



St Claudine Thévenet
School

Week One Term One Friday 5 February 2016

**And that is how change happens:
One gesture
One person
One moment in time**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to the new school year. It has been wonderful to see the students arrive back at school with such great enthusiasm. We are all looking forward to a very positive school year together.

Our theme for the year is CHANGE: the quote above is our focus. We know that change is inevitable and we believe if we support students and you their families to develop the skills to accept change we will all be well placed for success. So why did we choose this theme? – There are many changes in our staff this year, students will be in new classrooms with new teachers, making new friends and learning new skills. Our role as their teachers and supporters is to empower them to enjoy all the opportunities these changes offer. We have developed a curriculum for the year which will help them understand change, the effect of change and how change can help us grow into well rounded learners. We have developed some new programmes and hope these will give our students a successful grounding for the change they will continue to experience in their lives.

Below is a list of the teams, classes and teachers for 2016.

Rata Team – Year 1 and 2 A1- (New Entrants) Ms Page – Team Leader
A2 – Mrs Chard
A3- Miss Braid

Rimu Team – Year 3 and 4 C3- Mrs Skippers – Team Leader
C2 – Ms van Driel
C3 – Mr Johnstone

Hinau Team – Year 5 and 6 B1 – Mr McDonald – Team Leader
B2 – Mrs Casley
B3 – Ms Nikolao

Totara Team – Year 7 and 8 D2 – Ms Tuifao – Team Leader
D1 – Ms Auta
D3 – Miss O’Grady

Mrs Wilson – Reading Recovery, Ms Soane – Mutukaroa Co-ordinator, Mrs Randall – Specialist ORS teacher, Mrs Topp – Release Teacher, Mrs Jordan- Release Teacher, Mr Grace- Release Teacher

Board of Trustees 2016

The board met at the beginning of the year to review the charter and strategic goals for the school.

One decision made at this meeting was to include information from the board in every newsletter. This will enable the board to keep the community up to date with news, events, plans and results.

In this first post we would like to share the strategic goals with you so you are aware of what it is we are trying to achieve this year:

The board has 6 strategic goals:

Special Character

This goal ensures the special character of the school is evident in the celebration of the charism of the school, in liturgy, in RE teaching and in the positive relationship shared with the parish.

Excellence in Achievement

The school continues to provide programmes and opportunities to enhance achievement and excellence.

Professional Practice

Professional learning by teachers is self-directed ensuring personal ownership of excellence in professional practice.

Community

The school and the BOT promote an open and active partnership with parents and the wider community, which fosters shared values, culturally responsive communications, mutual support, high confidence and engagement in the learning and well-being of students.

Governance

The BOT provides effective governance of the school, guiding high quality decision making through robust processes.

We have a new goal for 2016 and this is explained in the next panel.

Be part of the change.....

We would like to invite you, as whanau, to be part of the change in 2016...We would like to share with you our focus for the year, give you a chance to meet your child's teacher and take some time to hear about the exciting things they have planned for the year.

Join us at school for this information sharing and meet and greet:

TUESDAY 9Th FEBRUARY

5.30-6.30pm

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

We have a substantial amount of second hand uniform and will be offering this for sale on the evening of our "Be part of the change" meeting. The stall will be set up in the shaded area and will be available from 5pm-6.30pm. Uniform items are available at very cheap prices.

Goal No 6

The Physical Environment:

The aim of this goal is to look at ways our school can achieve the following three objectives:

- 1) Make our playground more interactive for our students.
- 2) Ensure we provide a safe and healthy environment for staff, students and their families.
- 3) Future proof the school in terms of physical environment, classrooms, furniture, Technology.

To this end the BOT would like to survey parents in the next couple of weeks as to what changes, adaptations, new installations and interactive aspects we could consider adding to our physical environment (Playground). Keep an eye out for the survey and make sure you put your ideas forward.

EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM 2016

SCHOOL CAMP:

A reminder that in week three our Year 7 and 8 students will be attending camp at El Rancho in Waikanae. They leave school on Monday 15th February and arrive back at school in time for the leadership team assembly on Friday 19th February.

School camp is a **compulsory** part of our curriculum and unless there is a serious medical reason why a child cannot attend camp it is our expectation they will attend. We understand that it may be challenging for parents to send their children to camp but I can assure you they are well looked after and experience great success in their activities. They learn how to get on with their peers, how to take personal responsibility and how to lead and be a role model for younger students in our school.

If cost is an issue then it is very important to make a time to come and talk to me – no child will be left at school due to financial reasons.

Sue Jury

Learning takes place both inside and outside school. Learning at school should encourage young people to be capable and knowledgeable citizens, who are involved with the communities they live in and contribute to the wider community. Every young person should be able to participate in learning beyond the classroom, whatever their age, ability, or circumstances.

Learning outside the classroom has the potential to support learning in ways that are consistent with key competencies, and effective pedagogy statements in the national curriculum (*The New Zealand Curriculum*). In addition, EOTC can support the aspiration for broad and deep learning in real-life contexts within and across the learning areas of the national curriculum.

This year we have planned a week of education outside the classroom activities. This week coincides with the week our seniors attend camp.

We know that students learn a range of skills when participating in activities outside the classroom and we want to encourage these skills at the beginning of our school year:

We have attached the plan to this newsletter. We will be asking for your help for a range of activities and look forward to you joining us.

There will be a cost of \$15 per student. This will appear on your school statement and can be paid off during the year.

COSTS 2016

The costs for the year have been set and statements are being prepared. These will be sent out in the next few days. The costs listed in the statement are : stationery, RE, Paper Levy, Technicraft (Seniors) Education Outside the Classroom , swimming and the school donation. The donation remains at \$50 per child. We are more than happy for the cost to be spread across time with an expectation that all costs are paid for families of one child by the end of Term One for families with two children by the end of Term Two and all other families by the end of Term Three. Any families with outstanding debts from the 2015 school year will be contacted by our bursar –If you have any questions please feel free to send Mrs Neville an email - leannen@stclaudine.school.nz

COMMUNICATION 2016

Communication is a very important part of our relationship with you. Below are the three forms of communication we use...

- Email – if you wish to receive communication via email please ensure the office have your correct email address. We are able to send all newsletters and notices via email
- Website – www.stclaudine.school.nz – this is in the process of being updated for the 2016 school year.
- Our school App – this is downloadable from the app store – if you already have the app you will need to update this for 2016 as there are some things which have been updated for ease of use.



We post updates and messages on our school Facebook page along with celebrating special events our students and staff are involved in.