

St Francis of Assisi School

St Francis of Assisi School Newsletter

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Issue #1

27 January 2017

Items Covered This Week:

Welcome to the 2017 school Year

Wednesday 9.10 am Coffee Meeting Topic: Google Forms

EOTC Blanket Consent

Publishing Information Consent

Camp - Yr 5/6 and Yr 7/8 information

Digital technology Guidelines

1:1 Chromebook Programme

Opportunity for your children - Recorder Lessons

Opportunity for you - Te Reo Lessons

Kia ora koutou e te whānau

Welcome to the 2017 school year!

Prayer for Students

Lord our God,
in your wisdom and love
you surround us with the mysteries of the universe.
Send your spirit upon our students
and fill them with your wisdom and blessings.
Grant that they may devote themselves to their learning
and draw ever closer to you,
the source of all knowledge.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

We are excited to welcome you all to the 2017 school year. The teachers have been working over the last couple of weeks preparing and planning Term One and the programmes are looking very engaging.

As always at the beginning of the year there is a little bit of administration to get through. This year we are aiming to be totally paper free - this means all notices will be emailed or placed on the school or hub blogs.

All permission forms will be made on google forms - we understand that this will take some time for everyone to get used to so we intend to run a couple of workshops on Wednesday mornings in the staffroom. The first one will be next Wednesday 1 Feb at 9.10am. The topic

Google Forms. In the meantime we will have a computer available and help on hand at school in the office should you need to use it to complete your forms.

Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC)

At our school, parents complete a blanket permission form at enrolment or at the start of each year, which covers almost all lower risk activities and some higher risk activities.

The level of information provided to parents and requested from parents about EOTC activities is proportionate to the level of risk associated with the activity.

Separate parental consent is required for most higher risk activities and we ask for this on a case-by-case basis. Parents must submit a consent form before their child/children can participate. For certain activities, we will also notify parents about any risks we have identified.

EOTC Blanket Consent Form - Click the link below

<https://goo.gl/forms/pZFrvIFLnMWvYf1K2> - If the link isn't working, please copy and paste this into your URL bar.

Publishing Information Consent Form

Images of our students (photographs, video clips, etc) and examples of their school work, are sometimes published in our newsletters, on our school website, and other online channels such as the school/class blogs, Facebook page, youTube, etc.

The purposes of publishing student material are to educate our students according to the national curriculum, to encourage students to participate in our school community, and to promote the school.

We believe it is important to celebrate students' achievements, but are aware of the potential risks when such personal information or material is published on a global information system such as the internet.

In the interest of safety and security we require parents to give permission for their child's first name, image, or work to be made public.

With consent we will share no more than a student's first name, image, or work in the school newsletter, on the school website, or in the wider community.

Please complete the form on this link for each of your children.

Publishing Information Consent Form - Click the link below

<https://goo.gl/forms/vELiD9IZLcZX0k1w2> - If the link isn't working, please copy and paste this into your URL bar.

Camps

This year our Year 5/6 and Year 7/8 students will be going on camp in Term One. The Year 5/6 Camp is 20 - 22 February which is Week 4. We have decided to hold a camp information evening for Year 5/6 on Tuesday 31 January at 6pm in the Library. We want to give you as much information as possible and also talk about fundraising so that we can try to reduce the costs of the camp. This information will also be placed on the Hub Blog as soon as it is ready. Year 5/6 parents will be sent google forms to complete for consent and health information.

Digital Technologies Guidelines

Digital technologies have an increasing role in teaching and learning, in running our workplaces, and in our daily lives. At St Francis of Assisi Catholic School 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. More information in regard to this can be found on our website and on our policies site.

Because we know this is important for us all, we ask everyone, the staff, the students and volunteers working at the school to agree to use the internet and digital technologies in a safe and responsible way by following the rules laid out in the Digital Technologies Guidelines found on this link.

If your child is in Year 5-8 please complete this agreement for each of your children. Please ensure this form is completed as soon as possible - **your child will not be able to access the internet until this is done.**

Digital Technologies Guidelines (Year 5-8) - Click the link below

<https://goo.gl/forms/SE5ol2i568YwXsZ23> - If the link isn't working, please copy and paste this into your URL bar.

Bring Your Own Chromebook (BYOC)

As you are all aware this year we encourage our Year 5-8 students to bring their own chromebook. If your child is bringing their own chromebook you will need to complete this form after discussing the content with them.

Bring Your Own Chromebook (BYOC) Agreement - Click the link below

<https://goo.gl/forms/efHqNUpPcvUdBn3D2> - If the link isn't working, please copy and paste this into your URL bar.

Opportunities...

Recorder Lessons

Would you like your child to learn the recorder? One of our parents has been in touch with the Shirley Music School and they are able to offer lessons one day a week before school if we can get a group of 3 or more. Please email admin@stfrancis.ch.school.nz if you would like your child to participate in these lessons. There will be a cost for these lessons.

Te Reo Māori

Several of our staff are signing up to learn Te Reo through Te Wānanga o Aotearoa this year. Would you like to learn Te Reo Māori alongside us? With 20 or more people showing interest we could hold it here at St Francis. What a fabulous way for our community to demonstrate how we value the language and tikanga.

Here is the link for find out [more information about the course](#) - it is free!! If you are interested please email me principal@stfrancis.ch.school.nz and I will send you the link to the expression of interest form. We need this information by the end of week 2 so that I can send it through and follow up on our request to hold the course here. The expression of interest in no way holds you to anything - you are still able to change your mind should dates, times or anything else not suit. **This is a fantastic opportunity - Don't miss out!!**

Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Ngā mihi