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## **12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 Newsletter No 3**

### **Welcome to Term 1 Week 3**

#### **Kia ora**

Welcome to our first full five day week of the year. Classroom programmes are well underway.

This year we are focusing on improving our school gardens. Our first step is the garden and old seats in front of the staffroom.

We would like to thank Mr Sheehan and Mr Shallue for bringing in the big machinery to shift the old garden and rotten seats.

The B.O.T with Steve Warrens help has purchased a beautiful statue of St Joseph to go in the new garden.

#### **Staff Professional Development:**

This week we welcome back Mary Anne Murphy who will be in our school all day on Tuesday. We have been working with Mary Anne for the past two years, learning more about Learner Agency and ways we can help our students take more ownership and responsibility for their own learning. Our teachers are looking forward to having some more time with Mary Anne and continuing to ensure the teaching and learning happening at St Joseph's is on the cutting edge of education in New Zealand today.

We have been approached by another school to help them with teacher development on children's learning.

#### **Attendance Dues:**

Let's get onto them early. If you are finding the payment difficult I can definitely help. If you are working during school time give me a ring at home – 027 2764275.

#### **Farewell:**

Tomorrow (Tuesday) our community farewells Jo Pouwells who passed away last week. Jo worked at our school for many years, having taught some of the parents of students currently attending St Joseph's. Her funeral is at 11am in our Church. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this time.

#### **God Bless**

**Kristine Osburn**

*After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Mark 9:2-4*

***Mission: Excellence in Education for all within a Catholic Environment.***

## Mobile Dental Unit

The MDU will be at Te Aroha Primary School from the 21<sup>st</sup> February. Due to a new WDHb policy we will be booking children in by appointment and parents will be sent a text message 3 days prior. This gives the parents the opportunity to attend the appointment. If you do not wish to or are unable to attend your child will be brought over from class, as has occurred in the past.

## Passion Play:

Congratulations to all those students who have been given parts in our upcoming Passion Play, 'That we might live'. All of these students have been given scripts to take away to practise and learn lines. Practises begin for the students this week. We wish them and Whaea Em all the best as they prepare to retell the very special story of Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

## Naming Clothing:

At the moment, children are swimming each day and so the changing rooms at the pool are very busy places. Please help us by naming all clothing items so that any items left behind can be returned to their rightful owner. Thank you for your support in this.

## Old Sheets:

Whaea Em is looking for old sheets to be used for costuming for our Passion Play later this Term, 'That we might live'. If you have any old sheets or similar at home that we could use for re-purposing, please drop them in the office or with Whaea Em.

## Family Picnic:

Many thanks to all those families who came along to our picnic last Thursday. It was great to see everyone there and to spend some time in fellowship together.





Mahuri have been sharing their classroom with a family of swallows. Before school started this year, there were three very small baby swallows inside a very delicate mud nest perched very precariously. Mrs Rutherford carefully placed the fragile nest into a basket, blue-tacked back in the same place. We watched the swallows feed their babies and watched the baby birds get bigger and bigger. Over the weekend Whaea Em found the nest empty. Here is one of the three baby swallows sitting in their nest last Friday.

### Sacramental Programme 2018:

The next lesson is tomorrow (Tuesday 13th February) at 3.30pm in the Parish Lounge. Candidates are reminded to bring something along from their Baptism to share. Please note that lessons are each Tuesday.

### Commissioning Mass:

Thursday is the Commissioning Mass presided by Bishop Steve. Everyone is welcome to attend this Mass to bless our school year. Some of our teachers will represent our community there. Mass is 6pm at the Cathedral in Hamilton on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

### Mass Times 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> February

Paeroa – Saturday 7pm

Te Aroha – Sunday 11am

Morrinsville – Sunday 9am

### REMINDER:

*PTA MEETING TOMORROW NIGHT  
(TUESDAY) 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY AT 7.00PM  
IN SCHOOL STAFFROOM. ALL WELCOME.*

### Ash Wednesday:

On Wednesday the whole school will attend Mass at 10am. This is a special Mass to begin our Lenten journey of prayer, giving and fasting. All are very welcome.

### Squash:

Squash lessons continue this week with Kay from Waikato Squash. The skills that the children are practising are transferable into many different sporting codes and activities are thoroughly enjoyed by all.

### FREE HEARING & VISION CHECKS for CHILDREN

15<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Future Te Aroha Community Centre

13 Boundary St

10am to noon.

For enquiries regarding this Service please phone 07 8680040 Ext 25211 or 021 2793294



