

St. Leo's Catholic School

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28 February 2019

Dear Parents,

Next Wednesday, 6 March is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. It is a time of preparation - a time for reflection and preparation before the celebration of Easter. The school will be attending the normal Parish Mass on Wednesday at noon. Family are warmly invited to join us for the celebration.

Staff news

Lucia Dawbin has been granted leave to travel overseas for 8 weeks in Term 2. She will be absent from the beginning of Term 2 and will return in Week 9. John Smallfield will teach in St Francis while she is away. We wish Lucia well on her overseas adventures.



New Website

Our new website is in the process of going live in the next few days. Please take a little time to browse through the new look site. The teachers and children will begin to share work via the class blogs very soon. You will notice on the front page there is an up to date calendar of events along with quick access buttons for the full year calendar, ezlunch orders, newsletters and the Parish website.

Dance tutor needed

Every second year the Peninsula schools run a variety of Arts activities. We are keen to see St Leo's represented in as many activities as possible. One activity is Dance. We don't have a dance group at the moment, so I'm putting out the call to anyone who would be willing to train a group of children in a dance routine that can be performed in August. If you are able to help, please pop in and find out more or email me at principal@stleos.school.nz



We are also looking for parents or friends who would be willing to train children in cultural dances for a festival to be held in Term 2.

Dedication Mass

This week the teachers all attended the Auckland Catholic Schools Dedication Mass celebration. It was a beautiful Mass.

PTFA

In a couple of weeks, on **Wednesday 6 March at 7pm**, we will have our first PTFA meeting of the year. We have a number of long term members who are no longer able to stay on the PTFA this year, so we are keen to recruit new members.



Family Mass

The family Mass is scheduled to happen on Sunday 24 March at 9am. This may be deferred until the following Sunday, 31 March so watch the calendar to see if the change goes ahead. After the Mass we will hold a morning tea and games time for the children similar to last year.

Headphones - Year 3 - 6

If you have not already done so, can you please send a named set of headphones for your child? Often the children need to have headphones on to work without distracting others around them on the chromebooks or ipads.

Girls Winter Uniform

A number of families have expressed that white skivvies are hard to get hold of and that they are very uncomfortable for the girls to wear. I have approached a uniform supplier who has given me samples of a navy and white long sleeved polo shirt which we could use with the girls winter uniform. We will have a display of the 2 different polo shirts under the winter tunic, for families to come and have a look at and decide if this is what we would prefer to have for the girls uniform. If you have already purchased skivvies, they will still be able to be worn but if you are still to do so, hold off until we have made a decision about the polo shirts. I invite feedback from parents about what you think about this idea.



Paid Union Meeting

The NZEI have organised for a paid union meeting to be held on 21 March which all teacher who are members of the union will attend. As they have 2 meetings on the day, it is not going to have a huge disruption on the school community. I will take 2 classes, one in the morning, one in the afternoon of the strike day and St Clare and St Dominic will combine to cover the other teachers. Below is an update from the union to explain the reason for the meetings.



School newsletter update

February 2019 –

It's Time/Kua Tae Te Wā

You may remember that teachers and principals took strike action twice last year to send a message to the Government that more needed to be done to fix the teacher shortage and

make teaching a more sustainable and attractive profession.

After conversations with government in January, our union, NZEI Te Riu Roa, has agreed to return to formal negotiations with the Ministry. The Government has continued to state that there is no more money to settle the agreements but we are continuing to campaign for a quality public education for every child. We believe that winning more time to teach, a significant pay jolt to attract and keep people in teaching, and better resourcing for children with additional learning needs is as important as ever.

Any progress in negotiations will be reported to teachers and principals at paid union meetings around the country in the week of March 18-22nd. These meetings will be held

during school time and we will advise you nearer the time about how this will impact on our school community.

Public polling has showed continued strong support for what we are trying to achieve for our students and the future of the teaching profession. Parents in particular see the struggles we already face in hiring teachers and finding relievers when teachers are sick.

We greatly appreciate your continued support as we continue our campaign to ensure every child gets the best possible teaching and learning.

Nga mihi nui

Kind wishes,

Maureen Harris

Important Notices

Parish Sacramental Programme for 2019

The programme of formation for the sacraments of First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion begins with an introductory meeting for parents on Tuesday 12th March, 2019, at 7.00pm in the church. The minimum age level is Yr 4 and above. Enrolment forms have been sent home and are due by 8th March. For further info. ph Stephen Bell 021 060 8561

Lewis Eady Music

We offer group and individual lessons on keyboard, guitar, ukulele and piano.

If you would like your child to learn music at school but have **not yet enrolled**, please enrol online at www.lewiseady.co.nz *New enrolments will be scheduled for a mid-term start – the week commencing 14 March.*

St Leo's Code of Sporting Practice

A code of Sporting Practice will be sent home with every child involved in sport, every parent of a child involved in sport and every coach and manager. Please take the time to read this and go over it with your children. This needs to be signed and returned to the office as soon as possible.

Ezlunch

Is available on Mondays from Five Loaves in Devonport and on Fridays through Pita Pit. Menus are available from the office if you would like to have a look. Orders are done online by 9am on the day.

Winter uniforms

Orders are due in by Friday 1st March as I will be ordering on Monday to ensure uniforms arrive in time. Please get your order in if you require any winter uniform.

Before School care

Due to the closure of the before school programme at the Devonport Methodist Centre Skids have agreed to take St Leo's pupils before school.

SKIDS is based on Mt Victoria in the Devonport School hall. The children will be walked to St Leo's by a SKIDS teacher.

For further information email

devonport@skids.co.nz.

Celebration Book

Congratulations to the following children who have been mentioned in the Celebration Book:
Katarina Lockyer - got an award in the South Auckland highland Dancing Champs.
Sophia Law - 3rd place in Highland Dancing

PTFA News

A notice was sent home yesterday regarding the upcoming PTFA meeting on 6 March 7pm.
We would love to see you there.

Do you know anyone who would be keen to be a speaker for our annual Mother's Day High tea? If you know of someone or would like more details please see Renee or Helen Howcroft. We are also looking for items for gift bags and raffle items.

We have some vouchers left over from the fair that we would like to sell to the community. There are 2 x \$10 Bella Monte Cafe vouchers expiry date 19 April 2019 and 4 x \$10 Wild Wheat vouchers expiry date 11 May 2019. If you would like to buy one of these please see Renee. First in first served.



Community Notices



**ST MARY'S COLLEGE
OPEN DAY**
Thursday 7 March 2019
Commencing 2.30pm & 6.30pm
in the Paul Keane Gymnasium

11 New Street, Auckland
www.stmaryak.school.nz

NOW ENROLLING FOR 2020

Enrolments are open for Year 7 students and a small number of places for girls in other levels

St Mary's College has no zoning restrictions

For more information see our website
www.stmaryak.school.nz



**CLOSING DATE FOR 2020
ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS**
Thursday 21 March 2019

Join our Mercy family
21st Century Woman of Mercy



Kids Athletics Series

When: Every Tuesday afternoon 4pm-6pm from 19 Feb until March 26 Where: Vauxhall Sports Reserve

Kids Athletics is a 6 week 'have-a-go' style athletics programme where primary and intermediate school aged kids have the opportunity to try a variety of athletics activities in a non-competitive environment. Activities include running races, long jump, high jump, agility games and ball skills. The programme starts on Tuesday 19th Feb and runs on consecutive Tuesdays until (and including) Tuesday 26 March. As it's an outdoor programme, it is weather dependent. Attendance is free and casual so there is no need to book in advance. Participants should arrive at the event venue at 4pm, which is the Vauxhall Sports Reserve, also known as the North Shore Rugby Club grounds - access is off Vauxhall Rd, where the bleachers are. Registration is done on site, each session. Sessions finish at 6pm and there is food (sausage sizzle) and drink for sale on site. Please remember to bring your own water to avoid getting dehydrated. Organised by the Devonport Peninsula Trust.

Felie School of Dance has started new learn to dance classes for kids aged 5-8 Come learn Highland Dancing in our new beginners class. Thursdays 4:15 at the Victoria Hall Highland dancing is a fun way to improve co-ordination and self-confidence a great introduction to all forms of dancing. For more information contact me j.braideley@gmail.com 0273525752

2019 REGISTRATION DETAILS

First Kicks Football (Grade/age 5 – 8) kicks off at North Shore United on Saturday May 4th

If you've already registered that's great! Your Grade Convener will email you before the start of the season with additional information and team selections.

If you haven't registered yet make sure you do this as soon as possible using the following link:

<http://www.nsu.org.nz/Registrations-1/tab1>

If you've misplaced your username and/or password please contact the club and they will forward your details.

First Kicks Football is for kids aged 5-8 years old. Kids typically play with their friends and in a 5 aside format. At this age group we only play other North Shore United teams so there are no away games.

The aim is for boys and girls to play and love football. It is a fun, safe and stress free environment for the kids to play in any way they want. Weekly training and Saturday morning games are designed for all to have fun.

Why First Kicks?

- Confidence building
- Develop football skills
- Develop fundamental movement
- Meet new friends and have fun

So if you know a little person that is super mad for kicking the round ball and is born between 2011-2014 come along and join in the awesome Saturday fun at Allen Hill Stadium!

Family Fun Trail When: **Sunday 17 March 10:30am-1pm Venue: Windsor Reserve**

Take the family and explore special locations around Devonport by bike or on foot. This year's theme is ecology/environment, with fun activities and challenges along the way and plenty to explore about special character of our community! There will be a sausage sizzle and spot prizes to finish. Register between 10.30am-11.30am at Windsor Reserve, event concludes at Devonport Museum at 1pm.

Family Fun Picnic When: **Sunday, 24 March 2pm-4pm Venue: Windsor Reserve**

Take a picnic, your family and invite your neighbours to join you at Devonport's Windsor Reserve to celebrate Neighbours Day! There will be a preschool play zone, bouncy castle, face-painting and live music to keep everyone entertained along with a sausage sizzle and ice cream for sale.



North Shore United Soccer



Muster/Fun Day
Calling all kids aged 4-8
Sunday 17th March
1.00pm-3.00pm

Come to **Allen Hill Stadium** for free football giveaways, test your shot power with our speed gun, BBQ, inflatable football pitch, meet the coaches, ask any questions, register for the season

A focus on fun, friendships & building confidence

www.nsu.org.nz

OUR COMMUNITY CONTACTS



Your local Devonport property people.

09 445 2010 | barfoot.co.nz

Ian Cunliffe **Carol Wetzell** **Cathy Fiebig**
027 227 9322 027 245 3392 021 383 149

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Devonport Methodist Childcare

Pop in and stay for a play

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18 Owen Road, Devonport • P. 4451072
www.dmcc.co.nz • dmchildcare@xtra.co.nz



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If you want to be one of the community contacts, please contact Newsletters Unlimited, Ph/Fax: 09 817 3867, or Email: newsletters@xtra.co.nz

02/19