



Dear Parents and Caregivers

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

Catholic Schools Day

Last week the whole school travelled by bus to St Patrick's School in Panmure to join them and the children and staff of St Ignatius School for Catholic Schools' Day. We were so blessed that each Parish Priest, **Fr Felise** from St Pius X, **Fr Andrew** from Panmure and **Fr John** from St Ignatius were able to concelebrate the mass for us. After mass all the children sat together for lunch but we had to cancel the planned shared activities because the weather became very bad. Catholic schools right across New Zealand were involved with this special celebration which happens every two years.



Board of Trustee Elections

By now voting has closed for our BOT elections which happened on Friday last week. Thank you to those parents who were able to get their voting forms back on time. There were some issues across New Zealand with New Zealand Post so hopefully it was all sorted. It did highlight the importance of keeping all contact, home addresses and details of any changes of address or phone numbers immediately.

The school is very thankful to those BOT members who have stepped down at this time, several after serving two three-year terms representing the parents governing our school. The school is very grateful for the wonderful efforts of our retiring members who include **Silia Vaka'uta, Allie Makatesa, Nimo Patelesio, Ketera Pita** and **Ofa Taimani**.

Our new Board of Trustees, including four Bishops Representatives, will be announced next week. **Mrs Debbie Williams** has been elected as Staff Representative on the board.



Auckland Catholic Primary Principals' Conference

At the end of May, I had the privilege of travelling to Waitangi in the Bay of Islands, with over thirty other Catholic Principals from primary schools in the Auckland Diocese. Every few years we get together formally for a conference where we can spend time focussing on some aspect of our roles as principals as well as getting the chance to share best practise and spend valuable time together. We had the opportunity to visit St Francis Xavier School, a large Catholic school in Whangarei on the way to Waitangi. The children and community welcomed us to their place with a wonderful and very moving powhiri. After a lovely lunch, we then drove to the Treaty Grounds at Waitangi and had the chance to explore the birthplace of our nation. We visited the Treaty House and new museum and had a presentation from the staff about bringing our schools to visit this historic place.



The theme for our conference was Maori Spirituality and was facilitated by **Mr Manuel Beasley** who lives in Auckland but was born in the Hokianga. On the last day we went to mass in the historic St Paul's Church in Paihia, which was a very spiritual experience.

The theme for our conference was Maori Spirituality and was facilitated by **Mr Manuel Beasley** who lives in Auckland but was born in the Hokianga. On the last day we went to mass in the historic St Paul's Church in Paihia, which was a very spiritual experience.



Treaty House, Waitangi



Pompallier House, Russell

Badminton is our **Kiwisport** this term. All the children are enjoying this very much.



School Uniform

All children should now be in full school uniform including **black school shoes**, not sports shoes, for all formal school occasions including coming to and going home from school. Girls should be wearing white socks and boys must be in our grey school uniform socks. Each child will also need a school jersey as the cold weather continues. Please make sure all items are clearly named, particularly if they have been handed down from another child.



Financial Literacy with Experts from Price Waterhouse Cooper

In recent weeks our senior students from Rooms 5 and 7 spent time with financial experts from the world leading financial accounting firm, **Price Waterhouse Cooper (PwC)**. These young accountants volunteer to spend time showing young people the importance of thinking about saving and the best way to make themselves financially independent when they become adults. I am sure our children really enjoyed the time and I know the experts were really impressed with the good questions asked by our learners.



Building Update



Construction is going well, with the second building frame now completed. The main focus now is to get the roof on as soon as possible. Wall framing is on track as well as the driveway being formed and preparation for the new transformer by the entrance is progressing well. Fortunately the recent bad weather did not cause any major delays.

Netball

Our senior netball team continues to enjoy competing each Tuesday evening at the Auckland Netball Centre. Grading round games have now been completed and the girls are progressing well with a couple of good wins so far. Special thanks for all the positive parent support this team gets each week.



Samoan Language Week



Last week was Samoan Language Week where each class took the opportunity to celebrate this important language in our community. Thank you to those staff and families who were able to contribute to our display in the reception area of the school.



Term 2 2019

| June | | | | | | |
|---|----|---------------------|---|----|---|---|
| Week 6 R.E. – Holy Spirit Strand Queen's Birthday Holiday | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 BOT Election Day | |
| Week 7 R.E. – Holy Spirit Strand | 10 | Photolife Photos | 11 Class | 12 | 13 | 14 School Mass on Sunday 16 June with St Pius X Parish (Note change of date – was June 30) |
| Week 17 R.E. – Imaginative Prayer | 8 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | |
| Week 9 R.E. – Charism BOT Meeting 7.00pm | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | |
| July | | | | | | |
| Week 10 | 1 | 2 | 3 3-Way Conferences School finishes 12.50pm for interviews | 4 | 5 Mufti Mania Day for Caritas Last Day of Term 2 | |

School / Parish Mass

This Sunday, 16th June, please join us at our school/parish mass. All children are expected to be present for the 10.00am mass this weekend. Children should wear their school uniforms. Many of the children will be leading different parts of the service so thank you to the families who are helping them practise their readings. The children will be sitting together to please make sure they are here in plenty of time. They should assemble by the hall ready to process into church together by 9.45am.

Three-Way Conferences

Our mid-year 3-Way Goal Setting Conferences are scheduled for Wednesday 3rd July. School will finish for instruction on this day at 12.50pm with interviews starting at 1.30pm and going into the evening. Appointment sheets will be going home in the next of week so we can organise appointment times. Progress Reports issued at this end of the term.

Teachers Contract Negotiations

These difficult negotiations are continuing after the recent mega strike by NZEI and PPTA members. The government and unions are presently in talks again, so hopefully there may be a resolution soon. Nobody enjoys these challenging times but the teachers are very determined to improve their conditions of work to ensure enough young people choose teaching as a career in the future. Schools are increasingly finding it difficult to attract quality teachers.