

Week Nine Term Two Friday 30 June 2017



"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving."

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Our theme for the last two weeks of this term is CHARITY. This theme allows us to understand how we are able to give... not necessarily in terms of money but also in terms of time and encouragement. The students have been talking about what acts of charity are and the effect of these acts on both the receiver and the giver. Today we have our Mufti Mania Day... this is an initiative of the New Zealand Catholic Primary Principals Association. We believe that it is always good to help others within our community. This Catholic community is worldwide and allows for our students to understand the lives of other Catholic children across the world. The motto for this event is "Catholic kids helping Catholic kids". The money raised from the mufti donations is put towards a national Catholic fundraiser and this year will be helping Nawi Catholic Primary School in Fiji. The funding will help them install solar power and purchase new books for their library. Thank you for your support of our efforts to help these children.

We have had a wonderful term and have celebrated so many wonderful events.... The school Cultural Festival was truly a spectacle of colour and community. We celebrated 28 nations in our parade and shared in the cultural dance and performance from many different places. The food we shared was a blessing and encouraged our students to look beyond themselves and come to understand the cultural world of others a little more. We are so appreciative of the support of our community and thank each and every person who helped make our day so successful.

Last Thursday the Kapa Haka group were invited to participate in the Mihi Whakatau to welcome 130 Catholic Primary Principals to Wellington for their conference. As the organiser of the conference I was delighted to be able to share our students with the rest of the country. They were outstanding...performing with mana and dignity. I received so many wonderful comments about not only their performance but their manners, their smiles and the way they carried themselves. I was so proud and thank the staff who prepared them for the event and of course the students who represented us so well. I received this email from one principal: "can you please pass on to your students and staff my thanks and appreciation of their amazing performance... they were superb... they looked good, sounded good and focused us all on what matters most!"

Next week our Pasifika Group will be participating in the Polyfest. This will also be a spectacular event and we are looking forward to their performance. We thank all those who have supported their preparation and wish them every blessing for the event.

Have a great weekend Sue Jury

Our last week of term in view:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Theme: Charity	4	5	6	7
Polyfest Rehearsal Walter Nash 9.30am		Pasifika 1.30pm Sacramental Programme 3pm		Pride Assembly 1.30pm
	BOT Meeting 6.30pm		Polyfest 6-8.30pm Walter Nash Stadium	

MID-YEAR REPORTS:

Earlier this term we surveyed our parent to find out how they would like to receive their child's report. The responses told us that close to 80% of parents would like to receive these by email. The reports are almost complete and we will be emailing these to parents on Friday 7th July (Last day of term). If you do not have an email address the report will be printed and sent home with your child. What is important to remember is that this is an interim report which indicates for you how your child is progressing in relation to the National Standards. There are areas of success and next steps provided along with ideas about what you can do at home to help your child with their learning.

Reports are only available for student who are in Years 3-8. Those students in the Rata whanau receive their reports on their anniversary of starting school and these are staggered across the year. There are several students who will receive reports next week and in the first few weeks of the new term.

Whilst reports are emailed home to senior students we continue to meet with parents for anniversary reporting., This helps you understand how your child has progressed, what you can do at home to support their learning and we are able to give you resources that will match the learning they are doing in the classroom.

Do you know a boy who loves to sing?

Following the growing success of the Boys' Choir at the Metropolitan Cathedral we are expanding our intake of choristers to include boys from around the Wellington region. We are on the lookout for fun loving, happy and friendly boys who would like to audition for the Archdiocesan Boys' Choir. Previous experience of singing in choirs or prior musical training is not required. If your son can sing in tune and enjoys music then encourage him to audition! Over their time in the choir, boys will learn sound vocal technique, music theory, life-skills, teamwork, as well as grow in confidence and discipline. Teachers and parents see the boys' language skills, reading comprehension skills, maths skills and confidence improve greatly by being a part of the choir. The life of chorister provides the ability to develop spiritual, as well as musical, intellectual and personal gifts. We are holding another afternoon of auditions on Thursday 6 July 4:00pm-5:30pm at the Cathedral on Hill Street, Thorndon, Wellington. For more information and to register your interest please contact Michael Fletcher, Director of Music, Metropolitan Cathedral email m.fletcher@wn.catholic.org.nz or phone 04 496 1700.