

# St Francis of Assisi School

*St Francis of Assisi School Newsletter*

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**18 August 2017**

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## Kia Ora Koutou

### Assumption Liturgy

On Tuesday we celebrated the Assumption of Mary with a liturgy. Our senior students lead this with great reverence and the singing from the whole school was beautiful.

The Assumption of Mary, body and soul, into heaven is a sign to all believers that life “is not a senseless wandering, but a pilgrimage that, although there are uncertainties and suffering, has a sure goal: the house of the Father, who awaits us with love.” (Pope Francis, 2016)



### Infection Control

Just a reminder that if your child has had vomiting or diarrhoea you must keep them away from school for 48 hours after the last symptoms. This is really important to help us keep any bugs and germs from spreading as best we can. Please also remind your children about the importance of handwashing. Teachers have reminded the students again this week and it would be great to have this supported at home. Hand sanitiser is available in all areas of the school - please encourage your children to use it.

### Future Focused Education

We have decided to share an article each week that discusses future focused education. This weeks blog post is written by Doug Peterson - a computer science teacher at the Faculty of Education at the University of Windsor. His post ***The Message We Send*** discusses why teaching coding is essential for our students today.

***“The Big Idea in all of this should be that we want students prepared to take charge of the technology that will be such an important part of their future. Coding is one of the tools that will make this happen”.***

[Here is the link to the Blog post.](https://dougpete.wordpress.com/2017/08/16/the-message-we-send/)

<https://dougpete.wordpress.com/2017/08/16/the-message-we-send/>

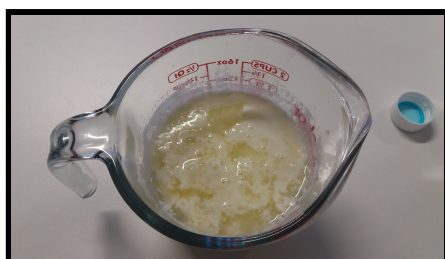
### Cultural Festival

Just a reminder that the Cultural Festival performance night for the St Francis of Assisi Kapahaka group is tonight. We have emailed the instructions for drop off and pick up home to you today and showed the students exactly where the drop off is. Students need to be at the performers entrance door by 6pm. The children know exactly where to be. At the end of the performance you can pick your children up from our seats. We are sitting in P and Q right up at the back. No student will be allowed to go without a parent or caregiver. For anyone not attending the performance we will meet you outside the performers entrance after all other students have been picked up from their seats.

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

### **Scientists in the Tumu Hub**

Students in the Tumu Hub are investigating chemical reactions through Kitchen Chemistry. As you can see from the photos below it has been a very exciting time in the Tumu Hub with lots of experiments taking place.



### **Canterbury Primary School Metro Rugby**

Congratulations to Ben O'Donovan who has been selected in the Canterbury Primary Schools Metro Under 65 kg Rugby Team. Not only is Ben a very capable sportsperson, but he is also a great role model of sportsmanship at St Francis of Assisi. We are so proud of his achievement and wish him all the best for his upcoming representative games.

### **Thursday Winter Sport**

This week Thursday 17 August was the last week of winter sport. Thank you again to those parents who have given up their time to coach/manage our Year 5-8 children at St Francis of Assisi. Next Thursday we would like to take photographs of the teams in their uniforms so if they could come to school wearing their sport uniform that would be much appreciated. Shin pads, mouth guards and boots are not necessary for photographs. (Please note some Year 7/8 teams will be going to the Canterbury Primary Schools Winter Sport Tournament and will need all their equipment).

### **Moonhack - World Record Attempt.**

On Tuesday this week St Francis of Assisi joined kids around the world in attempting to set a new World Record, by taking part in complete a Moonhack Project along with over 20,000 students worldwide.

The idea of the record came from the team at Code Club Australia. Last year 10,207 Australian kids participated in the Moonhack event. This year they went global! From Sydney to Seoul, Dhaka to Durham, kids all over the world got the chance to collaborate and code on the same day.

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Every student @stfranschch took part in this event by doing a project on either Scratch or Trinket (coding programmes). We have since shared these projects and these have been counted as part of the World Record attempt.

6 CHRISTCHURCH MAIL, AUGUST 17, 2017

neighbourly.co.nz

## Pupils take on coding world record attempt

**MONIQUE STEELE**

Computer coding is everywhere. As the technology sector expands at an increasing rate, educators attempt to keep up with it.

Last week, a group of Christchurch students took part in a world record attempt for the amount of children coding on a project, the "Moonhack projects", in a single day.

Several dozen St Francis of Assisi School pupils spent the most part of Tuesday glued to their computers, coding, alongside their Australian counterparts across the ditch who attempted to break the world record last year.

Aging from year 3 to year 8, the pupils were learning about how to code and manipulate computer systems through educational software programmes including Scratch and Trinket which came with instructional manuals for the pupils and teachers.

"We're trying to break the world record," said year 6 pupil Tamara Adams, 10.

"Imagine if we were in the 2017 Guinness Book of World Records."

Some of the year 7 and 8 students said doing coding was an important pathway for their later careers, and others said it was something which their parents had never heard of.

Year 8 St Francis of Assisi student Niamh Webb, 13, codes at home and said she enjoyed the problem solving aspect of it.

"It's the only language I can learn. When I first started last year I had no idea what I was doing in the slightest. But I got it eventually."

Studying code at a weekly after school session and twice-weekly lunchtime sessions as extra-curricular activities, teacher and e-learning co-ordinator Whitney Hansen said the uptake was outstanding.

"There were so many kids who wanted to do it... Of the 373 students, we've probably got around 200 choosing to do coding extra," she said.

Hansen said friends studying computer science at university were studying some of the same techniques her young students were learning.

"It's the idea of being able to create, not just consume, and they're speaking the language of technology."

"These kids do some pretty amazing things."

St Francis of Assisi principal Jo Earl said it was vital the school kept up with the rapidly changing world of technology for the students.

"It's the problem-solving. These are the skills these children are going to need in the future. Our job is to provide them with the opportunity to get those skills while they're here with us."



St Francis of Assisi School pupils took part in a challenge to break the world record for the amount of children coding around the world in one day.

MONIQUE STEELE/STUFF

This article appeared in the Christchurch mail this week. [#moonhack](#) [#getkidscoding](#)

### Cohort Entry

Traditionally, New Zealand children have started school on their fifth birthday, meaning children start throughout the school year. This is called Continuous Entry.

The Government has recently made changes to allow schools to consider Cohort Entry. This is when new entrants can start school as part of a cohort (group) at the beginning of the term closest to their fifth birthday. St Francis of Assisi Catholic School is consulting with our wider community to see whether Cohort Entry is more appropriate for our students and their families.

### Why are we consulting?

Research shows us that moving from early childhood settings to primary school is a very important transition and can affect children's later transitions. We want to make this transition a positive and happy experience for all children and families.

We want our children to have success at school.

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The Ministry of Education requires any school considering Cohort Entry to consult with their community. Research shows that a good indicator of children's success at school is friendships. Starting in a cohort should support children's friendships and relationships.

Staff think parents will also find it easier to make friends and support other families through the school transitions.

We think cohort entry may benefit our students. If you would like to give us your feedback on this topic please complete the survey on the this link. [Cohort Entry Parent Survey](https://goo.gl/forms/NPN2kmVNN6oAko563)  
<https://goo.gl/forms/NPN2kmVNN6oAko563>

### Assembly Awards

What an interesting Assembly today! For those of you who were there - thanks so much for patience and understanding. Thanks so much to our Paiaka Hub. It was great to see all the learning happening and the singing was great. For those who wanted to hear the end of Flynn's fabulous creative writing - [here is the link.](#)

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/19Vz4UXhCD\\_kofu3fErCG-n\\_3KOagTxuLlstfbb6L-kl/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/19Vz4UXhCD_kofu3fErCG-n_3KOagTxuLlstfbb6L-kl/edit?usp=sharing)

Congratulations to the recipients of this week's Principal's Awards:

Kākano	Paiaka	Tumu	Kaupeka
Tilly Smith Freya Wall Charlotte Neilson George Brocherie Alex Ortego	Gabrielle Alolor Cooper Robertson Gio Cagalitan	Tamera Adams Ethan Beetar James Goggin Harriet Mallia	Matthew Mun Val Cowan Bella Heslop Brown Methuli Ranasinghe Arachchige Eva Mitcalfe

### The Sound of Music

Congratulations to Petra Eveleigh who was selected, from 200 national auditioning children, to play Gretl in Ben McDonald Ltd's professional production of The Sound of Music. The tour will begin in the North Island at the end of September and be performed in 23 centres from Kerikeri to Invercargill. The children are double cast playing show on and show off. If you are travelling during the school holidays you can catch Petra at various shows around the country:

Date	Place	Time	Date	Place	Time
Fri, 29 Sep	Lower Hutt	7pm	Sat, 14 Oct	New Plymouth	7pm
Sat, 30 Sep	Carterton	7pm	Mon, 16 Oct	Kapiti	7pm

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Sun, 01 Oct	Napier	3pm	Thu, 19 Oct	Ashburton	7pm
Wed, 04 Oct	Kerikeri	7pm	Sat, 21 Oct	Chch	3pm
Sat, 07 Oct	Takapuna	3pm	Sun, 22 Oct	Chch	7pm
Sun, 08 Oct	Hamilton	7pm	Mon, 23 Oct	Blenheim	7pm
Tue, 10 Oct	Gisborne	7pm	Wed, 25 Oct	Nelson	7pm
Fri, 13 Oct	Wanganui	7pm	Fri, 27 Oct	Dunedin	7pm
			Sat, 28 Oct	Invercargill	7pm

Petra will be in two Christchurch shows at the Isaac Theatre Royal during labour weekend, 3pm 21 October and 7pm 22 October, tickets available through ticketek.

### **Kaupeka Political PBL**

In Kaupeka we are working on a PBL about New Zealand Politics. Over the next few weeks we have some candidates coming in for some question and answer sessions with the year 7/8s. We have candidates from the Christchurch Central and Christchurch East electorates coming and we would like to invite any parents that wanted to come in and listen.

Jo Hayes (National, Christchurch East) Wednesday 23rd August at 9.30am.

Dr Duncan Webb (Labour, Christchurch Central) Wednesday 23d August at 1pm.

Poto Williams (Labour, Incumbent Christchurch East) Wednesday 30th August at 1pm

Nicky Wagner (National, Incumbent Christchurch Central) Thursday 7th September at 10.30am.

### **Christchurch Schools Music Festival Tickets**

Exciting news! The tickets to the festival can now be purchased through ticketek. The Year 5-8 choir students will be performing at the Horncastle Arena on Wednesday 25th October at 7pm. More information on how to purchase tickets can be found on the [festival website](#). This link [here](#) will show you what side of the stage we will be on. This will help you choose where you would like to sit. The ticketek booking page also has a plan showing where the choir will be sitting. Any questions about this, please see Mackenzie Kane in Room 8 or email me at [mackenzie.kane@stfrancis.chch.school.nz](mailto:mackenzie.kane@stfrancis.chch.school.nz)

### **Lost Property**

Christopher Chamoun from Tumu Hub has lost his named school jersey and tie. Please return if found.

Sovarne Peck from Kakano Hub has lost her size 12 black girls velcro strap school shoes with star imprints on the front and side of the shoes. Please return if found.

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## **Pets in the Kakano Hub**

This term, the Kakano Hub are learning about animals for our PBL. Our question is, 'How can we design a happy home for an animal?'

The children are working towards creating a habitat for an animal of their choice. This week the Parsonson family have gifted the junior classrooms a pet for the week from their Pet Shop. Room 8 has had an axolotl called Hunter, Room 7 has two very cute guinea pigs, Room 9/10 have had two beautiful budgies and Room 11 have had two fish that they have named Nemo and Lucky. It has been great to learn about how to care for a pet. Thank you so much for letting us care for your interesting animals!



In Room 8 we have an axolotl. He walks on the bottom of the tank and he swims in the water and he breathes in his gills. Gills look like ears. He lives on land and he lives in the water.

### **Jachai**

In Room 8, we have an axolotl. His name is Hunter. He's interesting. He looks spotty and he likes to run around the tank. It is an amphibian. He can live outside the water and inside the water. I like to have a pet.

### **Eden**

In Room 8 we have a pet axolotl called Hunter. Axolotls are amphibians. Hunter is black and spotty. He has got furry gills that go up and down. He can walk on water and land. He can eat pellets. He has slimy skin. He has eyes wide apart. He sometimes stays like a statue and sometimes we walks around in his interesting tank.

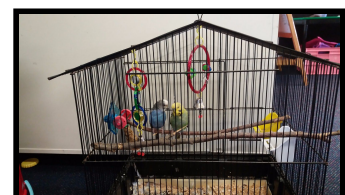


### **Mila**

In Room 8 we have an axolotl. We care for it and it needs food and water. We feed it little pellets. It is an amphibian. They can walk on land and water. The axolotl's habitat is a tank. We named it Hunter. The axolotl is also called a mexican walking fish. Axolotls can swim. They normally stand like a statue but they are incredibly fast swimmers.

### **Leo**

In Room 8 my class has an... axolotl! He has black spots on him. He is small. Sometimes he is as still as a statue. They are amphibians. That means that an axolotl can be outside of the tank.



## Accounts

Statements for Term 3 have been emailed/sent out today. If you have not received a statement that means you have paid your account in full - thank you! Online payments have been receipted up until those received yesterday. The Yr 3/4 camp fee will be billed separately once costs have been finalised. If you have Yr 5/6 or 7/8 camp fees and swimming fees outstanding please arrange payment as soon as possible. Any queries or to make payment arrangements please phone Pauline.

NB Please make sure you make online payments to the school account noted at the bottom of the statement not the Parish account.

## Enrolments for 2018

A reminder to parents who have a child due to start at St Francis to please contact the office for an enrolment form.

## PTA News

### PTA Teatowel Fundraiser

This term we are organising a teatowel fundraiser which will have pictures of your children's drawings on them. We are looking for a sponsor who in return will have their name/logo on the teatowels. If you are interested can you please contact Leanne on 021 025 06238 or [dale-flanagan@clear.net.nz](mailto:dale-flanagan@clear.net.nz). Thank you for your support.

# TEA TOWEL FUNDRAISER



Our students are designing the artwork and the Tea Towels will feature their hubs artwork and the drawings will be screen printed onto high quality cotton tea towels over 500mm wide by 700mm high!

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Tea Towels are a great way to feature the Children's own artwork and have them involved in the design of the Fundraiser.

They make great gifts and are easily mailed to relatives, even overseas. The Tea Towels look great and are long lasting mementos of your Children's younger days. Not to mention that they are great for drying dishes!

By purchasing a Tea Towel(s) you are not only receiving a great keepsake or gift, you are also helping achieve our fundraising goal, which would not be possible without your support!

The price per towel is only (\$12.50).

The Tea Towel print run is limited so make sure you, your family and your friends don't miss out!

Final Order Cut Off: 22 September, Keep an eye out for the Order form that will be sent home in September. If you have any questions you can contact Leanne at [dale-flanagan@clear.net.nz](mailto:dale-flanagan@clear.net.nz)

### **Free Dental Care for Children**

including special information regarding Year 8 students

One of our Community Dental Service preventive mobiles will be visiting your school soon.

- We will be aiming to see that all school age children enrolled with the Community Dental Service have their dental check-up in the dental mobile while it is there
- Year 8 students: all year 8 students enrolled with the Community Dental Service are transferred from the Community Dental Service to a FREE private dentist from year 9 until their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. To help with this transition please ensure you have informed your child of their family dentist (not orthodontist). This will enable us to transfer your child onto the correct dentist for year 9 onwards. More information will be sent home after their year 8 check-up.
- To do this we will be asking the school to provide your child's name, address and your contact information.
- The dental therapist will not only be checking the children's teeth but will also Xray, clean, and apply protective treatments fluoride and or Fissure sealants (coating put on teeth to prevent decay) if required
- If your child requires further dental care such as fillings they will bring home a 'Care Plan' which will explain what dental care and appointment times are required
- When you receive the 'Care Plan' please contact our Call Centre as soon as possible as you will need to arrange a time to bring your child to one of our Community Clinics for this dental care
- Please let us know ASAP if you do not wish your child to have any of this care, you can talk to the staff in the mobile or phone/email our Call Centre
- If you wish to be present at your child's check up this will need to take place at our community clinic so please phone/email our Call Centre to make an appointment
- Please contact our Call Centre if you want further information on the Community Dental Service, to enrol your child or if you have any specific questions about your child's dental care (a dental therapist will call you back)

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## **Parish Notices**

### **Office Hours**

Office hours are now – Tuesday & Thursday 8am - 5pm and Wednesday & Friday 8am - 2pm.

### **CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME**

Catholics Returning Home is a four week programme for non-practicing Catholics interested in renewing their life in the Church. The programme is welcoming, confidential and gives participants a chance to tell their story if they wish. The programme updates participants on recent changes in the Church. It starts soon in the following location in Christchurch.

Tuesdays at Papanui Parish (August 29th –September 26th) starting at 7pm until 9pm, St Joseph's Parish Centre, Papanui.

Please feel very welcome to attend or you may know of someone you could support by inviting them to this programme. For details phone 0508 HOME NOW (0508 466 366) or visit [www.catholicshomenow.co.nz](http://www.catholicshomenow.co.nz)

Matt O'Connell

Evangelisation Coordinator

Mobile: 027 536940

### **“Current of Grace” Conference**

In 2017 Catholic Charismatic Renewal is celebrating 50 years Jubilee of the Renewal. The 50 year celebrations commenced in Rome with Pope Francis and people from around the world coming together to celebrate on the feast of Pentecost. Here in New Zealand, we are celebrating this special Jubilee with a “Current of Grace” Conference 22 – 24 September in Palmerston North.

“Current of Grace’ Conference

“Celebrating the diverse fruits and family of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in New Zealand”

When: Friday 22 – Sunday 24 September 2017-06-23

Where: Distinction Hotel and the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North

Guest presenters include Bishop Denis Browne, Fr John Rea, Diana Ingle CCRNZ Chairperson. Ann Brereton from ICCRS will share on 2017 Vatican report Pope Francis’s exciting new plans for us all!

For further information and to register on-line visit [www.ccrnz.org/register2017](http://www.ccrnz.org/register2017)

For further information please contact Val Morrison Tel: 07 542 5537

Will You Help Care for Children & Young People in Canterbury?

Are you a single person, grandparent, couple or family; we have many children and young people who need various levels of care ranging from one weekend a month to

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a permanent home they can call their own.

God calls us to many things, is God calling you to make a difference in the lives of children and young people?

To find out about one of the many ways you can help please join us for our Foster Care Information Evening:

Monday 21 August 2017 at 7pm  
Level 1, 370 Colombo Street, Sydenham  
RSVP: [Rebecca.Young@ohf.org.nz](mailto:Rebecca.Young@ohf.org.nz)

Our vision

**Every child and young person growing up in a secure, loving family and receiving a depth of care which will bless them throughout their life.**

### **Community Notices**

#### **Cricket Registrations East ChCh/ Shirley**

See advertisement below

#### **Tween and Tweens Parenting Group**

See advertisement below

### **MSport - Football NZ Skills Clinics**

Information about football NZ skills clinics can be found at the school office. On thursday of this week M Sport came in to run a free football clinic with all students. This will be on offer after school for those that want to carry on. If your child is interested please see Bev in the office for more information.

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BOYS & GIRLS  
-  
COME & PLAY  
CRICKET THIS  
SUMMER!



# East Chch Shirley Cricket Club

Junior Registration & Open Day 2017

Online registrations from 1st September  
or come along to registration day  
Saturday 16th September 10am - 12pm

Open day Sunday 1st October  
Come along for a sausage sizzle, meet your  
team & if you register, pick up your free cap.  
10am - 12pm

- Online Registrations  
- New players  
welcome

BURWOOD PARK  
75 BURWOOD ROAD  
SHIRLEY  
PHONE 021-744-114  
or 027-874-8622

Post on  wall.com



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# Build a great family team and have fun on the way!



## Tweens and Teens

**12 years +** We will show you that, although these years may be challenging, they can be some of the best years of your life – and theirs!

- Small group course with a trained facilitator
- Six sessions per course
- Tailored to your needs

### **Tweens and Teens covers:**

- Atmosphere
- Boundaries
- Communication
- Discipline
- Self-esteem
- Future focus

*Toolbox courses are free to foster carers, whanau caregivers, adopters, grandparents raising grandchildren, and Home for Life parents thanks to government funding. We are also able to offer free training for participants wishing to become Toolbox facilitators.*

### **WORRIED ABOUT BECOMING THE PARENT OF A TEENAGER?**

FREE @ Mairehau Primary

#### ***Teens and Tweens Parenting Group***

Where: Staffroom Mairehau Primary School

When: 2pm Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August

Cost: FREE

Contact: [angela@nht.org.nz](mailto:angela@nht.org.nz), or 033556522 ext 111





## TRACK & FIELD 2017/2018

JUNIORS 4 YRS – 14 YRS  
&  
SENIORS 15+ YRS

### 2017/2018 REGISTRATION & INFORMATION

TUESDAY	5 <sup>TH</sup> SEP	5.30-7pm
WEDNESDAY	6 <sup>TH</sup> SEP	5.30-7pm
THURSDAY	7 <sup>TH</sup> SEP	5.30-7pm

At the New Brighton Olympic Club Rooms, Keyes Road, New Brighton  
New Athletes ID is required (Birth Cert or Passport)

NEW & EXISTING FAMILIES ALL WELCOME

For further information: Email: [nboltrackandfield@gmail.com](mailto:nboltrackandfield@gmail.com)  
Contact: Kara (021) 1304471 or Bronwyn (020) 111 3010  
[www.nbo.org.nz](http://www.nbo.org.nz)

**COME JOIN US IT'S FUN!!!!!!**

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