

St Joseph's Catholic School

"Excellent Education befitting our Catholic Character"

94 Seddon St, Pukekohe 2120



Term 1 Week 1

4 February 2021

Newsletter #1

Principal's Message

Tena Koutou Katoa

Talofa Lava

Kamusta

Malo e lelei

Mauri

Hello Everyone

Welcome back to our 2021 school year!

On Tuesday we began our school year with a powhiri to welcome all our new families and staff to St Joseph's Catholic School. We particularly welcome Mrs Robin Burns, our new assistant principal, as well as our new teachers: Mr Elroy Muller, Mrs Sophie Hartnett, Mrs Kelly McArthur and Mrs Tiana Farrell (who hold a job share position), Miss Nicole Sarginson, and Mrs Karen McCulloch (Reading Recovery). We also welcome back Mrs Gallagher-Pile from maternity leave. For those of you who may not know, Mrs Kerri Eglemeer's baby girl arrived safely on January 2nd.

What a lovely feeling to have the children back at school - they bring the school to life. So much has changed in our school grounds since the end of last year. Our new building has lost its scaffolding and is standing proudly near completion, the oldest classrooms have been demolished and seeing the space that has been created, we can now envision the large play area that we have gained. We are very pleased with the result and are looking forward to moving in next week.

On Monday 25th January, representatives from our local hapuu, Ngati Tamaoho, accompanied by Fr Robert, lifted the tapu and blessed our new building for the cultural safety of our school community. It was a lovely ceremony which was well represented by our school whānau and our wider community. We were delighted to find that some of our guests had attended St Joseph's in the 1950s and 1960s, and had fond memories of the Sisters and being taught here. The occasion concluded with kai and whanaungatanga in our school hall. Special thanks to Mrs Nikki Tarapa, Mrs Fleur de Farias, and our Board members who helped me coordinate this event.

This year was declared to be a "Year of St Joseph" by Pope Francis in acknowledgement of the workers that go unnoticed, but sustain our life by their work and presence; as seen during the Covid pandemic. St Joseph was a great example of this and it is no wonder that the Mission Sisters chose St Joseph as patron of many of their primary schools, as a protector in a fatherly role. So we were especially delighted to find out that Bishop Michael is available to officially open our new classroom block on the 19th March, St Joseph's Feast Day. How appropriate! We will share more information about this celebration closer to the date.

We are excited about the year ahead and pray that this school year is uninterrupted.

Ursula Hall

Principal - Tumuaki

*The Year of
St Joseph:
"Our World,
Today, needs
Fathers"*



*Hail, Guardian
of the
Redeemer,
Spouse of the
Blessed Virgin
Mary.*

*To you God
entrusted his
only Son;
in you Mary
placed her
trust;
with you
Christ became
man.*

*Blessed
Joseph,
to us too,
show yourself
as father and
guide us in the
path of life.
Obtain for us
grace, mercy
and courage,
and defend us
from every
evil. Amen.*

Key Dates

Fri 5 Feb	No Friday Mass for Ākongā
Mon 8 Feb	Waitangi Day Holiday
Wed 10 Feb	Y7&8 Tech Year 7&8 Swimming Practice - Jubilee 12.00 - 1.00
Fri 12 Feb	Dedication Mass 9am
Tue 16 Feb	Year 5 - 8 Swimming Practice - Jubilee 10.00 - 12.00 Meet the Team Evening for Parents 6.00 - 8.00pm
Wed 17 Feb	Ash Wednesday Liturgy 10.00 @ school Year 7&8 Swimming Practice - Jubilee 12.00 - 1.00 BOT Meeting 7pm
Thu 18 Feb	Assembly: Te Rōpū Ārahi @ 1.45
Fri 19 Feb	No Friday Mass for Ākongā
Tue 23 Feb	Year 5 - 8 Swimming Practice - Jubilee
Wed 24 Feb	Year 7&8 Tech @ Pukekohe Intermediate 8.40 - 11.30 Year 7&8 Swimming Practice - Jubilee 12.00 - 1.00
Fri 26 Feb	Mass for Ako 1 (L Sokimi, A Surrey & S Hartnett)
Fri 2 April	Good Friday
Mon 5 April	Easter Monday
Tue 6 April	Easter Tuesday
Fri 16 April	End of Term 1
Fri 28 May	Teacher Only Day <i>Please note these dates are subject to change</i> <i>For further dates see calendars on the Skool Loop app or at: www.stjosephs.co.nz</i>

Special Catholic Character

Staff Retreat Day

Last week on Tuesday the teachers attended a retreat day at Tyburn Monastery, a peaceful sanctuary in the Bombay hills. The Tyburn nuns have a life centred around perpetual prayer and adoration. Witnessing this during their morning Mass in the chapel was very humbling.



Following Mass the staff attended professional development seminars led by the Māori Vicar of our diocese, Manuel Beazley.

His sessions were centred around:

- Pepeha (because this has links to the land)
- An introduction to Māori Spirituality (Tapu, Mana, Pono, Tika and Aroha)
- Kaitiakitanga (A Māori understanding of stewardship of creation)

These sessions have indeed inspired us as we lead our ākongā this term in breaking open our inquiry topic - Tāha Whānau - family well-being.

Something else that resonated very much for us was that the Māori spiritual concepts which Manuel explained, related so well to our school vision (from our Mission sisters) - to be in right relationship with self, others, Atua (God) and creation. Māori possess Mana Atua (strong faith), Mana Tangata (dignity/power in their relationships with other people) and Mana Whenua (authority to care for the land for the next generation).

This has all led us to really ask ourselves how we can foster or enhance kaitiakitanga (stewardship/guardianship) at our school, in terms of care for the land, whenua, for one another, tangata, and for our faith, Atua. We hope you can endeavour to do the same in your own whānau.

Ngā Mihi
Mairead Gallagher-Pile

School Notices

Please note: our newsletter will be published fortnightly from this week.
2021 assembly time has also changed to 1:45pm alternate Thursday afternoons.

Introducing our 2021 Staff:

PRINCIPAL		Mrs Ursula Hall
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL		Mrs Lori Mravicich
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL		Mrs Robin Burns
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES		Mrs Mairead Gallagher
SENCo		Mrs Tricia Kenny
SENIOR TEACHER	Years 7 & 8	Mrs Robin Burns
SENIOR TEACHER	Years 4 - 6	Mrs Linda Sokimi
SENIOR TEACHER	Years 0 - 3	Mrs Mrs Lesley Wallace

CLASSROOM TEACHERS

Te Rōpu Ārahi

Mrs Robin Burns
Mrs Bridget Hartland
Mr Elroy Muller

Te Rōpu Ako

Mrs Linda Sokimi
Mrs Kelly McArthur/Mrs Tiana Farrell
Mrs Maree Clark
Mr Alan Surrey
Mrs Sophie Hartnett

Te Rōpu Aroha

Mrs Lesley Wallace
Mrs Joanna Wilcox
Mrs Sharon Hawke
Miss Claudia Farrell
Miss Nicole Sarginson

PART TIME TEACHERS

Mrs Fleur de Farias
Mrs Briar Shackleton
Mrs Jillian Saia
Mrs Tricia Kenny

TEACHER AIDES

Mrs Deborah Chapman
Mrs Jeannette Irwin
Mrs Helen Farrell
Mrs Caroline Harrington
Mrs Andrea Dominikovich-Gray

Mrs Joan Murphy
Mrs Patricia Roberts
Mrs Nia Ali
Mrs Tracey Nazareth

ADMINISTRATION

Mrs Aimee Cunningham

Mrs Helen Farrell

ACCOUNTS

Mrs Fiona Marlow

CARETAKER

Mr Peter Jones

CLEANERS

Mrs Tariangi Ruben

Crest Cleaner

'Meet the Team' Evening

Mark your calendars; on **Tuesday 16th February (week 3)** we will have an open evening for parents to come meet your children's kaitiaki/teachers and hear about how the learning programme will run for them this year. Presentations by each team will happen throughout the evening with all classrooms **open from 6-8pm**. Te Roopu Aroha (Yr 0-3) will present at 6pm in the bottom floor of the new building, Te Roopu Ako (Yr 4-6) will present at 6:40pm on the top floor of the new building and Te Roopu Arahi (Yr 7&8) will present at 7:15pm in their learning space. We hope to see you all there.

The School Gate - No children should be arriving at school before 8:00 am in the mornings.

Teachers are not at school to supervise your child before 8:00am. Children should arrive by 8:30 am, giving them time to put their things away and greet their friends, ready to begin lessons at 8:45 am.

Coming after 8:45 am means children may miss their class morning prayer; a special way to start the day for their class community.

STEAMClub: Starting in Week 2, Wednesday the 10th of February, we will be offering a STEAMclub after school every Wednesday from 3:00 to 4:00pm which will be held in our Steamroom upstairs in the main building (formerly Rm's 1 & 2). This year these sessions will include hands-on activities in Robotics, Spheros, Science experiments, Engineering and Technology projects and are offered to students from Years 3-8. We have limited spaces so it is a first come/first serve basis each term. To help offset the costs of the extra supplies and equipment needed, there will be a \$20 fee for each student for the term. If you are interested in your child participating, please email Lori Mravcich at lorim@stjosephs.co.nz or come see her in the office before or after school.

Pasifika: We will be beginning to work with our Pasifika Boys and Girls' Performance Groups starting in Week 2 in preparation for our performance at the Franklin Cultural Festival which will take place on Saturday, April 10th. If you would like to assist with our performance groups in any way please contact our Deputy Principal, Lori Mravcich.

No Hat - Play in the shade!

Sunsafe: Please make sure your children bring their hat to school everyday during this term as it is too hot.

QR Code: Please use our QR code and scan if you are coming into our school - this helps to keep everyone safe.

Healthy Lunchbox Choices:



Here are examples of different lunch box choices that children bring to school. On the left is an example of healthy choices including sandwiches, fruit and veges, and a boiled egg, which is great brain food. On the right are choices that aren't helpful. Foods such as chips, fruit strings and chocolate biscuits do not fill children's tummies. Hungry children don't learn.



Skool Loop App - Keep in touch with what is happening at school through the Skool Loop app. It's **free** to download! Parents can easily access school notices, newsletters and alerts. SMS the school about absences through the app. In a school emergency if we need to contact parents this is the quickest way to get a message to you.

SchoolDocs: Policies and Procedures:

Parents can view our school policies and procedures online by visiting the schooldocs website. SchoolDocs updates, modifies, or creates policies in response to changes in legislation or Ministry guidelines, significant events, reviews/requests from schools, and regular reviewing from the SchoolDocs team. Our board of trustees has the opportunity to view changes/additions and comment on them before they are implemented. We will advise you when policies are up for review and how you can take part in the review.

1. Visit the website <https://stjosephspukekohe.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>

2. Enter the **username** (stjosephspukekohe) and **password** (mission).

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3. Select the **Parents and Whanāu section** on your SchoolDocs site – it has a brief description of SchoolDocs, a navigation quiz, and important information about parent involvement, communication and reporting, community conduct expectations, and social media guidelines. There is also a **Quick Links for Parents** topic with links to the most relevant policies and procedures. If you don't have internet access, school office staff can provide you with printed copies of the policy and a review form.

Congratulations!

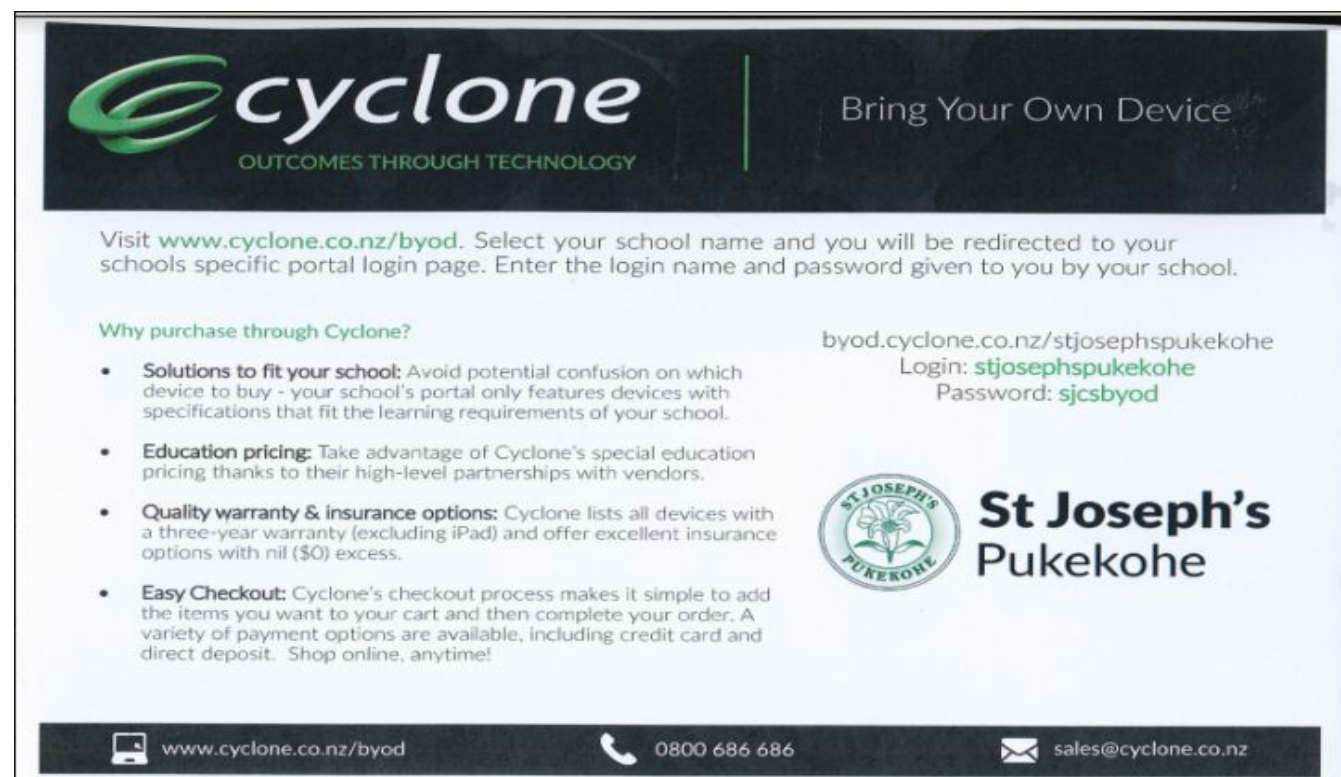
Congratulations to Arizona Leger who is a semi finalist in the 2021 Young New Zealander of the Year Award. Arizona is a past pupil of our school and was our School Captain in 2008. She went on to become Head Girl of her High School and was a Junior Journalist for TVNZ. Arizona is an amazing young woman and I'm sure we will hear more about her successes in the future.

“With a Māori–Pākehā mother and a Samoan–Tongan–Fijian father, Arizona Leger is a proud daughter of Oceania and sees herself as working to represent and advance our Indigenous and Oceanian peoples. Currently, a student of the Masters of Human Rights programme with a focus on Indigenous Rights, especially the rights of Young Indigenous Women, at Auckland University of Technology, Arizona has dedicated her studies, spare time and seemingly endless energy to work towards a fair, just and thriving Aotearoa. In 2018, Arizona was appointed to the Ministerial Advisory Group to review the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) programme and in 2019 she was selected from thousands of applicants around the world to attend the G(irls)20 Summit in Tokyo as the sole Indigenous Delegate, a newly appointed role. In 2020 Arizona was selected as a northern representative for Kau Tūlī, the youth steering group for New Zealand’s Ministry for Pacific Peoples, and she is also a trustee and board member of Inspiring Stories and a member of Auckland Council’s youth advisory panel. She hopes ultimately to create an NGO that focuses on empowering marginalized communities to exercise their rights and ensuring that Indigenous and underrepresented voices have a permanent seat at the decision-making tables.”

Source: <https://nzawards.org.nz/news/2021-young-new-zealander-year-semi-finalists/>

Please remember that this coming Monday 8th February is a public holiday to observe Waitangi Day. School will not be open. Enjoy your long weekend!

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School Events

Community Notices

Children's Sacrament Programme 2021 – Starts February 14. The programme to prepare children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Communion begins February 14 at 3.30pm in the St Patrick's church hall! Children must be baptised and in school Year 4 and above. The programme lasts 11 weeks and is attended by both child and adult. Registration and information day is Sunday 14 February at 3.30pm in St Patrick's Hall. You must attend this day for registration, no pre-registration. More information available on church website (pukekohecatholic.org.nz), church foyer, or contact Nancy in the Parish Office, 09-238-6641 or office@pukekohecatholic.org.nz

St Josephs Primary Netball Club

We are taking registrations now for Saturday players (year 5 - 8), registrations close Friday 12 February. Trials are Wed 17 and Wed 24th Feb, practice starts March, games start in April. All welcome :) email sjnetball@gmail.com for more info

Would you like to know more about your faith?

Try: **Formed - The Catholic Faith on Demand**

- . go to formed.org
- . click sign up choose SIGN UP AS PARISHIONER
 - . then type St. Patrick's Pukekohe
- . finally - enter your name and email address
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'Young at Art offer Children's, Teenage and Adult Art and Craft classes in Pukekohe. Our Term 1 ART ADVENTURES classes are open for booking in groups for children aged 6-9yrs, 9-12yrs and 13yrs+ on Monday's, Tuesday's and Wednesday's. This term we are also offering a 6 week 'Dynamic Drawing' course (8-16yrs). We are also offering Adult classes in Resin, Resin revisited, Watercolour and Acrylic Painting. For more information or to book please check out: <http://www.youngatart.co.nz/>, email: admin@youngatart.co.nz or phone: 0297 712 923. Bookings are essential as places are limited'

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Nancy and Victor.



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