

St Francis of Assisi School

St Francis of Assisi School Newsletter

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Issue 26
9 September 2016

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Kia Ora Koutou

Year 7/8 Open Evening.

Thanks so much to all who came to the Year 7/8 evening this week. It was a great opportunity for us to showcase the teaching and learning programmes in the Intermediate part of the school. Rebecca Methven (Team Leader) and Katherine Wilson (Yr 7/8 Teacher) talked about what has been happening so far this year and also gave us an overview of what can be expected in Term 4 and next year.

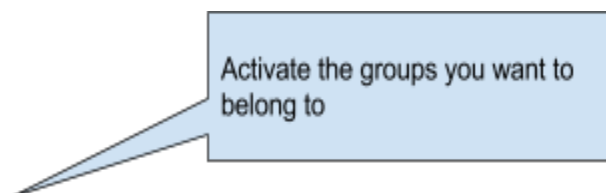
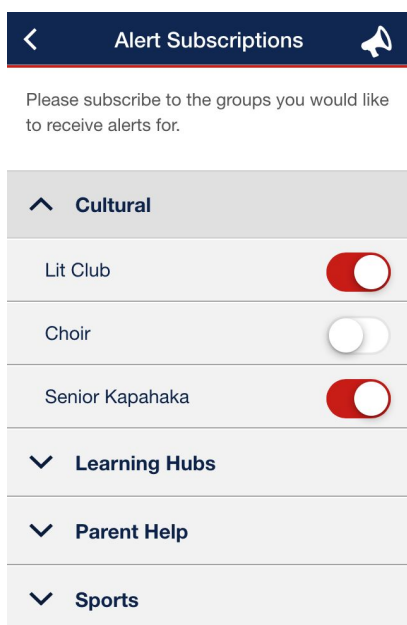
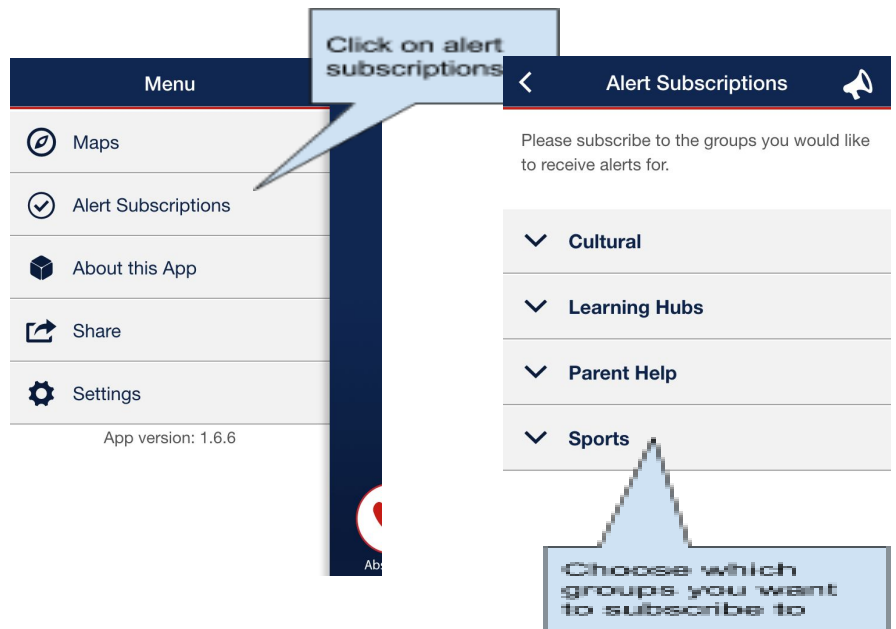
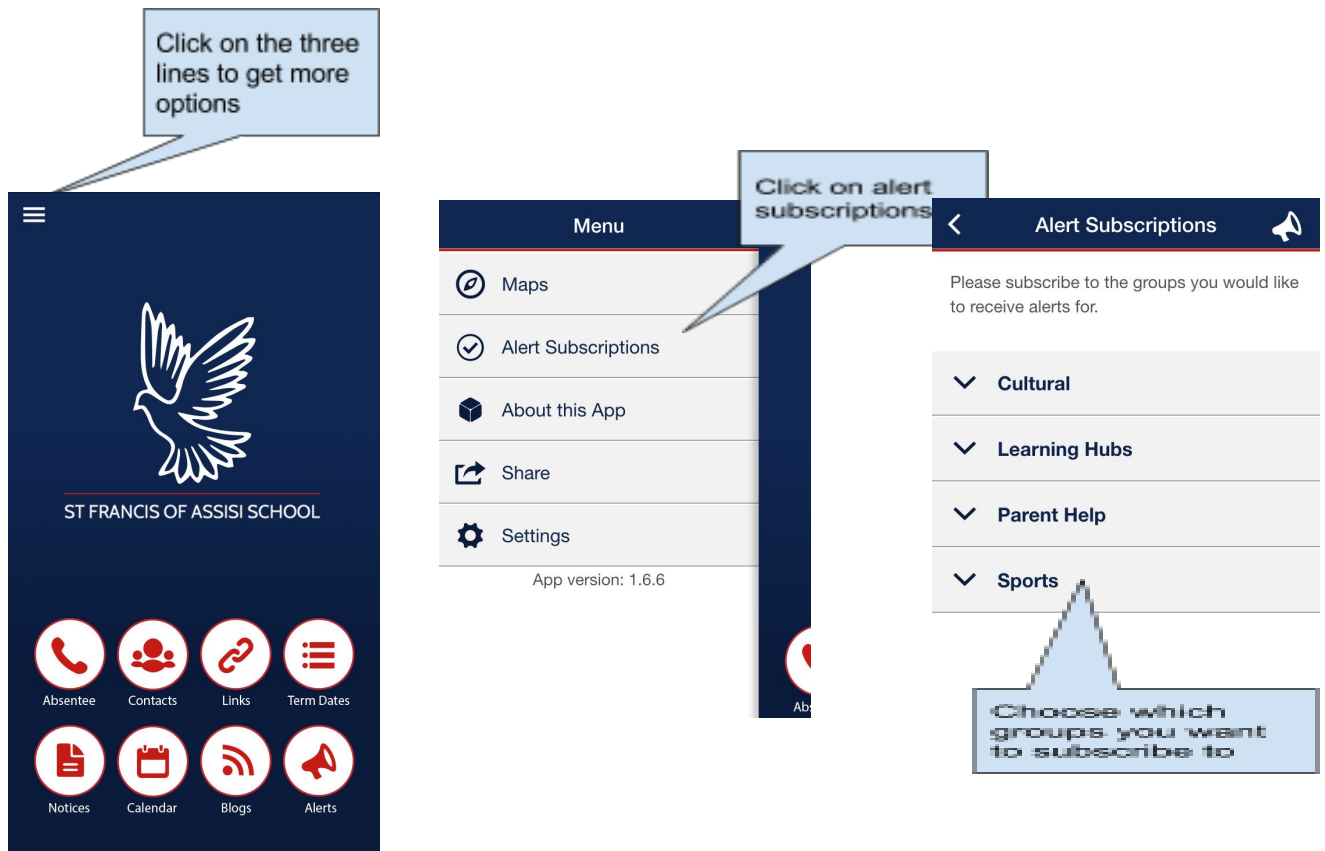
We introduced our new Yr 7/8 teacher Whitney Hansen - Whitney joins us next term as Yr 7/8 teacher, e-learning coordinator and teacher in charge of sport. She gave us an overview of what elearning will look like at St Francis as we move forward with digital learning.

Maire Bowler, Sarah Burrowes and I also spoke about careers education, sport, and learning languages. We have had great feedback - thank you to those who have taken the time.

For those who were not able to make it we have placed the presentation and the Intermediate prospectus on the [website](#). If you have any queries at all please feel free to contact me and make a time to come in.

St Francis School App

It came to my notice this week that some people are unaware that you can subscribe to groups on the app. When you are subscribed to the groups it means you will get the notices just for those groups unless we send a schoolwide one which of course everyone will get. Here are the instructions.



Paid union Meeting

A huge thanks to you all for supporting our Paid Union Meeting this week, by picking your children up early and allowing the teachers to attend the meeting.

The meeting was attended by 2700 primary, secondary and early childhood teachers as well as support staff (teacher aides) from all three sectors. This is the first time that the two unions, the NZEI and the PPTA have joined forces, so strong is the feeling that the “global budget” (revisiting “bulk finding” of the early 90’s) is a bad move for students.

At the moment teachers salaries are paid separately from the money used to run the rest of the school. Under the proposed system, there would be the ability to take money from the salary ‘credits’ to use elsewhere in the school. This potentially could mean that by employing fewer teachers there would be more money to spend on property or other expenses. This potential reallocation of funds could affect class sizes. We feel strongly that the government needs to commit to ensuring adequate staffing in each school as it does presently. Your support is appreciated.

Koru Games

Our Year 7/8 students will be participating in the Koru Games on September 13-15th. These games give our students the opportunity to play against students from around the South Island. They will be representing the school in a variety of sports; Badminton, Basketball, Football (soccer), Lawn Bowls, Netball, Rugby Sevens, Table Tennis, Tennis, Touch and Volleyball. Parents of Year 7/8 students should have received an email this week asking for support. We need each of the teams to be supervised. If you can any help for a part of the day or for the full day can you please email maree.scott@stfrancis.chch.school.nz

Marian Entrance Test

Due to a clash of the Marian College Entrance Exam with the Koru Games, Marian College has given us an alternative date for the exam for our students. We are grateful for the support from Marian College in regard to this.

“Olymp-a-thon” Friday 23rd September

St Francis of Assisi School will be holding an Olymp-a-thon on **Friday 23rd September from 1-3pm** in the school grounds. This is a fun event where children participate in physical activity for 2 hours in their house groups. It will involve dancing, skipping, throwing and lots of working together.

Children will be wearing their PE shorts and sport shoes and are encouraged to bring a top or small accessory to represent their house colour. Full correct uniform is required for the morning due to a Feast Day Mass.

This is the PTA’S main fundraiser for the year. A sponsorship form with further information will be coming home with your child today. We are aiming to earn at least \$20 per student so

please encourage your friends and Whanau to sponsor your children with a donation. There will be a prize for the most donations collected and children who raise at least \$20 will go into the draw for spot prizes. There will also be prizes for effort and enthusiasm on the day. Whanau and friends are most welcome to come along to support and encourage their children at the event.

Catholic Sports Tournament

Unfortunately this event has been cancelled because of the weather. Students can now return their sports uniforms, washed and in the ziplock plastic bag that they were issued in if possible.

School Choir

On Wednesday 14th September members of the senior choir (Year 5-8) will be attending an area rehearsal at Shirley Boys between 9:30 and 11:30. We have organised buses for students to travel to and from this venue and will be leaving at 9:00am.

Netball

Our Senior A Netball team have been doing very well and have made it to the finals on Saturday. They are playing Merrin A at 12.00pm on Court 10. It would be fantastic to have a good amount of supporters there. The play offs last week were exciting to watch - I am sure that this game will be as well. See you there!

Basketball

Rockets

The Rockets had a very enjoyable season finishing 7th in Div 2. The boys and girls did St Francis of Assisi School proud with their play and sportsmanship on and off the court. Thanks to all the parents for supporting your child. Awards went to

Most Improved - **Oscar Goodwin**

Best team player - **Oliver Ellenbroek**





Magic Team

Congratulations to all the boys for their 4th place in Division 2 competition this season. The final was a very close game with final score Bishopdale 16 SFOA 14

2016 Magic Team Awards

Best Team Player – **Seamus Gallagher**

Most Improved – **Naz Flores**

Year 3/4 Miniball

Just a reminder to have the Miniball notices returned to the office by Tuesday 13 September.

Nga mihi nui

Jo Earl
Principal

Social Justice Week: 11 – 17 September 2016

Each year in September, the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference give us Social Justice Week to consider Catholic social teaching on an issue of social justice in New Zealand. This year the theme for parishes and schools is, 'We all have a migration story: Fostering a culture of encounter.' Let us take this time to reflect on our own migration journey and consider how we can foster a culture of encounter in our own life and in the life of the school.



“Welcoming others means welcoming God in person! Do not let yourselves be robbed of the hope and joy of life born of your experience of God’s mercy, as manifested in the people you meet on your journey!” – Pope Francis

Food Drive- As part of Social Justice Week, we are having a food drive. If each family could please provide one non perishable food item we would greatly appreciate it. These items can be given to your classroom teacher and will be collected on Friday by the Special Character Leaders.

School Fees - Term 3 fees are due for payment by the end of the term. There are still fees due from terms 1 & 2. Please make arrangements for payment as soon as possible. If you are having problems paying please ring Pauline to discuss options. NB Attendance dues are payable to the Parish and school fees to the school. Check the bottom of your statements for the correct bank account number.

Next Year’s Term Dates

Term 1 Monday 30 January Thursday 13 April (Holiday includes Easter and ANZAC Day)

Term 2 Monday 1 May Friday 7 July

Term 3 Monday 24 July Friday 29 September

Term 4 Monday 16 October Friday 15 Dec (TBC)

Lost Property

Paiaka Hub Lost Items:

Arie Kriek is missing one of his school socks, please return if found.

Road Patrol

We are so grateful for the parents and grandparents who help each morning with road patrol. We are lucky to have a space open up to give another parent or grandparent the opportunity to help us out on a Thursday morning every 2 weeks. We are also putting together a list of casual helpers to fill gaps when someone is unable to do their shift. If you are able to help please contact Phil Bell phil.clare.bell@gmail.com 02102914855

Parents Prayer

We invite you to join us on Fridays 9am to pray for our school community. We gather for 15 minutes in the staff room. Everyone is welcome.

SUMMER TOUCH

If anyone is interested in getting their child into summer touch who is not already involved in a team through St Francis of Assisi, could you please email Maree Scott on maree.scott@stfrancischch.school.nz with your child’s name, their year at school by Friday 9th of September.

PTA

PTA Meeting - Next Wednesday Night at 7pm in the staffroom.

Olymp-a-Thon Friday 23 September

PTA Fundraiser - Save the date Friday 25 November
More information at the end of this newsletter.

Parish Fees

PARISH ATTENDANCE DUES FOR ATTENDING A CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Term Three Parish Attendance Dues invoices have been emailed out to parents/caregivers this week, so please check your inboxes. These accounts are due for payment on or before the 20th August 2016. Please remember that if you think you will have difficulty meeting your obligation to pay this account, the parish may be in a position to assist you; so please contact Kirsten at the Parish Office (385 3459) to make an appointment with Father Simon. Please note that these fees go to the Diocese not to the school.

For Rent The Parish house at 63 Kensington Avenue will soon be available for rent. A very tidy 3 bedroom, 1-bathroom house with heat pump. Please contact the Parish Secretary on 385 3459 during office hours for a tenancy application form.

Sacramental Programme

The parish has developed a Sacramental Catch Up programme. This is for families whose children have missed out on one or more of the following sacraments – Baptism, Reconciliation, First Holy Communion.

If your child is not yet baptised (any age), or has not yet made his or her First Reconciliation or First Holy Communion (and is in Year 5 or above), then we encourage you to sign up for the Sacramental Catch Up programme. We would love to see your children receive these beautiful gifts later this year.

An invitation will be sent in the following week to those families to whom this may apply. If you wish for your child to be a part of this programme and do not receive an invitation, please contact Bev in the school office.

Community Notices

Riccarton Junior Cricket Club 2016-17 registrations

Summer is fast approaching and its time to register for your favourite summer sport. Registration for junior grade cricketers are now open, for a registration form or further information please contact Deborah Granger at email: deborahgrangernz@gmail.com

Active Kids Holiday Programmes

September registrations now open!

Week 1 - Monday 26th - Friday 30th Sept

Week 2 - Monday 3rd - Friday 7th Oct

Active Kids is an exciting structured programme of sport, physical activity and play for primary school aged children. The programmes are safe and affordable; there are a number of programme/venue options to suit you and your children's needs. OSCAR subsidies available.

Visit our website for full details:

<http://www.sportcanterbury.org.nz/new-zealand/holiday-programmes/>

Tweens and Teens (12-18)

The teenage years can be like riding a roller coaster; Toolbox courses aim to take out a few of the nastier twists and turns on the track, and also to help you to hold on and enjoy the ride.

The Tweens and Teens Toolbox is completely realistic – it addresses the serious dangers and problems that teenagers can encounter and gives practical coaching strategies to handle them. But it is also encouraging in that the course never loses sight of the fact that there is so much to enjoy as your children go through this stage.

Toolbox is ideal for parents whose children have not yet reached puberty, or are in the early 'tween' stage of adolescence: you won't be caught unprepared and if your children are already in the midst of the teenage years, there is so much in every session you will be able to use straight away.

What's covered in the six sessions: Atmosphere, Boundaries, Communication, Discipline, Self-esteem, Future focus

Starts Tuesday 11th October 7.30pm for a 6 week period.

At The Neighbourhood Trust, St Albans Baptist Church, 64 McFaddens Rd.

Cost of course \$35 per person. Contact Kim on 0276772472, or kim@nht.org.nz

Tennis

Are you a tennis **Hot Shot?** **New junior Hotshot Registrations** will include a free junior racket valued at \$50. **This limited offer expires 24th Sept.**

Our next community play days are September 17th & 24th. New juniors are welcome to visit our club. We supply everything, just wear your sports shoes. The first session is from 9:00am, the second from 10:00am. Register as a new member online at www.burwoodparktennisclub.kiwi or come & see us at 55 Cresswell Ave, Burwood Park.

ANZ Olympic Schools Programme

Dear Parents and Caregivers

OPPORTUNITY TO EARN POINTS TOWARDS SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

ANZ is encouraging people within school communities to support their local school when taking out an ANZ home loan. I am emailing all St Francis of Assisi Catholic School parents and caregivers about this opportunity, as we could really benefit from the ANZ Olympic Schools Programme.

For those of you in the St Francis of Assisi Catholic School community about to draw down a home loan – please consider nominating St Francis of Assisi as ‘your school’. We will earn credits from the ANZ Awards Centre for sports equipment or computers and our students benefit.

An eligible home loan drawn down of \$50,000 by somebody ‘nominating’ St Francis of Assisi will entitle our school to 800 credits and approximately \$400 of spending power at the ANZ Awards Centre. Please contact our local ANZ Representative Rebecca Snelgar on Ph: 3683988, Email: rebecca.snelgar@anz.com

Thank you for your consideration and please keep us in mind!

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PTA FUNDRAISER

Proudly sponsored by



Come along for a fun night of Bingo, Auctions, Raffles and
Chocolate Wheels

TICKETS: \$15 provides you with supper and 1x Bingo Card
Cash Bar (R18)
Extra Bingo Cards at \$2 per card or 3 for \$5 on the night

AUCTION ITEMS:

We are looking for items that we could Auction on the night
eg: sporting gear, vouchers, and offers from business
Anything that you think would raise some great funds for the hall fit-out please
get in touch with chantelles@rocketmail.com

ONLY 1 SPOT LEFT FOR SMALLER SPONSORSHIP FOR \$200
Contact chantelles@rocketmail.com

We are also looking for offers of help for the evening; if you are able to
help please get in touch with Chantelle McCrostie, Kim Goggin or
Andrea Wall.



Ray White.



Brendan
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moalawnsngardens@gmail.com
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