St Francis Xavier Catholic School

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

No.14 Thursday 12th September 2019

Tena koutou katoa. Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the school,

Over the past two years a group of principals, myself included, have been working to establish collaborative learning communities in Whangarei. We have five kāhui ako (Communities of Learning) in the Whangarei district which are made up of approximately 40 schools and 54 ECEs.
The kāhui ako work both independently and collaboratively through a framework we call the Hub. We have all agreed that the greatest priority for tamariki in our district is wellbeing and hence this is the achievement challenge we intend to address together, preferably with support from our wider community.
Our particular kāhui ako (Whangarei 1) consists of Ngunguru, Parua Bay, Whangarei Heads, Matarau, Maungatapere Schools and also Pompallier Catholic College and Whangarei Girls High School. Plus nine kindergartens and playcentres.
Each kāhui ako has a lead principal and Mrs Anne Cooper and I were the first co-leader appointments in the country.
In addition to the wellbeing achievement challenge we also have two other challenges. They are STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) and literacy.
This is an incredible opportunity for us to make a very real difference for the students and their whanau in all of our kāhui ako schools and the ECEs in the Whangarei district.
From time to time I will provide you with more information about this initiative.

Lockdown

Over the past few weeks there have been several lockdowns at schools in the Whangarei district. Please note that during lockdown our priority will be the safety and wellbeing of students and staff, therefore we are unable to answer telephone calls or open up the buildings until we are advised to do so by NZ Police.
In the event of a lockdown ask that you stay away from the school so Police and emergency services have easy access to the school and area as required.
We will email/text you as soon as the lockdown has been lifted. The school has an internal lockdown procedure. If you wish to view this please call into the school office.

PRINCIPAL FOR THE DAY:
Last Friday, Elna Babu was the principal for the day. Elna was winner of the Principal for the Day lucky draw at the Gala day earlier this year. Elna was a fabulous principal and I will recommend her to my colleagues!

Craig McKernan
Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This Sunday's Readings: (Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Exodus 32: 7-11. 13-14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15: 1-32

Thought for the day:

Decisions can take you out of Gods will but never out of his reach.
Timothy 2; 13, if we are faithless, he remains faithful-for he cannot deny himself.

*Family Mass

Our next Family Mass is on **Sunday, 22nd September** at 10:00am. Kowhai Whanau (Rooms 8, 10, 11 and 12 will be participating.) Even if your children do not belong to the whanau that is helping with the Mass please come along and support our whanau. We are all part of one family.

*First Communion Sacramental Programme 2019 / 2020

Reconciliation, Confirmation & First Communion. For baptised children who will be 8 years of age, or older by Easter 2020 (12 April). Enrolment forms are available from the Parish Office. The first session is on Sunday 15 September at 4pm in our Parish Hall. Enquiries to the Parish Office. Thank you.

*Season of Creation

This is an annual ecumenical celebration of prayer and action to protect creation across the globe observed during the month of September leading up to St Francis of Assisi Feast Day 4 October. Inspired by Laudato Si' the Global Catholic Climate Movement invites Catholics to celebrate the Season of Creation worldwide. catholicclimatemovement.global 8 September: Flora and Fauna Sunday: "Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! Praise the Lord!" Ps. 148.10

*Bring a Can Mufti Day

Our next mufti day is on **Friday 20th September**. Please bring an item(s) of non-perishable food. These will be given to Soul Food (who feed people in need in Whangarei) and also St Vincent de Paul. Who help make food parcels, which are given out to those in our community who are in need.

*Classes Attending a Tuesday Mass

If you are able to, you are welcome to come and join your child's class when they attend Mass on a Tuesday morning.

Tuesday Mass 9am	Class - Year Level	
Rimu 17th September		
Room 22	Yr 5&6	Mrs Hepi
Room 23	Yr 3&4	Mr Werder
Rimu 24th September		
Room 21	Yr 2	Whaea Jacqui
Room 9	Yr 1	Ms Saunders

Yours in Christ *Maria Wilson* ,
DRS – Director of Religious Studies

Weekend Mass Survey Results

Thank you to all those who took the time to respond to our combined St Francis Xavier Catholic School/Pompallier Catholic College survey.

As part of our Parish community, our two schools wanted to hear your thoughts about coming together at weekend Masses. Ninety-six people responded to the survey and some interesting trends have been noted.

Many families make Mass a regular part of their weekend and made positive comments about Mass and the opportunity to worship.

Most respondents talked about how busy family life is. Sports, employment, family commitments etc. can all be barriers to getting to Mass.

A group of people from both schools and the parish met to discuss the survey findings, and explore ideas around making Mass more accessible to our families.

The group decided to trial a "Summertime Mass" by offering a 5pm Mass one Sunday a month during daylight saving time. We could celebrate Mass at 5pm in the church and afterwards have a picnic dinner or sausage sizzle in the school grounds. The scooter track, playground and basketball court will be available for children to enjoy.

We hope all ages join in and make Summertime Mass a joyful experience for the whole parish.

Watch this space for further details!

*School Accounts

Many thanks for the many families who have paid their accounts in full or who are making regular payments. As this term is almost over, those who have not paid anything may get calls in the holidays from the Auckland Diocese. Attendance dues are compulsory and a condition of enrolment at our school. If you are experiencing difficulties in making payment, please come and see me. ***Deborah Rudolph, Office Manager****.*

*Scholastic Book Club

If your child did not receive their book club order in the last offer, please contact the school office. We have an unclaimed/unnamed order.

*Found

Several children's watches and greenstone necklaces have been found and handed in to the school office in the last month. If your child has lost a watch or necklace, please come to the office.

*Enrolments for St Francis Xavier Catholic School

We are currently organising our roll numbers, and in particular our new entrant numbers for the coming year. If you are planning to send your preschooler to our school in the next two years, and have not yet enrolled them, please call at the school office and collect an enrolment pack as soon as possible. Thank you.

*Parking in Percy Street

We try hard to be a good neighbour to the people who live and work in Percy Street. Please help us by not parking on the yellow lines in front of people's homes, businesses and especially the school gate. It is an offence to park on yellow lines, and it makes it difficult and dangerous to get in and out of driveways. Thank you for your co-operation.

*Parish Playgroup

Meet every Tuesday during term time, 9am to 11.30am in the Parish Hall. All Mums, Dads and Caregivers are invited to bring along your preschoolers and join in the fun. Gold coin donation.

Any enquires to the Parish Office.

*Baptism Photos

There are photos available to view and order at the school office of the children and their families who were baptised on the 30th June. There are two sizes available, 4x6 $2ea and 5x7 $4.50ea. Cash only please.

P.T.F.A News

Good afternoon families

Thank you to the small number of parents who attended our recent information evening. Lyn Smith from the Catholic Institute gave a thought-provoking presentation on Encountering Christ in the Here and Now. The message was relevant and inspiring.

The PTFA are delighted to have purchased a class set of ukuleles for the school. They are being enjoyed by staff and students alike. Our thanks to Emily Malone for initiating this and sharing her musical talents with our school community.

You are all invited to attend our next PTFA meeting on Wednesday 23rd October, our last for the year.

Thanks for your support everyone.

God bless,

Serena Ross

Chairperson

School Photos

School Photo days are today,
Thursday the 12th and tomorrow, **Friday the 13th of September.**
Our photographer this year is PhotoLife.
A notice has already been sent home explaining the order process which is the same as last year:

1. Class photos and individual portrait photos will be taken during the photo sitting on photo day.
2. PhotoLife will issue families with an online unique shoot key once individual photos are ready for viewing. Class photos are not made available for viewing.
3. Purchases can be made online with PhotoLife. **NO CASH PAYMENTS**.
4. Class, individual and on-site sibling photos have been taken **TODAY**.

A reminder to those families who have children coming from outside of our school for sibling portraits
AND HAVE ALREADY BOOKED A SITTING
to please be at the Parish Hall by 8.30am tomorrow, Friday 13th September.

Te Rauroha Paki from Room 11, who swims out of the Manaia Swim and Surf Club has excelled in swimming competitions in Northland recently. In doing so he has qualified for the 2020 New Zealand Junior Festival - Harlequins and for this year he has qualified for the Auckland Junior Championships in December.

In addition to this Te Rauroha Paki and DJ Gould, an ex-student of St Francis Xavier who now attends Pompallier Catholic College will represent New Zealand in Malaysia next week for Karate Goju Ryu Worlds. Furthermore, DJ will go on to represent New Zealand again in Chile for the Karate Junior Worlds in November. Both Te Rauroha and DJ train out of the Miyagi Kan Karate Club in Whangarei.

..... to our new student Danielle Kemp who started in our school recently

CAN YOU HELP PUT UP OUR POOL?

Term 4 seems a long way off, but we are planning our swim programme already! The pop up pool arrives in the holidays and we will need parents to help put it up on **Saturday 12th October** at 8am. (The last Saturday of the holidays.) If you can help please email Mrs J glenys@sfx.school.nz Many hands make light work!

St. Francis Xavier Catholic School.

SCHOOL EVENTS

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

Mahuru - September

12th-13th		School Photos
18th	1.30pm	He Kākāno Programme - 3rd session
18th		Northland Cross Country champs
20th		***Mufti Day - Bring a can.*** Please bring a can of non-perishable goods if your child is wearing mufti (non-uniform clothing) on this day.
22nd	10am	Kowhai Family/Whanau Mass
25th		***PTFA Sausage Sizzle $2*** (please place your order with the class teacher by 9am on the day)
25th	1.30pm	He Kākāno Programme - 4th session
27th	1.30pm	School Assembly led by Kauri whanau
27th	2.50pm	Term three ends

TERM DATES 2019

TERM 3
22nd Jul to 27th Sept

TERM 4
14th Oct to 17th Dec*

PLEASE NOTE OUR TERM END OF YEAR SCHOOL DATE IS TUESDAY THE 17TH DECEMBER AND NOT THE 18TH AS PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED.

Pompallier Catholic College Annual Spring Garage Sale, including Carwash, BBQ, Baking & Produce Stalls

Sat. 21st Sept, 8am-11am,
School Gymnasium
SH 14, Maunu, Whangarei.
All quality donations welcome.
Contact: Mark Going (PTFA President) ph 0274 977085 or: ptfa@pompallier.school.nz

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

****Camp for Youth-Mangawhai**

8-18 years / Mon 7th-Wed 9th October. Contact Bernadette Isaacs. cathnorwai@xtra.co.nz Ph: 094398435/02108291278. Organised by NCYM (Northland Catholic Youth Ministry). First in first served.

****Free Holiday Surf Programme Tutukaka**

30 Sep-4 Oct | 7-11 Oct.We have funding again to offer our popular Free Holiday Surf Programme on the Tutukaka Coast for 11-17 year old's schooling in Northland. For those under age or schooling out of area the cost is $150 for the week. Please click on the link below for more information and registration.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdBCaZnhWQrGnkODyUZBfnLYEiTeJFP6wgzB3bbgCeH-EuqGA/viewform

****SwimMagic Swim School**

October holiday lessons Week 1: 30th Sept-4th Oct Week 2: 7th-11th Oct. For more information, talk to our friendly staff
www.swimmagic.co.nz 0508 794 662