

Ss Peter and Paul School

Newsletter Tuesday, 28 September 2021

Kia ora Parents and Caregivers

As we enter this last week of term can I express my thanks for your support with all the challenges and opportunities it has provided. I hope the term break goes well for everyone. If you will be juggling childcare and work, I hope you at least manage to enjoy a break from the routine that school life often demands. Safe travels if you are taking this opportunity to visit family and friends or to just enjoy a change of scenery.

Learning conferences

Thank you for taking the opportunity to attend our 3rd learning conferences for the year. It appears from the take-up that offering the options of face-to-face, phone or video conference was helpful for you. There are always a few hiccups when embracing technology and teachers have really appreciated your accommodation of this.

When students have a positive attitude towards assessment and understand it as being fundamental to their learning, their engagement with their learning and how they view themselves as learners is strengthened. This in turn builds their confidence and self-assuredness in the learning and assessment process. This year has seen a determined focus on building your children's self-and-peer assessment capability, in an age appropriate way. We hope you have noticed these results as they share the work they have brought home with you and again during the learning conferences. These are opportunities to show what is important to them, who they are, what they know and what they can do.

Learning those basic facts

We know that lots of practice will increase fluency. Also that fluency frees up the working memory, so that students can think about more important things such as how to solve a maths problem or the best strategy to use. Sometimes you might hear that repetitive practice is something to be avoided but it's quite the opposite. Repetitive practice is very important for building mathematical understanding. We need a certain amount of repetition to spot patterns and without this repetition, we cannot develop algebraic thinking. This is my round-about way of saying a HUGE thanks for your efforts to support our Basic Facts-a-thon. Any financial success towards our big project of a new junior playground is a bonus but the maths learning at the heart of this is absolutely fantastic!

Our courtyard Magnolia tree

Some years ago as part of a venture by the Mission Sisters, a tree was donated to each primary school which they staffed in the past. Schools were asked their preference and Ss Peter and Paul School suggested a magnolia. Sr Merle, a previous Principal of our school, was there for the planting along with other Sisters who were in Lower Hutt at the time.

Two years ago we moved the tree to a more favourable position in the courtyard and you can see by this picture how well it is thriving. Sr Merle was very pleased to receive this photo and hear news of this lovely magnolia tree.

OUR WEBSITE



PARISH WEBSITE



This Issue

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aroha
stewardship
Living the Good News
joy faith



Special Character

Sacramental Program 2021-2022 - Confirmation

We ask all those who are interested to start their Sacramental journey this year to click the link below to enrol in the program.

<https://forms.gle/FPKHQ2oFzk26mHb9>

This program is offered to Year 3-8 students who have been Baptised.

If your child wishes to start their Sacramental journey and has not been baptised they are able to complete both Baptism and Confirmation together.

Dates for Confirmation

Parent session is Tuesday 26 October at 7.30pm in the Chapel



The preparation Mass and sessions are on Sunday 31 October and 14 November at 9.00am Mass at Ss Peter and Paul Church

The Confirmation Mass is on the 21 November at either 9am or 5.30pm Mass

News from the Board

Dear Parents and Caregivers

We welcome your feedback to our annual community survey.

Every year we seek your thoughts and ideas on aspects of school life and this helps us guide our strategic direction. This year includes a focus on Reporting to parents, Families' faith journey, Restorative justice & Learning support.

Please click on the below link to the survey, or copy and paste it to your web browser.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JYFRDYL>

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

Kind regards

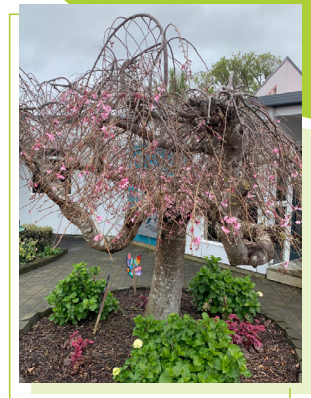
SSPP Board of Trustees

Kowhai

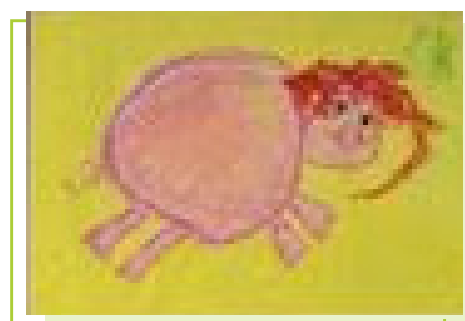
Spring Art

The students in Kowhai have been observing the changes that occur during spring (such as trees blossoming, baby animals being born, and bulbs flowering). They have been enjoying a range of activities that enable them to link their observations to patterns and trends that they might otherwise have thought were unrelated.

Kowhai children have been celebrating the signs of spring. We have been enjoying the polyanthus flowers we planted and all the colourful garden beds in the courtyard. We love the magnolia tree and the tuis we hear in the gum tree and kowhai trees.



With all these wonders, we have been creating art works using a variety of styles, techniques and materials. Come and see paintings, collage work, batik pictures and more. We are sure you will love all the colourful art and will go away with a happy smile and a 'spring' in your step.



Nikau



We have been learning about the technological process and we used this to help us explore 'bringing back the birdsong' to our community. We researched, generated solutions, designed and made prototypes for a range of predator traps and bird feeders. Take a look at our prototypes.

"I designed my prototype trap to catch NZ pests like rats, mice and stoats. The predator would walk into the trap to get the bait and there is a pressure point on the ground so the door would fall and trap them inside."

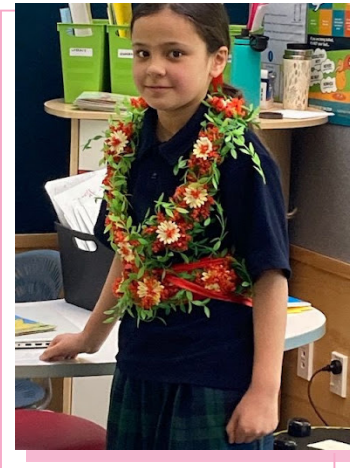
Rylee, Room 11

"I made a pit trap to get rats inside and they would fall down into it and get stuck. I used green paper to make my trap blend in with the plants outside."

Drei, Room 11

"My predator trap was designed to catch rats. It has peanut butter to make the rat go into the trap. I put a lid on top so the rain wouldn't wash the peanut butter away. I made it camouflage to blend in with nature so the rats wouldn't know it is a trap. The rat dies humanely."

Brenna, Room 11



During lockdown Nikau students shared a lot of special talents and skills with our classes during our Google Meets. At our assembly last week we decided to celebrate some of these amazing talents. We had performances on the keyboard, drums, poetry recited, Tongan, Bollywood and creative dancing and even a homemade scooter! Congratulations to all our performers. It was an entertaining afternoon and our hearts were filled with joy afterwards.



Pohutukawa

The Solar System

Pohutukawa students have had a lot of fun learning about the distances between planets in our solar system and their relative sizes too. They have been writing about what they have learnt and have also enjoyed creating different scaled models of our solar system. Each class got students to stand in for the planets and planetary objects in order to create a model of relative planetary sizes and distances in our playground. We have also created a scaled model on the wall opposite the uniform shop that shows these relative sizes and distances too.



Rata



Still Life

Lately we have been looking into still life drawings, we had to create 3 observational drawings of glass jars. We started by sketching a line drawing then when we had finished we watched a video on shading and creating light on our jars. We also had to make it see through, yet use some colors to create reflections and shadows. When we had finished, the final step was to do a watercolor jar. We started by watching Mrs Coote demonstrate how to balance out the colors and water to create a reflective look. She taught us to make the darker colors around the edge and top, then leave the very light shades for the middle where the light is. To wrap it up we took a long piece of paper and glued on the art from the very beginning, the line drawing, all the way up to the watercolours.

By Lola

School Sports

Cross Country

Best of luck to Jane Doyle, Gwen McGrath, Milana Burt and Connie Reed who travel south this week for the Inter Regional Cross Country. Have fun girls!

Miniball and Tiniball

Despite some restrictions re entry under Level 2 the basketball season has continued. Our Year 5, 6 team (Miniball) and the two Year 3, 4 teams (Tiniball) have battled onward with thanks due to Alan Vaifale, Siobhan Coffey, Justin Love, Chontel Foley and Paula Bulloch who have coached and managed the teams over the past 2 terms. Thanks also to Lauren Hudson who managed the Year 1,2 team until Lockdown.

Touch

Thanks to all those who registered for Term 4 Touch. Teams have been notified to parents today, Tuesday, and are on display at school.

Future Ferns Year 0, 1, 2

Registration information has been sent and thanks to those who have registered already. A reminder these close on Thursday 30th September.

PTA News

The Basic-facts-a-thon quiz is this Friday 1st October! We hope our school families are enjoying practising their basic facts and have made some positive progress in their math knowledge. A reminder that the number of questions varies according to age and stage in the curriculum throughout the school- the practice sheet students have been working on have the same number of questions they will receive for the test.

To limit cash handling, sponsorship money can be deposited into the PTA bank account number 12-3478-0004688-01. Please note this bank account number is NOT the same as the school bank account number, also note the 01 suffix, and use your child's name and room number as a reference. We trust our students and their families are enjoying practicing for the Basic-facts-a-thon. As

with previous similar fundraisers, our primary aim is for fun and learning. In light of the unusual times we all find ourselves in, we hope you can engage with this fundraiser at a level that suits both you and your family.

A reminder that the day of the quiz, Friday 1st October, will be a non-uniform day for students to celebrate their participation and of course, the last day of term!

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the PTA on pta@stpeterpaul.school.nz

We thank you for your continued support.

School Lunches

 lunchonline

0800 565 565

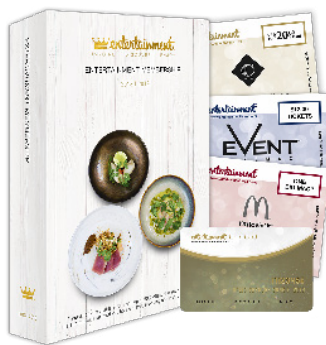
info@lunchonline.co.nz

Sushi and Subway

delivered to school weekly

It's simple; all you need to do is register at www.lunchonline.co.nz and follow four easy steps to get started

- 1 Register an account
- 2 Add member/s including your child's name, school and classroom
- 3 Make a payment so you have funds in your account before you order
- 4 Select your lunch and place an order



Entertainment Books

Entertainment Book is completely digital and runs for 12 months from the date of activation. Books are available for New Zealand and Australia so if you are travelling grab yourself a single city or multi-city membership and unlock some amazing savings while at the same time supporting our school!

Contact

School Office
04 569 5759

To report an absence or lateness click [here](#) or phone before 8:50am - extension 1
For up to date school activities and cancellations - extension 2

For further information, please visit our school website
www.stpeterpaul.school.nz