

# St Francis of Assisi School

*St Francis of Assisi School Newsletter*

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## Newsletter Contents:

**Issue #17**

**9 June 2017**

[Kia ora koutou e te whānau](#)

[First Communion](#)

[Sharing Innovative Teaching and Learning at St Francis](#)

[Assembly - Showcase of Learning](#)

[Assembly Awards](#)

[Safety Awareness to and from School](#)

[First Communion Choir](#)

[Parent / Teacher Interviews \(Year 4 - 8 students\)](#)

[Interviews link \(Yr 4-8 students\)](#)

[Cybersmart and Blogging Information Evening](#)

[Mid Winter Breakfast - Friday 7 July](#)

[QR Codes](#)

[Canterbury Primary Schools Netball Trials](#)

[Canterbury Primary Schools Rugby Trials](#)

[Swimming Lessons](#)

[Sports Awards](#)

[Sport](#)

[Board of Trustees News](#)

[Shout Outs to Our Staff](#)

[Playground Installation](#)

[Special Character Review](#)

[Special Character Review](#)

[PTA Updates](#)

[Ladies Night Out -](#)

[PTA Cheese Roll Fundraiser](#)

[Entertainment Books](#)

[After School Programme](#)

[Norah Street Parking](#)

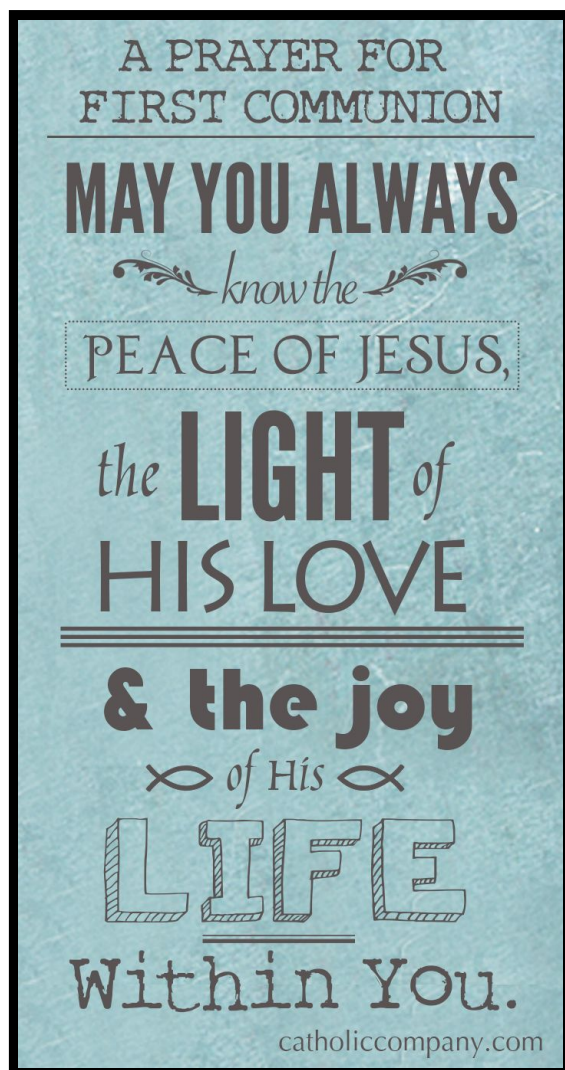
[Attendance Dues](#)

[Our Parish St Vincent de Paul needs you.](#)

[Community Notices](#)

[Southern Cross Irish Dance](#)

**Kia ora koutou e te whānau**



### **First Communion**

Blessings and prayers go with our students that are making their First Communion this weekend.

### **Sharing Innovative Teaching and Learning at St Francis**

As a new school we are often asked to host visitors from other schools. This term we have been asked by the Ministry of Education to host schools every Tuesday afternoon. This week as we showed some teachers around our school, we were asked many questions about the innovative practices that the visiting teachers saw at our school. The visitors were very impressed and we felt extremely proud that our students and teachers are demonstrating that we really are an innovative catholic learning community that does inspire and empower our learners to succeed.

### **Assembly - Showcase of Learning**

Today at Assembly we had a fantastic showcase of learning from the Tumu Hub. We have put some links on our facebook page so that you all can see what they have been learning about.

<https://www.facebook.com/stfrancischchschoo/>

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## Assembly Awards

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

Kākano	Paiaka	Tumu	Kaupeka
Nikita Smith Chiara Domigan Franco Panuntan Willow Hart Leo Anderson	Flynn Anderson Millie Berhault Mostyn Brown Lydia Cassidy Blake Adriaens Matias Fraher	Hannah Swain Jude Brodie-Grottis Makayla Ruaiti Reuben John	Matthew Harrington Liana Borkus Lilla Harnett Niamh Webb Grace van den Heever

## Safety Awareness to and from School

Today we posted this on our facebook page and this morning we spoke with all of our pupils: *Sadly, yesterday one of the senior boys at Mairehau Primary was approached by someone offering a ride. The student used the strategies he was taught and responded appropriately to ensure his safety by running off. He told a parent and the police were notified. We do not want to create hysteria, however, it is a good time to remind your children of the ways to ensure their own safety - things such as: never accept a ride from someone you don't know; try to walk with others; always tell an adult if something happens.*

## First Communion Choir

We would really like some of our senior students to step up and support the First Communion Masses by being a part of the choir for the weekend. To date we have asked the the senior students and only one has offered so we would really appreciate some encouragement from home - especially those who may have a sibling making their first communion on the day.

## Parent / Teacher Interviews (Year 4 - 8 students)

On Friday 30 June your child's mid-Year report will be sent home and then in Week 10 of this term you will be offered the opportunity to come and meet with your child's homebase teacher. This is a chance to talk through your child's progress so far this year and look at what his/her next steps are as they work towards achieving their goals for the rest of the year.

## Interviews link (Yr 4-8 students)

You can book your interviews on this link <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz> with the code u7rwe Please contact us if you have any trouble and we will help you through the process.

## Cybersmart and Blogging Information Evening

Parents are warmly invited to attend an information evening that will be held on **Monday 26 June at 7:00pm** in the library.

*"The internet and online technologies, including mobile phones, are incredible tools for children to explore the world around them and to communicate, learn, play and be*

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*entertained. Knowing how to use the internet safely, whether at home, school or in a public place, is a crucial life skill for children to learn."*

Dr Christine Bennett, Chair, Medical Advisory Panel, Bupa Australia

During this Information evening we will take a look at how we hope to develop Cybersmart Citizens at St Francis of Assisi School, through teaching them about online relationships, responsible and positive choices online, using digital tools, and about maintaining a positive digital footprint. As children are online now more than ever, it is so important that we all have a shared understanding of how our students can stay safe online.

We will also be discussing blogs and blogging. Our Year 5 - 8 students all have individual blogs now and are working hard to submit at least one post a week. During the course of the information evening we will share with you how the blogs are being used and why we believe this is important practice for our students. We will also take you through how you can access your child's blog and how to comment on his or her blog. Blogging is most powerful when students have an authentic audience to share their thoughts and ideas, and you as members of our community play a big part in providing this.

### **Mid Winter Breakfast - Friday 7 July**

Back by popular demand! Keep your eye out for more information about the return of this school community event!

### **QR Codes**

On Tuesday mornings we run a Techie Brekkie with the staff where we look at how digital technologies are being used in the classroom. This week we looked at QR Codes and teachers learnt how to create and scan QR Codes. Already we are seeing these being used in classrooms. In Room 10, with Mrs Shaw, students are now able to scan and find out more about a range of different animals, including dolphins, seals and manta ray. In other areas of the school students are using QR Codes to access each other's writing and their blogs.

What is a QR Code - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CSIJGNBHjXw>

### **Canterbury Primary Schools Netball Trials**

Yesterday several of our students participated in the North Zone Trials for the Year 7/8 Canterbury Primary Schools Netball Team. Tiana Purdon has been successful at these trials and will now attend a second trial along with seven other students from the North Zone at Hagley Park in two weeks time. We wish Tiana all the best for her next trial.

### **Canterbury Primary Schools Rugby Trials**

Similarly to above the Canterbury Primary Schools Rugby Teams will be having trials over the next couple of weeks. This process is different to the netball trials as clubs or schools can nominate and there is no Zone Trial first. We would also like to wish all those trialing for these teams good luck.

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### **Swimming Lessons**

Swimming Lessons have been organised for all students in weeks 9 and 10 of the term. Our students will travel to the Graham Condon complex each day for lessons, 10 lessons in total. We are in the process of sorting the timetable for this and this will be advertised on the Hub blogs when it is completed.

### **Sports Awards**

On Thursday 22 June we will be holding the first of two St Francis of Assisi Sports Awards. The awards will run from 9.30 am - 10.30 am. These awards will be an opportunity to celebrate the success of our students in sport so far this year. The parents of those students who will be recognised at the awards will be sent an email closer to the time of the event.

### **Sport**

Another great day at Sport yesterday. This week we have photos of Hockey to share.



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## Board of Trustees News

### Shout Outs to Our Staff

Congratulations to ...

**Kath Roach** - for passing the Google Certified Educator Level 1 exam. This certification proves proficiency on how to use Google Tools in the classroom.

**Whitney Hansen** - Whitney has been asked to present at the 4th Bi-Annual National Diocesan System – School Improvement Colloquium in Cairns in August. This colloquium provides a forum for those working in Catholic Education to come together to discuss issues relevant to Catholic school improvement. Whitney is joining with the team at the Catholic Education Office to present on the Digital Learning Space they have created for Canterbury Teachers to use when they are teaching RE.

**Jo Earl** and **Maire Bowler** - Jo and Maire have been asked to present at the National Catholic Principals Conference in Wellington. Their presentation - Innovative Practice will showcase the great teaching and learning that is happening at St Francis.

We are very proud of our staff and the efforts they go to role model lifelong learning.

### Playground Installation

The Project Team met today to begin to put the plan for installation in place. You may have noticed that last week that the old obstacle course was removed to make room for the playground to be installed. Thanks so much to the team from Siepp for their help with this.

The posts and tyres that have been removed are stacked at the far end of the field. If you know of anyone that would have a use for these please let us know as they can go free to a good home! Otherwise the team will organise the removal of these.

The next phase of the project is to remove the surrounds that were around the old obstacle course. We are holding a working bee on Sunday 2 July at 10am to do this work and to remove the bark from this area and distribute it around the junior playground in front of Rooms 7 and 8. We will also be ordering more bark as the levels of bark under the junior playground need to be topped up as well. Many hands make light work - so if you think you can give us a couple of hours on Sunday 2 July we would really appreciate it. Bring shovels, sledge hammers, rakes, wheelbarrows and a smile!

Let us know you are able to join us by completing this form.

<https://goo.gl/forms/7A1PljCle17tiP6V2>

### Special Character Review

Just a reminder that we would love for you to complete the survey on this link.

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### **Special Character Review**

<https://goo.gl/forms/RU5qySIUn6pXN5fs1>

Everyone who submits the survey will receive a code word - come along to the office, or email us with the code word and you will go into the draw for a \$50 Joe's Garage voucher. The link to the survey is above - just copy and paste it into the address bar at the top of your browser.

### **PTA Updates**

#### **Ladies Night Out -**

Tickets all sold - Looking forward to having a great night!

#### **PTA Cheese Roll Fundraiser**

Once again a heartfelt thank you to all of the parents who attended the cheese roll fundraising effort. It was hugely well supported by helpers and by people purchasing cheese rolls. The final figure is in and we are delighted to report that a profit of \$6100 was made. Our thanks go to Fran Tohill and the PTA for their amazing organisation and running of this event. What an amazing community effort!

#### **Entertainment Books**

Christchurch, Canterbury and Nelson Entertainment 2017 / 2018

The Christchurch Entertainment books have arrived and will be available to pick up from the office, from Monday 8 May. For those who haven't purchased one yet and wish to do so, you can either click the link below and order one online, return the envelope that was sent home with your child to the school office OR purchase one from the office.  
[www.entbook.co.nz/1341q64](http://www.entbook.co.nz/1341q64)

Display copies are available to have a look through in the staff room and in the office OR to view the book online click on this link <https://online.flippingbook.com/view/347408>

The PTA coordinator for book orders is: Gillian Kent-McConigley, 0274-795-630 with support from Phil Bell and Leanne Flanagan.

All proceeds will go towards the development of St Francis of Assisi's playground.

Thanks for your support, Gillian and the St Francis of Assisi School PTA

#### **Lost Property**

Saffron Parsonson has lost her named school jersey. Please return to Room 8 if found.  
Claudia Snelgar in the Kaupeka Hub has lost her named school jersey two weeks ago please check your child/childrens jersey and return if found. Thanks. Please return if found.

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Luther Hickey from the Tumu Hub has lost his named sports top. Please return to Tumu if found.

### **After School Programme**



The Oscar After school program is currently full with permanent bookings therefore we are not able to guarantee casual bookings at present it will be only on a one off basis. If you are needing casual bookings you can contact the supervisor: 0274691873.

### **Norah Street Parking**

Please note there is **no parking** on the short right of way off Norah Street that leads to the back field entrance. This area is for residents only. It is also very dangerous for the children who walk into school this way to have cars trying to drive into this area. Please park out on Nancy Ave.

### **Book Club**

Order to be in by Thursday 22nd June 2017.

### **Second Hand Jersey**

Second hand jersey for sale - as new only worn for 3 weeks. Size 97cm. Price Negotiable. Please phone Liz - 385 2660

### **Parish Notices**

Parish Office Hours have changed with effect from this week. Office hours are now – Tuesday & Thursday 8am - 5pm and Wednesday & Friday 8am - 2pm.

Would you like to meet other families from the school and Parish?

Sign up to share afternoon with other families of the Parish on the weekend of the 18th June. We will contact you with whose place you will be going for afternoon tea.

This is a great chance to meet new people and enjoy others company. This is open to families of all shapes, sizes and ages.

There are clipboards at the back of the Church for you to sign up to host a family or to be a guest. Or fill in the form attached. Click the link below

...

Hosts, you will have the flexibility on date, time and what meal you would like.

If you have any questions contact Clare [clare.bell@mairehauparish.org.nz](mailto:clare.bell@mairehauparish.org.nz) 021 2135620

<https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSe-o8aPOL6T9b1SEN.../viewform>

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**Attendance Dues**

Attendance Dues – DUE BY DATES. Some of you have expressed confusion as to why the parish has a due by date on our invoices.

As you are aware, the parish invoice you on behalf of the Diocese, for the Attendance Dues/Special Character Contributions for each child attending a Catholic School.

What you may not be aware of is that the parish then receives an invoice from the Diocese for approximately \$22,000 which we are required to pay by a certain date.

We put a due by date on our invoices to ensure the parish has the funds to meet the Diocesan Invoice for your children at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School.

The 2017 due by dates are 20th February, 20th May, 20th August & 20th November.

As always, if you have any queries or are having difficulty paying your account, please get in touch with the parish office. Phone 385 3459.

**Our Parish St Vincent de Paul needs you.**

The parish St Vincent de Paul Conference covers the largest parish geographical area and receives on average 200 calls a month for assistance. Due to illness and age we now have very few people in our team who are able to deliver food parcels to those in need. Are you available during the day and have your own transport? Please consider joining our busy team in this very important work. Full training will be given. Please contact Kirsten in the parish office if you are interested in finding out more.

Scroll down for an invitation from the Parish.

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# Join us for a cuppa

This coming Tuesday

9am

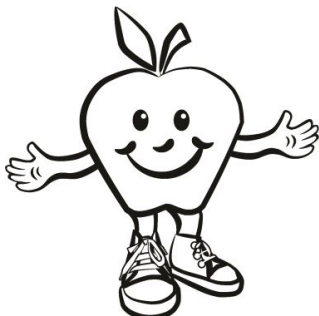

In the Staffroom

A great chance to meet other parents

Pre schoolers welcome



## Community Notices

Join the fun...	
<p>Being a Pippin with GirlGuiding NZ is a very popular choice for 5 and 6 year old girls and it is great to be able to offer the opportunity to more girls to join our Rawhiti Pippin Unit – Thursdays 4.45-5.45pm at All Saints Church, 305 New Brighton Rd.</p> <p>Guiding is about learning, developing self-confidence, making new friends and, of course, having lots of fun outside school!</p>	
<p>Our programmes are provided in a fun, safe environment and girls get together each week with girls their own age to do lots of cool stuff like discovering nature, visiting interesting places, making crafts, playing games and more.</p>	
 <b>GirlGuidingNZ</b>	<p>If you have a 5 or 6 year old daughter who likes to have fun then contact Jenny Brawley ph. 0220542093 or visit <a href="http://www.girlguidingnz.org.nz">www.girlguidingnz.org.nz</a></p>



# Southern Cross Irish Dance

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## Beginner Classes



1ST  
LESSON  
FREE

### Tuesdays

4pm-5pm  
(from 28th Feb 2017 onwards)

Christchurch Irish Society Hall  
29 Domain Tce, Spreydon

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### Saturdays

10am-11am  
(from 4th March 2017 onwards)

St Mary's Church Hall  
329 Halswell Rd, Halswell

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Great for kids to gain confidence, co-ordination and rhythm

To book, contact  
Shannon & Argène on 022 040 3109,  
[southerncrossirishdance@gmail.com](mailto:southerncrossirishdance@gmail.com)

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[SouthernCrossIrishDance.com](http://SouthernCrossIrishDance.com)



**Southern  
Cross  
Irish Dance**

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