



From the Principal's Desk....

It was great to see all the students in their Sports Uniforms last week for the beginning of Winter Sports. We were very lucky with the fine weather on Friday and we all hope it continues throughout the term. We will soon have a sports sock for Hockey, Soccer and Rugby in stock. They will be available at the office for the first three weeks before going back down to our suppliers at Mainland Uniforms in Ilam We will let you know as soon as they arrive.

Next Tuesday 30th May, the Year 8 students will be attending the National Young Leaders Day at Horncastle Arena. National Young Leaders Day is an annual leadership event held in major cities around New Zealand. Since 2001, over 110,000 students have been empowered to become leaders. It is always a great day for our Year 8 students and one that they are fortunate to attend.



Christchurch School of Gymnastics - Last Day Today

For the last four weeks students in Year 1 - 4 have been going down to the Christchurch School of Gymnastics at QEII Park. The students (and staff) have all thoroughly enjoyed the programme the Christchurch School of Gymnastics offers .

These sessions have helped the children to push themselves out of their comfort zones, take risks, be brave and persevere It has also been a great way for them to practice their gross motor skills and coordination which helps make left and right brain connections, which in turn benefits all curriculum areas.

Because of this, planning is already underway for the Junior Syndicate to do Gymnastics again next year for a six week block. We know there will be lots of excited students who would be happy to return to the foam pit in 2018!



The Queen's Tea Party - Friday 2nd June

Everyone will be looking forward to the Queen's Birthday holiday weekend coming up, however, the Junior Syndicate are looking forward to hosting the Queen's Birthday Tea Party on Friday 2nd June at 2pm. All the students will be having a lovely high tea party outside the library under the flag (weather dependent) and, apparently, even the Queen will be popping in for a visit at some stage!

Students are encouraged to bring along some royal attire to change into for the party. They will all be making their own crowns and singing along to 'God Save the Queen'. Parents are welcome to come down for the high tea party celebrations and for an opportunity to see the Queen!

The Junior Syndicate are using this occasion to mark the beginning of their Inquiry into the British Isles, as part of the upcoming British and Irish Lions tour to New Zealand.





Entertainment Books

Thank you to those of you who have successfully managed to sell or purchase the 2017/2018 Entertainment Book. This year our goal is to raise \$2000 towards new reading books for the school. Last Friday each family received a book to look through to either sell to a family member or friend, or purchase yourself.



Please note you are not obligated to purchase this book. If you do not wish to purchase an Entertainment Book, please return the book to the School Office by Tuesday 30th May in the personalised envelope provided, clearly marked with your child's name.

Thank you for supporting this St Patrick's fundraiser!

St Patrick's 'Super Sailors' Boat Race - Thursday 15th June

There are some nervous staff around St Patrick's at the moment as the students begin building boats for the upcoming St Patrick's 'Super Sailors' Boat Race. Apparently Mr Wallis has a 'Top Secret' boat being built for this race and so the students have begun putting their own ideas into action.



There will be more information made available soon about the boat race and where it will take place, so please save the date.

Faith Facts! - Ascension Sunday

Ascension Sunday - Father John O'Connor has an excellent post on his Food for Faith site on Jesus' Ascension. He says, "Most people think of the Ascension of Jesus as being a 'departure' moment. Jesus was here and now he is gone. It would be easy to wrongly think that his ministry showed us how to build the city of God on earth, and now he has gone and the mission is left to us.



This is the error... In fact Jesus has not left this mission to us alone. Our mission is always Jesus' mission. He is the missionary. We are the loved servants.... We are never alone. Jesus is with us. Read more here <https://goo.gl/3iE30V>

Important Dates: Term 2, 2017

25th May	West Zone Cross Country
25th May	Junior Syndicate, Gym Year 1 - 4
26th May	Assembly Room 4
27th May	America's Cup Starts
30th May	National Young Leaders Day
30th May	ICAS Week, Science
30th May	BOT Meeting 7pm
5th June	Queens Birthday Weekend
8th June	Benediction
12th June	ICAS Week, Writing
15th June	School Boat Race 1:30 - 3:00pm
18th June	9am School Mass
21st June	Canterbury Cross Country
28th June	Parent/Teacher Interviews
3rd July	Book Week
24th July	Term 3 Begins

Paddy's Army - Children's Book Drive

The Year 8 Paddy's Army are on the hunt for children's books. If your children have outgrown their children's books, the Paddy's Army would love to get hold of these books.

As part of this term's collection drive, Paddy's Army are looking to build a huge collection of children's books that they can then donate to a school whose library is in need of books.



Please drop in your children's books to Room 8.