



from the Principal

Tuesday 3 August 2021

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Dear Parents and Caregivers

A very warm welcome back to school for Term 3 and we hope the holiday break went well for you all.

Everyone appears well refreshed and pleased to be back. A special welcome to all our new students and their families who have joined us.

I am currently attending the NZ Principals' National Conference in Rotorua. Over 700 delegates have gathered at the Energy Events Centre for what promises to be 3 special days of learning, networking, and celebration.

The last week of term was a very busy one with our delayed Feast Day Mass and school concert, along with Cardinal John's blessing of our Nikau Area. The whole school gathered in the courtyard area for a Māori whakatau welcome ceremony for Cardinal John and our invited guests. We were very pleased that our architects and representatives of Frear Philip Construction were able to attend so we could acknowledge their work in the refurbishment of this wonderful Area which we are all so grateful for. Cardinal John particularly enjoyed being welcomed by a number of students in their own language. The singing of waiata was amazing as was the attentive behavior of our students. Following the whakatau Cardinal John, guests, students and staff from Nikau moved into the Area for prayers and the Blessing. We rounded off a perfect morning with an enjoyable morning tea. Thanks to members of the Board of Trustees who were able to join us.

Learning Conferences

Many thanks for your attendance at our learning conferences at the end of last term. The teachers were very appreciative of the positive feedback they received from you about the new approach and the examples of learning that students were sharing. Our teachers put enormous effort into the learning they design and deliver to their students so it was great to feel the buzz during the dinner breaks.

Staff news

As I'm sure you are aware, Thursday will be Kirsty's last day with us. We are going to miss the amazing talents she has shared with us over the past ten years. The way she has developed her multifaceted role over that time has been amazing and I know I can speak on behalf of our whole school community when I express our gratitude for her enthusiasm, high level of skill and expertise and wonderful sense of fun!

Please bear with us as we adapt to life without Kirsty. It was never going to be possible to find the perfect match and so Kirsty's role will be covered in a number of ways. First up you will notice that this week's newsletter has been put together by one of our very talented teacher aides, Jess Stewart. Along with being wonderful with children, Jess has a degree in graphic design and is very keen to take on the design aspects of Kirsty's role.

Welcomes

A warm welcome to Warren Owen who will be teaching in Pohutukawa and Rata over the next month. Warren has recently retired from principalship but we thought we would encourage him to spend some time with us before he became too comfortable with his well-deserved retirement.

We are also very pleased to welcome Victoria McHalick back to our teaching team. Victoria will take over as classroom teacher of Room 9 when Patty Hayley finishes on Friday 20 August.



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Following the **Footsteps** of **Jesus**

Special Character

Over the next couple of weeks students will be focusing on Mary the mother of Jesus. On **Sunday 15 August** at **9am** Ss Peter and Paul School is having a combined school and Parish Mass to celebrate the **Assumption of Mary**. It is always lovely to celebrate this wonderful feast. The school band has been preparing and working very hard to learn a couple of songs for the communion hymns. We would love to have a great turn out of students and their families so all are welcome.



In School Sports

CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to Milana Burt, Connie Reed, Jane Doyle and Gwen McGrath who placed in the top ten for their Year groups at the Invitational Regional Cross Country last term. This means they have all qualified for the Inter Regional Cross Country in Timaru on 30 September. We are sure they will have a wonderful experience at this higher level of competition.

SWIMMING

Entrants for the South West Zone swimming Sports on Friday 20 August have all been notified.



from the Board

The Board met on July 7, it was rewarding to learn about the teacher's personal development day on the implementation of the positive behavior for learning program which provides a wealth of resources for schools and sync in with the notion of restorative practice that has always been at the heart of Catholic Education.

Great news about the seamless transition back into the new Nikau block, students are thrilled to have their library back in full use.

The change in communication from a written mid year report to learning conferences and school work coming back home has been a new way to share on the learning happening at school.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

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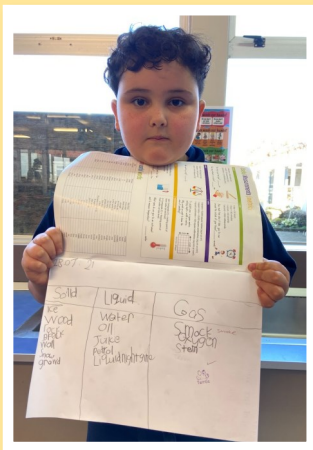
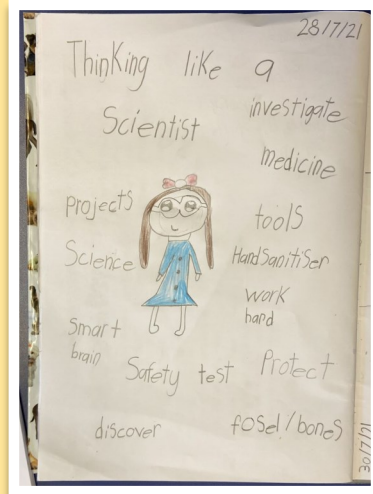
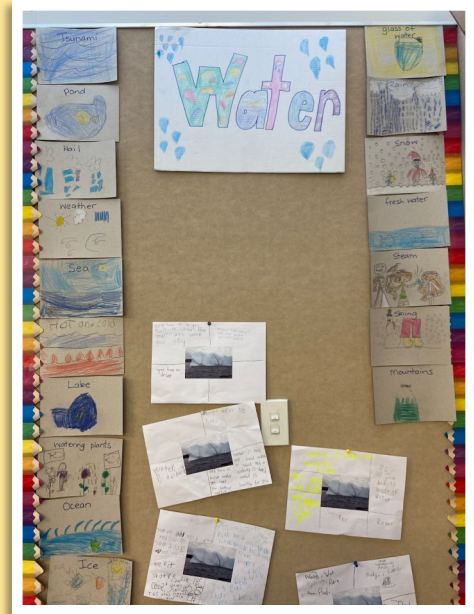
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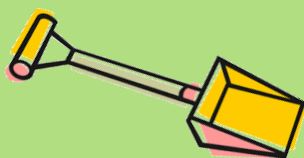
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Kowhai has started term 3 by observing water and will be becoming scientists for the next few weeks. Expect to hear some amazing science vocabulary as well as some very interesting facts about water! We will be taking part in many different experiments to see what water can do and why it such an important part of our world.



Lincoln - "Water molecules look like Mickey Mouse and move around lots!"
 Nathan - "I know what the words solid, liquid and gas mean now."
 Emily - "Scientists need to do a lot of work, we need to start thinking like them."
 Layla - "We can sort different things into solid, liquid or gas now!"



Furthermore, Rooms 4, 5, 6, and 7 have been gardening. We planted Polyanthus flowers. We love their bright colours! Come and see them outside Room 5 and 6.





"Boost Maths is fun because you get to learn new maths games and it helps make my maths easier."- Lydia Gore



In Nikau, a number of our students work with Miss Aitken, learning support teacher, and our wonderful teacher aides, Lorna Clendon and Rachael Robertson. Based on needs, students experience a range of activities, including fun maths, spelling and handwriting activities using a multi sensory approach and development of gross and fine motor skills.

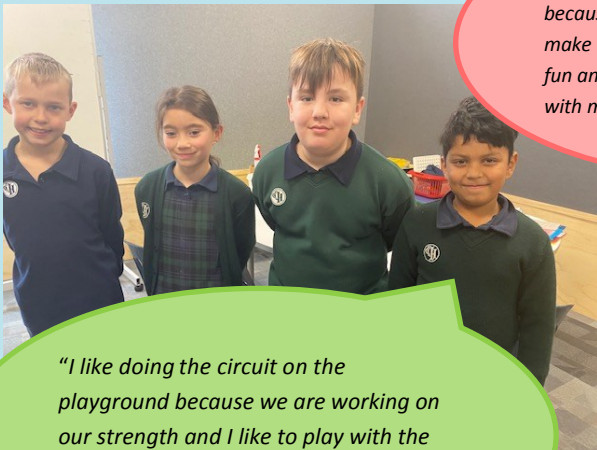


"I like going on the playground and the bars to work on my upper body strength and coordination skills."- Macy Baron

"I enjoy learning about vowels and consonants with Miss Aitken. I feel like my spelling is improving because I am learning spelling rules."- Frankie Beavers



"I really like the tens frame game because I got better at learning how to make 10. Boost Maths with Lorna was fun and it made me feel more confident with my maths." - Isla Larkin



"I like doing the circuit on the playground because we are working on our strength and I like to play with the balls because we can practice our aiming skills." - Hudson Thom





Pohutukawa

12-15



A group of sixteen students from our school signed up to participate in the Lower Hutt Primary Schools Sports Association (LHPSSA) Dance Fest which was held in the last week of Term 2 at Taita College Hall. Dance Fest was also organized by Elevate Dance Academy. We all had to choreograph a one minute dance and we had the choice of one of the five listed songs. To make it challenging we had to use eight of ten selected moves as well. If the dancers wanted they could make costumes for the day. The Dance Fest was a participation event and there were no competition points given out.

By Erin, Alice, Mae and Franciesca.

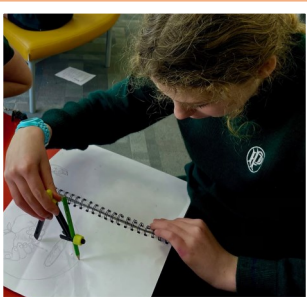


17-19 Rātā



In the Rata area the math focus has been on angles and measurement. We have been applying this knowledge and understanding to our RE / Art theme which is The Assumption of Mary.

We are creating a collage mural for the church altar, and working on individual designs to adorn the pews. Through looking at the artists - Matisse, Chagall and Michelangelo who are from different periods in art history, we have gained greater understanding of styles and a context to apply the skills learnt. We are using collage technique to replicate stained glass windows.



PTA EVENTS


Thank you to those who supported the Jessie's Roti and Sauce fundraiser last term - it was so popular, we will definitely run this fundraiser again next year!

Coming up this term we have our biggest PTA fundraiser. Working in conjunction with our teachers and classroom learning, we are holding a "Basic-facts-athon" to support our students in practicing and learning their basic facts in mathematics. In week 3, students will bring home examples of basic facts to practice for three weeks, while gathering sponsorship. At the end of week 6, they can show off their math skills with an in-class quiz based on the facts they have been practicing at home and in class. Keep an eye out for more information about the Basic-fact-athon.

Along with our students, parents can learn more about the NZ Mathematics Curriculum. On **Tuesday 17 August at 6.30pm**, the PTA will be hosting an information evening with guest speaker Ian Stevens, a mathematics educator who has been working closely with our school. Make a note of the date, with more information to follow!

We hope our school community will find the Basic-facts-athon a worthwhile cause, supporting our students in their math learning, while raising money for a new junior playground.

Our next PTA meeting is **WEDNESDAY 4 AUGUST at 7pm in the Ss Peter & Paul church meeting room**. Please come along, we would love to welcome some new members!



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PTA Facebook Page

Keep up with all the latest school community and fundraising events by joining the PTA Facebook page



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Absences parents/caregivers call 7.30-9.00am ext 1 or via School [website](#) if your child will be absent or late

Information line for up to date school activities and cancellations use extrn 2

Contact the School

School Policy & Procedures Login details are on the Parent Portal under About Us

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 forgot your password, email admin@stpeterpaul.school.nz

Thank you for your ongoing support
 Mā te Atua koutou e manaaki, e tiaki hoki
 May God bless and care for you
 Kind regards **Kay Tester - Principal**

