



# St Francis Xavier Catholic School

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

No.4 Term 3 Wednesday-Rāapa 14-Tekau mā whā September-Mahuru 2022

Tena koutou katoa,

**Māori Language Week:** This week is Te Wiki o te Reo Māori and at school we are celebrating this. Our teachers are encouraging children and each other to use more Māori in conversations and during lessons. Te Reo Māori me ona tikanga are intertwined, and so learning te reo Māori gives students access to te ao Māori (the Māori world) and to Māori world views.

**Indian Cultural Celebration:** Last week, the Whangārei Malayalee Association hosted a celebration of music, dance and food. Ten members of our staff, including myself, attended and we were treated to a lovely evening watching the items and especially those involving children from our school. On behalf of all of us, I wish to congratulate the Malayalee community for their warm welcome and successful evening.

**Student Behaviour:** Over the years, as a teacher and principal, you see the behaviour of children move in tandem with the season and the time of the school year. Experience tells us that the end of the winter terms are particularly challenging and this year, Covid and the continual wet weather, has been particularly difficult for some children.

As a staff, we work very hard to address concerns and follow up on incidents. We are always very grateful for the support of our parent community. We need to work as a team to support, educate and nourish our students spiritually, emotionally and academically. It takes a village to raise a child and sometimes this requires patience and understanding. It also means that we need to stamp out behaviour that is unacceptable. This means that bad language, bullying, or name calling should be discouraged in your household and is not allowed at school. Please help us to reinforce this message.

Our Gospel Reading on Sunday was about the lost son and how he returned to his father having lost his money and his worthiness to be called his father's son. The father accepted him back, celebrated his return and acted with forgiveness. We can all learn a lesson from this as we acknowledge that sometimes we get it wrong but we know that if we recognise our weaknesses and seek forgiveness then we can move forward again.

We are very blessed to have so many wonderful students and we thank them for their effort and fabulous qualities.

**Covid Notice:** You'll be aware that New Zealand will move to a new, long-term approach to COVID-19. These changes have been made based on public health advice and reflect high levels of immunity and declining case numbers across New Zealand.

The very positive news is that household contacts of a person with COVID-19 do not need to isolate, but instead are asked to complete a RAT test each day, for five days. Therefore, ākongā (students) who are household contacts but test negative and do not have COVID-19 symptoms, should continue to attend school. It is the best place for them to be so they can be engaged in their learning, and connected with their teachers, classmates and friends.

Mask wearing is no longer required but children can use them if they wish too.

All the other recommended public health measures will stay in place as we know they reduce the spread of infectious illnesses including COVID-19. These include ensuring our indoor spaces are well-ventilated, maintaining good hand hygiene, encouraging everyone to cough or sneeze into elbows and, most importantly, staying home and getting tested if they have COVID-19 symptoms.

Thank you for your ongoing support in protecting our community.

**School Closure:** No doubt you will have heard that there is to be a National Holiday to recognise the passing of Queen Elizabeth II on Monday the 26<sup>th</sup> of September. As we have already advised you, we also have a Staff Only Day planned for Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September so this will mean the children will now have a four day weekend.

*Craig McKernan*

(Principal)

# Religious Education

## This Sunday's Readings:

(Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time)  
Amos 8:4-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13

## Thought For The Week:

"Success comes in cans; failure comes in can't"  
Philippians 4:13. "I can do all things through him who strengthens me".

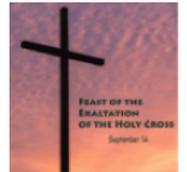
## Non-Uniform Days in Term 3

Our next Non-Uniform Day is a Bring a Can which is on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September. Please bring an item(s) of non-perishable food on this day. These will be given to St Vincent de Paul and Soul Food.

## Fun Facts

What is the Exaltation of the Cross or the Feast of the Holy Cross (September 14)?

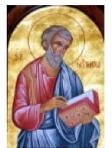
The feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross celebrates two historical events: the discovery of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of emperor Constantine, in 320 under the temple of Venus in Jerusalem, and the dedication in 335 of the basilica and shrine built on Calvary by Constantine, which marks the site of the Crucifixion. More than anything else though, it is a celebration and commemoration of God's Great work: Jesus' Death and resurrection at Easter.



This week in New Zealand's History we remember New Zealand's first woman MP was elected in 1933. The Labour Party's Elizabeth McCombs became New Zealand's first female Member of Parliament. Almost 40 years after women got to vote in New Zealand, (the first country in the world to give women a vote). Wow, we have come a very long way. Let us thank God for the courage and the fortitude of those women who fought for a right that many of us take for granted today.



St. Matthew is an important figure in the Bible who went from being a despised tax collector to being an apostle of Jesus. Matthew was present at several of the most important events in Jesus' life. He wrote the Gospel of Matthew to tell about Jesus' life and his understanding of who Jesus was.



## Sacramental Programme

Please continue to pray for the Sacramental Programme children preparing for their First Holy Eucharist. This will be celebrated on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September 12:00pm.

A reminder that the Sacramental Programme preparation sessions are on Sundays from 4:00pm to 5:00pm.

Yours in Christ

Mrs Maria Wilson

DRS - Director of Religious Studies

PTFA Sausage Sizzle: Wednesday 21st September \$2:00

Please place your order with the class teacher before 9am that morning.



We welcome Matteo Cosenero and Ayan Elcho who have started in our school recently.



To Anthea Muthurajah of Room 12 who recently won a supplementary prize for the NZ Association of Mathematics Teachers, Design a Maths Week Logo Competition. Well done Anthea.

Parent and Staff Elections Results Declarations

**Parent representative votes:**

Pursuant to Regulation 26(5) of the Education (Board Elections) Regulations 2022

Hoyles, Mark - 16                      Macmillan, Steve - 89                      Procter, Renee - 102  
Naushaba Todd-Jones - 63              van den Bosch, Matthew - 79              Watts, Peter - 71

I hereby declare the following duly elected:

- Steve Macmillan
- Renee Procter
- Naushaba Todd-Jones
- Matthew van den Bosch
- Peter Watts

**Staff Election Results Declaration: (no voting election required)**

At the close of nominations, as there was only one valid nomination received, I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Taylor, Jaqualine

Deborah Rudolph  
Returning Officer



**Wheels Day**  
**Thursday 22nd September**

On Thursday 22nd September, we are having a wheels day to support a fundraising event for kiwis with Muscular Dystrophy.

Please bring a gold coin donation and wheels of your choice.

For example, this might be a bike, scooter, skateboard, or wheelies.

Please bring appropriate safety gear to wear.

**Mathathon**

Well done everyone on your mathathon results! It is lovely to hear the children being excited about their results.

Thank you to all those who have already returned their money and forms.

Please send in your sponsor form and money to the **office not your class teacher**.

Your child will then get put into the draw for prizes that will be drawn at assembly in week 10.

Many grateful thanks to Maria Dowd from OfficeMax for supplying some of our spot prizes.

**Reading Workshop**

Mrs Clegg and Miss Pirrit would like to invite you to a short workshop about reading to your children.

Your child is never too old to be read to. This workshop will provide ideas on what to read, how to use books to spark meaningful conversations and how to adapt the books for all ages. Appropriate for parents with children of all ages and abilities.

Wednesday, 14 September, 6 pm  
Staffroom



**Emperor's New Clothes**

Our very first show in a very long time for our tamariki. The New Zealand Playhouse team delivered an educational, inspirational and extremely entertaining theatre for us on Friday the 9th. This time they brought the story of the Emperor's Clothes. Thank you to the PTEA who have funded this event so we could all enjoy the experience.



# WSSA Cross Country Champs

Our cross-country team took on the challenge of running the course at Barge Park on 31st August. Over 33 schools across the region competed on the day with up to 130 children running in each age group event. It was certainly a day of four seasons with wind, rain and sun, but that didn't stop our team from putting on an awesome performance. We had some fabulous results with four placing in the top 10.

Noah Jones - 2nd - 9 year old boys

Anna Hewitt - 3rd - 10 year old girls

Jacob Lawson - 5th - 11 year old boys

Hamish Lenssen - 9th - 8 year old boys

Congratulations to all our runners for a fantastic cross-country run.

Many thanks to our parents who braved the weather to help and support our team on the day.



## Mathex

A group of 20 students have worked hard over a period of weeks to prepare for the annual Mathex competition, which was held last Thursday at Whangarei Boys High School. Mathex is a competition where teams work together to solve maths problems against the clock, so this means there is a bit of running involved as well. Congratulations to one of our Year 5 teams - Alfie Anderson, James Buxton, Tobias Pai and Lauren Wood - who placed third getting only one question incorrect. The other teams, although they didn't make the top three placings did well against a very large and talented group of mathematicians. A special mention and thank you to the four children who did the work but were on standby. With all the illness these days, their support was much appreciated.



Other team members: Taylor Te Ao, Maru Brown, Quinn Van Den Berg, Rye Devlin, Connor Civil, Sienna MacPherson, Madison Macmillian, Marika Cutforth, Chanrodhtanak Sean, Frankie Dong, Aidan Thorburn, Hamish Lenssen, Sofia Guglielmetti, Rydah Davis, Sofia Higgins and Teddy Anderson



## SCHOOL EVENT

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

### SEPTEMBER

14th	1:30-2:30	He Kākano New Entrant Transition Programme - Session Two
14th	6pm	Reading Workshop in staffroom
18th	12pm	Sacramental Children Receiving First Holy Eucharist
20th	5:45pm	BOT Meeting in the staffroom
21st		PTFA Sausage Sizzle
21st	1:30-2:30	He Kākano New Entrant Transition Programme - Session Three
22nd		Wheels Day - Bring a gold coin donation for Muscular Dystrophy and your wheels
<b>23rd</b>		<b>STAFF ONLY DAY-School closed for instruction</b>
<b>26th</b>		<b>Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Day</b>
30th		BRING-A-CAN Non-Uniform Day - children may wear regular clothes instead of uniform to school, for a donation of a non-perishable item
30th		Term 3 Ends

### OCTOBER

17th	8:45am	Term 4 Starts
<b>24th</b>		<b>Labour day</b>

## 2022 TERM DATES

### TERM THREE:

25th July to 30th September

### TERM FOUR:

17th October to 16th December

## 2023 TERM DATES

### TERM ONE:

31st January to 6th April

### TERM TWO:

24th April to 30th June

### TERM THREE:

17th July to 22 September

### TERM FOUR:

9th October to 14th December

Please remember the school is closed for a Teacher Only Day on Friday 23rd September and Monday 26th September for Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Day.

**Pompallier College PTFA Fundraising Dinner**

Saturday 24th September 2022, 6:30pm  
At Pompallier Catholic College  
3 Course Meal, Cash Bar, Auction, Formal Attire  
To purchase tickets - phone 0274 977 085 or  
email: ptfa@pompallier.school.nz only \$50pp