



St Anne's Catholic School

Living our faith through our actions

1906 - 2016

discovering our past, living our present, inventing our future

For those that haven't heard, Josh Halkett, the teacher of the students in room 3 has had his first child. Prudence Halkett was born on Friday night and all three of them are doing well. Josh will be here for learning/goal setting conferences on Wednesday and Thursday. Thank you to Mrs Grant for stepping in at the last minute.

SCOOTERS AND SKATEBOARDING DAYS

The PFA have agreed to work towards a scooter park/area for the students over the year. When this is complete, they will have a place to scooter during morning tea and lunch every day. Until then scooter/skate days are TUESDAY and THURSDAYS. Students may only scooter at lunchtime and must have a helmet— NO HELMET, NO RIDE. If you have spare helmets at home that you no longer need please feel free to donate them to the school for those that forget or don't have one. We also suggest that students use only their scooter/skateboard in case of accidental damage etc. It would be good to talk to your child about this.

LEARNING CONFERENCES

These are a little different this year, please read my explanation as to why on page 3.

UPDATING SCHOOL RECORDS/SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

It is important that we keep our records current and up to date so today or tomorrow an envelope will be sent home containing details we have on your child's file as well as a 2016 consent form for signing on the back. Please make any changes, complete and sign the consents and return to school by Friday. WHEN THE COMPLETED FORM IS RETURNED YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE A 'GRIT AWARD' VOUCHER.

We have also included the parent contribution account for which prompt payment would be appreciated. Automatic Payment forms have been provided which may be helpful to some families.

UNIFORM

We now have culottes and polar fleeces available. Please go to the Mainland Uniforms website and locate St Anne's School down the side. Polar fleeces or jerseys can be worn at anytime of the year.

Trouser options will be on the site soon. www.mainlanduniforms.co.nz

LITTER FREE LUNCHES

Currently we are spending close to \$10 a day on rubbish removal (skip fees). This is money we could spend on learning resources, furniture, sports equipment etc. Not to mention, adding to the landfill. Over the next few months we will be transitioning to litter free lunches. We are looking into how we can get our families better lunch boxes that have compartments so that packets and wrappings are not necessary.

You can help by attempting to reduce the incoming rubbish from home. Finding little containers to hold things instead of glad wrap is a good start. NEXT WEEK, (ALL WEEK) IF YOUR CHILD HAS NO WRAPPINGS OR LITTER IN THEIR LUNCHBOXES WHEN THEY ARRIVE THEY WILL RECEIVE A 'GRIT' AWARD FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO REDUCE WASTE IN OUR SCHOOL.

God Bless

Dallas Wichman

COMING EVENTS

- 2-3 PLP interviews Rms 3,4 &5
- 4 Coin Trail for Fiji
- 7-18 Swim Weeks—Pioneer Pool
- 9 Have a Go Day—Winter sport
- Travelling Road Show Rms 1/2
- 11 Assembly 9am R5
- 18 R4 Assembly 9am/Mass 12pm
- 23 Sports Spectacular Yr 3/4 —
Linfield Pk

25-29 Easter Break

April

- 1 R2 Assembly 9am/Mass 12pm
- 7 R1 Assembly 9am
- 8 R1 & 3 Mass 12pm
- 15 R3 Assembly 9am
- 16 End of Term

Special Character



The *logo* and the *motto* together provide a fitting summary of what the Jubilee Year is all about. The motto *Merciful Like the Father* (taken from the Gospel of Luke, 6:36) serves as an invitation to follow the merciful example of the Father who asks us not to judge or condemn but to forgive and to give love and forgiveness without measure. The logo has been designed to express the profound way in which the Good Shepherd touches the flesh of humanity and does so with a love with the power to change one's life. One particular feature worthy of note is that while the Good Shepherd, in his great mercy, takes humanity upon himself, his eyes are merged with those of man.



Fr Dan Blessed the Year of Mercy Candles we will use in Class

March Birthdays

Samoaotearoa	Rm5	3rd
Rangiatea	Rm2	7th
Amy	Rm4	9th
Theresse	Rm3	13th
Theresa L	Rm2	15th
Willow	Rm1	23rd
Charlotte P	Rm4	23rd
Noah G	Rm1	24th
Noella	Rm4	31st

NEW SPORTS GEAR

Thank you very much to Adam and the team at **Decra Art** for their donation of sports equipment to our school.

We love it and appreciate the gift!



COIN TRAIL FOR FIJI

Friday— We will have a coin trail on Friday to raise funds for Fiji. Please bring some coins that can be donated to Fiji as they recover from the devastation left following Cyclone Winston.

\$3 Pie Day Fridays

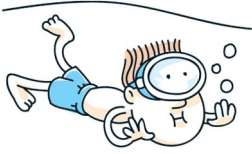
- Mince • Mince + Cheese • Steak & Cottage (potato topped mince)

Place order in Rm 7 (*small building behind church*) before school and it will be delivered piping hot to your room

St Anne's Parents & Friends Assn

We thank them for their constant efforts to help our school families. If you can, we would love to have new members to lighten the load.

Please see Jasmine (mum of Willow, Room 1) or Dallas Wichman for more information.



Swimming @ Pioneer Pool

Monday 7—Friday 18 March

Next week swimming lessons begin and will continue each day for two weeks. Parents are welcome to meet us at the pool to watch the lessons and are reminded that students must have their **named swim suit and towel in a plastic bag as well as a sweatshirt each day.**

Students and teachers will travel by bus for the following lesson times:

Rooms 1 & 2	12.30pm	Room 4	1.30pm
Room 3	1.00pm	Room 5	2.00pm



The parent contribution for lessons is **\$30** per child and can be paid at the school office.

The true cost of lessons is over \$60 per child for two weeks, however, with the generous support of the St Anne's Parents & Friends Assn, and applying for funding assistance from the Christchurch City Council, we have been able to offer this valuable activity again at a much reduced cost.

Learning conferences: Over the next two nights students from Rooms 3, 4 & 5 along with their parents/caregivers and teachers will engage in Personalised Learning Plan (PLP) interviews in a 'student led learning conference.' In the past, parent interviews were a time when parents heard the good and the not so good things, and would come home and either treat their child or 'ground' them (I'm just going off my memory of my parents' responses to my sister's and my parent interviews respectively). Very little was gained from the experience but deep fear of them (for me). The move then went to 'parent/teacher interviews with children attending.' This ended up being similar to the above except students bear witness to the actual event. Next came 'three way goal setting,' this took the emphasis off a 'tell all' report and moved to what progress had been made and what needed to be the focus or 'goals.' Great, we are getting somewhere!!!! All three people helping the one to achieve. **PROBLEM:** This is still a 'teacher dominated' model! **Why now the move to 'student led'?** Student led conferences are similar to the last model except the student now has more control and leads the conversation. In the classroom, teachers set up and guide learning for a range of abilities and students have the ability to judge when things are too easy, or too hard, too long or too short etc. The old answer to this would've been the teacher making things harder, easier, shorter, longer and so on. Research shows the best learning occurs when students have involvement and can control and see the purpose of it. We are slowly giving them skills to accelerate their learning by making better learning decisions. The new answer is that they will make their learning more challenging and easier through choices of levels and the use of different resources etc. Leading their own conference will show you how much they understand about where they are, where they are going and what they are proud of. Research also shows students will learn more in a positive frame of mind. **How can you help then?** You may feel like a bystander at the interview, and if you do, then they are really doing well. Your job is to reinforce all the good learning they tell and show you. **SPECIFIC PRAISE!!!** Not 'you're doing well' but 'I am really impressed with the way you described the in your writing.' If you have a question about their learning, ask your child first, in front of the teacher. Show your child, who is really in control of their learning. The teacher will support them if needed. They may say some strange things, say little etc, but it is their first time and with each interview they will improve. I have witnessed student led conferences, and although initially strange, they have amazing effects on the children.

Yr 7 & 8 Camp

