



St Francis Xavier Catholic School

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

No. 10 Rāpare-Thursday 27th Here-turi-kōkā-August 2020

TEACHER ONLY DAY TOMORROW. **School is closed to students.**

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the School,

The decision to move to Covid Level 2 was always going to be contentious and understandably some parents would feel anxious for a host of reasons. While waiting in the Parish car park in the mornings some children have enjoyed having a chat about all manner of things, cats, siblings, weekends but increasingly they talk about Covid. Most of them seem relatively relaxed and resigned to the situation but clearly some children are worried. We have mentioned in previous newsletters how we can support children and allay some of these fears but if you need some help then please contact us. Just a reminder that while everyone is onsite at Alert Level 2, we must adhere to key health measures including:

- Good hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette
- Staying away if sick
- Keeping the appropriate physical distance from others
- Cleaning and disinfecting our high touch surfaces daily
- Displaying QR code posters at our entrances and encouraging all of our community to download the NZ COVID Tracer App and use it if they come onsite
- Keeping a visitor register for anyone who cannot use the app and for other visitors who come onsite for a period of time.

We know all these things will help to keep our community as safe as possible. Because of these measures, your child does not need to wear a face covering while at school. However, we will of course support them should they choose to do so. Although it is not yet mandated that children must wear a mask on the bus it is probably good practice to do so.

For those of you who might be finding things more difficult than usual, a reminder that there is a large range of support available for businesses and the community. We encourage you to go to covid19.govt.nz for more information, or get in touch and we will help you to find the information and support you need.

Father's Day Liturgy: The liturgy for Fathers has been cancelled because under Level 2 we cannot have a gathering of more than 100 people. That doesn't mean that we can forget our Dads so we wish you all a great day on the 6th of September.

Mitre 10 Sponsorship: In addition to the two beehives that were delivered to school last week we have also been fortunate in receiving some sponsorship money to start a school orchard. Yesterday some of our students helped Mr Hacker plant mandarin, oranges, a lemon, blueberry and apple trees. In addition to this, Mitre 10 helped us to pay for compost, stakes and fertilizers. We wish to sincerely thank James Champion and the team at Mitre 10 Whangarei for their sponsorship of \$270 to help us towards achieving one of our healthy school and wellbeing goals.

Craig McKernan
Principal



Religious Education

This Sunday's Reading:

(Twenty second Sunday in Ordinary Time) Jeremiah 20: 7-9; Romans 12: 1-2, Matthew 16: 21-27

Thought For The Day:

"Success comes in cans; failure comes in can'ts" Philippians 4:13. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

*Classes Attending a Tuesday Mass

Classes will not be attending Tuesday morning Mass until Covid 19 Level 2 restrictions are lifted.

*Father's Day Liturgy

There will be no Father's Day Liturgy, this year, due to Covid 19 Level 2 restrictions.

*Social Justice Week: 6-12 September

The theme of our Social Justice Week resources is "Easy as CST: Unlocking the Church's Potential" / "Māma Noa, Pēnei i te CST: Te Tuku i ngā Pūmanawa o te Hāhi kia Whai Hua." They focus on Catholic Social Teaching (CST), which provides a moral framework to guide our decisions and actions. Mā te whiriwhiri tahi ka puāwai ngā pūmanawa o te tangata.

*Sacramental Programme 2021

Reconciliation, Confirmation & First Communion programme, for **baptised** children who will be 8 years of age, or older by Easter 2021, will begin in **February 2021**.

For enquires please phone Janet at the Parish Office 437 7902.

Yours in Christ,

Maria Wilson

DRS – Director of Religious Studies

School Uniforms

We still have plenty of second-hand uniforms in our PTFA pool. Please contact Mrs J glenys@sfx.school.nz if your child requires uniform items. A small koha or donation is appreciated.

Some of our children are wearing sneakers to school. A friendly reminder that our uniform is **flat, black and polishable shoes**.

Also, on these cold wet mornings, many children are wearing jackets to school. These are not to be worn **in** school, only to and from, as they are not part of our uniform. Once again, we have plenty of school polar fleeces in the second-hand uniform pool, if your child is feeling the cold.



***SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES COVID-19 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Financial assistance is available to assist families who may need financial support as a result of the Covid-19 Virus with the payment of 2020 Attendance Dues for students attending Catholic schools in Auckland Diocese, both primary and secondary. Families facing financial difficulties can contact their school office, their Parish Priest or the Revenue Manager on 09-360-3069 at the Catholic Diocese of Auckland for further information.

Application forms for this assistance are available from school and parish offices, or can be down-loaded from the Catholic Diocese of Auckland Website: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools/covid-19-attendance-dues-assistance/> Many thanks to all the families who have made payments or continued automatic payments.



to Piper Osborne, Finlay Telfer and Maximus Quirke who started in our school recently.

Student Success

Gia Fernandes participated in the Auckland Regional Jiu Jitsu tournament prior to covid level 3. Since there were no girls in her age, belt and weight class she was bumped up into a higher belt boys category. The category she fought in was the Boys grade 8 / Grey belt category (which is higher than her white belt category). She won silver! Well done Gia!



Kamo Intermediate Open Day

Open Day: Wed 2nd September

Tours Available: Tours followed by an information session will be available

Tour Times: 9:30 am or 1:30 pm

Registration: Please contact Kamo Intermediate

School Office Ph: 4350343 to register your interest

Parents are welcome to attend. Students who have already attended on the promotion days do not need

to attend. Any queries, please contact Pamela

Abercrombie, Deputy Principal, Kamo Intermediate

School Ph: 4350343.

Parking at Vege Twins

Please respect the fact The Vege twins is a business and not a carpark for our school. Some of our parents are parking there from 2 pm and blocking access to customers. Being good neighbours is very important to us and we thank you for your co operation.

PTFA GALA NEWS

Just a reminder that the raffle tickets are due back in to the school office on Monday 31st August. We would like to thank everyone who has sold tickets, also to the donations people have made, we sincerely appreciate your contributions & kindness. The raffles will be drawn Friday 4th September, under Police supervision, & winners will be notified to come & collect their Prize!

We thank our amazing SFX family/ community for your support.

Gala Committee.

Literacy Tip #11

Make connections to their reading!

Children find a deeper understanding of stories when they are able to connect them to their own experiences. We have some fantastic New Zealand authors such as Gavin Bishop, Joy Cowley, Kyle Mewburn and Witi Ihimaera to name just a few. These authors provide a uniquely New Zealand perspective and they cover topics that are relevant to the experiences of our children. Books can also be a great way to help children process big emotions such a grief, anticipation and anxiety. As you read with your child take the opportunity to make connections. "This part of the story reminds me of..."

Book of the week: Old Huhu by Kyle Mewburn (Picture Book)





St. Francis Xavier
Catholic School.



SCHOOL EVENTS

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

August

28th

Teacher Only Day - school closed

September

2nd 1.30pm

He Kākano Programme-2nd

8th 5.45pm

B.O.T Meeting

9th 1.30pm

He Kākano Programme-3rd

9th

W.P.S.S.A Cross Country - *To be confirmed*

16th 1.30pm

He Kākano Programme-4th

18th

Mufti Day-*bring a can of non-perishable food.*

19th

Northland Cross Country - *To be confirmed*

22nd

Vision/Hearing

23rd

PTFA SAUSAGE SIZZLE \$2 (*please place your order with the class teacher at the start of the day.*)

25th

Last day of term

October

12th 8.45am

Term 4 starts

16th

Shield Challenge with W.P.S

21st

PTFA SAUSAGE SIZZLE \$2 (*please place your order with the class teacher at the start of the day.*)

22nd

Cultural Evening & Celebrations - *to be confirmed*

26th

Labour Day- School closed

November

18th

PTFA SAUSAGE SIZZLE \$2 (*please place your order with the class teacher at the start of the day.*)

25th to 27th

Yr 3&4 EOTC

26th to 27th

Yr 6 Retreat

December

2nd to 4th

Yr 6 Beach ED

8th

Leavers Mass

TERM DATES

Term Three: 20th July to 25th Sept

Term Four: 12th Oct to 15th Dec