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## NEWSLETTER 30 Here-turi-kōkā 2017 (August)

#### **Enrolments and class changes**

Hi everyone. At the beginning of the week, some students changed classes to ensure we have smaller numbers in the junior rooms. This is to give students a successful start and first 2—3yrs of school. We plan for this at the end of a year with future enrolments and predictions so we can move them through at a good time. Unfortunately, and fortunately, we have had a large increase in enrolments this year so we have had to make a move mid way through the term. We are now at a high point of enrolments for the past two years with another six starting in the next few weeks. It is exciting to see all the new faces and we are doing our best to make decisions in the best interest of all.

#### **Social Media**

Lately we have had two issues regarding social media in our senior school. I love the ability to share what we do at school with all via Facebook and parents do too. We as adults often accidentally offend people or say things in a way that comes across wrong and we are adults!

I strongly believe (and data supports this) that students should not use social media until they are 16. It is important to understand that children do not use social media in the same way as adults do, children explore more, and share what they find, sometimes in an effort to show off or shock. Do NOT base your experience on Instagram/ Facebook/Snapchat to determine safety for your child.

For cyber savvy parents the biggest problem is that adult content filters that you may have installed on your child's device or on your home internet, can be bypassed by Instagram and other apps. It's an app, so it won't be able to be filtered for adult or violent content. Apps can also be hidden using certain apps. You can use whatever language you want so therefore you can see others doing this.

Instagram/Facebook etc are also being used extensively for bullying in other schools. Students can set up fake accounts of the victim and then post out embarrassing posts as a way to bully.

My advice to you is to remove your child's access to any form of social media, they are too young, and if they do have devices they are left with you each evening.

We have had two instances this year of inappropriate use of social media. Often comments are from friends of students etc. and so I am now insisting that no phones are brought to school, and highly recommend you reconsider the use of phones and social media. Although this is a lot less than other schools, two is two too many for me. If you need to discuss this further please contact me. If you come to me showing me a post you are unhappy with, my answer will be the same, "Why is your son/daughter on this?!"

I/We are not the fun police, we just care about the wellbeing of your child.

**NOTE**—We have an outbreak of Chickenpox. If your child is unwell with a fever and/or spots please keep them home for at least 5 days and only send them back to school if the spots are no longer weepy.

Have a good week.

God Bless

**Dallas Wichman** Principal

## COMING EVENTS

The most up to date calendar is the St Anne's Parent Calendar on our website or via Google Calendars

#### September

- 1 Faith Team Prayer Service 9am
- 6 Rm 4 Mass 9.15am
- 7 Vision/Hearing Testing Yr7 & new entrants
- 8 Rm 1/2 Learning Celebration
  Assembly 9am
- 11-16 Social Justice Week Maori Language Week
- 12 PFA Meeting 7pm
- 13 Rm 5 Mass 9.15am
- 15 Rm 3 Learning Celebration
  Assembly 9am
  Charlesworth Reserve Rms1-3
  - Rm 4 Mass 6pm
- 19-21 Koru Games Yr 7/8
- 20 Rm 2 Mass 9.15am BOT meeting 6-7pm
- 22 Rm 4 Learning Celebration Assembly 9am
- 23 Mass Rm 5 6pm
- 27 Mass Rm 1 9.15am
- 29 Rm 5 Learning Celebration Assembly 9am

#### October

16

2-13 School Holidays

# Special Character

ST ANNE'S ALTAR SERVERS

Sat 2 Sept Anna-naina

Atalaita

Sun 3 Sept

Tina Jasinta

It is Father's Day this coming Sunday. Joseph, Jesus' foster father has a special place in the heart of Pope Francis.

#### POPE'S MESSAGE TO FATHERS

#### Teach your children well, always be by their side By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

On March 19, the feast of St Joseph, patron saint of the universal church and Jesus' earthly father, Pope Francis urged all dads in the world to stick by their children's side, teaching them, guiding them and loving them. "I ask that you have the grace to be very close to your children, letting them grow, but being by their side. They need you, your presence, to be there, your love!" the pope told fathers present in St Peter's Square.



Despite a massive citywide transport strike in Rome, more than 80,000 people made their way to the square for the pope's weekly audience March 19.

The pope dedicated his catechesis to the role and example of St Joseph. March 19 also marks the celebration of Father's Day in Italy, as well as the first anniversary of the formal inauguration of Pope Francis' ministry as bishop of Rome and pope.

St Joseph's "great mission is to be a guardian," the pope said.

The saint is a model for all educators, whether they are teachers, catechists, parents, religious or priests, "who are fathers, too, you know!" he said.

Like an educator, St Joseph guided and accompanied Jesus so he could grow in "wisdom and age and grace," Pope Francis said. This is the same thing all parents must do, and "it would be a serious mistake to think that a father and a mother can't do anything to teach their children to grow in God's grace," he said.

Even though God was Jesus father, St Joseph lovingly took on the paternal role and taught the young Jesus various skills, the value of work, reverence for the Lord, and fidelity and obedience to God's will, the pope said.

He also had to keep his family safe during the difficult period of their exile to Egypt, he said, which makes the saint a special example for refugees and those facing persecution.

In brief remarks to Arab-speaking visitors, especially those from Lebanon and the Holy Land, the pope said St Joseph "knew how to cross the darkness of doubt, the experience of exile and fleeing from home, without ever losing faith in God and his love." "Learn from him that only trust in God can turn doubt into certainty, evil into good, total darkness of the night into a radiant dawn," he said.

In his main audience address, the pope gave his heartfelt greetings to all fathers in the square, asking them to show who they were by raising their hands. "Oh, how many dads!" he said. "Best wishes! All the best on your day!"



### Stolen over the weekend from St Anne's School buildings

3 alarm sounders similar to this. This is the 3rd time in two years that these have been stolen and are costly to replace. If you know anything about this please report it to the police. (apparently they make a great bike accessory)

Unfortunately, our bell does not work without these sounders.