

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 NZCE Curricula.</small> <i>"For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding." Proverbs 2:6-7</i>	SERVICE HANDS and FEET <small>Follow Jesus in service to others and make a difference in the world, guided by the Catholic and NZCE Curricula.</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. 3:16-17</i>
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Week 5, Term 1 at St Columba's Catholic School

Kia Ora Koutou,

We are officially in the season of Lent. I was privileged to be part of an Ash Wednesday liturgy in a class last week and was reminded that we are called to follow Christ at baptism and that he continues to call us throughout our lives.

The ashes that we wear on Ash Wednesday are a demonstration of that calling and our acceptance of that call. I was heartened to see a prominent world leader, proudly wearing his ashes on the news last week also, while giving comment on the Russian situation.

We as "ash wearers" may not be able to influence global conflict situations, but by positively influencing our own communities by walking with Christ, we are in fact changing the world - our world.

May God Bless you all, as you continue in your own walks.



St Patrick's Days celebrations

On Thursday 17th March we (the whole world actually) celebrate St Patrick's Day. On this day your child is able to come to school dressed in green. A donation for mufti is **OPTIONAL** if you choose to donate. Any funds that are donated will be used for the ongoing pastoral needs that arise in our school community.



Omicron Outbreak

We have been right to be mindful of tummy upsets as a possible symptom of Covid-19. This has been the case for a number of our children who have later tested positive. If your child does test positive, please complete this form - [Link](#). If your child is well and no-one in your family has Covid, school is the best place for them so that connections can be maintained along with a sense of normality.

Student numbers

Here are the numbers so far. We will update these numbers for you through Seesaw each Monday and include these in the Newsletters as well. From Monday, we will notify parents of classes where new notifications for the week for that class come through. No names will be shared and the purpose for this is for you to be informed and allow extra vigilance around Covid-19 symptoms.

Covid +	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	School Total
Team total to date:	5	11	16	12	44
Week ending 20 Feb	1	0	0	1	2
Week ending 27th Feb	2	2	11	4	19
Week ending 6 March	2	9	5	7	23

Staff numbers

We have had 17 staff members affected by Covid to date with a mixture of teaching and support staff. This has been a mixture of Covid positive or isolating due to a family member being Covid positive. Where we have been able to, we have used others on staff to provide cover, employed outside relievers or, if needed, we have split classes.

Support for families

We have many families who have been impacted by Covid-19. We hope these links may help. Please continue to reach out if you do need support.

[Covid-19 Waikato Support Services](#)

[Support to get through Covid-19](#)

[Work and Income - help while you are self-isolating](#)

Learning Discussion change of format - Whanau Connection Chats Years 3-8 (Team 2-4)

Our usual Learning Conversations for this term need to take on a different format and focus. This is due to the surge in Omicron cases and the increased need for students and teachers to isolate or learn from home. Our usual beginning of the year assessments have been impacted also.

Teachers will contact parents of students in **Team 1 – Years 0-2** to make an appointment at their birthday/half birthday - **you will not be able to book online.**

This year we will be inviting whanau to take part in “Whanau Connection Chats” via google meet (or phone call) with parents. These will occur throughout Week 7. School will close at 12.15pm on Tuesday 22nd March so that teachers are able to make these connections with parents. You can book your 15 minute google meet here:

www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/844h2

Following your booking, your child's teacher will e-mail you the link so that you can join this meeting. Please stick to the 15 minute slot as teachers will need to leave each meeting on time

to ensure that they are prompt for the next meeting. If anything changes for you and you need to cancel or change the meeting time, please message your child's teacher.

The Purpose of these is to enquire into:

- Your child's strengths and interests
- How your child is engaging in learning - in class or at home
- Achievements, noticings, and possible goals moving forward
- Next steps/points of learning



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.

A message from our friends at Hamilton City Council

The pedestrian footbridge that runs across the stream in Aberfoyle Park is set to be replaced. The closure will be in place from Tuesday 8th February 2022 for approximately 6 weeks, weather permitting. The works will be taking place Monday - Friday between 7am and 5pm, however the footbridge will be closed at all times until the works are completed.

If you utilise this bridge to get to and from school please make other arrangements until this work is completed.

CATHOLIC CHARACTER



Happy St. Patrick's Day!!!

Pray for us please.

Chloe Nooyen
Niko Nooyen
Kate Castillo
Maxene De Chavez
Ryland Flower
Jayde Jones
Louis Marriott
Bella Sale-Collins
Caelan San Agustin

Raine Baldago
Ysabella De Chavez
Joshua Kabling
Johanna Pouafe
Ethan Sale-Collins
Darren Sitchon
Meghan Valenzuela
Christopher Wilson

Ava Collie
Mandeep Koyya
Nova Maxwell
Addison Rastrick
Nathaniel Rastrick
Mila Rastrick
Isla Williams
Yenifer Gomez De Los Reyes

Next week many of our students will be making their Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

This has been a long journey as they have been part of the programme since 2021.

Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers over the next few days.



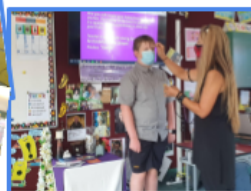
✠ Ash
Wednesday
Junior
Liturgy
2022



Ash Wednesday, 2nd March

Our Ash Wednesday looked different this year as each class celebrated a Liturgy in their room. Despite not being in our church, the reverence, focus and participation from the students was outstanding

✠ Ash
Wednesday
Senior
Liturgy
2022





A huge **THANK YOU** to all our SCCS Kids Club families - parents/caregivers, for your support so far in Term 1 and your patience when picking up your children while our staff gather their belongings and also for everyone's communications with us when your children are not attending ASCare for whatever reason.

A quick text message to the Kids Club mobile on **021 586633** to advise that your child is not attending that day is so helpful to our staff at sign in time and also less stress for the children knowing where they are going as they sometimes still do turn up to us.

SCCS Kids Club is still currently following all our school and Ministry guidelines with helping to keep our children and staff safe and well during these unpredictable times with so much Covid around. Our children are spending a lot of time outside eating and playing which is great in this amazing weather we are receiving.

Important Reminder:

2022 Enrolment Forms are due in please!!

If you have not completed a new 2022 Enrolment form for SCCS Kids Club then please do download one from the school website ASAP and either email back to Kidsclub@sccs.school.nz or drop it to the school office or Kids Club. Please complete the whole form including adding the extra names and contact numbers to the bottom of the first page. This is a requirement from MSD (Ministry of Social Development) and we need to have more than just the parents' names on the forms. This is in case of an emergency and we can not get hold of either parent. Thank you for your time with completing this form.

Tuesday 22nd March 2022 - Kids Club is OPEN from 12.15pm

As our school will close at 12.15pm, SCCS Kids Club will open from 12.15pm to 5.30pm to help out those extra families. If you need our help please contact Deb on 021 586633 or email to book the children in.

Costs.....

12.15 - 2.45pm (usual bell time) **\$10 per child**

2.45pm to 5.30pm (usual ASCare prices apply)

If you currently have a permanent Tuesday booking with us, then we will expect your child(s) to show up unless you advise us otherwise.

If you know before Tuesday they won't be attending their permanent Tuesday booking then please do advise us prior so we can confirm our staffing ratios.

This is much appreciated.

Thank you for supporting our SCCS Kids Club

Deb - Centre Manager

021 586633