



St Francis Xavier Catholic School

To Love, To Learn and To Serve
Kia Aroha, Kia Akona, Kia Aro Atu

No. 3 Thursday 2nd March, 2017

Tena koutou katoa.

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the school,

Is it just me or does time seem to be speeding up?

Last week, our eldest daughter left home. It seems only yesterday I was dropping her at kindy and now I found myself dropping her in Wellington! Without me! In a big city!

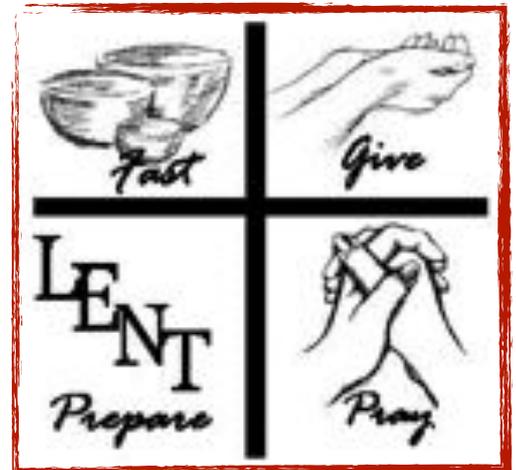
The gorgeous new entrants of yesterday are now our Year 6 seniors and I find myself shaking my head at how quickly (and wonderfully) they have grown. Who was it that said, "the days are long but the years are short."

Christmas has been and gone and now we are starting Lent, which means Easter is fast approaching.

The Liturgical calendar is a wonderful way to keep grounded in time. On Wednesday, we all went to Mass to mark the beginning of the forty days and forty nights of Lent. In the busy business of our days and months and years Lent requires us to stop, slow down and examine our lives. Are we really living as active Christians or are we just paying lip service to our faith as we continue to rush and hurry and tick things off our lists.

Perhaps we could look on this Lent a little differently this year. Instead of a count down to Easter and the holidays, could it be a season of savouring the days, cherishing the moments, and really looking at how we are preparing our Christian hearts for the miracle of Easter Sunday.

God bless you all this Lent.



Glenys Jakicevich

Acting Principal

ARRIVING AFTER 8.45AM

All children need to report to the school office if they arrive after 8.45am. Office staff will issue children with a late pass for the class teacher then electronically mark the child as present.

STUDENTS LEAVING DURING CLASS TIME

BEFORE COLLECTING YOUR CHILD: ALL parents and caregivers must report to the school office and collect a pass if you are collecting your child early or taking your child out briefly for an appointment. Please sign back in at the office when your child returns after an appointment.

If you have arranged for someone else to collect your child, who would NOT normally do so, please contact the school well in advance of their arrival otherwise we will need to call a parent/caregiver to verify this arrangement BEFORE releasing your child.

UPDATING INFORMATION

Have your personal, residential, emergency contact or email details changed? Are there aspects of your child's health or medical needs that may need updating on our files? If so, please call or email the school office to update these details as soon as possible.

Address: 1 Percy Street, Whangarei 0112.

Phone: 09-4371039 Cellphone: 027 2784303 Email Office Manager: office@sfx.school.nz Website: sfx.school.nz

Triadic Parent-Teacher-Student Interviews

Triadic interviews involve the student, parent and teacher. This is an opportunity to meet your child's teacher together and get to know each other better.

Each interview is 15 minutes and parents and children are encouraged to attend.

Room 11 Mrs Collyer
TUE 7th and WED 8th MARCH
3.00pm - 7.00pm

Appointments can be made online.
Go to: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz

Enter the booking code: **ytgfs** (lowercase)
Follow the instructions.

If you have any problems or need help booking an appointment please contact the school office.

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Follow the instructions.

If you have any problems or need help booking an appointment please contact the school office.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost property is located in the small foyer by the Family Worker office at the carpark end of Rooms 1-4.

PLEASE ENSURE ALL UNIFORM ITEMS ARE NAMED.

All unnamed uniform items in lost property will be recycled to second-hand uniforms every fortnight.

Family Worker News

Thank you for all who have donated uniforms to the second-hand uniform supplies. The donation paid to the office for the purchase of uniform items is put to good use to help families in our school community.

NEVER SEE A NEED WITHOUT DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT

If you know a family who needs support or if your family is going through difficult times then you can contact me anytime on 0274714120 or pop in to see me at my office. All contact is treated with confidentiality.

MIGRANT FAMILIES

The Whangarei Migrant Centre offers support to migrant families. They put out a regular newsletter advertising events that are on, and notifying readers of courses that are available to assist migrant families with settling into a new community. Watch the school noticeboard for current newsletters.

COME HOLY SPIRIT AND RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH

On Wednesday, 8 March, two American Dominican sisters, Margaret Gaiardi and Sharon Zayak will be sharing their insights around ecological theology and spirituality, at St Francis Xavier Church 7:30-9:00pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear information on such a relevant topic when looking at how we can care for our Earth. See the school noticeboard for more information.

Liz Beazley (Family Worker)

Ph:0274714120 or by email at liz@sfx.school.nz

Religious Education

At the moment our focus in Religious Education is on the Jesus Strand.

Y1 focus is on Jesus My Friend. Catholic belief is that Jesus of Nazareth, called Christ, is both human and divine. As a human being Jesus was born into a particular society and culture. To properly appreciate his message we need some understanding of these realities of Jesus' life. In learning of Jesus' friendship with his disciples we can come to appreciate his calling us into friendship with him today.

Y2 focus is Jesus showed His love in different ways. Jesus showed his respect and love for the tapu (sacredness) of people in different ways talking, listening, sharing meals, healing and eventually dying for them. We are called to follow Jesus' example. Our best resource for this is the stories of Jesus in the Bible.

Y3&4 focus is Jesus gives Himself in the Eucharist. The best way of giving thanks to God is joining with Christ's gift of himself in the Eucharist. The Eucharist helps people to grow in holiness and grace – tapu and mana as they recognise Christ's presence in the gathering of his people and in the proclamation of the Word. Above all, they recognise Christ's presence, in the transformed bread and wine. Which have become 'in a way surpassing understanding', his Body and Blood.

Yr 5&6 focus is The Life of Jesus. Catholic belief is that Jesus of Nazareth, called Christ, is both human and divine. As a human being Jesus was born into a particular society and culture, and lived in a certain geographical location at a precise time in history. To appreciate properly Jesus' message we need some understanding of these realities of his life. We gain this understanding mainly through study of, and reflection on the Scriptures.

FAITH FACT

What does the word "catholic" mean? Catholic means "universal" or "general" and it was applied to the Christian faith believed 'everywhere, always and by all'. St Ignatius of Antioch first used the word around 35 AD.

It was used to distinguish true believers from false ones (known as heretics).

FAITH FACT

The Season of Lent

The season of Lent is one of the two Penitential seasons of the year. It starts with Ash Wednesday and lasts for forty days finishing in Holy Week.

It is a time for fasting, prayer and almsgiving. Lent is an opportunity for people to reflect on their lives and identify what they need to change. It is a season of preparation for the feast of Jesus' Resurrection which is the greatest feast in the Church's calendar.

RECONCILIATION

On Wednesday 22nd March Years 5 & 6 will participate in Rite 2 Reconciliation, as part of their Easter preparation.

HOLY WEEK - SCHOOL MASS

We will be having a school Mass on Wednesday 12th April at 9:00am, in St Francis Xavier Church. It will be a wonderful way of leading us into the Easter season.

As part of our Holy Week celebration, the children will be offered a half a hot cross bun at interval. If your child has any food allergies or does not want to receive a hot cross bun at interval, please inform your child's teacher.

FAMILY MASSES

It was lovely to see lots of families at church for Family Mass last Sunday. Rimu Whanau did a fabulous job. Our next Family Mass will be on Sunday 28th May at 10am. Kauri Whanau (Rooms 1, 2, 3 & 4) will be participating in the Mass.

FAITH ALIVE

The Family/Whanau book which you can use to support the Religious Education programme, can be accessed by this site www.faithalive.org.nz. You can download the Whanau book by clicking 'Families'.

STUDENT BOOKS

Your child's Religious Education book will be coming home quite regularly. Please ensure that it is **returned to school the next day** as it will be required for class.

Yours in Christ

María Wilson

DRS – Director of Religious Studies

PTFA NEWS

GALA

A Gala notice was emailed and sent home with your child this week - this notice has lots of information about our upcoming Gala on Saturday 18th March 2017.

2017 SCHOOL CALENDAR

ST FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL CALENDERS are still available at the school office, \$10 each.

NEXT GALA MEETING

Wednesday 8th March, 7pm, in the school staffroom.
We warmly invite everyone to come along.

Puriri and Kauri Whanau New Waitangi Trip Dates

Puriri Whanau Rms 13, 14, 15 and 16 will now go to Waitangi on Monday 6th March.

Kauri Whanau Rms 1, 2, 3 and 4 will now go to Waitangi on Monday 30th March.

LUNCHONLINE

Lunchonline is an online ordering service for school lunches (our school - Fridays only). You may register to order lunch for your child at www.lunchonline.co.nz Just set up a new account. Enter your child's school and class number. Make payment so you have funds in your account then place an order.

Free Books for the Library - Promotion

Our school has been chosen as one of 500 schools nationwide to receive an opportunity to win up to 20 free books for our school library by purchasing Kelloggs products.

Just purchase any Kelloggs product at Regent New World and place your till receipt in the promotion box marked St Francis Xavier (staff will assist you).

For every 2 receipts received before the end of March our school library will be gifted one free book. The more you shop, the more books we will receive.

Thank you for your support.

Marist Netball

The netball season is about to start again. We had a great season last year and the children really developed their skills and had a lot of fun.

This year, fees are likely to be around \$90.00 (to be confirmed). The netball season starts on the 6th May. So if you would like to play netball this season please complete a registration form which is available at the school office and needs to be completed as soon as possible.



We are desperate for coaches and managers of each team. Parents ***we need your help*** if we are to continue running netball for your children. If you are interested please indicate on the registration form and Pamela Butler (Marist Junior Co-ordinator) will make contact with you. Are you interested in sponsoring a Marist netball team? If so that would be fantastic too and certainly be appreciated. Again this can be noted on the registration form.

Marist Hockey 2017



Registration: Tuesday 7th March 2017 3:30-6pm, Marist Clubrooms, Park Ave, Kensington.

Fees: \$95 (same as last year). Season starts: Saturday 6th May 2017.

We are desperately needing more parent helpers in all areas - many hands make light work! Some of the jobs that need doing are very small and are not ongoing (ie: just at the start or end of the season). Megan and Gemma look forward to hearing from you (indicate on the Marist hockey registration form). Enquiries: Megan McGregor 021818537 or guyandmeg@hotmail.com

or hockeymarist@gmail.com

Please also "like" the Marist Junior Hockey Facebook page as we would like to use this as one of our main forms of communication this year.

If your child would like to play hockey but you feel you cannot manage the full fee amount of \$95 please see our Family Worker, Liz Beazley, in confidence.

School Accounts

On Monday, we sent our school account for attendance dues and donations by email and some by post.

Many thanks to those who have made payment directly to our school bank account or at the school office. We especially thank those who tried to pay before we had applied the charges. If you did not receive your account please come to the office and see me.

If you have a query regarding your account please don't hesitate to come and see me.

This will be strictly confidential.

We would also appreciate if the swimming and camp fee for Y5/6 is paid before the end of Term 1.

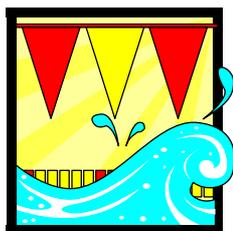
Deborah Rudolph

Office Manager

We welcome these student who started in our school recently,
*Henri Ardouin, Ella-Jayde Cafatsakis, Se'ven Hotere-Davies Takimoana
and Tuwhenuara Shelford-Hoani.*



SWIMMING SPORTS AT POMPALLIER



Last Friday, the senior school and a small group of year 4 students, enjoyed our school swimming sports held at the Pompallier Catholic College pool. Everyone participated and we had some very close times in many races. The top two timed finalists for backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle will go on to represent our school at the WPSSA swim champs on 7 March. Congratulations to all our finalists.

BACKSTROKE

Year 4 Girls

Lucy Yovich
Kayla Cameron

Year 5 Girls

Maricar Martin
Katie McGregor

Year 6 Girls

Heidi McGregor
Anabella Hugo

Year 4 Boys

Jonno Dickson
Daniel Hugo

Year 5 Boys

Taha McLean Saad
Kalym Werder

Year 6 Boys

Daniel Jones
Nahuel Racioppi

BREASTSTROKE

Year 4 Girls

Lucy Yovich
Peyton Seymour

Year 5 Girls

Katie McGregor
Maricar Martin

Year 6 Girls

Heidi McGregor
Sophia Ross

Year 4 Boys

Marcus McGregor
Jonno Dickson

Year 5 Boys

Taha McLean Saad

Year 6 Boys

Daniel Jones
Nahuel Racioppi

FREESTYLE

Year 4 Girls

Lucy Yovich
Maia Clark Watts

Year 5 Girls

Alexandrena Beaumont
Katie McGregor

Year 6 Girls

Emma Quinn
Elizabeth Gould

Year 4 Boys

Jackson Wood
Daniel Hugo

Year 5 Boys

Taha McLean Saad
Isaac Dijkstra

Year 6 Boys

Daniel Jones
Malachi Flower

A very big thank you to the wonderful parents and grandparents who contributed to the success of the day by helping with timekeeping, recording and lifeguard duties.

It was also lovely to see many whanau there on the day supporting and cheering along our children in the pool.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

GUITAR LESSONS

Hello, my name is David Meredith. I have been a guitar teacher at St. Francis for several years. I have really enjoyed teaching the guitar, and some of my pupils have progressed quite significantly. I would like to offer my services to this school again during 2017. If you would like your child to learn guitar this year, please contact me on 0273832633, or you can e-mail me at caramellow@xtra.co.nz

INTERESTED IN PLAYING FUTSAL?

WBHS gym on Tuesdays and/or Fridays and/or KHS gym on Wednesdays starting term 1 2017. Contact Christian from Northland Futsal Academy for more information: Mob 021 246 7328 Email: christian@northlandfutsalacademy.co.nz or visit www.northlandfutsalacademy.co.nz

NORTHLAND CRICKET ASSOCIATION

Where: Kensington Park. Time: 4pm till 5pm. When: February 24th till March 17th (longer if parents/kids are interested). Cost: Free. Northland cricket will supply scoresheets. All equipment provided. Contact Neal Parlane, Ph: 4382400, email: nealp@northcricket.co.nz website: www.northcricket.co.nz

O'NEILL SURF ACADEMY - EASTER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

The programme is open to kids 7-17 years, and is free for those ages between 11-17 who school in Northland. For others there is a cost of \$150 for the week.

The programme is week long (17-21st April or 24-28th April) with a choice of morning or afternoon sessions. We will be running the programme slightly differently with the morning session running from 9am-1pm, (with the first 3 hours surfing and the last hour organised beach games) and the afternoon session running from 12-4pm (with the first hour organised beach games followed by 3 hours surfing). The link below will take you to more information on our programme and the online booking form. We ask that you please fill out one form per child. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeUjmTkg8aRVPYcV2eEoAIBMHqapxP6sVaqYS2nR9SF50hCA/viewform>

O'Neill Surf Academy NZ. Ph 09 4343843. M 021 062 1761.

email jo@oneillsurfacademy.co.nz www.oneillsurfacademy.co.nz

SKYCITY MYSTICS COMMUNITY DAY

The Community day is being held at Whangarei Netball Centre Courts on Sunday 5 March 2017, 10am - 12pm, in conjunction with the Skycity Mystics v Northern Stars pre-season match on Saturday 4 March. Please let WNC know if you or your friends and family are interested in attending this day. It is a free event and there will be lots of exciting things happening.

Also, please note that there will be media at this event so if anyone has any concerns regarding this please let WNC know and we will do our best to accommodate. Ph (09) 4371950

whangareinetball@xtra.co.nz www.whangareinetball.co.nz

SPEECH AND DRAMA, MUSICAL THEATRE, BEGINNER DRAMA CLASSES

Does your child love make believe but lacks confidence, is a natural entertainer or loves to sing and act? Has your child taken part in Speech NZ Oral Assessment Exams or speeches at school, would they like to build on these skills? Our registered teachers run dynamic engaging classes for beginners to advanced performers. Email us today to book your space, don't leave it to the last minute classes fill quickly, details on website www.makingascene.co.nz

ASB SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAMME

If you wish to join the ASB School Banking Programme please collect an application form from the school office. New and existing ASB customers are welcome. Forms must be completed by the legal parent/guardian of the applicant.

Supporting success in your school.

If you are a parent, staff member or member of the school community and you draw down a new ASB home loan of \$250,000 or more, ASB will donate to your chosen participating school:

\$500

ASB lending criteria and terms apply. Fees may apply. To be eligible for this donation your new home loan application must be received, approved and then documented in a facility agreement, along with the completion of a school donation voucher, between 1 January 2017 and 30 June 2017. A minimum of 20% equity is required in the security property provided to ASB. This home loan offer is only available on loans secured by an owner-occupied residential property. Only one donation will be given per customer. Donations will be made by ASB on behalf of the customer to the chosen school upon full draw down of the new home loan. This offer excludes loans for business purposes and bridging.

ASB Bank Limited 5638016785 0117

ASB



SCHOOL EVENTS

Dates and times for events are subject to change.
Please check this fortnightly newsletter for any changes.

MARCH

3	8:45am	Swimming Yr 5/6
6	8.45am to 2.45pm	Puriri Whanau Rms 13, 14, 15, 16, Trip to Waitangi
7		Swimming Yr 5/6
7		WPSSA Swim Champs at Whangarei Intermediate School
7	3.00pm-7.00pm	ROOM 11 ONLY Triadic Parent Interviews - code: ytgfs
7	3.00pm-6.00pm	ROOM 12 ONLY Triadic Parent Interviews - code: ytgfs
8	3.00pm-7.00pm	ROOM 11 ONLY Triadic Parent Interviews - code: ytgfs
8	3.00pm-6.00pm	ROOM 12 ONLY Triadic Parent Interviews - code: ytgfs
8	7.00pm	PTFA/Gala Meeting in the Staffroom
10		Swimming Yr 5/6
14		Swimming Yr 5/6
15	7.00pm	PTFA/Gala Meeting in the Staffroom
17		Gala Day preparation
17		Swimming Yr 5/6
18	9.00am	GALA DAY
21		Swimming Yr 5/6
21	7.00pm	Board of Trustees Meeting
22	11-11.50am	Yr 5/6 Reconciliation
24		Swimming Yr 5/6
30	8.45am to 2.45pm	Kauri Whanau Rms 1, 2, 3, 4, Trip to Waitangi
31	1.30pm	Full School Assembly led by Kowhai Whanau

APRIL

4 - 7		Rms 1,12, 15 to Camp
10 - 13		Rms 18, 20, 22 to Camp
12	9.00am	Holy Week Mass - All School Involved
13	2.50pm	Holy Thursday - Last day of Term 1

Term Dates for 2017

Term One:

31 January to 13 April

Term Two:

1 May to 7 July

Term Three:

24 July to 29 September

Term Four:

16 October to 15 December

2017 GALA DAY, SATURDAY 18TH MARCH

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

8:45 – 10:25am	Morning session
10:25 – 10.50am	Morning tea
10.50am – 12:30pm	Mid-morning session
12:30 – 1:20pm	Lunch break
1:20pm – 2:50pm	Afternoon session