



...Care...Respect...Honesty...

Newsletter No 5, April 16 2020

From the Principal

Tēnā koutou nga mihi kia koutou
Greetings to you all!

Thank you for your wonderful patience and care of each other as we move through a situation that is unlike any others we have known. This is a time when we are truly living our school values of care, respect and honesty, a time when our collective action will impact on the wellbeing of vulnerable members of our community.

I would like to acknowledge the dedication and professionalism of our teachers, who have spent many hours over the last few weeks learning new skills to enable distance learning. As we have said repeatedly, our situation calls for patience and flexibility as we work on this together. We remember that many of our families will be under a lot of stress at this time, and our most important goal for our children is to provide them with a calm and settled environment. So, routine remains important. Learning in all its forms remains important - both formally through our online programmes, but also through doing things together as a family in your 'bubble'. What a wonderful opportunity to settle into a family prayer routine, to come together to pray for all those who are a lot worse off than we are, and to focus on the hope that the message of Easter brings.

As mentioned before, the drivers behind our response to this situation continue to be the wellbeing of children, families and staff, good communication and collaboration in many different formats, taking the many opportunities to learn creatively in the home environment, and working together with patience and flexibility. Wisdom and compassion will steer us through this situation and the result will be an even more resilient, connected community.

Please let us know if we can help in any way.

Mā te Atua koe e manaaki
God is watching over you
Jane Hahn

Upcoming Dates

We will put these in when we have more information about when we will be returning back to school.

Special Character

Good Shepherd Awards

This week we would like to acknowledge all of our Good Shepherd children who have shown such resilience and kindness to others during this period of uncertainty.

New Zealand Catholic

Below is the link to the second digital edition of New Zealand Catholic for you to read.

[NZC Edition](#)

About School

Welcome

We extend a very warm welcome to the following new students who have started with us recently:

*Felix Taito
Paprika Chavez
Janice Jin
Ridhi Rawat*

Birthdays

Congratulations to the following children who celebrate their birthday in April:

Paprika Chavez	Mary Dawit
Harrison DeLacey	Sebastian Hannay
Aidan Howard	Janice Jin
Lucia Katongo	Joseph Lelava
Marseille Niuula	Ridhi Rawat
Jai Sharma	Patelesio Sundin
Cicely Warman	

Additional birthday congratulations to Felix Taito who celebrated his 5th birthday at the end of March!

Home Learning TV

Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV will be free to air, on TVNZ channel 2+1 and on TVNZ on Demand, as well as on Sky Channel 502. It will run from 9am to 3pm on school days with programming for children and young people, as well as for parents. Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV will be on air for one month with provision to extend beyond that if needed.

Content will be grouped for early learners and students by age range, and will include play, literacy, mathematics, science, te reo Māori, physical education and wellbeing. All of the programmes will feature highly experienced teachers and presenters, along with wellbeing and movement experts.

Check the [updates page](#) of the [Learning from Home](#) website for daily programming information.

Lockdown Waiata

Thank you to Carla Parry for her beautiful [Lockdown Waiata](#) with its message of love for everyone missing others out there.

Photo Collage

A few photos of our lockdown adventures so far. Looking forward to getting lots more into our [shared drive...](#) Miranda we hope your elbow is feeling much better soon!



Information for Whānau

Marist College Application Closing Date

Due to the Covid 19 lockdown, Marist College has extended the enrolment application closing date for 2021 until Tuesday 31st May 2020, Please see attached flyer. [Link](#)

Free Internet Safety Filter for Parents

While children are learning from home, they are away from the online safety and security services provided by Network for Learning (N4L) at school. So together with N4L and Netsafe, we have launched www.switchonsafety.co.nz - a free way to block the worst of the web for students and teachers.

You can follow the instructions to set up your child's device for safer connectivity while they learn from home.

Remember, no technical solution is a silver bullet. You will need to complement this with digital citizenship toolkits provided by Netsafe.

Netsafe

Netsafe provides comprehensive support and information to support everyone to stay safe as they work, learn and play online. Netsafe has new and updated resources for parents, whānau and students at:

<https://www.netsafe.org.nz/advice/staying-safe/>

Concerns and Complaints

As we do every term, we have included in this newsletter our procedure if you have any concern or complaint. It is far better to address any issues as soon as possible and much better for everyone to do this face-to-face, rather than through a long email. If you are worried about anything to do with your child, our teachers are very approachable and keen to work closely with you, either through a quick catch-up before or after school, or by making an appointment if the discussion is going to take longer than a couple of minutes.

[Link](#)