

ST COLUMBA'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Te Kura O Hato Karama

MISSION HEART and SOUL <small>To live as part of a Catholic community and respond to our call to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.</small> <i>"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself." Luke 10:27</i>	EDUCATION HEAD and VOICE <small>Become confident, connected, actively involved lifelong learners and followers of Christ who are learning through the direction set by the NZ Catholic and NZC Curriculum.</small> <i>"For the Lord gives wisdom, from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding." Proverbs 25-7</i>	SERVICE HANDS and FEET <small>To live out a Catholic vision and make a difference in the world, guided by the New Zealand Catholic social teachings.</small> <i>"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Col. 3:15-17</i>
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Week 3, Term 1 at St Columba's Catholic School

Kia Ora Koutou,

Hopefully you are able to continue to enjoy the warm weather, despite some humidity and fog. The appearance of the balloons in the morning reminds us of the wonderful area that we live in and that we need to be thankful for nature and the world around us.

Gareth is on Board approved leave from this week until the beginning of April. It is very exciting for him as he has been selected to act as Manager for the "Chiefs Manawa" women's franchise. Their training regime in Taupo has begun this week. We are extremely proud of Gareth and the way that he contributes to our community in this way - he deserves the higher honours, and will fulfil his role as Manager dutifully and to an excellent standard, in this area that he is so passionate about.

If you have questions or queries for the Senior Leadership Team, please direct them to Anne-Marie who is acting as Principal in Gareth's absence. Gill Gibbs is Acting Deputy Principal during this time. Anne-Marie and Gill are well supported by the Team Leaders, who can also assist if you have queries.

As a side note: If you have questions that relate specifically to learning or the classroom, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance.

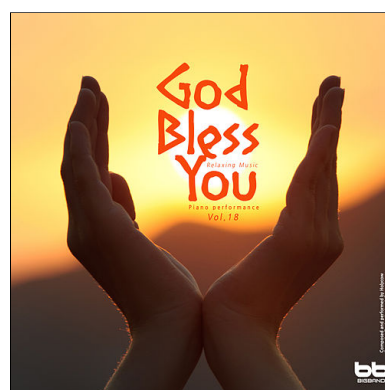
Learning Discussions

These are scheduled for Week 7, March 22nd and 24th. We will hold these 15 minute conversations for students Year 3 and up regardless of the traffic light setting that we are currently in. These are likely to be held by google meet rather than in person. More information will come to you closer to the date.

Omicron Outbreak

New Zealand's COVID-19 response continues amid much larger numbers of daily cases. You may well have seen the headlines in the media about the numbers of cases being seen in schools. Please don't be alarmed by this. It is only natural as cases in our community increase, they will appear in our school. We have really good systems in place to respond to this and to keep the spread of the virus to a minimum.

Please read this notice carefully. It will guide you through what to do should your child/children get a positive result or a member of your household. [LINK](#)



Drop off's and Pick up's

Drop off's/pick up's at the church car park offer a great deal of flexibility to all parents when dropping children off (and picking children up) each day. For the safety of your child, and all children, and to model sensible road safety we require you to **park and walk** across the car park to collect your child/ren from the church foyer or from their classroom.

As you walk out of the school gate, veer left and depart from the church steps, utilising the patrollers who are there each day. Please wait for the patrollers to give the "Cross Now" direction before you cross with your children. Do not cut across the car park directly out of the gate.

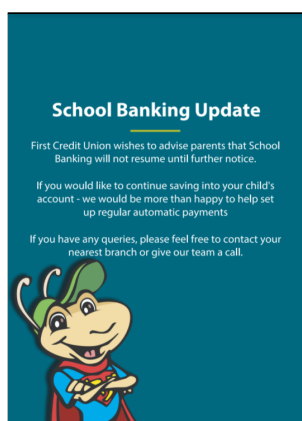
Thank you to parents who are remaining outside of school at the end of each day. Please use the church step area to wait, rather than standing on the wheelchair parks. This creates congestion and makes accessibility to these parks difficult.

Also, please do not stop under the church verandah to pick children up or park on any yellow lines around the church car park. For your convenience we also have the school drop off zone at the front of school - please do not leave your car parked here when dropping your child off in this area - we need to keep the flow of cars constant in this space.

And finally, a reminder that there is **NO turning right** out of the school driveway between 8:15am to 8:45am and 2:45pm to 3:15pm - please see the sign at the driveway exit reminding you. This is extremely dangerous for young children who are our Road Patrollers trying to stop cars on a busy road for our students and families to safely cross Rifle Range Road.

Medication

If your child requires medication while at school, can you please make sure you bring the medication to the office when your child arrives at school. We require you to fill out a permission form before we can administer any medication. Thank you.



Friendly term 1 reminders -

- All parents are to wear masks when signing out children on site.
- Remember to sign and write the actual time you arrived (*this is for billing and a Ministry requirement*).
- Please scan at the school gate when entering school grounds to pick up your children.
- Please park in the school/church parking area to the right of the church.
- Please wait at the front of the school hall and our Kids Club staff will gather your children and their belongings and meet you at the front door if fine or in the foyer if wet weather (*this is to reduce the foot traffic through our centre while we are at Red light*).
- Please contact Deb on 021 586633 to make an appointment to meet if you would like to book into SCCS Kids Club for the first time.
- Please advise SCCS Kids Club on 021 586633 if your child/ren are not attending on their permanent day.
- Please check SCCS Kids Club Seesaw for more news and information during the school terms.
- Current 2022 enrolment forms are always available to download from our school website or a hard copy is available from the grey sign in/out desk at Kids Club.
- Please contact Deb to advise of any new medical conditions
 - e.g. Asthma inhaler use.

Thank you

Deb - Centre Manager

kidsclub@scc.school.nz

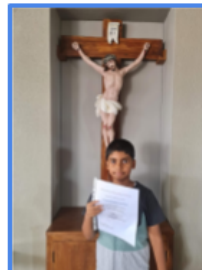
021 586633

CATHOLIC CHARACTER

Congratulations!

Here are some of our children who made their First Reconciliation last Sunday. They have been patiently waiting since 2021 when their special day was put on hold.

They are now busy preparing for their Confirmation & First Holy Communion. Please keep them in your prayers.



Ash Wednesday, 2nd March



Ash Wednesday is a religious event in the Christian calendar. It takes place the day after Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day).

For Christians, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the period known as Lent. Lent lasts 40 days because the Bible records that Jesus spent this amount of time in the desert. During this time, he fasted during the day. He was tempted, teased and taunted by the devil; however, no matter how hard he tried, he could not tempt Jesus.



Thank You



Last week's St Valentine Day's Mufti Fundraiser raised \$685.00. Your generous donations will be donated directly to the Caritas Pacific Relief Fund for Tonga. Every little bit helps. God bless to all.



Feeling the heat???

Lunch time juicies are available again from today onwards. Order and pay your \$2 to your classroom teacher in the morning, juicies will be delivered to your classroom at the start of lunchtime.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



MusiqHub has a beginner UKULELE group for St Columba's Students available NOW!

MUSIQHUB
PLAY SMART

Just contact **Carl** for more info...

carl.watkins@musiqhub.co.nz

027 388 9558