



# St. Patrick's Catholic School News

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**Vol 4.7**  
**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November**  
**2015**

**Principal:** Brian Belczacki.  
**Deputy Principal:** Cass Sutton. **Assistant Principal:** Marcus Oxenham.  
**Director of Religious Studies:** Raewyn Jackman.  
**Office Staff:** Dana Macdonald, Celena O'Donnell.  
**Bursar:** Patty Dudson.  
**Parish Priest:** Fr Joe Stack.  
**BOT Chairperson:** Kyle Owens.

*Kia ora Parents, Guardians and Children,*

The Charism for this week is:



We must never despair; our situation has been compromising before, and it has changed for the better; so I trust it will again. If difficulties arise, we must put forth new exertion and proportion our efforts to the exigencies of the times. **George Washington**

**Flexible learning environment 24<sup>th</sup> November 2015**



**BLESSING.... BLESSING.... BLESSING**

Everyone is invited to the blessing of our new buildings @ 7am tomorrow Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November; this will allow us to begin occupying these buildings before the formal opening, on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016. Bishop Steve will be officiating at both ceremonies.



JOIN US ON FACEBOOK....

To find us following the link...

<https://www.facebook.com/stpatsteawamutu>

## TERM DIARY

<b>Wk 7</b>	Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov: Blessing of New Buildings @7am. Class Mass @ 9:15am. R7, 6. Team Assemblies: Team 3 @ 2:15pm, Hall. Team 2 @ 2:30pm, R5-7.
<b>Wk 8</b>	Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov: Prayer Ass 8:55am CH: Perseverance Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec: Room 11, International Food stall at 12:30pm, on School Tennis Court. Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Pastoral visit to the school by Bishop Steve. 9:15am Whole School Mass with Bishop Steve. Jnr Team Assembly: Team 1 @ 2:30pm.
<b>Wk 9</b>	Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov: Prayer Ass 8:55am CH: Advent-Faith/Hope/Love Tue 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Y8 Leaver's Dinner (NOTE DATE CHANGE) Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Technology Y7/8 @TAI 8:30am-12:30pm Y8 Retreat – overnight @ Marae Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec: EOY Reports home. Y8 Retreat Marae till 2pm. Y7 Retreat at School. Class breakup parties.
<b>Wk 10</b>	Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Prayer Ass 8:55am CH: Advent-Faith/Hope/Love Final School Assembly (Y8 Lead) 2pm. BOT Mtg 6pm Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec: School Prizegiving @1:45pm-2:30pm. End of Year Christmas Liturgy/Graduation Yr8. 6:30pm-7:30pm. Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec: End of Year Mass, 11:45am-12:45pm.

Please check the online version of the school calendar by following the link: [http://www.stpatta.co.nz/1/embedded\\_items/1-school-calendar](http://www.stpatta.co.nz/1/embedded_items/1-school-calendar) as this is updated as events or changes come to hand.

**A quote from St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.**

'So great is the strength we possess in our unity.'

30<sup>th</sup> August 1874

**St Mary of the Cross MacKillop....**

Pray for us.



## ASSEMBLIES TOMORROW

**Team 3 @ 2:15pm – Hall, Team 2 @ 2:30pm – R5-7**

**Our Vision:** 'To provide 21<sup>st</sup> century learning in a Catholic environment which empowers children to strive for excellence'.

*'Empowered today for tomorrow's world'*



## Our Prayers go out to the Shrimpton

**family...** Please remember Zander with the loss of his grandmother whom died suddenly on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November.

## What is Advent?

Advent begins this Sunday....

Advent is a season of four weeks of preparation before Christmas. The word **Advent** means "coming" and refers to the coming of Jesus Christ.

The season emphasizes a threefold coming of Christ:

- We Celebrate his coming in **HISTORY** at Bethlehem,
- We celebrate his coming in **MYSTERY** through word and sacrament,
- and we celebrate his coming in **MAJESTY** at the end of time.

Many people expend great energy preparing for Christmas, yet fail to appreciate the true meaning of the season. Advent, if properly observed, can change all that, helping us to realize more fully what the coming of Christ can mean in our lives.

## First Sunday of Advent: Waiting for the Lord....

We light the First PURPLE Candle which symbolizes hope. For many years the faithful looked forward to the coming of the Messiah.



**NOVEMBER** is the month dedicated to remember our faithfully departed loved ones. For the month we will be remembering them at our masses and assemblies.

**ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM  
O LORD AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT  
SHINE UPON THEM..MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.**

**AMEN**



**Pastoral visit by Bishop Steve...** Our new bishop will visit our school on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December. You are very welcome to join us as we welcome and celebrate Mass at 9:15am. Bishop Steve will then spend the day moving around the classrooms meeting the children.

## As we finish 2015.....

**Blessing of New Buildings** is on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November @7am (note that the official opening is on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016).

**Student Reconciliation** available for all students who have made their first Reconciliation. Wed/Thu 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Dec.

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec: Pastoral Visit to the School by Bishop Steve.**

**Whole school Mass with our Bishop @ 9:15am.** (There will be no Day of Adoration this Advent).

**Year 8 Dinner** is on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December (NOTE CHANGE OF DATE) at the TA Workingman's Club from 6:30pm.

**Year 7 Retreat** is on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December (at school).

**Year 8 Retreat** is planned to be an overnight retreat on Thurs 10<sup>th</sup>-Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

**Class EOY Celebrations** Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

**End of Year Reports** will be issued on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

**Final School Assembly** (led by Y8's) is on Mon 14<sup>th</sup> December.

**Prize giving Assembly** is on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December @ 1:30pm followed by the **End of Year Liturgy / Farewell to Y8's** which will be at 6.30pm.

**End of Year Mass - Last day of Term 4.** We celebrate the end of year with a school Mass at 11:45am on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec.** Students may go home after Mass (around 12:30pm).

## And move into 2016.....

Please refer to the following table below:

Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Office closed – Holidays
Tues 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Office closed</b> – All staff PD
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Office open 8:30am -12:30pm
Thur 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Office open 8:30am -12:30pm
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Office open 8:30am -12:30pm
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	<b>Holiday – Auckland Anniversary Day</b>
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	School open for instruction Office open 8:15am – 3:15pm
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Official Opening of new buildings
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>Holiday - Waitangi Day observance</b>

## Student Accounts....

Dear All,

We still have a way to go to have our student accounts settled. Thank you for those families that have paid since the accounts were distributed on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

### WHAT IS THE VALUE OF OUTSTANDING FEES?

As of today we still have **\$6,400.00** owing on student accounts.

### WHAT DONATIONS WOULD THE SCHOOL APPRECIATE RECEIVING?

Information and Communication Technology - **\$9,626.00.** (55% paid to date).

Religious Education - **\$570.00.** (75% paid to date).

Lastly, PLEASE do not hesitate to call Patty (School Bursar) if you have any queries or you have identified errors. Patty will be happy to take your call. Thank you, Hayley McConnell (Helping Patty).

Trustee (BOT).

Remember that you can pay on the internet. Our details are: ASB Te Awamutu A/C **12-3134-0048177-00**

If you are paying by this method, please identify yourself (family name) in the payee reference.



**A plea...** Could you please have a look around your house for any school books which may have accidentally been forgotten, and return these to school.

**From the Librarian....** Please return ALL 'overdue' books to the library— students have been notified, if they have overdue books. The last day for issues is next Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December.



## Room 11's International Food Stall Market Day.

**Date:** Tues 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015.

**Time:** 12:30pm – 1:30pm.

**Venue:** School Tennis Court.

Come and buy delicious International Foods from our various market stalls. Stalls open at 12:30pm.

**Don't miss out - Come and support the cause!**



**LOST...** x 2 pair of P.E shirts, size 6-8.

Named Cadell F, please return to room 2 if found.



**We are revamping our school and NEED to sell a variety of 'well used' school desks and chairs.**

**CHAIRS:** You could easily restyle these sturdy chairs; give them a dash of paint and good old TLC to suit your décor. The cost is \$5.00 per chair for all sizes.

We have:

x 16 Large chairs to sell.

x 12 Medium

x 30 small (suit toddlers-5yr olds)

These are in a range of colours.

Good for play houses, activities or simply for sitting at a desk.

**DESKS:** Get creative and apply some time and TLC to one of these to suit your décor. We are selling these for \$10 per desk. We have 39 Blue desks for sale, and 32 varnished desks available.

**If you are interested please look us up on Trade-Me or come to the office and check them out.**

## Saint Vincent De Paul/Young Vinnies Joint

**Initiatives...** we have had a great response, please keep the items coming...for the Young Vinnies, teaming up with Saint Vincent De Paul to sell Christmas Cards and assist with the Christmas Brown Paper Bag Appeal.

**Christmas Cards:** The Young Vinnies will be selling these beautiful Nativity themed cards. The cards can be purchased through the Vinnies at school. They are excellent value at \$3.00 for a pack of 5.

**Christmas Brown Paper Bag Appeal:** Once again, the School is privileged to be involved with this amazing project. Each classroom will be given a bag to fill with items of food, kitchen and household consumables, Christmas treats and children's gifts. Last year, 42 families in our community benefited from the Parish and School's generosity. In conjunction with the Brown Paper Bag Appeal is the **Area Council and Radio Christmas toy run**. If you have any old toys in good condition that you would like to donate to this, please send them along to school as well. This appeal runs through to the first week in December. We look forward to your support with these three ventures.

God bless,

Patsy Wisnewski, Convenor Young Vinnies.

## SPORTS NEWS



## Catholic Integrated Schools Athletics...

Official results are on our website.

## Term 4 Athletic Dates...

**T.A Inter-schools – Tues 24<sup>th</sup> Nov.**

A big thanks to all those involved in making this day a great success.

**Waikato Full Primary** are on today, Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Nov at Porritt Stadium.

God bless

Brian Belczacki  
Principal

## ST PATRICK'S PARISH

### St Patrick's Catholic Church - Te Awamutu

Phone 871 6109

PO Box 191, Te Awamutu

Parish Priest: Fr Joe Stack

Email: [parishpriest@stpatta.org.nz](mailto:parishpriest@stpatta.org.nz)

Parish Council Chairperson: Nick Prendergast



### Mass Times

#### Weekday Masses

Wednesday to Friday @ 9.15am

Holy Hour: After 9:15am Mass with

Benediction around 10:30am

### Weekend Masses

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2015

### **First Sunday of Advent**

**Vigil Masses (Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Nov)**

**MASS TIMES HAVE CHANGED!**

SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

NEW Mass times are:

Saturday Vigil – 5pm St Patrick's, Te Awamutu

Sunday Masses - 9:30am St George's, Te Kuiti

10:30am St Patrick's, Te Awamutu

11:30am Our Lady of the Sacred Heart,  
Otorohanga

*Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-28. 34-36*

*'...Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the son of man.'*

**RAFFLE:** This is the first fundraiser for the parish's multipurpose room extension. The prize is a \$3,000 travel voucher and \$1,000 spending money. Tickets are \$10.00 each. Available from the school office or you may take some books to sell on behalf of the Parish.



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### St Patricks Senior Uniform

Skirt (62cm), S/S Polo (12), L/S Polo (12)

PE Shorts (10), PE Top (no tag), School Bucket Hat, Socks

To buy new \$237.50

**Selling Complete \$100.00**

Skirt & Polo worn 1 Term Only and in Excellent Condition

Girls Winter Shoes Pulp (Sz3) \$10

Girls Winter Shoes Pulp only 4 days old


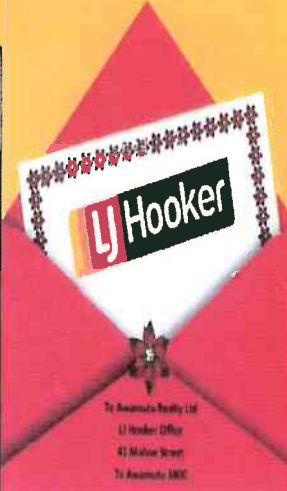

(Sz5) \$20 and (Sz6) \$20



Please contact Nicky 021 547115 or [nicky@timmos.co.nz](mailto:nicky@timmos.co.nz)

Te Awamutu Realty Ltd Presents

# Letters To Santa!



Hol Hol Hol Merry Christmas.  
LJ Hooker has an exciting Xmas treat just for you!

1. Write a letter to Santa.
2. Put it in an envelope and come and post it in Santa's mail box at the LJ Hooker Office before 18th December 2015.
3. A surprise will be waiting.

Have a very happy holiday season from  
The LJ Hooker Team in Te Awamutu.

Te Awamutu Realty Ltd  
LJ Hooker Office  
43 Malvern Street  
Te Awamutu 3001

## PIZZA PINWHEELS

**LUNCHBOX RECIPES**

2 C self-raising flour  
90g margarine  
2/3 C milk

3 Tbsp tomato paste  
1 C grated cheese  
150g chopped ham

Switch to dried fruit for a sweet alternative

Sift flour into bowl. Use fingers to rub margarine into flour until it's like fine breadcrumbs. Add milk. Mix until dough begins to hold. Knead dough on floured bench until smooth (approx. 5mins). Add more flour if dough is sticky.

Roll out dough, 1cm thick. Top with tomato paste, ham and cheese. Roll up dough and slice into 12 pieces. Bake at 200 C for 20-25mins.

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Developed by Sport Waikato 2013

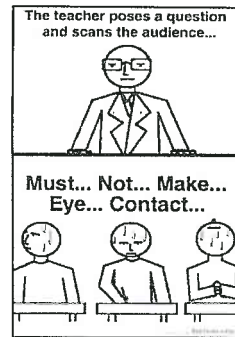




# MODERN /FLEXIBLE /INNOVATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

November 2015

***The name has changed to reflect just how dynamic these spaces have the potential to become!***



## ***Where did we come from?***

Most of the school buildings in New Zealand were built when direct instruction was the norm for teaching and learning. Education was about all students 'learning the same thing at the same time.' This form of education has largely disappeared but the buildings remain.....

Follow this link to the YOUTUBE Clip 'Did you know?' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XrJjfDUzD7M>

### ***We all want quality learning opportunities for our students....***

Quality 21<sup>st</sup> century Learning is a combination of:

- Personalised learning (no two students learn in the same way)
- Learning from each other
- Learning at the pace of the learner
- Learning that is initiated by the students themselves (*student agency*)
- Learning that is connected to the real world

Learning (classroom) environments must now begin to support these changes in emphasis in education and so what is now required is flexibility around how classrooms are configured and can be re-configured to help students maximize learning in ways that best suit individual students.

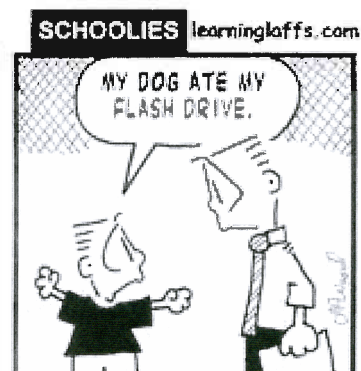
Latest classroom designers coined the phrase and called these 'Modern Learning Environments' (MLEs). These designs included groups of students (equivalent class sizes) in one large space, where there are equivalent 'larger' spaces (to match a class size of students) a shared space and various (smaller) breakout spaces. **This is NOT a return to the 'open plan' model of the 1970-80's.** Although larger 'modern learning environments' (even up to 6, or more equivalent class sizing) are around, research suggests that 3 (equivalent class sizes) is the optimal size for a modern learning environment.

Have a look at this article from Mark Osborne :

<http://www.core-ed.org/sites/core-ed.org/files/Modern-Learning-Environments-v.1.pdf>

### ***So what does Modern/Flexible/Innovative learning environment provide?***

- **Flexibility** – the ability to combine varying groups of students
- **Flexibility** – of furniture, variety working spaces, fewer if any desks...
- **Openness** – fewer walls, more glass, common learning areas
- **Access to resources** - breakout rooms that may be specialised (wet area, IT) that fits within the student's flow of learning.



## ***The same thing in a different name!.....***

### ***.....from Modern (MLEs) to Flexible (FLEs) to Innovative (ILEs)***

The key to these classroom designs is **FLEXIBILITY**... flexibility of space, flexibility of grouping (of students), flexibility of learning styles and therefore flexibility in how teachers share their gifts and expertise.

*Have a look at this video where Mark Osborne speaks about the value of Modern Learning Environments.*

<http://edtalks.org/video/considering-modern-learning-environments>

### ***Flexible Learning Environments promote teaching and learning...***

These environments effectively promote and support a range of teaching styles including :

- ***Delivering*** – teachers will work with groups of students from within a ‘home base’ within the environment
- ***Applying*** - students have a range of spaces in which to apply what they are learning
- ***Creating*** – range of space allows for specialised areas for students to create
- ***Communicating*** – students (and teachers) have access to a wider range of people to help with learning
- ***Decision-making*** – students can make decisions about where they will do their learning, within the flexibility of the learning environment.

### ***At our school***

Our Flexible / Innovative Learning Environment (FLE/ILE) is equivalent to 3 classes and (alongside a purpose built Admin building) forms stage one of the building project. This replaces the existing Colgan Block (R5-7). Stage two involves a further (3) classroom replacement (FLE/ILE) and is likely within the next 5-10 years.

### ***Students as active learner....***

All of our teaching staff have been developing pedagogy and ways to encourage our students to be ‘active learners’.

*Here is a clip about what active learners at Myross School.*

<http://edtalks.org/video/developing-active-learners>

‘The team at Myross Bush School in Invercargill have been finding ways to grow the learning capabilities of all students. "It's the excitement for the children, it's the children driving the learning, it's the freedom the children have, it's the change of power."

***Our ILE is nearly ready to go with 2016 being the formal opening and teaching beginning.***

***Look out for the parent education session coming soon!***