

# St Francis of Assisi School

St Francis of Assisi School Newsletter

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**Issue 38**

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## Items Covered This Week:

Advent  
Prizegiving  
2017 Camps

## Kia Ora Koutou

### Holidays

This is the final newsletter for the year - School opens again on Monday 30th January at 9am. We wish you all a happy and holy Christmas and look forward to seeing you after the school break.

### Advent - A Family Nativity Prayer for you to share

Dear Jesus

When you arrive at Christmas,

May you find a warm and gentle welcome in our hearts.

May you find the peace of a cosy stable in our home.

May we greet you with joy and awe of shepherds.

May we offer you our finest gifts, like the Wise Men.

And may we live with the humble spirit of your birth all year long.

Amen

### Not the Same Old (Christmas) Story

Every year around this time, we're bound to hear a familiar set of narratives in the media. How much we'll spend, How far we'll travel, how far behind retail sales are compared to last year. It's time to put aside the tired stories. Here are three replacement conversations we should be having this Christmas.

**Instead of talking about ...** How much to spend.

**Talk about...** How much to give.

**Instead of talking about...** Whose family's "turn" it is to have Christmas.

**Talk about...** How to spend time with those who need us the most.

**Instead of talking about...** The people you're dreading seeing at Christmas.

**Talk about...** The people who most need your love.

*Generosity of spirit is infectious; and it starts with the words we use.*



## Upcoming Events

Monday 19 December	School Prizegiving 6pm <b>Aurora Centre</b>
Tuesday 20 December 10.30am	Final 2016 School Mass at <b>St Gregory's</b>
Tuesday 20 December 12.30pm	2016 School Year finishes

## Reports

Year 4-8 students should have brought home their report report today along with a stationery list, notice of homebase placement for 2017 and information about costs for next year.

All other students should have received a stationery list, notice of homebase placement and information about costs for next year. If you did not receive this - check with your child - and if they did not receive it please call in at the office and we will sort it for you.

## Prizegiving Monday 19 December 6pm

We holding our formal prizegiving on Monday night at 6pm at the Aurora Centre at Burnside High School. This prizegiving is for all students and parents.

Kapa haka students need to be dressed in their Kapa haka uniforms for the event. All other students need to be dressed in full correct school uniform and need to be dropped off at the Green Room door (see photo) by 5.45pm at the latest. All students will sit with their class supervised by their teachers.



Awards will be given out across all levels of the school so it is really important that all students attend the event.

The evening will start promptly at 6pm with a performance from our Kapa haka group. The choir will also perform during the event.

We anticipate that the prizegiving will take 1 hr and 15 mins. At the conclusion of the prizegiving all children will stay with their teachers and parents will be able to collect their children from where they are seated. No children will be allowed to go out to the foyer to wait for parent pick up so please do not give any different instructions to your children.

### **End of Year Mass**

On Tuesday morning at 10.30am we will travel by bus to celebrate our End of Year Mass together. You are all most welcome to join us - we would love to have you there.

At the conclusion of the Mass all students will bus back to school where they can be picked up to go home at 12.30pm. No students will be able to leave with their parents straight after Mass, they must all come back to school.

### **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

### **2017 Camps**

Next term the Year 5 - 8 children will be going on camp on the following dates:

Tumu Hub (Year 5/6 ) Woodend Christian Camp. 20 - 22 February. (Week 4)

Kaupeka Hub (Year 7/8) Glentui Meadows Camp. 4 - 7 April. (Week 10)

At the beginning of the year, we will be asking for parent helpers for these camps so please take note of the dates if you are interested in volunteering.

### **School Fees**

**PLEASE pay your account by the end of the school term.**

Thank you to those parents who have already paid. A reminder that the donation portion of your account (\$25.00 per term) is a voluntary payment however the rest of the fees paying for activities your child has participated in need to be paid by 11 December. If you are unsure of the amount you may owe on your account please phone the office.

**PLEASE NOTE Year 7/8 water activity -as this was unable to proceed your accounts have been credited. If you have yet to pay please do not pay this amount (\$33).**

Please remember if paying online to use the account number at the bottom of your statement (this differs from the Parish account for Attendance Dues).

**If you think you will not be able to pay your account in full before the end of term you must give Pauline a call to discuss.**

**End of Year Altar Servers Get-together.** All Altar Servers are invited to an evening of fun and games and a fish n chip dinner on Friday 16th December at 5pm. Meet in the Portacom beside the church. Any queries to Charlotte on 385 2152

**A date for the Diary:**

We are pleased to announce that the Parish Life and food will be held on Sunday February 12<sup>th</sup> 2017. (cancellation date is February 19<sup>th</sup> 2017.) This is a day of celebration of the various cultures in our Parish Community and a chance to taste some of the fantastic cuisine on offer. If you wish to be involved in supporting your ethnic community in providing or helping at a food stall please contact Steven 027 530 8787 or Marina on 3234465. Pop this date into your diary for a great opportunity to gather as a Parish family in a fun and relaxed setting. It is not to be missed!

**Community Notices**

**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](mailto:rebecca.snelgar@anz.com)