



Dear Parents and Caregivers

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

Advent : A time of Hope

It is said that while there is life, there is hope.

This has an even deeper meaning in reverse: while there is hope there is life.

Hope is strength.

Hope sheds light into despairing hearts.

It is the doctor's most powerful ally.

It is shield against defeat and failure.

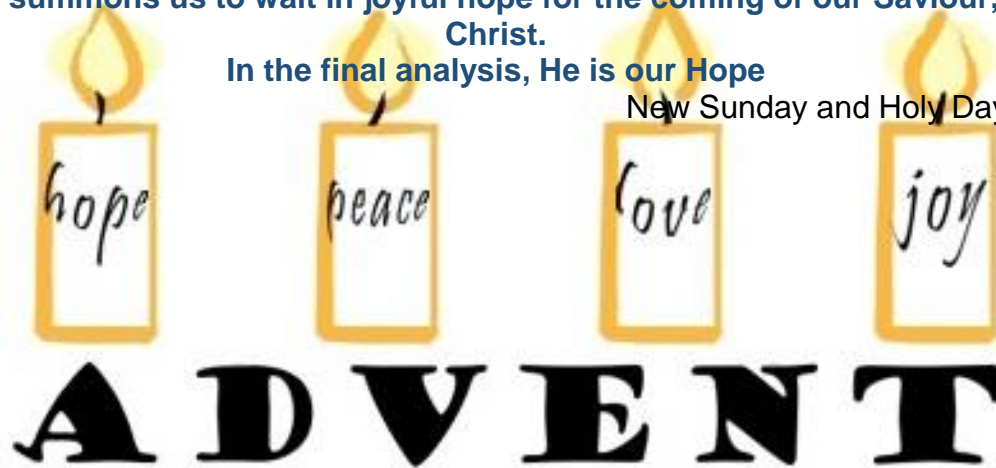
It revives ideals and renews dreams.

As long as there is hope, no situation is impossible.

Advent summons us to wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

In the final analysis, He is our Hope

New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies



Year 8 Leadership Retreat at the Franciscan Friary in Hillsborough last week.

We usually have our senior Retreat early in the year but unfortunately the Friary was closed for renovations in April this year, so we had to wait until last week. Once again Br Philip led our retreat for the two days. All the students particularly enjoyed the overnight stay in the beautiful grounds of the Friary. They also enjoyed hearing how Mr Coakley remembered also staying at the Friary for his Year 8 Retreat over 45 years ago.



Special thanks to **Mr and Mrs Kwok** for supporting our retreat and to **Agnes** and **Andrew** who organised our evening activities. Thanks also to **Fr Felise** who came and celebrated mass for us in the Friary Chapel.

End of Year Christmas Show

The children and staff have been practising hard for our **Christmas Nativity** show which will be on **Monday 11th December** in the hall. Every child in the school has a part to play so we expect everybody here on time by 6.00pm to get into their costumes and ready. The audience needs to be seated by **6.30pm for a 6.45pm start**. We are asking for a gold coin donation at the door to help cover our costs. I am sure everybody will thoroughly enjoy seeing the children showcase their wonderful talents.



Parish Gala last Saturday



Congratulations to the whole St Pius X Parish for your wonderful Gala on Saturday. What a great success and fantastic community building experience. Thank you so much to all our families that brought along cakes and cookies on behalf of the school, to sell at the gala. **Siueli, Karissa and Sonya** can be seen working in the stall all day.

We were able to contribute **over \$700** from this stall alone, for which the Parish is very thankful.

At **sKids Glen Innes** we have planned lots of exciting onsite activities and day trips for the coming summer school holidays. Enrol now to keep your children busy and entertained in holidays. We will be running our holiday programme from 18th December till 22nd December. We will close for 2 weeks and reopen on 8th January until school starts next year.



It's an OSCAR approved programme and Oscar subsidies are available for the eligible families.

The **Oscar subsidy is a payment which helps families with the cost of after school care and Holiday Programmes. You could be eligible for an OSCAR subsidy if you are working (part time, full time, night shift), studying or any member in the household is on disability allowance.** With Oscar subsidy parents have to pay almost nothing for afterschool Care and holiday Programmes.

Please text/ring Anjum on 021686892 for bookings and other inquiries.

Graduation Mass and Prize giving

Next Friday, 15th December at 9.15am is our final Leavers' Graduation Mass. All parents are invited to this special occasion in the church. After mass there will be a break before our final Prize giving begins at mid-day. This is the chance for us to celebrate all the wonderful achievements of so many of our children. Reminder that the children need to be in full school uniform for this day. All parents, Caregivers and friends are invited to attend.

Following the prize giving our Board of Trustees are putting on a BBQ for all the children to show appreciation for such a great year.

Term 4 2017

December				
11 Week 9 Whole school Christmas Nativity Show 6.30pm	12	13 Year 7/8 Tiritiri Matangi trip	14	15 Year 8 Graduation Mass 9.15am School Prizegiving 12pm BBQ from BOT after Prizegiving
18 Week 10 School finishes at 12.30pm Last Day of Term		School starts again on Thursday 1 st February 2018		

School finishes at 12.30pm on Monday 18th December. Remember each child will receive a Xmas present on Monday and each family a food hamper.

We wish all our students and families a safe and special time over the Christmas Season and the summer break. I hope as many students as possible take advantage of the '**Summer Learning Journey**' which has been so successful in the past. Remember learning does not just happen between 9 and 3pm during school time.

Our **Manaiakalani Mantra** is "**Learning happens 24/7 any time, anywhere!**"

School starts again on **Thursday February 1st 2018**. The school office will be open from Wednesday 24 January at 9.00am until 12.00 for stationary and uniform purchases.