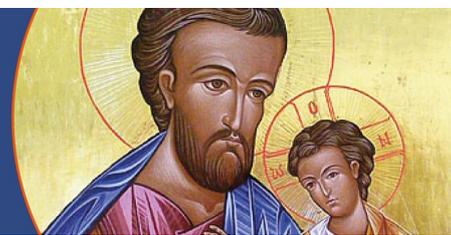




St Joseph's School

TE KURA O HATO HOHEPA PAPANUI

EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO BECOME CONFIDENT, MOTIVATED LEARNERS, LIVING GOSPEL VALUES.



NEWSLETTER ~ TERM 2 - No. 4 ~ 25 MAY 2017

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK—Aaron Richards

Overcrowding at St Joseph's School

I was out in the playground yesterday morning when an 8 year old student approached me and said “why is our school over crowded Mr Richards?”. I asked why she thought the school was overcrowded. She replied “because it said so in the paper.” My reaction was to retreat into my office, login to STUFFNZ and try to locate a news article referring to our school. I found the lead story for the day identified our school along with 215 schools around the country as being at risk of being overcrowded. This assertion was largely made by the misinterpretation or gross generalisation of statistics. Unfortunately the Press article was written by a person who does not understand the reality of operating a state-integrated school. So I thought it appropriate to provide parents with a true interpretation of the statistics.

As a state-integrated school, St Joseph's Papanui has an enrolment cap of 440 students. The school is not permitted to enrol students above this cap. The Bishop of Christchurch (the school's proprietor) has ensured that the school has the space it requires to adequately accommodate 440 students. This has successfully been the case for approximately 10 years with the school working close to its capacity every year. Working at capacity has avoided fluctuations in student numbers and enables us to maintain staffing levels, funding and building space at consistent levels.

Over the last few years the school has had the capacity to enrol all preference children in zone. We have maintained numbers by accepting small numbers of preference children and non-preference students out of zone. This helps to maintain a stable roll and maintain consistency.

The school works very closely with our proprietor, Ministry of Education and the Catholic school's network to ensure that we have the space we need for our children. The proprietor has been proactive in replacing quake damaged classrooms with new classrooms. The proprietor and Catholic schools network collaborate together to ensure that all preference students have the ability to enrol at a local Catholic school. We will continue to work with our proprietor to respond to the changing needs of our community. Unfortunately the situation is not the same in the state school system. All state schools are required to enrol all children within their zone. The rapid population growth in some areas in Christchurch has seen roll numbers in some state schools blossom. This has resulted in the urgent need for new classroom spaces. I reaffirm that as we are not a state school, St Joseph's School will be working at capacity but legislation prevents us from being overcrowded.

JRock

I attended my first JRock event last week. Wow what an event and what an awesome performance St Joseph's presented to a large crowd at the Horncastle Arena. From the reaction of the parents who were sitting next to me I know that I am not alone in thinking that the St Joseph's JRock Team made us feel very proud of our school.

The organisation that went into preparing the team was huge so it is important that we acknowledge the dedication of teachers who work hard to ensure this was a memorable experience for the children. Special acknowledgement to Mrs Walsh, the creative director, who spent many hours of time outside school and lunch time putting this together. The results of the performance speak for themselves with the team receiving six Excellence Awards.

- The Edge Award of Excellence for Soundtrack
- The Upstart Award for Excellence for Drama
- The 5+aDay Award for Excellence for Costuming Character
- The Ministry of Education Award of Excellence for Concept
- The Award of Excellence for Choreography
- The Award of Excellence for Stage Challenge

Well done team, you should be proud of your effort and achievements.

Teacher Aide

The school is wanting to appoint a teacher aide 12.5 hours per week or 2.5 hours per day to work in the Junior School. This is a fixed term contract. If you enjoy working with children and are interested in the position, please submit a letter and CV to the school office. Applications close 1st June.

School Choir

The following choir members auditioned for the Special Representative Choirs: Oliver Lutton, Harriett Kreft, Nicholas Andrews, Ellah Streatfield, Gabrielle Segar, Justin Niala, Honor Hope, Ella Walsh, Brenna Kavanagh, Benjamin Sutcliffe. We hope the auditions went well yesterday and are looking forward to the results.

The full school choir will attend the Northwest Music Festival Rehearsal next Tuesday at the Aurora Centre from 9am to 12pm. Mrs O'Connell will provide more information on a letter going home today.

NORTH ZONE CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

The following students performed exceedingly well finishing in the top 12 in their respective age groups. They now qualify for the Canterbury Championships at Halswell Quarry on Wednesday 21 June:

- 1st **Cameron Rawlings, Zoe Blacklow,**
- 2nd **Gemma Lysaght, Jarrah Prentice, Finlay Neale**
- 3rd **Isla Martin-McKenzie**
- 4th **Izzy Sharp, Sam Woodgate**
- 6th **Greer Gillies, Ben Sutcliffe, Lily Lysaght, Harrison Short**
- 7th **Max Gillies, Stijn Lutters**
- 8th **Brennt Entese, Noah Newsome**
- 9th **Caitlin Andrews,**
- 10th **Matthew Glen**
- 11th **Finn O'Donnell, Quinn Baker, Louis Sharp**
- 12th **Megan Townshend, Geonseung Kwak, Tegest Mengistie, Emma John, Caleb Stevens**

LUNCHES TOMORROW ~ Hot Dogs - \$2.50

Thank you to our helpers, **Jeanette and Phil Brown**

PMP PROGRAMME

Thank you to our helpers on next week's roster:

- Monday 29 May — **Garlick Kelly**
Tuesday 30 May — **Claridge Lynch**

LITURGY

Hanrahan 2 is leading the Liturgy tomorrow in the Hall at 11am and 12 noon. Parents are most welcome to attend.

FIRST COMMUNION

A reminder to the families of children making their First Holy Communion to attend one of the four Parish Masses on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th May where the children will be presented with another prayer card - The Lord's Prayer.

Also please note that there is a change of date for First Reconciliation. It is now on **Thursday 1st June 7.00pm at St Gregory's Church.**

FAITH FACT ~ 27—28 May

Ascension Sunday - Father John O'Connor has an excellent post on his Food for Faith site on Jesus' Ascension. He says, "Most people think of the Ascension of Jesus as being a 'departure' moment. Jesus was here and now he is gone... It would be easy to wrongly think that his ministry showed us how to build the city of God on earth, and now he has gone and the mission is left to us. This is the error... In fact Jesus has not left this mission to us alone. Our mission is always Jesus' mission. HE is the missionary. We are the loved servants.... We are never alone. Jesus is with us. Read more here <https://goo.gl/3iE30V>



In Sympathy

We offer our deepest sympathy to Andrew Black (Cremin 2) on the recent death of his aunt. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family at this sad time.

PAST PUPIL SUCCESS

Since Jeonhyn Lee returned to Korea she has won three major Golf Tournaments in South Korea, as well as representing the big region where she lives. These are huge achievements from an 11year old. Jeonhyun hopes to return to Christchurch later this year for further intensive golf training.

SPORTS SOCKS—BISHOPDALE SPORTS

Our school sports socks can be purchased from Bishopdale Sports in the Bishopdale Mall. There are four sizes available at \$16 a pair.

ST JOSEPH'S TABLE TENNIS

The St Joseph's Parish runs Table Tennis games in the school hall every Sunday from 2pm-5pm. Bats & balls are provided, and coaching is offered to those willing to learn the sport. A gold coin donation helps cover the costs. All members of the Parish and the School Community are welcome to come along and have fun playing this very enjoyable sport. For more details, contact John Ralston on 0212288326.

VOICES IN THE COMMUNITY CONCERT

Presented by The Vocal Network, Voices in the Community will showcase some of the best vocal talent Christchurch has to offer. This year 8 vocal groups will bring their love for music and passion for singing to the stage. This is a unique opportunity for Christchurch and Canterbury people to experience the unplugged brilliance of vocal music at its finest.

It will be an evening full of entertainment, with the lineup for this year featuring the Christchurch Pops Choir, Ravil & Amanda Atlas, Malestrom Chorus from Burnside High School, Christchurch City Chorus of Sweet Adelines, SALT, The Vocal Network, Emily Twemlow, and more.

Early-bird tickets are on sale until 31 May for \$15 (students and seniors), and \$20 (general admission). From 1 June, tickets will be available at full price until sold-out. Tickets can be purchased from The Vocal Network www.thevocalnetwork.co.nz or found on Eventfinda.

When: Saturday 1 July 7:30 pm

Where: The Piano: Centre for Music and the Arts, 56 Armagh St, Christchurch City

Tickets: <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2017/voices-in-the-community/christchurch>

Phone Sales: 0800 BUY TIX (289 849)