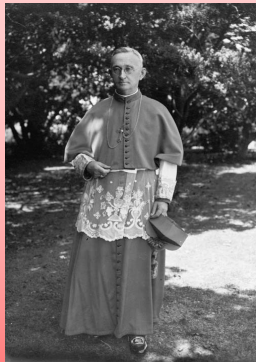


Do you know our school's history?

This term we celebrate our school's proud Mercy Sisters history on **Mercy Day—24th September**. Here is the story behind the names of our Houses:

Liston



In 1904 the first classes in Te Aroha were taught by the Sisters of Mercy in the convent, 'Our Lady of Lourdes'. In 1930, this all changed and St Joseph's school

building was built for 6,500 pounds. The building was blessed and opened by Bishop Liston, the Bishop of the Auckland Diocese from 1929-1970, a staggering 41 years as Bishop!.

Sheeley



Father Sheeley was the first non-Irish priest in Te Aroha. He was a Kiwi. He left Te Aroha in 1940 to go to war where he elected to become a prisoner of war and became a chaplain to the men in his camp. A very well respected man, when he returned he became Parish Priest and was so for 20 years, from 1951-1971.

O'Reilly



In 1880 the first Holy Mass was celebrated in Te Aroha in the dining room of Lawrence House on the banks of the Waihou River. The celebrant was

Monsignor O'Reilly and his congregation numbered about 20 people. When the first Church was built, Monsignor O'Reilly became the Parish Priest and was so until 1886.

McAuley



Catherine McAuley is the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. Though the work of the Sisters of Mercy began in Ireland in about 1824, the order was founded a few years later in about 1830. Small groups of Sisters came out from Ireland to other countries, like New Zealand. They came to Te Aroha where they began teaching and carrying out their good works here.

Faith Forum

RE Newsletter

Term 3, 2018



This term, we are learning all about Creations and Inventions.

God Creates—People Make

In RE this term, we will be learning that God's creation is amazing. Each small part of creation is wonderful and awesome. Each person is God's unique creation, made in love for love.

We are each part of what God made and 'saw that it was good'. God is present in the world through the gift of creation., which we should respect because it is tapu—sacred.

Whole School Masses and Liturgies

Whole School Mass— Tuesday 24th July, 10am

Assumption Mass (Week 4) —date and time TBC

Mercy Day Mass - Monday 24th September (10am)



We are learning about ...



Who is God the Creator?

Names of God

God told Moses his name “I am who I am”. In Jewish culture people’s names were very important, as important as the person themselves. The name of God - Te Atua was so holy to the Jewish people that they used only the initial letters from the words, in their language YHWH. They even avoided saying the holy words by calling God Lord .

Creator **I Am** **Lord** **Father** **Abba** **Kyrios** **King** **'Otua**
Yahweh **Almighty** **Adonai** **Atua** **Alpha and Omega**

Images of God



No name or image can possibly tell everything about God. God will always be more than any image people have. God is not just like parents, eagles, rocks, etc, but each of these images show some of the qualities of the God who created them. In some way each of these images shows a God who protects, looks after, cares for - shows manaaki for people.

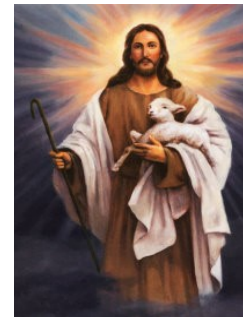
Three persons—One God

God is a mystery, God is both near and distant. Catholics believe in the Holy Trinity, a loving community of three persons who are one God:



God the Father—the creator of heaven and earth; of all things visible and invisible.

God the Son—Jesus Christ, our Saviour, the one who died and rose so that we may have eternal life.



God the Holy Spirit—the advocate, comforter and guide; the one who helps us to live holy lives.



***“Then God looked over all he had made,
and he saw that it was very good! .” Genesis 1:31***