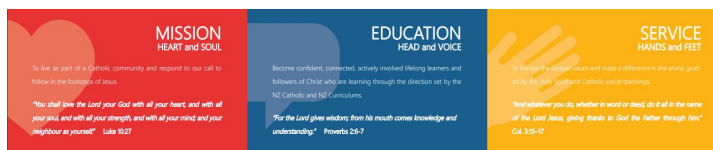




ST COLUMBA'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Te Kura O Hato Karama



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE :

Term 1, Week 2

What a wonderful return to school we have had. The classrooms are looking vibrant and full of life, children are digging deep into their learning.

Next week we have the Education Review Office on site. We look forward to the feedback from the team as they spend time in our school exploring our teaching practices and learning programmes.

As mentioned on our Facebook page and in our first newsletter, we are a BYOD Chromebook school (for children in Y3-8). Thank you to those of you who have purchased Chromebooks for your child/children. These are valuable tools used to support learning in the classroom and with limited numbers of school owned devices available, BYOD is a great way to

ensure your child has access to this technology both at school and home to enhance their learning.

The new mural showcasing our school values spans across five classrooms and is now complete. We cannot thank Bruce McLachlan enough for his creative genius, time and energy that was put into this project. I am sure you will all agree that it brings some well deserved vibrancy to the Village Green area.

The new classroom build is also well underway and we are excited to see progress daily. We expect this space to be ready late June or early July; as yet there has been no decision made as to which year levels will be moving into this space. We will keep you up to date as the time approaches.

We will be holding our first round of Learning Discussions next month. Over the coming weeks we will provide login details so you can book your appointment at a time to suit you.

Tonight you are all invited to attend the Commissioning Mass at the Cathedral. This is an open invitation to all staff, students, families and our

community to join Bishop Steve to bless the 2020 school year. We hope to see you at the Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Grey St, Hamilton East @ 6pm.

God Bless
Gareth Duncan

No phones at School

SCCS learning programme does not require mobile phone use during the learning day 8.45am - 2.45pm. We have a full ban on phones in the classroom, playground before, during and after school whilst on the school site. If you require your child to bring a phone to school for safety reasons you must write and tell us why and your child will be required to leave it at the office each day. Children who do not do this will have their phones removed from their possession and we will call you (parents) immediately for your support. Thank you for working with us on eliminating this unnecessary resource during a learning day.

Screenagers' Information Evening - Wednesday 1st April at 7pm. This is a documentary showing the pitfalls of mobile devices and the internet for our young children. The session will be presented by Martin Hughes (ICT Facilitator) and we as a community will use this opportunity to discuss internet use and phone use at home and school. It is our aim to have parents and senior students attend (children from Yr5 - up) would be ideal. Please mark the date on your calendar, this could be a great way to start a chat with your children about internet safety management at home.

Health message : - Coronavirus

As you will have seen in the media the situation is rapidly evolving internationally concerning the coronavirus.

This is a new virus and its specific nature is currently unclear, however, it appears that you can have the virus at an early stage and not be showing any symptoms. This incubation period is currently considered to be 14 days.

Children and young people are currently returning to classrooms. The health of students and staff is a priority for all. We encourage you to err on the side of caution and here are some steps you can take.

IMPORTANT : anyone who is unwell should not be at school or at their early learning service. If you have a particular concern about any child, student or staff member, please urge parents or the staff member to contact Healthline at **0800 611 116** or their GP for medical advice. Healthline has translators and interpreters available **24/7 in 150 languages** and they do have Mandarin and Cantonese speaking staff available. We will post updates on our school FB page.

Key dates:

(Term 1, dates - Monday 3rd February to Thursday 9th April)

- ★ 14th February - School Assembly at 12:15pm (School Hall)
- ★ 16th February - Weetbix Tryathlon
- ★ 17th February - ERO (Education Review Office) onsite
- ★ 21st February - Rangiaowhia visit Te Awamutu - Teams 3 and 4 (Day trip)
- ★ 25th February - Shrove Tuesday
- ★ 26th February - ASH Wednesday
- ★ 28th February - School Assembly
- ★ 5th March at 6pm - AIMS Games expression of interest parent and student meeting in the staffroom (Yr 7 and 8 students only)
- ★ **9th March - TOD** (School is closed for instruction) - Please book your children into Kids Club if you need care for your children - limited places available ph or text Deb 021 586633 (flat rate \$35 per child for day)
- ★ 15th March - Sunday Waipa Fun Run
- ★ 17th March - St Patrick's Day
- ★ 17th March - Learning Discussions (School finished at 12:30pm - EARLY finish) 1pm - 6pm
- ★ 19th March - St Joseph's Day
- ★ 19th March - Learning Discussions 3pm - 8pm
- ★ 24th March - BOT Meeting
- ★ 25th March - Annunciation
- ★ 30th March - Solidarity Week
- ★ **1st April at 7pm - Screenagers'** This session is available to everyone - Grandparents, parents, aunties/uncles and children. Let's come together and have a chat about internet safety and usage
- ★ 2nd April at 7:15am - Dads and Daughters Breakfast - FREE, come and listen to Julia Ratcliffe - Olympic Hammer thrower and her dad talk about sport and her dad as coach.
- ★ 3rd April - Young Vinnies Caritas Overnight challenge in the school hall.
- ★ 5th April - School Mass - Palm Sunday
- ★ 5th April - Top School Event
- ★ 6th April - Holy Week
- ★ 8th April - Washing of the Feet Liturgy - Team 2

Quote of the week

Do a little more each week than you think you possibly can!!

Property Safety

The construction site is out of bounds to students at all times during the school day. When dropping your children off to school please note the security fencing and the area that Mitchell's Construction will be working in. There is an access way into the site from the church car park for trucks and work vans so please keep this area free of vehicles during the school day. Pick up and drop off areas for children remain the same; at the front of the admin block (no one is to leave their vehicle please), or if you are walking your child into school please use the church car park to park your vehicle. Do not stop your vehicle parallel with the barrier fence and let your son or daughter out of the car - you must pull into a car park and let them out of the car. There is to be **no stopping** to drop children under the church verandah, we need the traffic to flow through this area without hold-ups. Please do not be offended if we remind you of this face-to-face. Thanks for your cooperation.

Gareth

AIMS Games Meeting - 5th March at 6pm in the School Hall.

PASTORAL SCHOOL CARE

From time to time we have families who need support from our school community.

We are fortunate to have a freezer where we can store meals and donate those as required to families in need.

We are needing our freezer restocked with meals so if you are able to assist with preparing a meal or two, please drop them off to the office. Thank you.



Term 1 Sport starts this week with Yr 5-6 Basketball and next week for other grades and of course touch. All team lists have been sent out for Basketball and Touch. If you registered but have not had an email back about a team please contact TeOko on teoko@sccs.school.nz or 021-686-932.

WINTER SCHOOL SHOES

Term 2 is fast approaching and each year there is confusion as to which winter shoe styles are acceptable for school. Our Uniform guidelines state:

Plain black lace up, buckle or velcro school shoes that are able to be polished i.e. vinyl or leather are acceptable.

(Black sports/skate shoes, with coloured logo's/ stripes etc, 'fashion' shoes, canvas styles, slip on styles, boots above ankle or heels above 4cm are NOT ACCEPTABLE). The following information has also been placed on our school website.

Below are examples of acceptable winter school shoes.



REMINDER - 9th March 2020 is Teachers Only Day

(School is closed for instruction) - Please book your children into Kids Club if you need the service - limited places available - Deb 021 586633 (flat rate \$35 per child for day)

St Columba's Parish Sacramental Programme

Baptism 2020

If your child is 8 years of age or older and wishes to be baptised, classes will begin in **March**.

Please indicate your interest by emailing the Parish Office : stcol.parish@xtra.co.nz so that we can prepare a contact list of those interested.

Classes for First Holy Communion and Confirmation will begin in **Term 2**.

IMPORTANT to note - these are the **only** Baptism Preparation lessons for school-aged children within St Columba's Parish. Children must already be baptised before receiving the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

Catholic Character News



PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Creator God, May our lives be quilted together in love made visible,
as we laugh, love, labour, and learn together.

Enliven our spirits that our inner beings may give form and strength to all we do.
Finally, grant that we who serve in Catholic schools may love you much, may love one another,
and may never forget why we came! Amen.

From <http://prayer-resource.blogspot.co.nz/2013/08/prayers-for-beginning-of-school-year.html>

ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING

Any student who has received the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation and who is interested in altar serving is invited to attend a practise at the Church on Friday 21st February from 4-5pm. If you have any questions, please ring Heidi Fransen 021686959.



Commissioning Mass

At the beginning of each year, a Commissioning Mass is held whereby the Bishop blesses the teachers and staff of the Hamilton Diocesan schools and commissions them for the year ahead.

The Mass for our region will be held **tonight (Thursday the 13th February)**, at the **Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Hamilton East at 6.00 pm.**

The invitation is open to board members, students and parents to join us for this special Mass – you are most welcome.



Ash Wednesday - 26th February, 2020

The first day of Lent



Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It takes place 46 days before East Sunday, and is chiefly observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it too. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolise the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and be faithful to the Gospel." Ashes also symbolise grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God.

The Ashes

The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water and are scented by exposure to incense. While the ashes symbolise penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.

(Excerpt taken from Catholic.org)

We will celebrate Mass as a school and parish at 9.00am on Ash Wednesday. All are welcome!

Learn Guitar, Ukulele, Piano, Voice
at St Columbas School this term with:

MUSIQHUB

PLAY SMART

MUSIQHUB TUTOR – Whitney Maynard



To register or for more information, contact us via:

Phone: 027 388 9558

Email: carl.watkins@musiqhub.co.nz

Or via our website www.musiqhub.co.nz

HATS

We now have the school hats in stock. Please come in and ask the ladies in the office. Only school hats can now be worn!



Welcome back to Term 1, 2020 from all the SCCS Staff.

Thank you to all our families who attended Kids Club in 2019, we had a lot of fun at either B4Care, ASCare or with your children at the Holiday Programmes which we ran.

Our January 2020 Holiday Programme was so much fun - check out our photos on the school website over the next couple of weeks.

Enrolments for 2020

A reminder to all families, your 2019 permanent days roll over into Term 1, 2020 unless you advise us of something different. We do require a 2020 Enrolment Form to be completed during term 1 as this is a requirement of MSD.

You can grab a form from Kids Club or download from the school website anytime.

Payment reminder for 2020

As Kids Club is part of SCCS we attach your Kids Club weekly fee to your child's school account each week. This charge is a weekly charge that needs to be kept up to date for us to run Kids Club for our families care needs. If you think you may need help at some point with your account please contact Andrea Hall at the school office to discuss. If you are a WINZ family then please do get your WINZ forms into Deb on site ASAP. Usually these forms get emailed or posted out to our families at least 5 weeks before the next new term starts so then we have enough time to fill it out and for you to take it back into WINZ and payments to come through to the school no time. Thank you to all our families who do get forms in well before time stated as this assures accounts will be all up to date.

Week 5

Our school has a **TOD (Teachers Only Day) scheduled for Monday 9th March 2020**. Even though the school will be closed for instruction, Kids Club is **OPEN 8am-5.30pm** on this day for any SCCS families who need our help with care.

Flat Rate of \$35.00 per child for the day, (must be paid in advance). Once booked in then NO credits or refunds for changing your mind, so please think carefully before booking in your child(s) on this day. This day will run as an extra day to our yearly programme, with lots of games, baking, arts & crafts, movie on the big screen and lots of fun times together.

Book in now - Deb Honey 021 586633 limited spaces available.

Week 7

Tuesday 17th March 2020 - Our School closes at 12.15 due to the class learning discussions which run from 1pm - 6pm.

Kids Club will be OPEN from 12.15 to help out any of our families who need us.

Flat Rate of \$10 (12.15-2.45pm)

Then normal ASC rates apply (2.45pm-5.30pm)

Any questions or queries please contact Deb on 021 586633

Next **HOLIDAY PROGRAMME** dates:

Week 1

Monday 13th April (CLOSED) Easter Monday

Tuesday 14th April - Friday 17th April 2020

Week 2

Monday 20th April - Friday 24th April 2020

Remember to look out on our School FB page for any Kids Club notices.

Thank you for choosing Kids Club to care for your children.

Deb & the Kids Club Team
021 586633

**St Columba's Catholic
Primary School**



4GB RAM
32GB eMMC
Intel Core i3
G



acer
Acer Chromebook
1-800-4-A-ACER
www.acer.com



\$389

10% off* Accessories!

Incluso el Apple presenta Computer Architecture incluye: Apple, Darwin, Mac, NeXTstep & Cocoa

oxipar

12 the ~~best~~ purchase \$500 & over down in 10-60 months on offer with
MONTHS NO PAYMENTS & NO INTEREST!
LIMITED OFFER, END. TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

OFFICE USE: This transaction must be processed through sales code 10001 (commercial).

JB
COMMERCIAL
BUSINESS & EDUCATION SOLUTIONS

For more information contact Leo Fels
www.jbhlif.co.nz
Ph: 09 815-4229 leo.fels@jbhlif.co.nz



Visit www.cyclone.co.nz/byod. Select your school name and you will be redirected to your schools specific portal login page. Enter the login name and password given to you from the school.

Why purchase through Cyclone?

- **Solutions to fit your school:** Avoid potential confusion on which device to buy -- your school's portal only features devices with specifications that fit the minimum recommendations of the school.
- **Education pricing:** Take advantage of Cyclone's special education pricing thanks to their high-level partnerships with vendors.
- **Quality warranty & insurance options:** Cyclone lists devices with a three-year warranty as part of their device bundles, plus excellent insurance options with super-low excess.
- **Easy Checkout:** Cyclone's checkout process makes it simple to add the items you want to your cart and then complete your order. A variety of payment options are available, including credit card and direct deposit. Shop online, anytime!

www.cyclone.co.nz/bvod

Login: stcolumba
Password: sccsbyod



www.cyclone.co.nz/byod



0800 686 686



sales@cyclone.co.nz

BYOD



