

St Joseph's Catholic School, Fairfield

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28th October 2020 | ISSUE 15

Principal's Piece

Kia Ora Koutou,

He moana pukepuke e ekengia e te waka A choppy sea can be navigated

The rest of the term calendar is very full with lots of different events for the students. It starts on Monday with the Year 8's going on retreat and the Year 7's going to Re-Generation in Rotorua. Next Thursday is the Athletics Day for Year 4-8 students at Porritt Stadium. The following week the Middle School Team goes to Camp at Finlay Park. While the Junior students start their swimming programme in Week 6. It is a busy time of year but it is one that can be navigated. All the school events coming up are loaded on to the school app so that you can make the arrangements needed.

Last Tuesday I attended the PTFA meeting. The committee is working hard behind the scenes to help make a difference for the students learning. Their big fundraiser for the year is the Spellathon. I encourage you to help support this. All the funds raised go towards supporting our students attending camps and swimming lessons.

2021 is fast approaching and we have started to plan for the New Year. Over the next few weeks we will be organizing classrooms for 2020. If your child is not returning to St Joseph's could you please inform us. If you have learning considerations for your child's placement for 2021, please email me by Friday 22nd November; <u>g.stuart@stjosephs.school.nz</u>. Any request is not guaranteed but it is taken into consideration when placing children. We thank you for your support as we endeavour to make sure every child has the best environment to thrive in.

Kia manaaki te Atua koutou katoa Grant Stuart **PRINCIPAL**

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:34-40

The Pharisees continue to test Jesus with a question about the greatest commandment.

Background on the Gospel Reading

This week's Gospel follows close behind the Gospel read last Sunday. It is the last of three questions put to Jesus by Jewish religious leaders who are trying to trick him into saying something that might get him arrested. This reminds us that the context for today's reading is the mounting tension between Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem.

The Herodians and the Pharisees asked the first question, which was about taxes. The Sadducees asked the second question, which was about the Resurrection (see Matthew 22:22-33). The third question, considered in today's Gospel, is asked by a Pharisee who asks Jesus about the greatest of the commandments.

The question requires Jesus to interpret the Law of Moses. The Mosaic Law consists of the Ten Commandments and many additional rules, numbering over six hundred. Adherence to the Mosaic Law, for a devout Jew, is an expression of faithfulness to God's covenant with Israel. The ranking of the Commandments was regularly debated among the teachers of the Law.

Jesus answers the Pharisees' question with a two-fold summary. Jesus says that all of the commandments can be summarized in two commandments: love God and love your neighbor. Both of these were central elements of the religious tradition Jesus learned from his Jewish community. Indeed these continue to be central aspects of contemporary Jewish religious understanding. Jesus' response to his questioners proposed an integral connection between these two aspects of the Jewish Law. Love of God finds its expression in our love for our neighbor.

School Value Focus



St Joseph's Fairfield PTFA Fundraiser 2020





Thank you to all those who have been collecting sponsors and learning their spelling words! This is the only PTFA fundraiser (except for the Pizza Friday's) and we really appreciate your generous support! The money raised will go towards camps and swimming lessons. Bring those blue sponsorship sheets back this Friday so that they can be signed off after the testing happens next week. Key dates for the Spellathon are:

Important Dates:	PRIZES:
Week 2: Monday 19 October Sponsorship form and spelling words given to students. Learn words and collect sponsors this week	<u>Class Prize!</u> Pizza lunch for the class which raises the most money!
Week 3: Keep learning words and collecting sponsors. Return sponsorship forms to class teacher by Friday 30 October.	Prize Draw: If you get 5 sponsors minimum, you go into the draw for amazing spot prizes! (Your money must be in by Wednesday 18 November to be eligible for spot prizes.)
Week 4: Mon 2 - Wed 4 November: Spelling tests (or activities) take place at school. Spellathon Markers will sign off the number of correct words on the sponsorship form and return the form to the child, so that money can be collected.	
Weeks 5&6: Collecting Sponsorship Money All money collected and returned by Wednesday 18 November. Prizes will be given out at assembly on Friday 20 November. Thanks for your support!	

Information Session for Parents of Current Year 6 Students about Year 7&8 in 2021

Tuesday 17 November: 5.30 - 6.15pm in Room 1

We are extremely proud of the programme we offer for Year 7&8 students. The opportunities we offer our senior students in academic, sporting, leadership and cultural areas are excellent. We know that Intermediate Schools hold open days to advertise their programmes to prospective parents, so we would like to do the same! We invite parents of Year 6 students to join us on Tuesday 17 November, for a presentation about the Year 7&8 syndicate, and the many opportunities it provides our students. We look forward to working with you and your current Year 6 child as a senior in our school in 2021.

Lucky Book Club

Lucky Book club online orders will close Fri 2nd Nov. All orders must be completed online using the Scholastic LOOP, details are on the catalogue. **No orders will be accepted at the school office**. Orders completed by Fri 2nd Nov will be delivered to school for distribution to students. Any orders completed after this date can be sent to your home address at a small postage cost. It's a BUMPER 40 page brochure which includes an extra six pages of Christmas bargains!



Credit Union

First Credit Union's school banking service is up and running again this term at St Joseph's School. Getting started is easy - just pick up an application pack from the school office, fill in the application form and return it to the school office. If your children are already doing school banking, remember that the school banking will be collected on Wednesday each week.

Celebrating Success

ICAS Exams

Congratulations to the following students that achieved a mark of Merit, Credit, Distinction, High Distinction or Excellence in the ICAS exams. Well done on your achievements!

ICAS English

- Muireann O'Toole Merit
- Paxton Polaczuk Merit
- Carmelo Mangampat Credit
- Laura Barton Credit
- Aoife Whaley Credit
- Alex Johnston Credit
- Toby Monsma Credit
- Ciaran Whaley Credit
- William Riley Credit
- Elle Louange Credit
- Amanda Wong Credit
- Bella McLauchlan-Hillary Distinction
- Cate Langley Distinction

ICAS Mathematics

- Jihye Choi Merit
- Aidan Pan Merit
- Elle Louange Merit
- Zach McLauchlan-Hillary Credit
- Eva Conlon Credit
- Wayde Pan Credit
- Amanda Wong Credit
- Yunho Choi Credit
- Bella McLauchlan-Hillary Distinction

ICAS Spelling

- Aodhan O'Toole Merit
- Carmelo Mangampat Merit
- Raphael Brdanovic Merit
- Elle Louange Merit
- Laura Barton Credit
- Bella McLauchlan-Hillary Credit
- Toby Monsma Credit
- Muireann O'Toole Credit
- Chunwa Ogechi-Okoro Credit
- Amanda Wong Credit
- William Riley Credit
- Wayde Pan Credit
- Emilia Shyra Distinction
- Tobias O'Halloran Distinction
- Aidan Pan High Distinction

Diving New Zealand Nationals

Over Labour weekend Mackenzie Anderson, Samuel and Taylor McCarthy competed in the Diving New Zealand Nationals at Westwave in Auckland. All three divers showed great improvement from Waikato Championships with Mackenzie and Sam earning silver medals overall and Taylor a gold medal and the highest points in the Level 1 Skills.



Yr 4-6: 6.30-7.30pm Theme: Movie Characters

Thursday 26th November 2020 Yr 7&8: 6.00-7.30pm Theme: 'We like Tutu Party'

Parents, you are welcome to stay and dance!



READING BUDDIES

Does your child need some help with their reading? Are they new to reading in English or Te Reo? Let's read to therapy dogs together to build their confidence!

Register now to be part of our six week Reading Buddies programme!

Tuesdays, 27 October - 1 December 3.30pm - 4.30pm Glenview Library

liends

itable for all school aged children/youth who have a print disability, dyslexia, or are new to reading in English or Te Reo. Registration required, places limited. For full details or to register visit www.hamiltonlibraries.co.nz

