

St Francis of Assisi School

St Francis of Assisi School Newsletter

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Issue 30
21 October 2016

Items Covered This Week

Dates for your Calendar
Message from BOT Chairperson
Living Rosary
Chromebook Parent/Caregiver Information
Year 8 Leavers' Organisation
End of Year Prizegiving
CanSail Trips
Olymp-a-thon Monies
Careers Expo
Athletics
Admin Notices
PTA Notices
Parish Notices

Kia Ora Koutou

It's that time of year that you need to make sure you have certain dates marked on your calendar - we don't want anybody missing out on anything!

Wednesday 26 October	Music Festival
Thursday 27 October	Kākano Hub Willowbank Trip
Monday 31 October	School Athletics Day
Friday 28th October. (9am -12pm) Tuesday 1 November (9am-12pm) Thursday 10 November (9am-12pm) Thursday 17 November (9am-12pm)	Tumu Hub Can Sail Days - see later in newsletter for details.
Monday 7 November	Double Time - Career Event @ Cathedral Grammar more information as it comes to hand.
Tuesday 8 November	Parent Info Evening re Chromebook Roll Out in 2017 Year 5-8
Friday 4 November	Career Expo Year 7/8

Wednesday 9 November	North Zone Athletics
Thursday 10 November	Year 7 Leadership Day (GRIP Conference)
Friday 18 November	PTA Fish n Chip Tea
Friday 25 November	PTA Ethel and Bethel Bingo Night
Monday 28 November	Year 8 Retreat
Monday 28 November	Year 8 Dinner
Wednesday 7 December	Central Athletics
Thursday 15 December	Kākano and Paika Hubs Fun Day - Halswell Pool
Friday 16 December	Tumu and Kaupeka Hubs Fun Day - Halswell Pool
Monday 19 December	School Prizegiving
Tuesday 20 December 11am	Final 2016 School Mass
Tuesday 20 December 12.30pm	2016 School Year finishes

Dear Parents and community

One of the key projects that our Board of Trustees is embarking on is the development of our school strategic goals. We look to build on the platform laid by the Establishment Board and the original Charter to guide our school through this first year and really focus the attention on our future.

This is something as foundation parents, families, staff, students and community of St Francis of Assisi Catholic School that we need you to be involved with. We will seek expert facilitators to guide us in the process but the key will be to understand what you see as important for your child in preparing them for the future. Our school is unique and we want to understand and embrace those unique qualities that will give the school leadership a path and objectives to follow now and long into the future

There will be many opportunities to engage in the process, the first of which will be sent home next week. We as a board are excited about what outcomes and feedback these conversations will provide for us as we all develop our vision together.

Tom Music
Bot Chair

Living Rosary

On Friday 28th October our students will be participating in a Living Rosary. This will be held at 9.15am outside and we would love for you all to attend and spend some time in prayer with us. As this will take the place of assembly and because of this certificates will be handed out after the Rosary before the students go back to class.



Chromebook Parent/ Caregiver Information Evening Tuesday 8 November 7pm

We are really excited to announce that in 2017 we will be rolling out a 1:1 Chromebook programme in Year 5-8. We have spent this year doing an audit of the technology that came over from both schools and also on professional development for our teachers so that we can roll out this chromebook initiative with confidence.

If your child is in Year 5-8 next year they will need a Chromebook. We intend to hold an information evening on Tuesday 8 November, at 7pm. Please note that if your child is in Year 5-8 next year you should have received an email about this today. Please contact the office if you have not received this. Thanks.

Year 8 Leavers' Organisation

We want to farewell our first set of leavers' really well and have a couple of events planned for them.

This will start with a retreat on Monday 28 November. This will be a special reflection day for these students ending in a year 8 Dinner to be held at the Papanui Club. Year 8 Parents and Year 8 students are invited to the dinner and we will be sending out more information and a form next week to gather numbers for this event.

The dinner will be an informal celebration of the year for the Year 8's - there will be no formal presentations as these will be made at the formal prizegiving that will be held on the evening of Monday 19th December.

End of Year Prizegiving - Friday 19 December 6pm

The end of year prizegiving will be held on Friday 19 December at 6pm at the Aurora Centre at Burnside High School. All students are expected at this event. There will be performances from our Kapahaka group and our Choir, presentations to all year levels and presentations to our leavers. The evening will conclude at 7pm with a farewell to our Year 8 leavers.

CanSail Trips

Over the next few weeks the Year 5/6 teams will be going on their CanSail trips. The children received a letter outlining all the details/safety instructions at the end of last week but we also put this information on the blog. We look forward to Miss Burgess' homebase going on the first trip on Friday 28th October.

Year 5/6 1: Miss Burgess

Friday 28th October. (9am -12pm)

Year 5/6 2: Miss Kearsley

Tuesday 1 November (9am-12pm)

Year 5/6 3: Miss Dungey

Thursday 10 November (9am-12pm)

Year 5/6 4: Miss Parish

Thursday 17 November (9am-12pm)

Olymp-a-thon Monies

Donations / Sponsorship money gained from this event is now due - please send it in a named envelope to the office as soon as you can.

Careers Expo

This term the Year 7 and 8 students will explore the topic of 'Careers Education'. Students will increase their awareness of their strengths, interests and how they relate to others. They will be exposed to a number of the career possibilities that are or are yet to be in society.

*As part of this, we hope to run a Careers Expo using parents and our community as our main resource. **We would love to have as many parents as possible come and speak about their career paths. We hope to run this in Week 4 on Thursday 3rd November and Friday 5th November.***

Please email or speak with Rebecca (rebecca.methven@stfrancischch.school.nz) if you would be willing to share your career experiences with us.

Athletics

The School Athletics Day will be held, at school, on Monday 31 October. All parents, grandparents and whanau are welcome to come along. We would love to have you here supporting your children.

The day will start at approximately 9.15am and run until approximately 3pm. We will be sending out a more detailed timetable and a map next week, explaining where and when each event will be held, we will aim to stick as close as possible to these times, however we cannot guarantee the exact time of any events.

On that day children are expected to come to school dressed in their PE uniform and sensible footwear. Hats are compulsory and although we will have some sunscreen available we would appreciate if you could apply sunscreen to your children before school. They will need a larger lunch than usual and a named drink bottle. In order for us to run this event successfully we require a large number of parents/caregivers to assist. If you are able to help in this capacity please let us know via email, we thank you in advance for your support with this. Kind regards Maree Scott and Whitney Hansen

maree.scott@stfrancischch.school.nz

Book Club Orders in by Friday 28 October please. (Check out online ordering through Scholastic LOOP)

Lost Property

Lost Jersey - Size 72 named Domigan, lost in Term 2, please return to the office if found.
Lost Jersey - Named Oscar Mitchell, been missing since the beginning of term 3. Please return to the office if found.

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)

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.

School Fees

If you have fees outstanding for terms 1,2 and 3 please arrange payment as soon as possible.

Term 4 accounts will be sent home on Tuesday. Thank you to those parents who have kept their accounts up to date. If you are having difficulties paying your account please contact Pauline to discuss options.

PTA Notices

PTA Fundraiser - Get ready for Summer with this Sunscreen Fundraiser - information flyer later in newsletter.

Family Fun Night - Fish n Chip Tea Friday 18 November

Come along to have tea in the school grounds and join in the fun and games. This is meant to be a fun get together, games will be run on the field after people have had their tea. Hope to see you there.

Ethel and Bethel Bingo Night

Only 100 tickets left for this fun night out. The PTA are asking for donations for the upcoming Bingo Night. It would be appreciated if your child could bring the following items along to the collection box in their hub. Thanks so much for your support. It would be great to have these items by the 4th November.

Year 7/8: Blocks of chocolate for the chocolate wheel.

Year 5/6: Women's pamper items, eg body wash, hand cream

Year 3/4: Christmas items, eg Christmas crackers, biscuits, Christmas confectionery, Christmas puddings.

Year 1/2: Men's pamper items, eg bodywash, fudge, chocolate.

Parish Notices

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.

A date for the Diary:

We are pleased to announce that the Parish Life and food will be held on Sunday February 12th 2017. (cancellation date is February 19th 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

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

Electric Ore

Gaelic Dancers present "Electric Ore" at the Elmwood auditorium, Aikmans Road on Saturday 15th October. Adults \$10.00, Children \$5.00. Times 2pm and 7pm. An Irish dancing show filled with great music and stories.

Need Childcare?

Fun, trustworthy and caring masters student looking for work. Five years experience with children. Flexible with days and hours. Phone 021 0683988

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

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!