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Newsletter – Term 1 Week 9, 31 March 2022

Principal's Message



Dawn at Rapanui - Sumner

Tena Koutou e te Whānau,

Thank you to all our whānau who were able to engage in the 3 Way Learning Conferences over recent weeks. Teachers were very happy to be able to 'see' you all - even though it was through the wonders of zoom technology! They appreciated being able to connect with you and discuss your child's goals and how things are going for them.

I hope you have all had a chance to read the email that I sent last Friday in regards to Covid Update and potential changes to Alert Levels in the coming weeks. This has the latest information and is important that all whānau are aware of how the school will be operating until at least the end of the term. Another copy of the letter has been attached to this email.

Although we appear to have reached our peak of cases in the school, it is really important that we all remain vigilant in regards to any symptoms as we still have 21 students currently positive or self-isolating with their families. Keeping everyone safe continues to be our priority.

It is lovely to see so many of our students back at school and positively engaging in their learning. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with any student or family members who are unwell or navigating the challenges of self-isolation. Please reach out if the school can support you in any way.

Kia manaaki te Atua ia koutou
Collette Sandilands

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Important Calendar Dates Term 1

Date	Event
6 April	Board of Trustees Meeting
10 April	Palm Sunday
14 April	Holy Thursday - Last day of Term 1
15 April	Good Friday
17 April	Easter Sunday
18 Apr - 1 May	School Holidays
2 May	Term 2 Begins
10 May	School Cross Country (pp 12 May)

Class Awards

Junior 1:	Aithan A,	Ellie C
Room 4:	Chandria P,	Abel B
Room 5:	Sebastian P,	Mercy A
Room 9:	Liam E,	Olive A
Room 10:	Eloise S,	Charley Z
Room 6:	Iyla W,	Ethan O
Room 7:	Joshua A,	Sharon J
Room 8:	Daniella	Isabelle
Senior 1:	Darren M,	Mackenzie G
Senior 2:	Jejomar G,	Suhana N
Principal's:	Frenzal C (R 4)	Ethan G (R 8)

Bikes and Scooters

It would be much appreciated if all our students who bring bikes and scooters to school please park them in front of the Creative space beside our Principal's office. We have had a small number of incidents where scooters have gone missing (and then returned) during the school day. Keeping the scooters and bikes closer to the office eliminates any opportunity for them to be taken.

Catholic Special Character

This term we will be sharing a few ideas from Pope's Francis' homilies and speeches from the past year with advice for building stronger relationships—with God, with our neighbours and with the earth.

Call your loved ones regularly (and truly listen to them.)

"When was the last time we visited or telephoned an elderly person in order to show our closeness and to benefit from what they have to tell us?" That was Pope Francis' question in his homily for the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly on July 26.

Few groups have been more profoundly affected by the ongoing pandemic than our elders. Now that vaccines and boosters have made it possible to safely visit them, what if you took the next year to listen to or even record their stories and wisdom?

"Let us not lose the memory preserved by the elderly, for we are children of that history, and without roots, we will wither," the pope said. "They protected us as we grew, and now it is up to us to protect their lives, to alleviate their difficulties, to attend to their needs and to ensure that they are helped in daily life and not feel alone."

From:

<https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2021/12/29/new-years-resolution-pope-francis-242050>

More on the 'Power from the Holy Spirit' - The third foundation of mission.

Pope Francis reminds us that, "All Christ's missionary disciples are called to recognize the essential importance of the Spirit's work, to dwell in his presence daily and to receive His unfailing strength and guidance. Indeed, it is precisely when we feel tired, unmotivated or confused that we should remember to have recourse to the Holy Spirit in prayer."



Alms Giving Holy Week



During the last two weeks of the school term we will be collecting non perishable food for those in need in the community. We ask that each child brings at least one item so that we are able to fill our St Vincent de Paul Shed prior to Easter.

Almsgiving is an important action of our Lenten observance so let's fill the classroom buckets with food for others.



St Patrick's Day Celebrations

Room 5 students enjoying making green playdough for St Patrick's Day with Mrs Smith!



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A great way to finish the St Patrick's day ice-blocks for all!



Gymnastics

Senior 2 students enjoying their last gymnastic session



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Well done Mrs Shaw's Room 4 weavers!



Room 4 has been learning how to weave.
We used flax, sticks and leaves to weave on our painted plate.