



From the Principal's Desk....

Yesterday we celebrated our Ash Wednesday Mass with Father Alister over at St Matthew's Church to mark the beginning of Lent.

Lent covers the 40 day period before Easter every year. The 40 days reflect the time that Jesus was said to have fasted for "forty days and forty nights" in the wilderness.

Father Alister had some great messages for our students about Praying, Fasting and Almsgiving and it was lovely to see them all so engaged and so eager to give up Fortnite for Lent! Use Lent as an opportunity, during the forty days, to be like Jesus. Can your children resist temptations and use this time to become closer to God?



Shamrock Ball - Saturday 16th March 2019

Thank you to those who have bought tickets to the Shamrock Ball, we really do value your support.

We do need to sell more tickets to make this event a success so please do get your tickets ASAP if you are planning on coming along. It would be great if you can invite friends from outside our community too, the more the merrier!

A couple of points to clarify. There is no expectation for males who don't own suits to hire them. Dress pants and a shirt will be fine. Ladies who are wondering what to wear. Please don't feel any pressure to purchase a new dress. There'll be a great mix of longer lengths and shorter cocktail dresses.

The Ball is our major fundraiser for 2019 and all children in the school will benefit from the proceeds. We have a very generous community who have donated some fantastic live and silent auction items. The Ball profits will be put towards an outdoor enhancement plan at school.

Ticket sales will close next Tuesday 12th March. Tickets are \$100 per person and include a welcome drink, canapés (in an iconic venue with a great band!) Tickets can be purchased from Selena in the school office - cash or cheque only (please make cheques out to St Patrick's PFA) or you can make an online transfer/deposit into the PFA bank account and we will get your tickets to you. Please ensure you use BALL as the reference and include your surname. Once payment clears, tickets will be made available to you. PFA Bank Account # : 03 1355 0746711 00



Shamrock Ball

Mufti Day - Thank You

Thank you to everyone who brought items for the Ball raffle last Friday. We have some very impressive hampers being made up from your generous contributions.

A reminder that raffle tickets (stubs and money) are due back next Thursday 14th March. There are some great prizes including Camelbak drink bottles and Powerade sports bags for the families/children who sell the most tickets. Extra tickets are available from Selena in the office. For those not attending the Ball selling raffle tickets is a great way to help support the event.





St Patrick's Day at St Patrick's! - Friday 15th March

Don't forget that next Friday we will be celebrating St Patrick's Day. It is also our School Feast Day and to celebrate we will be holding a Mass at 9:00am at St Matthews Church. Parents and caregivers are more than welcome to join us.

This year the senior students in the Thevenet House are very excited to be organising our school St Patrick's Day celebrations. The students will be participating in a number of fun St Patrick's Day activities throughout the day organised by our House Leaders.

All students and staff are encouraged to wear green for the day. We want you to be as creative as you can be, so start hunting out your green wigs, socks, blankets and anything green!

Once again a big thank you to the PFA who are very kindly organising a a sausage sizzle for the students.



Jack Griffiths at Oceans' 19

This week Jack Griffiths is up in sunny Mount Maunganui, competing in the U13 Mens Oceans' 19 Surf Life Saving Competition which runs from Thursday 7th March through to Sunday 10th March.

Oceans' has a proud history of being not only the largest Junior Surf Life Saving Event in New Zealand, but the most competitive, exciting and fun.

Over the next couple of days Jack will be competing in a range of events such as the Beach Flag Sprint, the Water Arena which involves a Run Swim Run, Board Race, Board Rescue, Surf Rescue and many other exciting events.

We wish him all the best for what will be a challenging few days!



Important Dates: Term 1, 2019

13 Mar	Westzone Swimming Sports
15th Mar	St Patrick's Day Celebrations (Wear Green)
16th Mar	Shamrock Ball
20th Mar	HPV Vaccinations
22nd Mar	11:30am School Assembly Room 7
25th Mar	Primary Duathlon
27th Mar	William Pike - Year 7 and 8 to Cave Stream
1st Apr	3-Way Interviews 1:30pm - 6:00pm
3rd Apr	3-Way Interviews 1:30pm - 4:00pm
8th Apr	11:30am School Assembly Room 8
11th Apr	Year 1 - 4 Tuahiwi Marae Visti
12th April	Year 5 - 8 Tuahiwi Marae Visit
12th Apr	Last Day of Term 1
29th Apr	First Day of Term 2

Welcome to St Patrick's!



Today we welcomed four Graduate Student teachers from the University of Canterbury. Tom Elderton, Cassandra Haggarty, Persis John and Ellen Livingstone will be visiting our school for the next four Thursdays. We are so proud to share our wonderful school and the enthusiastic learners we have here at St Patrick's with them.