



From the Principal's Desk....

Welcome to Week 8 everyone

Last Saturday night I attended the first Shamrock Ball organised by the PFA at the Great Hall and it was certainly a night to remember. It was a truly amazing venue and it was great to see so many members of our school community coming together to enjoy a night out with great food and entertainment.



This was an immense undertaking by the PFA and a huge thank you to Hayley Hall, Kate Watson, Maria McGoldrick and Caroline Morrison who took lead roles in making this event such a success. A special thanks also to Lucy Sutherland and Bridget McCullough for their work behind the scenes.

The school community also played a significant role by donating raffle items and selling tickets and organising silent and live auction items. Everyone contributed in raising almost \$28,000 for the students at St Patrick's School.

On behalf of the staff and students thank you to the PFA, parents and friends of the school community for your continued support of St Patrick's School. Everyone will now be waiting in anticipation for the return of the bi-annual Shamrock Ball in 2019!

Raffle Winners!

Congratulations to the winners of the Shamrock Ball Hampers.



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|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1) Lulu Smith | 2) Lawry Family | 3) Inder Family | 4) Staniford Family | 5) Russell |
| 6) Joh Curtis | 7) C. Austin | 8) Edmund Grace | 9) Mac Templeton | 10) Sean McCormack |

Student-Led Open Night - Tuesday 4th April 2017

Following the same format as 2016, we are excited to invite parents back into the classrooms for our Term 1 Student-Led Open Night. For new families to the school, the Student-Led Open Night is an informal opportunity to meet with your child's teacher. At the same time, it allows the students to morph into tour guides as they showcase their learning environment and the work they have been doing throughout the term.



It is an opportunity to have a 'Learning Conversation' with your child using the St Patrick's 'Three Stars and a Wish' for Reading, Writing and Mathematics. It is about celebrating the work they are doing in these three core curriculum areas while at the same time setting a 'Wish' or goal for them to improve on. We also have a 'Wish' for the five Key Competencies of Thinking, Managing Self, Relating to Others, Participating and Contributing and Using Language, Symbols and Text.

We will be holding Parent Teacher Interviews again in Term 2. These interviews will give you an opportunity to discuss your child's learning and social needs in a more formal setting.

To book a Student-Led Conference, please visit www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter the following code mt3vn Alternatively, you can come into the office to book a time online.

Please make the most of this opportunity to meet with your child's teacher.



Caritas Lenten Programme 2017

As part of the Caritas Lenten Programme, the children have been studying the effects of climate change on some of the most vulnerable nations in the Pacific. From rising tides in Kiribati and Tonga, extreme weather in Vanuatu and Fiji, droughts in Papua New Guinea and, of course, to flooding and drought in our very own New Zealand. These nations also face contaminated water supplies and even relocation.

On Wednesday 29th March, Michael Stewart who works for Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand is coming to visit us and talk to the children about the plight of the Pacific Nations and the work of Caritas.

To put our Mercy Values into action and show the Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Common Good we are planning a fundraising challenge in Week 10. On Monday 3rd April we would like the school to become rubbish free for the whole week to reduce our carbon footprint.

To do this we ask that the children's lunchboxes have no packaging or plastics in them. As a family you will need to discuss how you can contain food and what will work best for you as a family. Perhaps children could be involved in the shopping for lunches that week so they can make decisions about the unnecessary packaging and waste that their normal lunches contain. They could certainly help by emptying lunchboxes and washing containers.

This will be a great way to bring the issue of climate change into your family so that prayer and discussions can bring about change.



Holy Trinity Parish Youth Group Info Night

Parents with children in Years 6 - 8 are warmly invited to come to the Parish Hall on Monday 3rd April 7 - 8pm to learn about our Parish Youth Group and hear how you may be able to help.

RSVP 30th March davidorjolloyd@gmail.com
 027-934-1155



Important Dates: Term 1, 2017

24th Mar	11:30am Assembly Room 1
3rd Apr	Caritas Challenge
4th Apr	Student-Led Conferences
6th Apr	Canterbury Swimming
7th Apr	11:30am Assembly Room 2
12 Apr	Stations of the Cross
13th Apr	School Cross Country
13th Apr	Last day of Term 1
14th Apr	Good Friday
1st May	First day of Term 2

Paddy's Army Clothing Drive

The Paddy's Army are back up and running for 2017 and have started the year with a clothing drive.



Paddy's Army would love you to drop off any clothing that is saleable and clean to Room 7 by the end of this Friday 24th March to give to St Vincent De Paul.