

# St Leo's Catholic School

Kindness | Confidence | Integrity | Excellence

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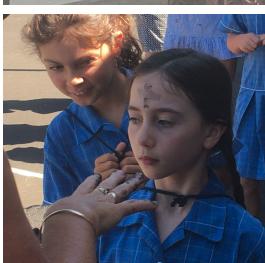
All correspondence to: P.O. Box 32-064 Devonport, Auckland 0744



**13 February 2020**

Tena koutou whanau,

Yesterday was Ash Wednesday and we gathered together as a school to hold a simple liturgy involving burning the palms and receiving the blessed ashes on our foreheads.



Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar as it is the beginning of Lent, a season of fasting, almsgiving and prayer.

Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and it comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the ashes are applied to a person's forehead, the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Alternatively, the words, "Turn away from sin and believe in the Gospel" may be used.

Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent.

It is a season of penance, reflection, almsgiving and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

Throughout Lent we will be taking part in the Caritas Lenten appeal. To start us off, 2 wonderful little girls from St Francis, May and Bella have been selling lemonade and have already raised \$64. Well done girls for using your initiative in the holiday and demonstrating the Mercy values of Manaakitanga and Aroha.



## Family Mass

On Palm Sunday, 5 April, we will be having our Family Mass. This is a time when all our school

families attend the 9am Sunday Mass together. The children wear their school uniform and take part in celebrating the Mass. After Mass we will gather in the hall for a morning tea and if the weather is good, to play some games together. The new children are also welcomed to our school at the Mass and receive a school candle.

If for some reason, you are unable to attend the Mass, please let Renee know.



## **Swimming Sports**

A bus will be taking the school to Birkenhead Pools for our annual swimming sports next Tuesday 3 March. Parents are welcome to join us and we will also need parents who are willing to go in the pool with the children during the free swimming time.  
The bus will leave school at 9.45am and return by 1.15pm. Please let Renee know if you are able to help.  
A permission slip is being sent home today. Please return this by Monday 2 March.

## **Artwork by Alis Thomas**

If you have a chance, come into the office and have a look at a beautiful piece of artwork depicting our 2019 school fair. It was painted by one of our school mums and she is very talented. Thank you very much for doing this and donating it to the school, Alis.



## **School Community Picnic**

Thank you very much to all who attended the community picnic. It was a wonderful evening, very relaxing and sociable. The water slide was a hit with the children, along with the other sports equipment which the sports monitors organised. I had feedback from parents saying that the whole family appreciated the chance to get together socially and meet with other parents. It was wonderful to see so many of our new families coming along.



## **PTFA AGM**

The PTFA AGM will take place **TONIGHT** 27 Feb in the Library. We would like to see as many family representatives as possible. Many thanks to those who have sent their RSVPs in but we welcome any extras too. There will be wine and cheese to share afterwards.



## **Tennis lessons**

On Monday and Tuesday last week the classes were all involved in tennis sessions taken by the Belmont tennis club. Now the sports monitors are being asked for tennis rackets at lunch time!

## **Dedication Mass**

Last Tuesday evening the teachers attended a beautiful Mass with other Catholic Schools in Auckland. Mrs Williams, Mrs Lattimer and Miss Dawbin were also presented with their RE certificates for the courses they took in 2019. The Mass was celebrated by Bishop Pat and co-celebrated with other priests including Father Michael, the bishop elect.



## **Jesus Picnic**

St Clare children have been learning about what life would have been like in Jesus' time. On Monday they dressed in clothes from Jesus' time and shared a special picnic with food Jesus may have eaten.



## **Dance/Drama**

We have also begun our dance/drama lessons with Neala from the P'form academy. The classes thoroughly enjoyed their sessions last year and we have booked her in for another two terms this year; this term and again in Term 3.

## **Hockey lessons**



Two of our Year 6 pupils, Aidan and Yila have been sharing their hockey skills with class. Now there has been a keen interest in hockey at St Leo's. Thank you children for using your initiative and to Mr M for encouraging them.

## **Museum Trip**

Last week St Catherine and St Patrick had a trip to the Auckland Museum. They learnt a lot about the



early history of our country.

## **World day of prayer**

This year St Francis and All Saints church will be hosting the world day of prayer. Some of our children will be involved in the ceremony.

## **New Charter, Motto and Values**

Last week I sent out a skool loop message with the new St Leo's charter attached for you to look at. Thank you to the parents who commented and provided feedback. The new motto of Kindness, Confidence, Integrity, Excellence will be added to the rainbow painted wall so it will be visible to everyone. The old motto will be removed from signage around the school. The new values will also be displayed in artwork which was started last year by the art extension group. They should be on display outside St Dominic and Francis before the end of term. If you would like to view the new charter, motto and values, they are now on the website under 'Our People' - charter, policies and procedures



## **Breakfast Club Survey**

If you have not filled in this survey, there is still time as it closes next week.

Ma te atua manaaki  
God Bless,  
Maureen Harris

## **Upcoming events this term.**

Week 4:	28 February:	Assembly Sacramental Program forms due in
Week 5:	3 March:	<b>Swimming Sports at Birkenhead pools</b>
	4 March:	<b>Sacramental programme starts</b>
	6 March:	World day of prayer
Week 6:	13 March:	Assembly School Mass 12 noon
Week 7:	20 March:	Beach clean up
Week 8:	23 March:	Whanau Student Leadership day in Albany
	27 March:	Assembly Peninsula swimming
Week 9:	2 April:	<b>Parent Teacher conferences - school closes at 1pm</b>
	5 April:	<b>Family Mass (9am Mass) and morning tea/games</b>
Week 10:	9 April:	Last day of term

A reminder that all dates are on the app and website calendars.

## **Important Notices**

**Celebration Book** - We have a celebration book where the names of children who have achieved an award, got player of the day etc can be noted. This will then be included in the newsletter and mentioned at assembly. Please email or see Renee if you have something to go in the book.

Congratulations to the following children who have their names in the celebration book:

Aidan George - Player of the day for Flippa Ball

## **Celebrating Past Pupils**

Congratulations to Timā's son, Aloī, who won the Perseverance and resilience to achieve personal excellence award at Takapuna Grammar School at last year's Senior Prize giving.

## **Bikes and Scooters**

Please remind your child that if they are biking or scootering to school they need to walk their bikes to and from the school gates to the bike rack. No bikes or scooters are to be ridden in the school grounds before or after school to avoid accidents.

**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.lewiseday.co.nz](http://www.lewiseday.co.nz) New enrolments will be scheduled for a mid-term start – the week commencing 14 March.



We are looking for a couple more children to join a group guitar lesson to give us enough children to schedule the lessons.

Dear Parents,

**Become a Waterwise Instructor – No experience required!**

My name is Michelle Scott and I am the St Leo's Waterwise Coordinator.

St Leo's is lucky enough to be part of the Devonport Peninsula Waterwise Programme which teaches all our Year 6 children water safety while learning to sail and kayak. Based at Narrow Neck beach, we run our sessions on Thursday mornings in Term 1, part of Term 2 and usually 3 or 4 sessions in Term 4.

As a Waterwise instructor, you help to teach our children water confidence and basic sailing and kayaking skills. While a few children learn these skills from their family, for many it is entirely new. Seeing them develop confidence and challenge themselves outside of the classroom throughout Year 6 is an immensely rewarding experience.

Over the last few years St Leo's has benefited from a very dedicated group of instructors, many of whom no longer have children at the school. Every year we need some more parents to train as instructors so that we don't compromise our ability to continue to offer the Waterwise programme at our school. If there are not enough instructors, we will simply be unable to run our sessions.

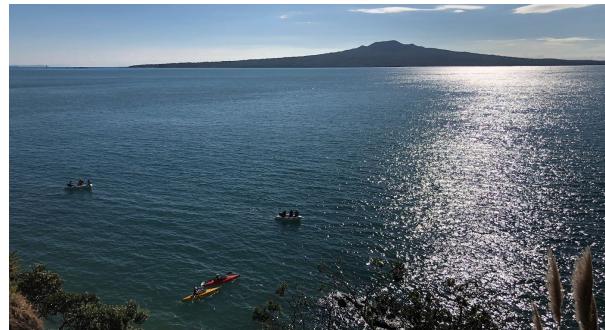
I have **attached** the schedule for the next Waterwise Instructor Training. This will commence on the **8<sup>th</sup> April** with an evening session and will have trainees from all the schools in the Devonport Peninsula. I realise the time commitment required to do the course looks daunting but once it is completed you will only be required to attend on Thursday mornings. Many of our parent instructors also work part time and we are able to factor that into our schedule so you don't have to make every session.

The course is extremely fun and provides a great opportunity to challenge yourself and make new friends. St Leo's instructors are heavily involved in the training course so if you have any questions please get in touch with me or corner one of the instructors in the school playground. Renee will point you in their direction.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Michelle Scott  
St Leo's Waterwise Co-ordinator  
Waterwise Safety & Maintenance Officer  
Tel: 021717274  
Email: scottmichelle@xtra.co.nz



**Instructor Training Schedule for 2020**

<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>7pm-9pm</b>	<b>Introduction/Clothing demo</b>
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	9am-3pm	On Water
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	9am-3pm	On Water
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	9am-3pm	On Water
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	9am-3pm	On Water
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	9am-3pm	On Water
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	9am-3pm	On Water
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	9am-3pm	On Water
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	9am-3pm	On Water
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	9am-3pm	On Water (save day)
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>7pm-9pm</b>	<b>Possible test or save day</b>

**Community notices**

**TOBY & the REST'** four young pupils from Avondale College will be playing at the Vic Devonport. Friday 28th February at 7-30pm Tickets \$12-50 from [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz) and the VIC. The award winning quartet consists of Max Barrett (Drums) Toby Barrett (Saxophone) Tyler Diprose (Bass) and Lucas Kewell (Piano) they will be playing a variety of jazz pieces ranging from Joseph Kosma and Burt Howard from the 1950's to Joshua Redman in the 90's. Lucas Kewell will also play some of his own impro-solo-piano with hints of Michel Legrand, Keith Jarrett and always a hint of Chic Corea. The quartet have only played a few public performances and people left those gigs inspired at the skill and passion of these young lads. Toby and the Rest are definitely the Coolest, Youngest, Hottest jazz quartet around.

"The JETS run series continues every Weds evening until April 1st with a choice of 3km, 5km & occasional 10km routes along the Devonport waterfront. Registration is from 5.45pm every Weds for a 6pm start from the Torpedo Bay Navy Museum. Entry fees are \$6A/ \$5C including a post-race drink and a wide range of place getter & spot prizes. Further info from [paulcornish@xtra.co.nz](mailto:paulcornish@xtra.co.nz) or 0274 379 423".

### Devonport Community House Art Competition

We are excited to be offering a children's art competition this year which is open to children up to 13 years old.

The idea is to encourage, promote and exhibit art produced by young people in our community via this competition at our SPLASH Children's Art Gallery here at the House.

Each month there will be a different subject to draw with THREE \$20 CASH PRIZES to be won each month as an extra incentive to be involved.

**Calling all Dance and Drama Queens (& Kings!)** We run the BEST performing arts classes on the planet right up the road from you! We are working on building confidence, technique & performance skills this term ready for our big live shows at the Bruce Mason Theatre and Vodafone Events Centre at the end of the year! We'd love to work with you and see you shine onstage! Feel free to pop in for a trial - you will be warmly welcomed.

TAKAPUNA WAR MEMORIAL HALL, 7 The Strand, Takapuna right next to the library.

Monday 4.00-5.00pm Monday 5.00-6.00pm Monday 6.00-7.00pm Monday 7.00-8.00pm

DANCE | SING | ACT DANCE | SING | ACT PFORM BALLET PFORM  
DANCE 7-9 years 10-14 years 10-18 years 10-18 years Contact our awesome team at [info@pform.nz](mailto:info@pform.nz)



### Carmel College is seeking a full-time Caretaker.

Hours of work: 8am to 4.30pm, 35 days a week, 5 or 4 days a week by negotiation.  
Reports to: Senior Groundsman and Watershed Group (Property Consultants)

#### Primary Objectives:

- Support the Special Character of the College through appropriate interaction with staff, students and their parents that reflects Catholic and Mercy values.
  - The responsibility of a School Caretaker is to ensure the College property is well maintained. The role provides stewardship by making sure that all areas under their care are productive, safe and free from damage
- Duties cover the following categories:

- Security
- Maintenance of gardens and lawns
- Health & Safety
- Cleaning
- Systems and Compliance
- Preventative Maintenance
- Moving furniture.

For a full job description and application form please see the college website [www.carmel.school.nz/employment](http://www.carmel.school.nz/employment)

### Auckland Multicultural Society Inc. Presents

22nd Lakeside Multicultural Festival 2020 MUSIC and DANCES from around the WORLD At the PumpHouse, Killarney Park (off Manurewa Avenue) Takapuna, Sunday 8th March 2020 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
FREE family entertainment by many different ethnic groups who live in New Zealand  
For further information contact: Ana Maria de Vos Sanchez  
Phone: 09 638 6771 [anamaria.devossanchez@gmail.com](mailto:anamaria.devossanchez@gmail.com)

## OUR COMMUNITY CONTACTS

**Your local Devonport property people.**

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

09 445 2010 | [barfoot.co.nz](http://barfoot.co.nz)

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### Swim Lovers Swim School

We strive to ensure that all our students have an enjoyable experience whilst learning to swim.

We can provide lessons for children from 6 months of age onwards.

All lessons are run by experienced instructors to ensure safety and advancement

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[www.ajlaw.co.nz](http://www.ajlaw.co.nz)

**Devonport Methodist ChildCare**  
Pop in and stay for a play  
spaces available 3 months to 6 years. Monday - Friday 7:30am - 6:00pm  
18 Owen Road, Devonport • P. 4451072  
[www.dmcc.co.nz](http://www.dmcc.co.nz) • [dmchildcare@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dmchildcare@xtra.co.nz)

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**0800 736 766**

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](mailto:newsletters@xtra.co.nz)

02/19