



St Francis
of Assisi
Catholic School

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Friday 7 December 2019

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Important Dates - He aha kei tua?

Save the Dates! (we will add to this as other events are planned)

Date	Event
Tues 11 Dec	Year 7 Leadership Day Year 8 Retreat Day Sports Awards Paiaka Art Trip Kākano visit Diana Isaac Retirement Village
Wed 12 Dec	Big Day Out (Year 7/8) Paiaka Art Trip
Wed 12 Dec	Year 8 Leavers Dinner 6pm Paiaka Art Trip
Mon 17 Dec	1pm Junior Prizegiving 6pm Senior Prizegiving More information to come
Tues 18 Dec	Last day of school year - School Mass @ 11am School finishes at 12pm

Special Character

In Bishop Paul's Advent letter to the diocese of Christchurch he reminds us that while the buildings and Christmas preparations are important, the call to the followers of Jesus is to take this Advent / Christmas opportunity to a deeper level.

Bishop Paul writes:

You might be feeling the hype of pre-Christmas parties. You could be busy tying up loose ends at work. Some families are flat out trying to get all the gift shopping done, preparing for relatives to visit, or trying to organise a trip away.

The Church sends us a different message with a different focus for this time.

As Catholics we are encouraged to spend some of this time preparing for the coming of Jesus in quiet and stillness. The Church invites you and me to use this time to reflect and to grow, just as we might during Lent.

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Advent is a blessed time to contemplate the way God chose to come into this world. In the presence of shepherds, in a simple manger, His coming was far from a grand affair. God humbled Himself to come as a helpless baby. He was reliant on the care of those around Him. Advent is also a time for us to take stock of ourselves, and how many of us have relied and continue to rely on others throughout our lives.

Jesus will always come to visit us first in our brokenness. To grow spiritually we first begin with our brokenness.

While we take this journey we can go out and meet others in the same way.

The way we treat others demonstrates a deeper reflection of our relationship with Jesus. In Matthew 25:40, Jesus says, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for Me.”
(Extract from [Food for Faith](#))

Principal Awards 7 December 2018

Kākano	Paiaka	Tumu	Kaupeka
Eli Walker Kiriana Adair Oscar Schulte Payton Poole -Nicholas Charlie Mae Entwistle Rosy Haines Tayla Dry Oliver Prebble Ella Sinclair	Zach Harnett Ellenor Hall Noah Hall Caoimhe Harrison Jaidyn Cahill Santara Fogarty Gabrielle Alolor Molly MacKay	Ben Neves Graham Ethan O'Donovan Harriet Mallia Ruby Harnett Matthew Tohill Arie Kriek Eilish Dew Kade Burroughs	Andres Fraher Samuel Bekhuis Claudia Snelgar Tiana Purdon Jorja Walshe Grace van den Heever

From the Principal - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki

Kia ora koutou e te whanau

Exciting times yesterday as our students got to visit their 2019 Hubs and meet the teachers that will be working with them next year.

Although we haven't quite finished the homebase lists we want to share with you the staff organisation for 2019. We will share the homebase teacher for your child next week.

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Kākano Yr 1/2	Paiaka Yr 3/4	Tumu Yr 5/6	Kaupeka Yr 7/8
Paula Brown Louise Mackay Angela Bailey Katie Clark	Helen Simanu Nicola Smith-Palmer Tracey Bryce Kath Roach	Anna Carney Melissa Dungey Kate Parker	Whitney Hansen Makaila Powick Melissa Lover Rebecca Henderson
Intervention Teachers Angela Shea (Early Literacy Intervention programmes)			
Part-time Teachers Charlotte Parish Sue Ferguson Amanda Judd			
Support Staff Bev Sutherland - Office Manager Pauline O'Connor - Executive Officer Shane Garrick - Caretaker			
Teacher Aides Sam Cleghorn Rachel Fitzsimons Kirsten Gill Steve Dilger Michelle Wright KAtrina Plowman			

Next year our number of Year 7/8 students has grown and fitting 98 Intermediate level students into the current space upstairs would be a challenge. We tried this a couple of weeks ago and opened up this problem to the students to let them work out what the best result would be.

After many different ideas they decided that the Kaupeka students (Year 7/8) would be best placed in the single storey building that currently houses the Tumu students. Therefore the Tumu students (Year 5/6) will be in the upstairs Hub in 2019. This may change again in 2020 depending on the size of the year groups going through. The 2019 Kaupeka and Tumu students have some great ideas about how they are going to set the spaces up and we are looking forward to seeing what they will come up with. Watch this space!

2019

Next year we are starting the year off with individual meetings with your child's teacher before the first day. You will be invited to make an appointment time for Thursday 31 January to come and connect with your child's teacher. We encourage you all to do this. It will be a great time to meet your child's teacher and talk about your hopes and expectations

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for your children for the coming year. We will share more information about this and a link with you next week so that you can make these appointments.

Next week you will receive all the information you need for the start of 2019; stationery, information for the first two days of school and homebase teachers.

Reporting to Parents

Remember that your child's achievement information is available at any time on their Linc Ed digital report. Please make sure you can access these over the next week and please let us know if you are having trouble.

Sharing Successes

Last night at the BOT meeting we shared our achievement data for the year. We are happy to share this with our school community too. The Board was impressed with the level of achievement. Here are some highlights.

- 88% of our students are at or above the expected curriculum level for Reading.
- 87% of our students are at or above the expected curriculum level for Mathematics.
- 81% of our students are at or above the expected curriculum level for Writing. This is a significant increase from the end of the 2017 year (69%).

We strive for academic excellence and we are also excited to share the successes of our past students as well as those that are here with us.



Congratulations to:

Liana Borkus, of St Francis of Assisi Catholic School in Mairehau, has won the 2019 Marian Foundation Scholarship to Marian College. The scholarship will be presented to Liana at the Marian College junior prize giving on Friday morning 14 December, the last day

of school for 2018.

Liana was top ranked of all incoming Year 9 students from more than 30 primary and intermediate schools around greater Christchurch.

This scholarship was won by another St Francis student last year - Kiera Worthington.



Congratulations to:

Monique Dry

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Monique has received a sports scholarship to attend Catholic Cathedral College in Year 9. This is fantastic achievement - well done Monique.

Congratulations to:

Arthur Chambers who has received a scholarship to St Bedes for next year.



Congratulations to:

Emily Chambers who has won an academic scholarship to St. Margaret's College for 2019.

... and while we are celebrating; some members of our school whānau have just completed two years of Te Reo study with Te Wānanga O Aotearoa and have achieved Level 4 NZQA Te Reo. Congratulations to Rebecca Brocherie, Sarah McLaughlin, Kelly Sullivan, Richie Morgan, Nicki Purdon, Maire Bowler and Jo Earl. Ka Rawe Whānau!



Year 9 Success at St Bedes

At the St Bedes Junior Prizegiving yesterday many of our ex-students received excellence certificates. Congratulations to the students from Year 9 that received these.

Josh Luxford
Max Norton
Ben O'Donovan
Corban Fisher
Andre Pagsanjan
Jordan Saunders

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Young Vinnies Reverse Advent Calendar

This year the Young Vinnies group are running a Reverse Advent Calendar for our school. This is an appeal that reaches out to those in our community less fortunate than ourselves by giving gifts or xmas food items for Christmas. We are running this during Monday 3rd December and Monday 18th December. We will be asking for donations of either a small gift (wrapped and labelled with either "girl", "boy" or "unisex" and a suitable age), or a xmas food item (non perishable) please. These gifts will be distributed to families less fortunate than ourselves in our local community. We see this as a lovely way to bring some joy to the Christmas season while providing an act of service within our community. We thank you in advance for your support. Any questions, please see Louise MacKay.

1:1 Chromebook Programme

Please note that the closing date for orders to ensure delivery by Day One of the school year is Monday 10 December

In 2017 we rolled out a very successful 1:1 Chromebook programme for all students from Year 5-8 here at St Francis. Last week we held a Parent evening for the parents of 2019 Year 5 students as these children will be entering this programme next year.

All children in Year 5-8 next year will need a Chromebook. We are committed to only using chromebooks as experience has shown us that having multiple devices is problematic. Having one device means that teachers and students are working from one platform.

Students owning their own chromebooks is our preference as this means they are able to learn anytime/anywhere. We are working with the Uru Mānuka Trust to present some purchasing options for you and are grateful for your patience around this. Purchasing information has been sent out to the 2018 Year 4 parents and can be accessed on this link.

[Purchasing Information](#)

Closing Date Monday 7 December

If your child already has a device and you don't want to purchase a chromebook, we will have a limited pool of devices available at school, however these will only be allowed to be used in class time and cannot be taken home.

Prizegiving

This year we are going to trial holding two separate prize givings. They will be held in our hall onsite - the first time we will have been able to do this since the school opened.

The Junior Prizegiving will be held on Monday 17 December at 1pm and the Senior Prizegiving will be held on Monday 17 October at 6pm.

All children are expected to attend their event. Kapa haka, Choir and Jump Jam will perform at each event.

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Kapa haka Festival @ Mairehau High School



School fees

Thank you to those families who have paid your accounts in full or are continuing to make payments. There are a number of accounts where little or no payments have been made this year. The end of the school year is coming up quickly and if you have made no payments on your account your urgent attention to this would be appreciated. If you are experiencing difficulties please phone the office to talk to Jo or Pauline. Follow up phone calls are being made before the end of the school year.

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School Calendar

This link will take you to our School Events Calendar. We have also put all the upcoming dates into the table above in the newsletter. We will keep this updated for you but feel free to ring the office if you have any queries.

Website

We now have a new website and we encourage you to check it out when you can. There is an a-z of information which we hope will answer many of your queries. If you find there is anything missing let us know - we can add it straight away. There are parts of the new website that are not quite finished however if you experience any glitches at all - please let us know so that we can fix them straight away.

2019 Dates

Dates for the 2019 school year have been decided. The first day of school will be Thursday 31 January. Term dates are as follows:

Term 1: Thursday 31 January - Friday 12 April

Term 2: Monday 29 April - Friday 2 July

Term 3: Monday 22 July - Friday 27 September

Term 4: Monday 14 October - Thursday 19 December (TBC)

School Jackets

If you would like to order a school jacket, please fill out the following form:

<https://goo.gl/forms/9Um9FoSSG4u9ZEUy2>

Lost Property

Lincoln Roberts has lost his named school jersey. Please return to the office if found.

Parish News



Parish End of Year Celebration

All Welcome

Sunday 9th Dec
2pm
School Hall

Celebrate the year
Farewell Fr Paul

Community Notices - Ngā pānui a te hapori

Music Lessons

Music lessons: for lessons in bass, guitar, recorder, ukulele and flute during break times, call Ivan on 021 120 0080
Shirley District Music School
Semester 2 2018 Enrolments

SDMS (Shirley District Music School) is opening up enrolments for semester 2 for:

`Cello, Clarinet, Flute, Recorder, Saxophone, Trombone, Trumpet.

Consideration will be given for Guitar, Keyboard, Percussion, Piano & Violin if the teacher has any available spaces.

Some lessons can be given in your school , others would be at Shirley Intermediate after school. Tuition fees for Semester 2: \$80.00

To enrol for tuition please see the SDMS website and search for enrolments

For more information please contact Janet Simon

SDMS Acting Music Director, Flute & Recorder Teacher

Phone: 323 6502 or 027 312 4562

Email: flutecookjanet.simon@gmail.com

Free Dental Care for Children

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.

- 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**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) <p>To contact our Call Centre: phone 0800 846 983 / email commdental@cdhb.health.nz</p>
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Oscar School Holiday Programme

17th - 21st December 2018, 14th - 18th January 2019 & 21st - 25th January 2019

Gymsports Programme

For ages 5 -14 years

9am - 3pm Mon-Fri \$160

(\$40 per day)

8.30am - 5.00pm \$240

(\$60 per day)

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

WINZ subsidies apply

Holiday Programme activities include Christmas, Desert Oasis and By the Sea themed weeks of Gymnastics, Trampoline, Crafts, Baking & Games etc

For more information or to enroll please see our website www.chchgymnastics.com or phone us on 03 3886616