

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

We would like to take this opportunity to let you know what is happening in Rata this term.

We enjoyed seeing so many of you at our learning conferences at the end of last term. We look forward to touching base about your child's learning at the end of this term.

A reminder to read our school fortnightly newsletter to stay ahead of what is happening this term. We encourage parents to also keep an eye on the school calendar on our website for upcoming events.

Please find below some important dates for your calendar:

TERM 2 - IMPORTANT DATES/EVENTS

- **Zone Cross Country** - Tuesday 27th May
- **Kings Birthday Public Holiday** - Monday 2 June
- **Te Whiti Riser Adventure day with Sacred Heart College** - Wednesday 4 June
- **Sacred Heart College Open Morning** - Thursday 12 June
- **Learning Conferences** - Tuesday 17 June & Thursday 18 June
- **Matariki Celebration** - Wednesday 18 June
- **Matariki Public Holiday** - Friday 20 June
- **Extra Technology Session** - Monday 23 June & Tuesday 24 June
- **School Feast Day** - Thursday 26 June

Religious Education

Our focus this term has been the structure of the church. With the passing of Pope Francis and the election of a new pope, it has been a good time to learn about the Conclave and the history of the Vatican. In daily prayers we have been reflecting on the teachings of our late Pope.

Mathematics

In Maths we are having the term two **Basic Facts Blitz!** Our students all have goals for their basic facts abilities which have come from their basic facts testing last term. As we work towards our basic facts test later in the term we are including a variety of games and practice activities to help support students to make good progress in this area.

Our Maths topic for the start of the term is fractions, decimals and percentages. In the second half of the term we will be learning about measurement.

Science: Planet Earth & Beyond

Our topic learning this term starts off looking at the structure of our Earth and the forces at play that shape our world. We will then look at the water cycle and move into learning about the solar system and our place in the universe.

Reading & Writing

As an area we are reading the classic novel - Anne of Green Gables. Students have been developing their comprehension and critical thinking skills as they explore its vocabulary, characters, plot and historical differences. This term, students will be researching and writing information reports. This is supported by our school wide nonfiction inquiry, and information skills sessions to be run from the library. Later in the term we will explore the power and patterns of poetry.

Physical Education

This term for PE we have started with a focus on fitness and cross country. All students participated in either a 1km fun run or a 3km competitive running event. For the rest of the term we will be focusing on a sports rotation including padder tennis, hockey and badminton.

Home Learning

All students are encouraged to read a variety of novel and non fiction texts regularly at home. As well as being enjoyable and relaxing, this is very beneficial for their reading comprehension and writing skills. Daily basic facts practice is also encouraged to support our term focus of improving the basic facts abilities of Rata students. Flash cards and fun basic facts games as well as copying them down on paper, then quizzing each other is a great way to do this.

Contact

As always if you have any questions or would like to contact your child's teacher please use the following methods:

- Ring the office to make an appointment or to ask their teacher to give you a call
- Email admin@stpeterpaul.school.nz with attention to their teacher's name
- Email directly to rataal@stpeterpaul.school.nz
- Drop into school before the day starts or send a note along with your daughter

Ngā mihi nui,
Jenna Dyson, Ivy Abella, Victoria McHalick & Freya Coote
Rata Teachers