



St Francis
of Assisi
Catholic School

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Issue #3

16 February 2018

Kia ora koutou e te whānau

Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday we participated alongside our Parish in a wonderful Mass to mark the beginning of Lent. It was fabulous to be able to all pray together and we want to thank Father Paul for the lovely Mass and thanks also to Father Simon for his help with the organisation of the Mass. Thanks also to Clare Bell and Rebecca Methven for all the work that went into making this a very special occasion.

Welcome Assembly

Today we started a new tradition - each term we will now hold a special welcome assembly for all the new families that start at our school, instead of welcoming them in our normal assemblies. Today each family who has started this year was presented with a copy of the Catholic Children's Bible. We celebrate the fact that they have joined our school and Parish and warmly welcomed them with this blessing.

WELCOME BLESSING

*Loving God, we praise you for your goodness.
You bless us with the riches of the earth and
the warmth of human love.
We are your children and you care for us.
Today we welcome our new students and their families
into our school family.
Guide them on the path of learning as they join all of us
at St Francis of Assisi school in our efforts to live out
our school values of Respect, Compassion, Service and Integrity.
Bless them and keep them.
May your Holy Spirit fill them with encouragement.
Guide them in the way of Jesus and help them in their learning and play.
May they be happy at school and find friends here who will last forever.
Bless their families. Keep them strong in faith and love
with God's tender hand always supporting them.
May each of you know you are precious in the eyes of our God.
Amen.*



**CHOOSING TO BE AN INNOVATIVE CATHOLIC LEARNING COMMUNITY THAT
INSPIRES AND EMPOWERS LEARNERS TO SUCCEED.**

Parking and Road Safety

Just a quick email reminder about drop offs and parking at school. We want to thank you for your patience and consideration of the rules.

1. We have tried to have someone out at the gate before and after school to remind the students to use the newly marked footpath. Please encourage your children to use this footpath – we are aiming to make the entrance to school as safe as possible.
2. If your children are biking or scootering to school please support us by telling them they must walk their bikes and scooters up the footpath, and across the crossing.
3. Please do not park on the yellow lines for any length of time at all – from time to time there will be parking wardens out at our gate – we have invited them as we have your children's safety foremost in our minds.
4. The drop off zone out the front of school is to pick up and drop off only – you can not leave your car there and go and pick up your children – you must stay with your car. Sometimes this area will be coned off if we are waiting for buses – we do this so that we can get the children off the buses safely.
5. Please do not come up the driveway – parking has become very congested just outside the office area and it is dangerous – we are trying to remember to cone off the driveway each day because we are trying to keep this area safe for your children.
6. Please do not park in the Parish Car Park. The reason for this is because it is dangerous. We have seen near misses – we are trying to keep your children safe.

We understand that parking is at a premium – and we wish we could say that it will improve however this is unlikely especially when work begins on the church. The best idea is to park further away and walk or scooter in from there. Norah st pedestrian walkway is a less busy entrance as is Kensington Ave – even with the construction of the hall having started.

Swimming Sports

Our Senior School swimming sports were held on Tuesday this week. It was fantastic to see all our students trying their best to succeed. From this event a number of our students will qualify for the North Zone Swimming Sports. These students will be notified by Miss Hansen and Mrs Scott as soon as the results have been analysed. A huge thank you to Whitney and Maree for the organisation of the sports on Tuesday - the construction at Jellie Park did not make it very easy however the sports ran very smoothly.

Touch

Touch started back this week, and it was great to see everyone again down at MacFarlane Park on Wednesday afternoon. Please take some time to check whether your child is listed in a touch team this term.

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Teams can be found on the Sports Blog - <https://sportsstfrancischch.blogspot.co.nz/>

As we receive the draws each week they will be posted on the blog. Currently we are still awaiting a date for the last game of the season. Sub information will be sent out next week.

Miniball

Miniball starts next week - we are still waiting on some parents to complete the Google Form giving their child permission to play. Once we have done this we will put the finalised teams and draw up on the Sports Blog - <https://sportsstfrancischch.blogspot.co.nz/>

Kapahaka

Thursday 8am

We were excited to welcome Jolene Ngariki as our new Kapahaka Kaiako (tutor) yesterday. Jolene. This year we are welcoming all students who wish to participate (Yr 1 - 8) to join in. Students will be taught Tikanga and Te Reo as well as waiata and haka. Please encourage your children to join. It is a big commitment - they are expected to turn up each week and be on time, but the rewards are amazing! Any queries please feel free to contact Whitney Hansen or Jo Earl.

Road Patrol

If there is anyone who can spare 30 mins once a fortnight to help out on the morning road patrol roster we would be very grateful. At this busy time of the day, it is great to have an adult on both sides of the road.

Music Lessons

Music lessons: for lessons in bass, guitar, recorder, ukulele and flute during break times, call Ivan on 021 120 0080

Library Books

The Library is not open for issuing books however we hope to have it open by week 4. At present there are 161 books that have been issued that have not been returned - can you please check at home for any library books and send them back to us asap. Thanks so much!

Scholastic Book Club orders

Issue 1 went home last week. Orders close this Sunday 18 Feb. Easy online ordering through LOOP - just go to scholastic.co.nz/LOOP and follow the prompts.

Brainwave Trust

Tuesday 27 February 7pm

As advertised on facebook we are fortunate to be able to host an evening with the Brainwave Trust where they will deliver their seminar '**Unravelling the Mystery of the Adolescent Brain**'.

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Brainwave Trust will deliver their seminar 'Unravelling the Mystery of the Adolescent Brain'

Time and date: Tuesday 27 February 2018, 7- 9pm

Venue: St Francis of Assisi School, 370 Innes road

Tickets: Available from the office for a gold coin donation

In this informative, entertaining presentation the audience will gain an understanding of the latest information on brain changes and hence the behaviours we observe as a child transitions through adolescence to an adult.

These seminars and workshops are for parents and professionals who are working with adolescents – school teachers and board of governors, youth workers, foster and care providers and families; corrections, Oranga Tamariki, Police, health providers and anyone else who has contact with teenagers.

Our information is entirely based on up-to-date scientific medical research. Our work is scientific and evidence based, our message is positive and is important to our whole community.

Concern about young people is not new. Each generation is known to have concern about the generation following and we are the first generation to understand the changes that happen in the brain. Recent research shows that there is a burst of neuronal activity in late childhood and adolescence that is linked with risk taking and impulsive, emotional behaviours typical of teenagers.

Consistent, nurturing and positive early experiences grow resilient, empathetic and intelligent adults. Conversely adolescents in New Zealand relative to other developed countries have a high rate of social morbidity.

For any queries, please contact Angela Lewis at alewis@gaaluminium.co.nz or on 021474494.

Kindly sponsored by:



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Outstanding Forms

Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC)

Thanks to those who have filled the Blanket consent form - for those that haven't here is the link. This needs to be done so that your child can participate fully in school activities off site.

EOTC Form - <https://goo.gl/forms/ThaA4tt0f6oRwJFf2>

1:1 Digital Technology Guidelines and BYOC Agreement

As you know at St Francis of Assisi all of our Year 5-8 students learn in a 1:1 Chromebook environment. We value our internet facilities and digital technologies, and the benefits they bring us in learning outcomes and the effective operation of the school. We actively encourage our students to be competent and confident in the use of digital technologies; and are aware of and able to manage the challenges and issues that go with it. These issues include safety of themselves and others, privacy, copyright, and protection of digital devices and equipment. In short, we are growing our students to make responsible choices while using digital technologies; becoming digital citizens.

Because we know this is important for us all, we ask that everyone, the staff, the students and volunteers working at the school agree to use the internet and digital technologies in a safe and responsible way by following the St Francis of Assisi School Digital Guidelines.

As all Year 6-8 students, excluding new students, have already filled out this form there is no need to complete it again. However all new students and all Year 5 students will need to complete this before going a device at school. So if you are a parent of a Year 5 student or a student new to St Francis, please take the time to read through and fill out the Digital Technologies Guidelines Google Form

Digital Technologies Guidelines Google Form - <https://goo.gl/forms/4bD13g10HijCaAZo2>

Students who bring their own Chromebook to school, will also need to complete the Bring Your Own Chromebook (BYOC) Agreement. This agreement is additional to the Digital Technologies Guidelines. It refers to Chromebooks, brought to school by students, and must be signed before the student may bring their Chromebook to school.

Like the Digital Technologies Guidelines, students who have already filled out this form will not need to complete it again. However all students in Year 5-8, who are bringing their own Chromebooks, for the first time this year will need to fill out the BYOC Google Form as well.

If you are a parent of a student who is bringing their own Chromebook to school for the first time this year, please take the time to read through and fill out the BYOC Agreement.

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Bring Your Own Chromebook (BYOC) - <https://goo.gl/forms/AJfbldolfjn5GvCo1>

If you have any questions about the Guidelines or BYOC Agreement, please feel free to email principal@stfrancischch.school.nz or whitney.hansen@stfrancischch.school.nz . We are more than happy to discuss any of this with you, please feel welcome to do this at any time.

Parish News

PTA News

Easter Raffle

This year the PTA have decided to run an Easter Raffle. We are raising funds to fit out our new hall. We are asking each child to bring in one item for the raffle. Items such as a grocery item or an easter chocolate treat. We will divide all the items into gift baskets and these will form the prizes for the raffle. These items can be brought in anytime from now until 21 March and will be collected in the Hubs. The raffle will be drawn on 28 March and winners will be notified by phone and our facebook page.



Each family will get one set of tickets to sell - these will come home closer to the time - we thank you for your support for this fundraiser. **What do you need to do now?** Send along one item for the raffle prize with each child between now and 21 March. More information next week.

Cheese Rolls Fundraiser.

Save the date - Sunday 20 May.

Come along and help make cheese rolls. This fundraiser was very popular and successful in 2017 and people enjoyed their cheese rolls through the winter months.

Community News

St Francis of Assisi Netball Club

LATEST NEWS UPDATE FOR ST FRANCIS NETBALL CLUB!

We've just had our first meeting for the 2018 season and it looks like we're gearing up for another great year... if we can get enough parent support.

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As you all know Tania has resigned from the club after many years of outstanding service and we also have other committee members who are moving on this year. We have a great but small team of people already lined up to help run the club this year but we need more help.

We need more parents to volunteer to help us out. If we don't get at least another couple of parents then we run the serious risk of not having a club for the year.

It's not a huge commitment - we just need numbers to get jobs done. It would be a real shame if we didn't get the numbers we need.

We are having another meeting at 7pm on Monday 26th February to reassess where the club is at. We will be asking for more volunteers at this meeting and if none come forward a decision may be made to close the club.

Thanks to Shelley, Sarah, Charlotte and Makaila for already offering your help this year. If you'd like to know more please get in touch with Anna, Chantelle or Emma.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Marist Albion Rugby

2018 Junior Player Registrations are now open!

We welcome ALL new and returning players to register for the 2018 season using our online forms available on our club website www.maristalbion.co.nz.

All new players **MUST** attend one of our registration nights and provide us with proof of ID (copies of passports or birth certificates are fine) and to get weighed in. This is also a good opportunity to meet the committee and ask them any questions you may have about the upcoming season.

SUNDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 3-5PM
MONDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 5-7PM

Venue: Marist Albion RFC Clubrooms, 181 Condell Avenue, Papanui.

MEMBERSHIP FEES: (includes a team photo for each registered player)
\$80 one player OR
\$130 for 2 or more children from the same family.

For returning players, you will receive an invitation to re-register via email, please keep an eye on your inbox!



FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT US AT ADMIN@MARISTALBION.CO.NZ OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

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Christchurch Football Club

<http://www.christchurchfootballclub.co.nz/junior-rugby/>

2018 SEASON

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to the 2018 Rugby season.

Registration Days

Sunday 18th February, 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Wednesday 21st February, 3.30pm - 5.30pm

Monday 26th February, 3.30pm - 5.30pm

All registered players will receive a free ball and mouthguard from our new apparel supplier L & A Apparel.

Shirley Rugby Club - 100 years of Rugby

Junior Registration dates for 2018 -

Monday 19 February 5.30 - 7pm

Monday 26 February 5.30 - 7pm

Sunday 4 March 10 - 12.30pm

Shirley Rugby Clubrooms - Burwood Park, New Brighton Road

Subscriptions for 2018 are \$55 per player, \$85 for 2 per family and \$100 for 3 or more per family All new players to the club are required to bring a birth certificate or passport.

More Information: www.shirleyrugby.co.nz / juniors@shirleyrugby.co.nz / Facebook @shirleyrugby

Marist Hockey Club Boys Open Evening - School Years 1-6

Friday 2nd March 2018 4.00-6.00pm

Join us at Marist Park Turf @ St Bedes (Entrance off Momorangi Crescent) where our Marist coaches will take you for a fun hockey session.

We have spaces available in all grades for new players to join Marist Hockey Club for the 2018 season. All registration and player information will be available at this session or visit our Marist Hockey Junior Club facebook for trial dates and updated information on when registration will be open. Just bring along your sports shoes, mouth guard, shin pads and we will provide everything else.

For further information please contact Marist Hockey Junior Club - maristhockeyjunior@gmail.com

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Swimming

459 Cashel St

Ph:381- 0299

**Learn to Swim
& Coaching**

AquaGym and

The logo for AquaGym features the word "AQUAGYM" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. To the left of the text is a stylized blue wave graphic. The entire logo is set against a light blue background with vertical stripes.

Sumner Pool

Bookings still open for Term 1

Leaders in Aquatic Education