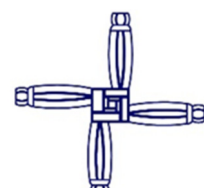


St Francis Xavier School Newsletter
Thursday, 16 March 2017 – Term 1 Week 7
“Strength and Gentleness – Tu Māia, Tu Aroha”

Our Mission

To provide a Catholic environment where children will be encouraged to develop their spiritual, academic, physical and social potential



website: www.sfxtawa.school.nz

email: office@sfxtawa.school.nz

phone: 232 8927

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Hello, Kia Ora, Talofa lava, Namaste, Mabuhay, Ciao, Kia Orana, Ahalan, Konnichiwa, Ni hao, Selam, Xin chao, Bonjour, Bula, Dzien/dobry, Nee how, Shalom, Dia duit, Mauri, Halo, Mālō ē lelei



This week we are delighted to welcome four new children to our school.

Luke and Gordon have recently moved from Ashburton. Luke is in Year 5 and Gordon Year 3. We also welcome back to our school Matthew and Mele who have been living in Auckland. Matthew is Year 6 and Mele Year 5.

St Patrick's Day Reminder

Tomorrow 17 March is St Patrick's Day. Please come and join us in the school hall at 9.05am when we will be having a liturgy to celebrate.

Children are invited to wear green to school and are asked to bring a gold coin donation that will be given to Caritas.



School Assembly

Please note there will be no school assembly this week as we are having a speaker from Caritas joining us on Friday afternoon to share with the children the work that Caritas do.

Baptism

We will shortly be beginning our Baptism preparation course. If you wish your child to be baptised please contact the school office or Marie Andrewartha.

Seasons for Growth

Seasons Programme runs every two years at our school. This programme is designed by the diocese that provides trained companions who mentor the children. It is for any of our children who have suffered loss or grief whether it is from divorce, separation or death. The programme begins with a parent meeting. The facilitators will be introduced and explain the programme. The programme will be in Term 2 and will run for 8 weeks during school time. Please contact your child's teacher or the school office if you wish your child/children to attend.



School Car Parking Reminder!

Please do not to use the school carpark between 8.30 and 9.15am and 2.30 and 3.15pm or any time cones are placed on the school driveway. If you are in the school carpark during these times you will need to remain there until the cones are removed.



Gardening Club

We would like to start up a gardening club at school. This would involve a small group of students during the lunch break one day per week. If you are willing to lead this group please let Christine at the office or your child's teacher know.

Easter Raffle

Hopefully everyone has received a book of raffle tickets and is busy selling these for our Easter fundraiser. More tickets are available from the office if you wish. Remember, for every 5 books you sell your name will go in a draw for a great special prize.

Important Dates

Term 1 2017

March

- 17 Green Mufti Day for Caritas Liturgy 9.05am school hall
- 20 Gymnastics
- 21 Tawa Zone sports Years 3 & 4 at Redwood School MK Library – Tawa & Rimu
- 22 Five Next Term party 2.00pm in Kowhai Class
- 24 Mufti Day Parents and Friends, bring an Easter treat
- 27 Gymnastics BOT meeting 6.30pm
- 28 MK library – Pohutukawa Ngaio Class and Kauri Class liturgy at school 12pm
- 29 Rata & Pohutukawa classes to Redwood Bush
- 31 Movin March – bike, walk, scoot to school Year 5 and 6 to Bishop Viard College sports day

April

- 3 Learning Conferences
- 4 Learning Conferences

13 Holy Thursday
Term 1 ends

May

- 1 Term 2 begins**
- 9 - 11 Year 5/6 Camp

June

- 5 Queen's Birthday

July

- 7 Term 2 ends**
- 24 Term 3 begins**

September

- 29 Term 3 ends**

October

- 16 Term 4 begins**
- 23 Labour Day

15 Term 4 ends

On Friday 24 March there will be a mufti day and each child is asked to bring in an Easter egg or other Easter treat. These “treats” will be used to make up our prizes for the raffle, so please be generous with your donation.

Learning Conferences Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 April

This year we are focussing on developing our children as self-regulated learners. Self-regulated learners know where they are at in their learning and have a growing awareness of what the next step in their learning is.

To support children in developing this knowledge teachers have been helping each child to identify where they are at and the next steps in their learning.

These next steps are their goals and will be shared with you by your child and their teacher at the learning conference. The teacher will discuss ways that the family can help support the child as they work towards achieving their goals. Children are expected to be at their learning conference.

The focus for the conferences is on learning. If you would like to discuss any other issues regarding your child please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher.

Appointments can be booked through www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter our school code **duy23**. If you have more than one child we ask that you leave a gap between interviews to allow time to get from one room to another.



Year 1 and 2 Sports Day

Last Thursday our school hosted the Tawa Year 1 and 2 Sports Day. Our Year 5 and 6 students lead groups of the children in a range of sports activities. Great fun was had by all and our thanks to Cayne Wright and his team for organising the event.



School Accounts

Thank you to all those families who have been so prompt with school accounts.

If there are any issues with the details on your account, you do not receive one, or you would prefer to receive an emailed copy please contact Christine at the school office. Payment for these is very much appreciated as it enables us to provide rich learning opportunities for our students. The school bank account details are ASB 12 3223 0075 257 00 this is at the bottom of the invoice.

Gymnastics

Children Year 3 and up can wear their correct PE uniform to school for the day. Girls in Year 1 and 2 are asked to wear shorts under their tunic. Sports shoes are not required as children wear bare feet for lessons.

School Lunches - Update

These will get underway on Friday 24 March. A big thank you to those parents who have offered to help. Children will bring home a flyer today explaining our Friday lunch system and asking for more volunteers. Sausages are \$1.50 each.

Movin March – Fancy Feet Day Friday 31 March

Friday 31 March has been chosen to encourage our families and children to walk/bike/scooter to school. If you live a distance away you can walk/ride part of the way to school. Decorate shoes and bikes for our Fancy Feet parade. We will greet you at the school gate with special surprises! Find out more information at www.movinmarch.com

Ka kite

Joan Woods

From the Parish

Altar Servers

We are currently looking at recruiting more enthusiastic youngsters to join our wonderful band of altar servers. Have you received Holy Communion, reconciliation and been Confirmed; would you like to be more involved in the Mass; are you at least 10 years old. If you or one of your friends would like to become an altar server, please contact Dominique Hawinkels phone 232 5806; mobile 027 231 0409; email support@jd-data.com

From the Community

Free Community Art Workshop

Have fun learning how to make sculptures from recycled materials for CubaDupa Festival. All ages welcome.

This workshop will be at Pataka Educational Centre, Pataka Art and Museum, 17 Parumoana Street, Porirua 5022 on Saturday 18 March 2017 from 10am – 3pm. Workshop includes environmental education and sculpting techniques. Please bring any recycled materials, plastics, plastic bags, string, wire, broken non-sharp things welcome. Please contact Irena Kennedy for more information on 022 6407 506 or email irenathekennedy@gmail.com