



From the Principal's Desk....

Welcome back to Term 4 everyone. We hope you all enjoyed a well deserved break and managed to spend some time with friends and family over the school holidays.

Term 4 is often a very busy Term with the day-to-day structure at home and school changing quite quickly in the build-up to Christmas. With two public holidays, work functions and the raft of school events that take place in Term 4 students can become tired and overwhelmed quite quickly.

It is important that we all recognise this because it is when we start to see changes in our student's behaviour the most, regardless of age. It is important that we look after not only each other (parents and staff) but our students as we all enjoy and celebrate the exciting term ahead.



'Why dance should be taught in schools'

Congratulations to Niamh Murdoch who was placed first in Year 6 last night at the Rotary Speech Finals at Breen's Intermediate with her speech 'Why dance should be taught in schools'

Niamh was one of five contestants competing on the night, so to finish first in her year group is a fantastic achievement!

As well as finishing first in her Year Group Niamh also received a \$60 Whitcoulls voucher.



2019 St Patrick's School Community Survey

Don't forget to complete the 2019 St Patrick's School Community Survey. Each family that completes the 2019 St Patrick's School Community Survey will also go into the draw to receive a \$50 Hoyts Movie Gift Card. There will be one drawn per class!

If like us you are excited about many of the changes that are happening in and around our school then we need your support. Today we will be sending out a link to our 2019 St Patrick's School Community Survey. A survey that in 2015 was completed by 90% of families in our school community.

This survey is designed to offer you, the parents of our school community an opportunity to be involved in the future direction and development of our school. You will be asked to respond to a range of statements about the learning culture and environment of our school.

We would really appreciate 10 - 15 minutes of your time to complete the survey. We encourage you to add comments which will help us gain a better understanding of your thoughts and feedback. Your responses will provide a clear indication of our current strengths and areas for development. Communication leads to community and this is something we want to be continually known for at St Patrick's.

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about." - Meg Wheatley





### Sun Hats

In Term 4 the sun is out and about so please remember to pack your children's sun hats and some extra sunscreen. Sun-hats are compulsory in Term 4. Students who do not have their sun hats will be required to stay in the shade during brain breaks and lunchtimes.



### Life Education Trust Canterbury

This week we have had Harold and the Life Education Trust visiting St Patrick's. The Life Education Trust has helped introduce our students to our Term 4 Health Inquiry: 'Food for Thought'. This Inquiry will focus on nutrition, making good food choices for health and the digestive system.



The students have really enjoyed the Life Education Trust visit and we would like to extend our thanks to Amanda for the fantastic programmes that she has delivered to our students. We all look forward to seeing Harold and the team again next year!

### Year 7 and 8 Otago Rail Trail, Parents Meeting - Wednesday 23rd October at 6:30pm

We are all looking forward to and excited about our Otago Rail Trail Camp this term from Monday 18th November to Thursday 21st November. There will be a parents meeting for all parents of Year 7 & 8 students, next Wednesday 23rd October at 6:30pm.

It is important that at least one parent of each student, who is participating in the Rail Trail, is present at the meeting with information about the Rail Trail and the preparation required for it being shared. The permission, safety and medical forms will also be given out at this meeting.



The parents meeting will be held in the Learning Studio, of the new classroom block.

### Important Dates: Term 4, 2019

- 17th Oct Year 7 and 8 Leaders Lunch
- 21st Oct PAT Testing Week
- 23rd Oct Year 8's NZIWR Leadership Day
- 23rd Oct Year 7 and 8 Rail Trail Meeting 6:30pm
- 23rd Oct PFA General Meeting 7:30pm
- 25th Oct Athletics Day at Villa Maria
- 28th Oct Labour Day - No School
- 29th Oct BoT Meeting 7:00pm
- 1st Nov PFA Coffee Morning
- 4th Nov Year 1 - 8 Tennis Lessons
- 5th Nov Choir Music Festival 7:00pm
- 8th Nov School Assembly, Room 3 11:30am
- 15th Nov Christchurch Show Day - No School
- 18th - 21st Nov, Year 7 and 8 Camp
- 18th - 20th Nov, Year 5 and 6 Camp
- 25th Nov - 6th Dec, Year 1 - 6 Swimming Lessons
- Dec 1st St Patrick's Christmas Picnic
- Dec 6th PFA Coffee Morning
- Dec 8th Year 8 Leavers Dinner
- Dec 10th BoT Meeting
- Dec 12th End of Year Mass 6:00pm
- Dec 13th School Finishes 12:30pm



### PFA - Special General Meeting

The PFA hereby gives notice of a Special General Meeting to be held at 7.30pm, Wednesday 23rd October 2019 in the staffroom at St Patrick's School.

The purpose of the meeting is to ratify and adopt the St Patrick's School PFA Constitution, Covenant of Understanding and Process and Procedures documents.

### 2020 St Patrick's School Fair - Spring Clean Out

We are throwing the container doors open for all of Term 4. Every Monday at 2:45pm - 3:15pm and Tuesday: 8:15am - 9:00am please drop in any good quality toys, clothing, books and homeware for the 2020 St Patrick's School Fair.

