



Dear Parents and Caregivers

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

This Friday the whole school will be going to Mass for the Feast Day of **St Patrick**, March 17<sup>th</sup>. For many, many years we have celebrated this feast day, mainly in respect for the Holy Faith Sisters who founded our school, as most of them had come from Ireland where St Patrick is the Patron Saint. At St Pius X we also take this opportunity to commission our Soul Friends. Each class is teamed up with another and then each student is given a special '**Soul Friend**' friend to promise to look after during the year. As always, parents and caregivers are invited to join us at 9.00am Mass.



The shamrock is associated with St Patrick because it is said that he used the shamrock to explain the Trinity.

### Friendly Reminder

School starts at 8.55am and children need to be settled at school in plenty of time. I have noticed quite a few children arriving after the bell and then reluctant to go straight into class as they don't want to disturb the Morning Prayer. Please make sure the children are at school on time each day. I also ask parents to help in the afternoons by parking your car correctly and walking to collect the children up at the school gate. Then make sure you use the crossing if needed when returning to your car. WE need to model safe practices to the children.

### Message from the Police

We have recently seen a spate of incidents where suspicious individuals have been reported approaching school students in public. Some of these reports have been found not to be suspicious, but others remain concerning.

With this in mind, it is timely to provide some advice to students who are walking to or from school, or in public areas at other times. With all of this considered though, we still live in one of the safest countries in the world, and we still want our young people to be able to walk freely to and from school without undue concern.

Teachers will talk to their classes about safe practises when coming to school and we ask parents to reinforce this at home. If your child tells you of any incident while they are walking home please let us know and call the police. The modern thinking is that we don't teach children to be scared of strangers as in all likely - hood, if something did happen, they may need to speak to a stranger to get help.

Our junior classes are presently taking part in the Police sponsored '**Stepping Out**' programme. I know Constable Gordon is enjoying working with the younger children very much. Make sure you talk to your children about what they have learned and I am sure they will be posting on their class blogs in the coming weeks.

**Constable Gordon** teaching the junior classes about being safe when out walking on the footpath and crossing the roads, as part of the **Stepping Out** programme.



Parents of **SPX Nu'u** or Room 7 as it used to be called met last week to discuss the best ways they can support the children's learning. We had an excellent turnout and a wonderful discussion where parents had the chance to share what they do at home.



When we work together as teachers, parents and students we cannot help but make great progress with our learning. The students introduced the evening with a prayer and then followed the meeting, serving chop suey and pizza. Mrs Tui showed the parents how she tracks student progress and outlined her expectations for the students (and the parents) in her learning room. Notice the new doorway into the old Room 6 which allows the students to move around the learning space to find the most suitable place for the particular learning they are doing.

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Room One **Super Learning Heroes** have been learning about the **Life Cycle of a Butterfly**.



From a tiny caterpillar . . .



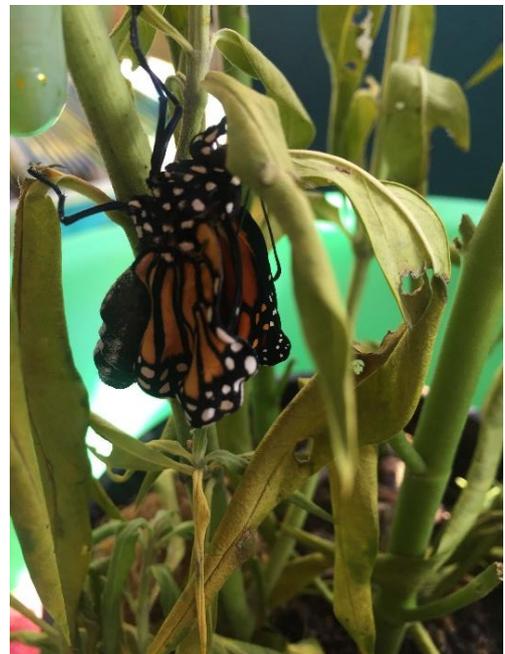
. . . eating constantly



. . . to a green chrysalis

Word List from  
Rm 1 children.

- monarch
- swan plant
- caterpillar
- chrysalis
- leaf
- striped
- yellow
- egg



. . . then a crinkled butterfly



. . . stretching its wings



. . . a beautiful Monarch Butterfly

# Catholic Caring Foundation Thankyou

## Thank you for your generous support of Bishop Pat's Auckland Diocese Earthquake Appeal

Thanks to the generosity of spirit demonstrated by Auckland catholic schools, parishioners and religious communities, Bishop Pat's appeal to help families and individuals suffering from the impact of the November 2016 earthquakes, received an incredible \$67,061.18.

Cardinal Dew, in expressing his prayerful thanks to everyone throughout the Auckland diocese for their overwhelming support, thanked the Catholic Caring Foundation for their help in its appeal to help the stricken community get back on its feet.

***“My pastoral team are working collaboratively with the local Catholic parish, marae and other social services to ensure those families and individuals who are struggling with the aftermath of the November earthquake can be best supported through this challenging time,”*** Cardinal Dew said.

Bishop Pat Dunn said that the volume of messages of support, prayers offered and donations received has been wonderful, and the lives of all of those adversely affected by the earthquake's devastation would be enhanced as a result.

As the bishop's charity, the Catholic Caring Foundation was appointed to collect all donations within the Auckland diocese to go towards the earthquake recovery in Kaikoura and surrounding areas towards the end of 2016.

## Term 1 2017

March 2017					
13	<b>Week 7</b>	14	15	16	17 St Patrick's Day
20 BOT Meeting 7.00pm	<b>Week 8</b>	21	22	23 Mobile Ear Clinic	24
27	<b>Week 9</b>	28	29 HPV Year 7/8	30	31
April 2017					
3	<b>Week 10</b>	4	5	6	7
10	<b>Week 11</b>	11	12 HPV catch-ups Manaiakalani Learning Celebration at Te Oro	13 Holy Thursday Liturgy Last Day of Term	Good Friday

**Marist Rugby Registrations – Call Hamish Fraser on 0210316665 for details or email him at [rdo@aucklandmarist.co.nz](mailto:rdo@aucklandmarist.co.nz)**