level 2 conditions, and then the last 4 weeks of term we have been in Alert Level 1. What a journey we have all been through! I want to thank our wonderful staff, who have worked so hard throughout this term.

#### Staffing Updates:

Welcome back to Mrs Donna Fitzwater. Donna had planned to take a year's leave, but Covid changed her travel plans! We are thrilled to have Donna back in Matatipu, where she will work in the New Entrant space in Terms 3&4. Mrs Penny Finn is moving into the bigger Matatipu space with many of the children that she currently teaches.

We are very proud to let you know that Ms Erin Clayton, our Acting Year o-3 Team Leader has been appointed as the Director of Religious Services at Suzanne Aubert Catholic School, the new school opening in Papamoa next year. We know she will be a huge asset to their team, and we are very sad to see her go. We will keep you updated when we appoint a teacher to take over from Erin.

#### Change to end of year date:

Due to the disruptions this year with shifting term dates and changing teacher only days, our last day of school for 2020 will now be Tuesday 15 December.

#### Fundraisers:

The Mufti Day held last Thursday raised \$373 for the Student Council to support activities in the senior school. Thanks for your support!

The Young Vinnies are pleased to announce that we were able to donate over 700 items of food to the St Vincent de Paul Society for families in need in Hamilton. What an achievement - thank you for your generosity. The Young Vinnies will let you know what causes they are supporting next term.

#### Head Lice:

Unfortunately head lice are an ongoing problem in schools, and ours is no

exception. Anyone can get head lice – it doesn't matter how clean or dirty a person's hair is. Head lice spread by crawling from one person's hair to another's – usually between people who are in close contact, such as family or school classmates. Please check your children's hair regularly, and if you find head lice or eggs – you need to treat them. We have had some head lice treatments donated to the school, so just come and collect one from the school office if you want to treat your family for head lice.

Have a safe and happy term break and we look forward to seeing students back for Term 3 on Monday 20 July.

God Bless,

*Tracy Svendsen* Acting Principal

2nd July 2020 Issue 8

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#### and more....

#### The Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time, **Cycle** Α (Matthew 10:37-42)

Today's Gospel is the conclusion of the instructions and consolations that we have heard Jesus offering to his disciples during the past few weeks. In this passage, Jesus summarizes both the costs of discipleship and its rewards. Once again our understanding of the Gospel is strengthened by considering the context in which it was written and the perspective of Matthew's audience.

The conditions of discipleship outlined in Matthew's Gospel may appear harsh. Yet they underline for us a truth-choosing anything with one's whole heart has consequences. Choosing life with Christ means that every relationship we have must be understood from a new perspective. For many in Matthew's community, this choice brought division to their family.

Matthew also outlines the reward of hospitality offered to Jesus' followers. In today's Gospel, Jesus explains the difficulties of discipleship, yet reveals that those who welcome the disciples have also welcomed him.

Today's Gospel also highlights for us the importance of hospitality in the Christian life. To welcome another in Jesus' name is to extend hospitality to Jesus himself. We have many opportunities in our daily life to reach out to others, to be a welcoming presence and a sign of God's love.

**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 Monday 26 October
- Teacher Only Day Tuesday 27 October

## \*Last day of Term 4 School ends for 2020 - 12.30pm on **Tuesday 15 December**

\*note this end of year date has been changed from the date previously published due to the changes to term dates and Teacher Only Days this year.

## **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.



# Enjoy the last week of Term 2. Be kind to each other. Look after each other. Remember to be thankful for all we have.







## **PTFA News**

#### **July PTFA Meeting**

Our next PTFA meeting is Tuesday 28th July at 7pm in the staffroom.

#### PTFA Pizza Tomorrow - Friday 3rd July

The PTFA is running the popular pizza lunches fortnightly for the winter months. Ordering will take place in the library from 8.15am. The cost is \$2 per slice; or two for \$3. The hot pizzas are delivered by Dominos and the slices distributed to the classes at lunch time.

#### **Entertainment Book**

With school holidays just around the corner why not p u r c h a s e an Entertainment Book and support our local businesses and help raise funds for St Joseph's PTFA.



If you purchase an Entertainment book in June/July you receive an extra 2 months membership.

Click on the link below to start your new membership: <u>https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/</u> orderbooks/15411q0

## **School Photos**

## Tuesday 4th August

Due to the Covid lockdown, we were unable to have the class and individual/sibling photos taken last term.

All photos, including school group photos, will now be taken on Tuesday 4th August.

Sibling request forms will be available next term.

Please note that we are no longer taking sports team photos. If you wish to have a team photo taken, please talk to your team manager.

## **New Enrolments**

We have openings for new enrolments in some of our Year levels. If you know of a family who may like to enrol their child at St Joseph's with a Preference Card, email: admin@stjosephs.school.nz for more info or head to our <u>website</u> for more details. Additionally, if you have a sibling of a current student who will be starting in the next 12 months, please inform the school office ASAP.

## **House Happenings**

## Shield Holders: Barbier

The House competition of Tug of War was a great success and a fantastic way to come together as four Houses after the NZ lockdown. All the year groups in each House pulled as hard as they could while being loudly cheered from the sidelines.

Everyone had a great time and encouraged anyone and everyone. It was a great afternoon of House spirit with some very long and hard battles, especially from our youngest students!

Congratulations to Barbier who took out the competition and are the new shield holders.

Samuel Scott House leader for Barbier

## **School App**

Downloading this app for free from the <u>App store</u> or <u>Google</u> <u>Play</u> is highly recommended to keep in touch with what is happening at school.



You can send absentee notifications to school, receive remind-

ers from school e.g. mufti days, last minute event cancellations/updates, notices etc.



# Young Vinnies Food Bank Collection

Students helping to load the hundreds of items of food into the St Vincent De Paul truck.









## Winter Reading Programme -Licence to Chill

Hamilton City Libraries is launching a winter reading programme for 5 – 12 yr olds from Monday 6 July to Friday 31 July. For every hour of reading children do, they earn an entry into weekly prize draws and there's a Canon Inspic C camera up for grabs in the final draw. There are also spot prizes of pool, museum and zoo family passes.

*Entry is free, and if children don't have a library card they can sign up when they come in to register.* 



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