



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Kia ora, Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Bula vinaka, Warmest Greetings

Welcome to the end of Week Four. Most of our formal testing has been completed this week so now the teachers are busy marking tests and preparing reports. We will be doing catch-up tests next week for the few children who were away this week. We have had a very busy week with lots and lots of things happening. Thank you for helping ensure the children are now wearing sandals to school and that everybody has their own hat which need to be worn while outside at break times. Please make sure all belongings are clearly named. We presently have about ten jumpers sitting in the lost property bucket with no names and so unable to be returned.

Facebook

The issue of our students using **Facebook** has come up again this week with several children logging on and making inappropriate comments to or about others, for the entire world to see. I must remind parents it is illegal for children under 13 years of age to have a Facebook account. I know some of our students do have accounts because they are the correct age, but there are others who are not. Our school has always blocked Facebook access because of this and have made the rule that children, even if the correct age, may not create a Facebook account using a school email address. I have reminded the children of this and I need to ask parents to help support us (and their children) in this matter. I have explained clearly to the students that when they do, we get an alert every time they logon and so we can see everything they do. The internet is a wonderful tool but there still needs to be caution particularly with children. Please be aware of what your children are doing on their computers while at home. All our classes run a Cyber-Smart Programme at the particular level but unfortunately, like other subjects, not every child gets it right, everytime.



Reminder

If you have any worries or concerns about your child's learning or behaviour, please contact the class teacher or Mrs Williams or myself so that we can make sure that the issue is dealt with quickly and in an appropriate way. If your child complains to you about another child please do not approach that child personally. In these cases you need to speak to me and let us deal with the situation. We have the ability to get both sides of the story and keep things calm.

Caught Being Good

The following students have been awarded Duffy Books in the last couple of weeks after being selected at our 'Caught Being Good' draw.

Dianne Rm 4, Christopher Rm 6, Silia Rm 1, Charis Rm 4, Seine Rm 1, Kalisi Rm 1, Malia Rm 1 (x2), Isaac Rm 1, Olidah Rm 3, Opeti Rm 4.

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded Virtues Certificates at our last assembly.

Josiah V	- Enthusiasm	Seine T	- Enthusiasm
Petra T	- Commitment	Pio F	- Self-Discipline
Szaskia L	- Helpfulness	Folauhola F	- Caring
Helena U	- Self-Discipline	Opeti S	- Courage
Mikaela T	- Perseverance	Aaliyah T	- Diligence
Joshua U	- Commitment	Anthony P	- Courage

Room 1 and 4 Firewise Programme



Rooms 1 and 4 were very excited to have a visit this week by the New Zealand Fire Service as part of the **'Fire Wise Programme'**. The children learned the importance of keeping themselves and others safe particularly around fires and what to do if they are caught in a fire situation. They then had the chance to climb all over the fire engine and have a turn squirting the big hose. Trainee Fireman Solomone looked the part.

The **Room One** children have also been busy learning about how seeds grow and have successfully grown their own bean plants which they have now taken home to plant ready for Christmas.



Year 7 and 8 Raffle Result



Congratulations to **Deja** who was the winner of the Year 7 and 8 raffle to raise funds for their up-coming Outdoor Education Camp to Piha. This fundraiser was a huge success so we are extremely thankful to everybody who was able to support us. The camp will run from the 19th - 21st November and will give our senior students the chance to stay near the bush at a beautiful west coast beach.

They will experience a range of problem solving and outdoor pursuits including archery, Burma trail, orienteering, bush studies and many other fun and challenging activities.



Safety at the School Gate

The Auckland Council Parking Officers are regularly visiting our gate at the end of the school day and monitoring all the cars and where and how they are parking. To date they **have** given out tickets as well as warnings so please be very careful where you park to ensure the safety of the children. Thank you to those parents who get out of their cars and walk up to the school to collect the children. This gives you a chance to chat with staff and other parents and keep everybody safe. This is particularly necessary at the moment while the footpath in Castledine Crescent is blocked for the building.

It is also really important you use the pedestrian crossing and be a good role model to the children. We have just had our new patrol leaders trained by the Police so thank you for listening carefully to their directions as they grow in confidence.

Emergency Lock Down

Today, as part of our normal emergency procedures, we had a '**Lock Down**' drill. We are required to have procedures in place to cope with any unexpected emergency. The drill went very well but it is important for me to remind parents that if there is a '**real**' situation, and we have been instructed by the Police to go into 'Lock Down', please do not come to, or phone the school. We will keep the children safe but will not be able to respond to you as it may still be a dangerous situation. There are many different possibilities to cause a Lock Down. There could be an offender near or at the school but there may also be a swarm of bees passing through. For today's exercise there was a suspected chemical leak in Glen Innes and the fumes were drifting towards the school on the wind.

Preference Students

Whenever I meet parents to enrol a new student we always discuss the child's **Preference Eligibility** and how we and the parents can work together to ensure the child's faith development continues. The New Zealand Bishops have stated that the Parish is responsible for running sacramental programmes but that families must be proactive in supporting their children. I notice many of our older children have not yet completed their Reconciliation, Confirmation or First Holy Communion. Next year we will be working closely with families to ensure this happens. This is why you have chosen a Catholic Education.

We are also asked by the Bishop to consider what we are doing as a school to help children to move towards being 5.1 Preference. This means being baptised Catholic, fully active members of our church.



Term 4 2014

November 2014				
3/11 Testing Week Ripper Rugby Kiwisport	4/11 Whole School Throat Swabbing Duffy Show 1.30pm	5/11 Whole School Throat Swabbing	6/11 Firewise visit to Rooms 1 and 4	7/11
10/11 Ripper Rugby Kiwisport	11/11	12/11 Film Festival Whole school to 1.00pm show at Sylvia Park	13/11	14/11 Roots – Wave Workshops
17/11 BOT Meeting Dental Van at SPX doing catch-ups all week.	18/11	19/11 Year 7/8 Camp to Piha	20/11 Year 7/8 Camp to Piha	21/11 Year 7/8 Camp to Piha
24/11	25/11	26/11	27/11	28/11 SPX Movie Night 29/11 Uke Festival
December 2014				
1/12	2/12	3/12	4/12	5/12
8/12 BOT Meeting	9/12 Advent Liturgy 6.00pm	10/12	11/12	12/12 Graduation Mass
15/12 Prizegiving Picnic lunch	16/12 Last Day of Term 12.30pm finish			

New Computers



We were extremely thankful to **Barfoot and Thompson** this week for their very generous donation of fifteen second-hand computers. These will replace many of our very old and very tired classroom computers. Mr Rob McNeil, Manager of Barfoot and Thompson, Meadowbank delivered the computers and is pictured with Savelio and Albert who helped unload the van.

Advertisement

YMCA Sacred Heart

Free Aquatic Play sessions for children aged 0-3 years on Wednesday mornings at 9.30am. Three left this term 26th Nov, 3rd Dec and 10th Dec. Bring your togs ready for some fun.

YMCA Sacred Heart is now running a Boot Camp every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 6.00am. Just turn up and pay only \$10.00 per session. All welcome.