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ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

GOODNESS AND WISDOM THROUGH A CHRIST-CENTERED LIFE

ST MARY'S AVONDALE

Week 10 Term 1
April 2019

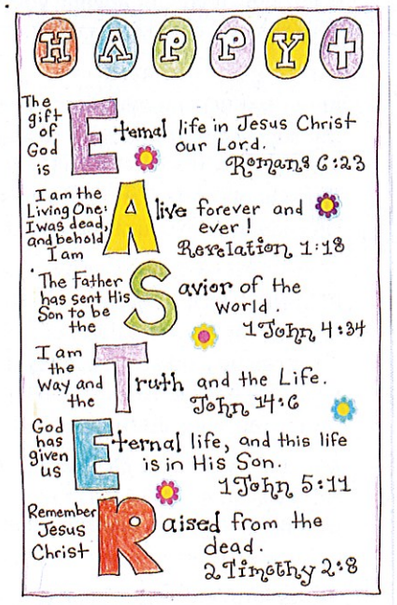
From the Principal's Desk

Kia ora koutou, Talofa, Mālō e lelei, Kia orana, Namaste, Ni Hao, Bula, Hola, Kumusta, Ayubowan, Hallo, Mingalaba, Selam, greetings everyone!

It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of the first term, and my first term in the position of principal at St Mary's! I have to say I am loving being back at St Mary's and thank you all for making me feel so at home and for sharing your beautiful children with us.

As we take a break from school for two weeks we reflect on the term and all the learning that has taken place, the growth, new friendships made, new skills developed and challenges overcome. Everyone can be very proud of their efforts.

It is also a time for us to prepare for one of the greatest events in the Church's calendar, the resurrection of our Lord at Easter. I was so pleased to hear that when one of our students was recently asked by a visitor to our school what Easter was about, he responded that it was when Jesus died for us and then rose again. How would your child respond to this question? Some of them would probably say Easter bunnies, eggs, chocolate, etc. I would hope that most of our children would say that Easter is about Jesus and His death on the cross for our sins. After all, this is the true meaning of Easter.



The days and week before Easter, also known as Holy Week, can be a wonderful time of teaching and encouraging children to understand the significance of the days before Christ's crucifixion and the resurrection. Please check the Parish newsletter and website for times of the Holy Week Masses and liturgies https://www.avondalecatholic.org.nz/holy-week-timetable/

WELCOME: We extend a very warm St Mary's welcome to our new student Cornelius in Room 4 and his family.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following children who received awards at our week 7 assembly—

Principal award winners: Regina, Seluini, Emileah, Jahzara, William, Leyna, Juel, Ma'afu, Pualani, Michelle, Francis, Gilbert, Tasha and Kurt.
Principal awards are presented for various reasons as selected by the class teacher. *Keep up the awesome work!*

Values award winners: Daelyn, Ella, Angelia, Lusiola, Joshua, Symphonya, Ivan, Grace, Fraustina, Hemie, Aaron, Mathew, Viliami and Mordecai.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following children who have had a birthday since the last newsletter and have birthdays coming up during the school holidays: Kome, Milan, Gilbert, Fraustina, Pslam, Jackson, Ayla, Ameliyah, Siaosi, Leyna, Susana and Mika.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION via CLASS DOJO

Class Dojo is one way important that we communicate with families. Teachers use Class Dojo to communicate with parents and families about what is going on in the classroom, to send reminders and to share learning.
This year we will also be looking at making better use of the student portfolio area for sharing of learning and gaining parent feedback. I too am now making use of Class Dojo to send notices and reminders to families. In the event of a school emergency Class Dojo is one way that we can quickly send a message to everyone in one go.
It is important to have all parents connected to Class Dojo so please ensure that you have accepted the invitation from your child's teacher to join. Any teacher can help you with this if needed.

DUFFY BOOKS

Last Friday we held our Duffy Books Role Model assembly and welcomed Daniel Faitaua from TVNZ's Breakfast Show as our role model. Daniel gave an inspirational speech about his journey in discovering the wonderful world of reading and promoting the Duffy message 'It's Cool to Read and Cool to Achieve' before presenting the books to each class.
Special thanks to Duffy Books and Warehouse Stationery Lincoln Road for the generous sponsorship that allows every child to receive two books.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Phil and Judith Day from 'Water 4 You' who have very kindly donated and installed a water cooler in our staffroom. If you, or anyone you know, ever needs a water cooler please contact 'Water 4 You' for a quote.
http://www.water4u.co.nz/

OUR SCHOOL CHARTER

At our last BOT meeting our school charter was ratified and has now been submitted to the Ministry of Education. Our school charter outlines strategic direction and includes the vision, strategic goals, directions, and targets of the board, and is the basis for all school decision making.
Our school charter, and 2019 achievement targets, are available for you to view on our website. You can scan this QR code to take you straight to the webpage or enter this url https://www.saintmarysavondale.com/st-marys-school-avondale-about

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES and DONATIONS

REMINDER that all accounts to the end of Term 1 should have been paid for by now. Families who have an ongoing payment are exempt from this date, but must commit to continuing payments until the account is paid (before the end of the year).
Fees can be paid at the school office by cash or cheque, or by internet banking to account number 123109001271101.
If you are having issues with paying your account, please urgently make an appointment to see either Mrs Quins Colaco or Mrs Hira, to arrange alternative methods of payment.

May the risen Christ fill your hearts with joy, bring you new hope, and bless you with peace.
Happy Easter - Ngā Mihi O Te Aranga!
God Bless -***Kathryn and the team***

News form our DRS: Thank you all for your generosity towards CARITAS to help them continue to do all the good work they do. Total amount collected through our Koha boxes was $281.20

April 14, 2019- Palm Sunday is the final Sunday of Lent. It is the beginning of Holy Week, and commemorates the triumphant arrival of Christ in Jerusalem days before he was crucified. The liturgical colours on Palm Sunday are red and white, symbolising the redemption in blood that Christ paid for the world.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday are spiritual preparation days for the Triduum. Traditionally a time for reconciliation. Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

April18, 2019 - Holy Thursday is also known as "Maundy Thursday."

> "I give you a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34). These are the words spoken by our Lord to His apostles at the Last Supper, after he completed the washing of the feet. We should imitate Christ's humility in the washing of the feet.

April 19, 2019- Good Friday: "It is accomplished; and bowing his head he gave up his spirit." Today the whole Church mourns the death of our Saviour. This is traditionally a day of sadness, spent in fasting and prayer.

April 19 Parish Stations of the Cross: 9 am on the school field. Some of our school children will be enacting Station 7: Jesus falls the second time

April 20, 2019 – Holy Saturday: This day commemorates Jesus lying in the tomb until his resurrection on Easter Sunday. The Church waits at the Lord's tomb, and meditates on his passion and death, and descent to the dead.

April 21, 2019- Easter Sunday: Easter is the celebration of Christ's resurrection from the dead. It marks the end of lent and the Holy Week. Easter represents the fulfillment of God's promises to mankind, it is the most important holiday on the Christian calendar.

Happy Easter to all
God Bless You and Your Loved ones—**Mrs. D'Souza**

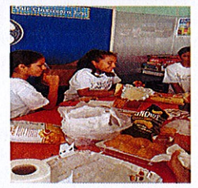
St Bride's Syndicate **Year 7 & 8 (Rooms 10 &11)**

DRESSED IN CONFIDENCE

This is what the girls said about "Dressed in Confidence"

In the 5 weeks I have learnt that we have our own personal definitions of beauty and that we don't have to be like others to be beautiful we just need to be ourselves. We also designed our own t-shirts and had our very own tagline that we used when we were in a sticky situation. My personal tagline was "I'm Here Too" I used that single line to feel comfortable because I feel like when I say that I'm saying that God is with me and that he would never leave my side- **Serenity.**

When I started dress in confidence, I was really shy but when we going through the lessons it gave me more confidence. When it came to the final lesson my confidence was gone, I was so shy to walk down the catwalk but some of the girls were encouraging. My confidence was back and I just want to say thank you to Nora for giving me back my confidence – **Tasha**



We learned that beauty is on the inside and that we shouldn't care about what others say about our bodies and our looks because we are all different in a great way. We designed shirts that we would use as a famous design that people wear. All the girls needed to come up with a slogan that they would say when they become nervous to do something. My slogan was "spray and walk away" that was the only thing I could think of so I said it with pride- **Melenaite**

Sports News -Quickhit Cricket Tournament

On Friday, 22nd of March, girls from Years 4-6 attended the QuickHit Cricket Tournament at Riversdale Park, Avondale. Five schools participated in this tournament. This event provided a fun and competitive day for the girls and a chance to give cricket a go! Check out some pictures from the day. We congratulate the team for winning four matches of the game.

Garden News—Meet the keen group of budding gardeners from Room 9. They are busy weeding two of their plots to make way for some autumn and winter planting.

At St. Mary's school, we want to see our children actively getting their hands dirty and learning how to grow and harvest plants then prepare meals from their produce .

Notice from our Parish- Holy Week Celebrations

18 April: HOLY THURSDAY (No morning Mass)
9:00 am:Morning Prayer of the Church
7:30 pm: Mass of The Lord's Supper followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament up to midnight at the altar of repose in the hall

19 April: GOOD FRIDAY
8:00 am:Morning Prayer of the Church
9:00am: Stations of the Cross on the school field
11:00am:Stations of the Cross for the sick & elderly (Church)
3:00pm: Passion and Death of Our Lord Jesus Christ

20 April: HOLY SATURDAY (No morning Mass)
8:00 am: Morning Prayer of the Church
7:30pm: Easter Vigil & First Mass of the Resurrection
(Service will begin outside the Church Please note the Paschal Candle will be leading the people into the Church. Please refrain from entering the Church preceding the Paschal candle during the procession. Please bring candles & bells).

21 April: EASTER SUNDAY
HOLY MASS – 8:30 am; 10:30 am & 6:00 pm

WINTER UNIFORM

Children can wear their winter uniform from Monday the 29th of April.
Please send your children to school in the following:

- Black drill trousers (optional, can wear school shorts)
- School Jumper

Intermediate Girls

Intermediate Girls ONLY have the option to wear black or navy tights (not stockings) INSTEAD of their white socks.

Term 2 Date: We look forward to seeing your children return to school on Monday the 29th of April , when Term 2 begins at 8.40am