



# SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Te Kura o Te Ngākau Tapu

"Sacred Heart School is a Catholic Community enriching and empowering our students for life in the 21st century."

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**Newsletter: Friday 6 March 2020**

Dear Parents and Caregivers

*Nau mai haere mai. Talofa lava, Malo e lei lei, Jou sahn, Aubowan, Chao, Hola, Fakalofa atu, Kumusta, Salam Sejahtera*

During his catechesis for the weekly General Audience the Pope reflected on the 40 days spent by Jesus in the desert as He prepared for His public ministry and said that, in a sense, it is a time for us to imitate Jesus and seek a place of silence, where we are free to hear the Lord's word and experience His call. "Lent is a time to disconnect from cell phones and connect to the Gospel," he said, recalling that when he was a child there was no television, but his family would make a point of not listening to the radio.



I remember as a child that Lent was around the sign-ups for the winter sports season and I was always so keen to see the football team and get training again for another season. I encourage parents to make the efforts around this time to get their children off devices and join a local Football, Rugby, League, Netball or Hockey club for the winter. It is a great way for children to connect with others, get active and gain new skills. It is also an opportunity for parents to make new friends. This week at Sacred Heart we have had a week of getting moving. The 'Walk and Wheels Day' was well supported and we had a team of 50 children attend a 'Have a Go Day' at Nga Puna Wai athletics track.

Please mark on the calendar **30 March 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm** to attend an evening at **Christchurch South Intermediate School** around Internet Safety. It is being organised by our Mana Ake and the Kahukura Cluster.

## Policy Review

We have all our policies and procedures on School Docs. At present we have a policy on **Recognition of Cultural Diversity** that we would appreciate your feedback on. Please follow the link below and review this policy.

1. Visit the website  
<http://sacredheartchch.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm> (note that there is no "www"!)
2. Enter the user name (sacred) and password (heart).
3. Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed.
4. Read the policy.
5. Click the Policy Review button at the right-hand top corner of the page.
6. Select the reviewer type "Parent".
7. Enter your name (optional).
8. Submit your ratings and comments.

## School Gates

As part of Health & Safety at school, we need to keep the school gates closed. In the morning the car gate will be closed at 8.45 am. No cars are to enter the school grounds apart from staff. We ask that the pedestrian gate be closed from 9.00 am when entering or leaving the school. Please only use this gate and not the new gate behind the hall to enter the school.

## Internet Safety

Technology has changed the way we work, rest and play. With so many ways to connect to friends, family and all kinds of content, many parents worry about how much time their children spend online.



### HOW MANY HOURS A DAY SHOULD KIDS BE SPENDING ONLINE?

There's no simple answer to this question because not all screen time is created equal. Spending two hours on the internet watching cartoons is not as beneficial as spending two hours on the internet learning.

Parents need to think about the age and stage of their children, and understand how their children use the internet to be able to decide how much time they would like their kids to be spending online.

<https://www.netsafe.org.nz/screen-time/>

## Update of Students Details

Yesterday we sent home a record sheet with your contact details that we hold. It is important that we hold accurate details for all children. This includes any emergency contacts if we cannot get hold of Mum or Dad. Please update this sheet and return it to school as soon as possible. Please return it even if all the details are correct.

## Coronavirus Update

As you will know the Ministry of Health's Director-General announced the second confirmed case of COVID-19 in New Zealand.

We want to reassure you that we will continue to update you with the latest information.

Some people have been asking when a school might close. The answer is that we are a very long way from that situation. At this stage, there is no reason that children should not be going to school. Our Directors of Education will be discussing some key notification and planning protocols with the local medical officers of Health over the next day or so – we will be working very closely together as the situation evolves. Today in Auckland was a very good example of the speed with which we can mobilise to support you if and when it may be needed.

A decision to close a school if that became necessary would be made by the local medical Officers of Health.



In the meantime, we can provide you some further facts from the World Health Organization.

- Evidence from China shows that only 1% of reported cases do not have symptoms, and most of those cases develop symptoms within 2 days.
- Young people 18 years and under represent less than 2.4 per cent of those who have contracted the virus.
- From the data we have so far, COVID-19 does not transmit as efficiently as influenza.

It continues to remain that the best thing to do is to practice good preventative measures, particularly good hygiene:

- Washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds before and after eating as well as after attending the toilet
- Covering coughs and sneezes with clean tissues or with an elbow
- Putting used tissues in the bin
- Encouraging staff and students to stay home if they are unwell

## Music News

Our year 5-8 choir has begun rehearsing for the Kahukura Music Festival. Our school will perform on either 17 or 18 June along with our cluster schools in a night of celebrating music. All massed choir lyrics and mp3 tracks are on Google classroom so students can listen and practise at home. We also have a ukulele group learning a song to perform, those chords and tabs are on Google classroom too.



We are very proud of our year 5-8 students who are part of our Kahukura Chorale for 2020. The Chorale is an auditioned group made up of singers from our cluster schools. This year we have nine students representing Sacred Heart: Cassidy, Adrian, Amelia, Nia, Hercz, Mata, Evelyn, Akaela, Lhean and Juriz.

If your child (years 6-8) was inspired after our Lorax production then this may be the opportunity for them! The Riccarton Players (junior team) are performing Aladdin in the July holidays. Auditions are 14-15 March for anyone interested. Ask Miss Caldwell for more details.

## Sports News

We have had a couple of busy weeks in sporting circles at school with students getting involved in many fitness activities. The year 3/4 miniball team are showing good improvements each week at Pioneer which is pleasing to see. Years 5-8 students today began a four week series of lessons where they will learn the skills needed for lawn bowling. Years 7-8 students have just completed a four week block learning how to play Korfbal and a team will be selected to play in a tournament later in the term. Yesterday 52 students were lucky enough to attend a 'have a go' day at Nga Puna Wai with some of the New Zealand athletic team who will compete in the Olympics later this year. We were also followed around by the team from What Now and should be on the programme this Sunday or next. We have been fortunate enough to be given some Futsal goals and balls from Mainland Futsal which are being well utilised.

School fitness continues every morning between 8:40-8:50 am with a focus on getting fit for the school cross country. Sport takes place for all year levels every Thursday so please ensure students have sports shoes and black shorts in their bag to change into.

## School Uniforms

Over the past few weeks, it has been noticed that the standard of uniform has slipped and children are deciding to wear non-uniformed clothing. As a school, we try to keep the cost of uniforms very affordable so there should be no excuses for the incorrect uniform. When a child has pride in their appearance they will have pride in themselves and their school.

## School Times

We still have children being picked up late and the large number arriving late for school in the mornings. This disrupts classes and children miss prayers and important information for the day. If your child is going to be late please contact us via the phone or the school App to avoid the office wasting time trying to track you down. A reminder that the school is open from 8.30 am and we start with fitness for children at 8.40 to get children moving.

School finishes at 3.00 pm. Children need to be collected by 3.10 pm. Teachers often have other commitments after school and are often off-site by 3.30 pm.

## Faith Facts

The Catholic Church spends more money than Apple brings in. Expenditures by the Catholic Church, largely on charity, exceeded \$170 billion in 2012, according to The Economist magazine. In that same year, Apple took in \$157 billion in revenue.



## Emergency Drills Next Week

As part of Health & Safety and being prepared we will be having our Termly Emergency Drills next week. This will include a fire drill and a lockdown drill plus what to do in the event of an earthquake. Children will be advised on what to do and when it will take place. If you have an anxious child please reassure them that it is normal practice in all schools and workplaces. It might help to discuss any plans for events at home as a family.

## Teacher Only Day Monday 23 March (School Closed)

As part of the teachers' and principals' collective agreements, it was negotiated that schools were entitled to have eight teacher only days to address work on curriculum, assessment practices and workloads over the next three years. Our first Teacher Only day is to assist teachers around the delivery of the new Digital Technologies curriculum. We are excited to have an educator coming from Nelson to work with all of our staff for the day.

## Events

- 13 March** - SW Zone Swimming Sports - Jellie Pool
- 23 March** - Teacher Only Day - No school today
- 24 March** - HPV immunisation for Yr 8 children.
- 30 March** - Internet Safety Seminar at South Intermediate 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm
- 9 April** - Easter Liturgy and End of Term.

## Friday Lunchonline

Parents are encouraged to make healthy choices from the Sushi Factory. Check out the menu. Please visit <https://www.lunchonline.co.nz/> to join up and order for your children.



## School App

Make sure you keep up with all communications from school and have the latest update of our School App. Download SchoolAppsNZ from the App Store or Google Play and search Sacred Heart Christchurch



**SchoolAppsNZ** (4+)  
School Apps by Snapp Mobile  
Snapp Mobile Limited  
#6 in Education  
★ ★ ★ 2.4, 76 Ratings  
Free

Please make sure you are signed up to our facebook page.  
<https://goo.gl/ZOSNPA>



## Kelly Sports April Holiday Programmes

*Bookings for our upcoming Kelly Sports Holiday Programmes at Hillview Christian School and Hillmorton High School are now available online.*

*The focus of our Programmes is to ensure kids are active throughout with a great mixture of games and activities to suit everyone. WINZ Subsidies are available for families that qualify and we have options of Half Day sessions, School Day sessions and Full Day sessions available.*

*To register and for more information please visit [www.kellysports.co.nz](http://www.kellysports.co.nz) and search for your venue of choice or contact Steve on [steve@kellysports.co.nz](mailto:steve@kellysports.co.nz) for more information*

