



4 November 2021

Tena koutou e te whanau

This week we celebrated All Saints day on 1 November and All Souls day on the 2 November. It is a time where we remember all those who have died, particularly over the past year.

May they rest in peace.

Possible return to school.

This morning I was at a zoom meeting with nearly 300 fellow Auckland Principals. We listened to Dr Dion O'Neale from Te Pūnaha Matatini talking about reopening schools while there is an ongoing community transmission of Covid 19. The Minister of Education, Chris Hipkins, indicated that we could possibly have schools reopening on the 15 November. At the moment he is consulting with Principal groups and they are all working through the best way to do this safely. The indicative date of the 15 November is still not confirmed and we will have more information early next week. As I receive further information from the Ministry I will keep you updated. In the meantime, the Board and I are looking at conducting a survey to see whether you want to send your children back to school if it opens. Keep an eye out for further communication about this.

All Souls Day Prayer

REMEMBER LORD, THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND HAVE GONE
BEFORE US MARKED WITH THE SIGN OF FAITH,
ESPECIALLY THOSE FOR WHOM WE NOW PRAY.

MAY THESE, AND ALL WHO SLEEP
IN CHRIST, FIND IN YOUR PRESENCE
LIGHT, HAPPINESS AND PEACE.
THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD.



Social night

Tomorrow afternoon at 4pm we will be holding a Crazy Hair or Crazy Hat social. Children will be encouraged to do their hair in a crazy way or wear a crazy hat. Once we are all together there will be three different online games for the children to play courtesy of Anya, Yila and Julieta. All class levels are welcome but the Year 1 children may need a hand to play the games online. We'd still love them to join in the crazy hair/hat part at the beginning if they wish.

The meeting link is: meet.google.com/qcy-hctb-hzz



Sharing

Below I have shared a couple of wonderful stories written by some of our St Catherine children. We are very proud of the work being produced by the children during lockdown. Well done.

Kia haumarū te noho (Stay safe)

Ma te atua manaaki e katoa

God Bless,

Maureen Harris



Path of the sailors

By Isabella Brodie

I lay in bed, listening to the waves drumming against sand, relentlessly smacking the shore wave after wave, beating a rhythm into my head. The soft hiss of the waves, paired with the cawing gulls and shifting sand is a calming song, relaxing the brain and rounding the edges of a person, like glass in the sea. People who live along the sailors path are always like this. Coming to the curved shores and immediately feeling calm and peaceful, forgetting all things negative and embracing the good things in life.



I stand and have breakfast, chewing on my food as I listen to the gulls, slowly swallowing the eggs and petting my dog as it stands by my legs.

I walk out the door with my dog in tow, and gaze at the beach that only the luckiest of people can call home, the Crescent shaped bay was far away from any other civilization. The pristine waters devoid of any pollution, and coral reefs like colourful blots of ink, the fish swimming lazily around as dolphins jump and eels lurk. Slow stingrays drift across the ocean, like birds of the sea, and the distant path out to the Pacific Ocean was covered in boats, earning its name, The Sailors Path.

Waking the Giant

By Danny Mills

Everyone was shocked seeing this big giant coming out of the ground, how did that happen? At the same time, it was quite obvious that anyone near there would be in danger. The giant appeared to be hungry. He came out, all the way, and started walking, every step sounded like an earthquake and the ground shook. The people in the village started running around in a panic, trying to get away, when suddenly the giant started talking. He told everyone not to be afraid, he was hungry but he was actually a vegetarian so he would never harm anyone.



Despite the giant saying he was a vegetarian, everyone was scared and they didn't dare go anywhere near him.

Suddenly a little girl started walking towards the giant and asked him what type of vegetable he liked. Everyone in the village was quietly waiting to see what the giant was going to do to the little girl. The giant smiled, with the biggest smile you'll ever see and told the girl he loved carrots, but any other vegetable was also good.

Seeing that he was harmless, everyone in the village went to their houses and the farms to get as many carrots as they could and before long there was a big mountain of carrots that the giant ate very quickly.

Then they all made an agreement, because he was so big, it was very easy for him to work the farms and it took him no time. In exchange, he could eat as many carrots as he liked, so everyone was happy.

Important Notices

Fees

Term 4 Attendance Dues are now due. Even though we are not at school these still need to be paid to the Catholic Schools office so please ensure you pay these and any other fees owing so we can pass them on.

Wine orders

A reminder that if you wish to support the wine fundraiser that was sent to you last week orders close on the 15th November.

Any questions please feel free to contact **Gavin Busch** on gavin@avenueadvice.co.nz or Renee if you need an order form.

Remember to share this with your family and friends too.

Uniforms

If you ordered a new school uniform last term our supplier has informed us that these will be delivered shortly. I will contact you to arrange pick up/delivery once they have arrived.

Thank you

A big thank you to Diana Murray and Ian Cunliffe from Harcourts Devonport who have donated \$500 each to the school from the recent house sale of a family with school connections. If you are thinking of selling your home or know someone who is, please contact Ian or Diana and help our school as well as get great service.

Photolife photos

These have been postponed again. A tentative date of 8th December has been set but it is quite likely that these will not go ahead this year unfortunately.

Library Books

There have been a few emails regarding school library books. If we do not go back to school we will be in touch about getting these back to the school otherwise if we do return to school they can be returned then.

Cans for Christmas

As we are not able to run our usual Cans for Christmas drive, we have been asked to take part in an online collection. You can either donate using this give a little link or scan the QR code on the poster.

<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/2021-collection>

Please be generous to this cause as there are many people struggling during this time.

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Community Notices

School holiday programme [Linku2 School Holidays](#)



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OUR COMMUNITY CONTACTS



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05/21

