



Followers of Christ

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

DATES TO REMEMBER

December

See End of Year Celebrations below.

January

25th Uniform shop open 10-12.30 pm

25th School Office open for Stationery 10-12.30 pm

February

1st Term 1 2017 commences

ATTENTION NETBALL FAMILIES

The annual Cake Stall for St Peter's Netball Club is being held outside the ANZ Bank on Friday, 9th December. Every netball family is asked to supply two items of home baking eg slice, muffins, cakes, sweets etc. Can these please be brought to the school office before 3.00 pm this Thursday, 8th December.



St Peter's Netball Club supply our players with uniforms and netball resources. As this is St Peter's Netball Club's only fundraiser this year, it is very important that the netball families support it with home baking so that they are able to continue to support our school.

WELCOME BACK ZENA

It is with great excitement we welcome Zena back today. Zena is on light duties as she completes her recovery.

From tomorrow Thursday, the pool will be open for swimming. Children can bring their togs and towel to school.

SCHOOL BUSES

Buses will finish running on Thursday, 15th December 2016. Cambridge buses will start back Tuesday, 31st January 2017.



BIBLES FOR SCHOOL LEAVERS

At the end of the year the school PTFA presents each of our Year 8 students with a bible. This year we have 22 Year 8 students to farewell. Each bible costs \$50.00.

If any families are able to sponsor the cost of a bible to help with the overall cost to the PTFA, please contact the school office.



Payments can be made direct via online banking to account number: St Peter's Catholic School PTFA Westpac 03 1568 0071199 00 with 'bible' as the reference (please note this is the PTFA account not the usual school account). Thank you for your ongoing support, God Bless

St Peter's Catholic School PTFA

Principal's Reflection

He aha te mea nui o te ao

What is the most important thing in the world?

He tangata, he tangata, he tangata

It is the people, it is the people, it is the people

As I sit to write this reflection I am thinking of all the wonderful students, teachers, support staff and parents I have worked with during my time here at St Peter's Catholic School.

Our students have a wonderful mix of excellent academic opportunities, outstanding performing arts programme, kapahaka, fantastic science programme, quality physical education and sporting opportunities, challenging school camps, all within an environment that lives and breathes the Gospel values we hold so dear as a Catholic School.

In order to provide these learning opportunities for our students we are heavily reliant on the positive partnership we have with our parent community. On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank our wonderful parent and parish community for all your prayers, support and contributions in so many ways this year.



- Coaching or managing a sports team
- Parent help in the classrooms
- Transporting and supervising education outside the classroom opportunities
- Offering extra activities at lunchtime – Chess Club, Performing Arts Group, Choir
- Building our community – our fantastic PTFA and Friendly Faces Team
- Attending our school camps, and

for your ongoing support throughout the year. I would like to thank you all most sincerely for the contributions you make to St Peter's Catholic School. A caring friendly school, with unwavering high standards of behaviour and learning.

My emotions are mixed as I approach this next step in my career. While I am excited with the prospect of the new challenges ahead, I am filled with sadness at saying goodbye to my special St Peters Catholic School community. I want to acknowledge the tremendous opportunities I have had to develop in my role as principal over the last 11 and a half years.

There are a number of exciting projects in the pipeline and I am leaving the school in a very good place, a dedicated staff, a growing roll, and a wonderful supportive parent community.

I would like to congratulate you on a successful school year and wish all the students and their families a happy and Holy Christmas and a wonderful holiday break.

END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Thursday, 8th December: Year 8 Retreat and Leavers Dinner

Thursday, 8th December: Leadership Day for 2017 Year 7-8 students.

Friday, 9th December: Student Council "St Peter's Got talent" Show @ 1.30pm

Friday, 9th December: Carols in the Playground @ 5.30 pm

Monday, 12th December: End of Year reports and portfolios sent home

Tuesday, 13th December: Prize Giving @ 6.00 pm. This year we will be holding our end of Year Prize giving in our School Hall. As a result our prize giving will have a slightly different format. A Supper will follow the prize giving for the Year 8 parents.



Wednesday, 14th December: A special tribute to our Year 8 leavers will be incorporated into our Final Thanksgiving Mass @ 9.15am

Thursday, 15th December: Final Assembly @ 11.30 am for 2016. School will end at 12.30pm for the year.

MAGIC MATHS

Accelerating Learning in Mathematics

This year we have been fortunate to access additional funding to run two intensive mathematics support groups. These students have had 50 lessons over the second half of this year. Working in closely with the classroom teachers Mrs Heidi Dunn has been teaching these students.

Today we had a celebration of learning inviting the parents to come along and see all the wonderful learning these students have been doing. As I sat in and heard the students share the highlights I was most impressed with the depth of mathematical understanding they could share. Congratulations to each of the students in this programme – you can all feel proud of your learning. Thank you to the parents for your ongoing home support. Thank you to Mrs Heidi Dunn who has given this programme 110% focus and effort. We are indeed blessed to have you on our staff.



Musical Production 2017

Do any of these Jobs sound like YOU?



At present, we are hunting for a suitable musical production that our whole school could perform in 2017. The auditorium is booked, and so we begin this fantastic journey of exposing our students to live theatre.

We know there are many talented parents out there, and like many things we do at our school, we require the support of you wonderful people. We will be looking for people to fill the following roles:

- producer who co-ordinates between the major adult helpers and the teacher in charge (director),
- a voice coach to work with the seniors,
- stage manager
- costumes co-ordinator
- sewers
- make - up artists
- hairdressers
- props and set designer
- painters
- someone interested in helping with lighting and sound
- a liaison person with class teachers.



If any of these roles sound like you, or you would like to get involved in any way, please contact Susie McCreery smccreery@stpeterscatholic.school.nz

STATIONERY/UNIFORM SALES

The School Uniform Shop will be open on Wednesday, 25th January 2017 from 10 am-12.30 pm for school uniform sales. The School Office will also be open at the same time for any extra Stationery requirements that are required to be purchased from school.

LUNCH ORDERS - LAST DAY FOR THE YEAR

Lunches are available for purchase on a Thursday only. Please write your child's name on an envelope, ensure that the correct change is included and hand in to the School office BEFORE 9.00 am. No cheques please. Lunches will be available for the child to collect at 12.30 pm in the office foyer. A lunch menu is on the school website.



The Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon 2016/2017 series is just around the corner. The Hamilton event takes place on Sunday, 19th February 2017 at the University Fields in Hamilton. To register and link to our school group go to <https://registration.tryathlon.co.nz/Home/Event/7/Package/0/Wave/0/Sequence/0/School/7abbd3a3-9585-45b6-9d46-47a60c0c5165>

Those participants that register from home and link to our school group will receive the special school group entry price. The cut off date for registering is Thursday, 22 January 2017.

FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



FOCUS: JOY

Advent has a twofold character: as a time to prepare for the solemnity of Christmas when the Son of God's first coming to us is remembered, and as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, the season of Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation.

Advent Symbols

The Advent wreath has four candles to mark the waiting period before Christmas. One additional candle is lit each week, reminding us that Jesus comes to bring light to the world.

CHALLENGE FOR THE WEEK:

Our challenge this week is to show patience and love towards each other.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

Saturday - 5.30 pm Sunday - 8.30 am

"Caught Being Caring"

Amelia Hounsell, Phoebe Hagarty, Grace Hodgson, Nico Gall, Kieran Anderson, Jasmine Kaur Gill

YEAR 8 END PRIZEGIVING

Tuesday, 13th December at 6.00 pm

All students are to arrive at school by 5.45 pm and assemble in front of Room 4. The students will process over to the hall in their classes. Students are asked to wear their school uniform.



After the prizegiving there will be a supper in the hall for the Year 8 students and their families. We have a lovely tradition where the families of the Year 7 students provide a plate for supper. Could these plates be delivered to the hall kitchen as you arrive please.

END OF YEAR MASS WEDNESDAY, WEDNESDAY, 14TH DECEMBER @ 9.15 AM

Parents are invited to join us for our final Mass of the school year on Wednesday, 14th December at 9.15 am. At this Mass we will celebrate the 2016 school year and farewell our Year 8 students. Could we please ask our families to bring a special christmas item or a grocery staple to take up at the Offertory for the Food Bank.

Following the Mass there will be a morning tea held in the school hall to officially farewell Debra. Our school community are invited to attend.



Phone **827 6623** for absentees

CLASS AWARDS

ROOM 1: *Chloe Banner-Dryland* - for working hard to sound out hard words for writing and listening for little words inside big words.

Tru Cockburn - for working hard with counting forwards in tens from any number.

Layla Morgan - for being so caring towards others and sharing her smile.

Sophie Sinclair - for reading to an audience with excellent fluency and expression.

ROOM 2: *Kieran Anderson* - for working hard at writing neatly and independently.

Ella Thompson - for always showing a fantastic work ethic in all subjects and producing work of a high standard.

ROOM 3: *Olivia Wood* - for her amazing attitude towards 'Giving things a go'.

Harper Taane - for 'thinking like a scientist' and critiquing evidence.

Nick Rothery - for showing the Fruits of the Holy Spirit

ROOM 4: *Courtney Ndoro* - for putting in extra effort to practice her times tables at home.

Patrick Joblin - for a super effort in independent writing.

ROOM 5: *Nicholas Toohey* - for a focused effort with his group to produce a stop-motion short film.

Luke Underwood - for a focused effort with his group to produce a stop-motion short film.

Jack Harris - or a focused effort with his group to produce a stop-motion short film.

ROOM 6: *Neo Dutron* - for improvement in reading and spelling.

Ashleigh Muir - for pleasing improvement in all curriculum areas.

Danny Shen - for being fully involved in the measurement problem-solving tasks in mathematics.

Neve McGregor - for her excellent oral presentation on her science project.

Luke de Jong - for being a pro-active leader on the softball unit and committing 100% to his role.

ROOM 7: *Matteo di Maio* - for being a self-directed and motivated learner.

Ella Joblin - for working hard at maths and achieving well throughout the year.

CHRISTMAS PARADE FLOAT

A HUGE thank you to Mrs Monica Williams for once again organising our wonderful Christmas Parade Float and a big thank you to Mr Durran who built an amazing stable to go on our float. Thank you also to Mrs Di Maio and Mrs Plant who painted the stable. We were very fortunate to have some wonderful dads who also helped erect the stable on the back of the truck, and Mr Ross who was our truck driver on the day. Thank you also to each one of the children and their families for their support.



We received many lovely comments about our float representing the true meaning of Christmas and were very proud of our school.

CAROLS IN THE PLAYGROUND FRIDAY, 9TH DECEMBER

A warm invitation is extended to all our families and our Parish family to join us for carols in the playground on Friday, 9th December at 5.30 pm. This is intended to be a relaxed family evening. The classes will be performing an informal item between lots of Christmas carols.



Sausage sizzle and juices \$2.00 each will be available for purchase on the night. Drinks also available. Bring a rug or deck chair and enjoy the company of our school and parish families.

Please note, if wet the Carols in the Playground will go ahead as planned.

Debra A White, **PRINCIPAL**



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The last school holidays for year 2016 is almost on us! Kids Rock Out of School Programme dates and hours for final SHP will be as follows:

Thursday, Dec 15th from 1pm – 5.30 pm

Friday, Dec 16th – Thursday Dec 22nd

7.30 am – 5.30 pm

Hours prior to the start time of 7.30 am will need to be discussed with Moe [0210787316 or outofschool@kidsrock.net.nz] and an additional charge of \$2.00 an hour will apply for the first hour.

Friday Dec 23rd close 1.30 pm. Children must be picked up no later than 2 pm.

Charges are as per normal \$5.50 an hour.

There will be no excursions during these dates. All activities will be based around free play and the making of Christmas presents.

To ensure we have enough resources for Christmas presents it is important you book early as we will not be taking any casual bookings during the December holidays. To guarantee your child/ren a spot all enrolments and a \$36.00 deposit for per child is required by Friday, December 9th. Enrolment forms can be picked up and dropped back to room 8 before 8.30 am or after 3 pm Monday – Friday or email me at outofschool@kidsrock.net.nz for forms and our bank account details to pay deposit online.

OSCAR Subsidy forms are available on request the hours stated above.

2017 Opening Dates:

We are open Monday, 16th January 2017 until term 1 starts on Wednesday, 1st February 2017.

HOURS:

7.30 am – 5.30 pm

Hours prior to the start time of 7.30 am will need to be discussed with Moe [0210787316 or outofschool@kidsrock.net.nz] and an additional charge of \$2.00 an hour will apply for the first hour.

There will be no excursions during these dates.

If there is anyone needing childcare from Monday, January 9th please come and talk to me or send me an email outofschool@kidsrock.net.nz as we can have someone available if required.

Thank you

Moe