



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Kia ora, Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Bula vinaka, Olá, Warmest Greetings to you all.

I am sorry I didn't get this Newsletter out last week as I was in Wellington attending the **New Zealand Catholic Principals' Conference**. It was a great opportunity for me to meet up with other Catholic Principals to discuss relevant issues facing all our schools and education in general, from a Catholic perspective. We had a great selection of speakers including **Cardinal John Dew** who spoke strongly about the mission of Catholic schools being to ensure all our children have a deep encounter with Jesus while at school. Unfortunately, for many children this is the only chance they have, as not all families of children in our schools attend church regularly. We, as a group of principals, also had the chance to attend Mass at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart for the celebration of the Feast Day of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Two of the local Catholic schools helped lead the liturgy which was a very special time for all present. Unfortunately Pope Francis was not present, although Cardinal John spoke passionately about the work he did recently with Pope Francis while in Rome, and how humble and Christ like he is. This year the children have been focussing on his document **Laudato Si** and the responsibility we have in protecting our planet.



What a fantastic achievement with Emirates Team New Zealand winning the Americas' Cup and the All Blacks beating the British and Irish Lions. It just shows



how small nations can achieve anything if enough hard-working people put their minds to it. Sometimes this is how I feel at school when I see our students being so successful, despite not having everything provided for them and having to overcome huge difficulties. Good things come with hard work. Sometimes however I get equally frustrated when children, with everything going for them make bad choices and don't make a reasonable effort to make the most of their opportunities. I have had to deal with several, mostly senior students, lately, who it seems have forgotten all about our school (and their own family) values and have displayed rude and disrespectful behaviour to other students and their teachers. When I speak to parents they are always very embarrassed and upset and work very hard with us to help the children make better choices. I thank all parents who set clear boundaries for their children's behaviour and then help us at school when we have issues. It is very frustrating for our teachers when they need to concentrate on behaviour rather than learning.



With just over a week until the holidays, I would ask parents to ensure the children arrive at school each morning, on time. It is very disruptive to the classes when children arrive late and disturb the lesson when they enter the classroom. The children always blame their parents who drop them off late. I know the parents are probably blaming the children for taking too long to get ready but the end result is a disturbance in the classroom so thank you for helping us in this matter.

Our **3 Way Student Goal Setting Conferences** are scheduled for **Thursday 6th July**. School will finish at 12.30pm with conferences starting at 1.15pm and finishing at 7.30pm. Children will need to be picked up from school at 12.30pm. We will have supervision in the afternoon available if you are unable to collect your child but there will be no formal lessons. Parents should have received the confirmed conference time by now. Please phone the school office if that has not been done yet and Philippa will make a time.



Buddy Reading – Not sure who enjoys it more – young or old?



Buddy Reading between younger and older classes continues and is enjoyed by everyone involved.



Keeping Ourselves Safe

Thank you to all the enthusiastic group of parents and caregivers who attended our Parent **Keeping Ourselves Safe (KOS)** evening presented by **Constable Gordon** for the **New Zealand Police**. At the meeting **Constable Gordon** explained the programme and how important it is for parents to understand what was involved and that we are all working together to protect our children from all sorts of abuse and harm. The programme is happening in Rooms 5 and Nu'u for Years 4-8 students. **Mrs Tui** and **Mrs Middleton** share the teaching with **Constable Gordon**, as they work through the programme.



Skids Before/After School Care (. . . and Holiday Programme)



We are very fortunate that there is a wonderful before and after school care facility operating out of Glen Innes Primary with several of our children attending. Children are collected at school and taken to Glen Innes School each day ready to be collected by their parents after work. This is also available before school, with the children dropped off at school in time for their lessons.

Often the cost of SKIDs can be met by a WINZ OSCAR subsidy. Holiday programmes are also offered. The children will be bringing home a flyer with details from school this week, with all the information required.

Winter Learning Journey

During the July holidays we will once again be offering the **Winter Learning Journey** to our senior classes. Children are encouraged to register and commit to blogging each day of the holidays. The teachers will set very creative and interesting tasks and then respond every day to encourage plenty of writing during the time off school. There are many prizes for children who take part and evidence shows that those children who have taken part previously, thoroughly enjoy the experience and benefit from the extra learning.



Tennis Lessons finish.

This week saw the end of our Kiwisport Tennis sessions for the senior classes. The children had a great time and **Coach Campbell** said he very much enjoyed working with our children and teachers. This experience was to give the children a taste for tennis so if parents are interested they should make contact with one of the local tennis clubs and enrol the children or themselves. Some of the boys can be seen using the electronic ball machine improving their hand/eye coordination. Not everyone knew what to do with the cone, though!



Uniform

We have learned recently that our uniform supplier will be no longer able to supply our girl's skirts and towards the end of the year we may run out of some sizes. Our Board of Trustees has investigated alternatives and discussed the issue at last week's meeting. They have asked me to send out information about possible alternatives asking for feedback before a solution is finalised at our next Board meeting in August. Early next week you will receive information with a feedback form which should be returned before the end of the week if possible.

Photolife

We have sent out order forms for class photos this week. Please return orders to school as soon as possible and by Wednesday next week, 5th July at the latest. After that date families will need to contact Photolife directly for any orders.

Te Ara Rama Matariki
Matariki Light Trail
6pm – 9pm
Saturday 1 – Saturday 8th July
98 Line Road, entry behind Te Oro Youth Music & Arts Centre





For the last several years now, we have been recycling paper as part of the **Paper4Trees Programme**. As a result we receive free native trees to plant around our grounds to help beautify the school and reduce our carbon footprint. Mr Tai has planted the new crop alongside our last donation near the fence near the field.



Term 2 2017

June				
26 R.E. Focus Holy Spirit Keeping Ourselves Safe (KOS) (cont.)	Week 9 27 Netball	28	29	30
July				
3 R.E. Focus Imaginative Prayer	Week 10 4 Last Day of Netball for term	5	6 12.30pm finish for school 3 Way Conferences	7 Last Day of Term 2 Normal finish time of 2.45pm

School starts again on Monday 24th July