



St. Patrick's Catholic School News

625 Alexandra St, (PO Box 300) Te Awamutu 3800. School: Ph (07) 871 4669, Fax (07) 871 4818
Email: principal@stpatta.co.nz School website: www.stpatta.co.nz

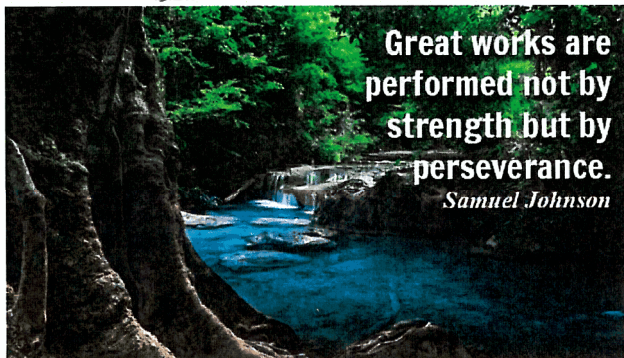
Vol 4.7

**Thursday 24th November
2016**

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

Kia ora Parents, Guardians and Children,

The Charism for this week is: **PERSEVERANCE**



Great works are
performed not by
strength but by
perseverance.
Samuel Johnson

Well we are nearly there – but not quite!!!

It's at this time of the year as we move back into a preparation period – **ADVENT** – as we prepare for the Feast of Christmas. This a frantic time at school as the year is wound up, and it's a time to persevere because when we get to that family time of Christmas we can look back at this time and say we did it!!

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

'I confidently ask God to comfort
and encourage you all.'

30.8.1874

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop
Pray for us



School Community Survey – Let's get engaged!

Parents are encouraged to participate and complete the survey. **Survey closes tomorrow Friday 25th November.** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/stpatsta>

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be a number of permission slips coming home over the next week, please be sure to check school bags.

ASSEMBLIES TOMORROW

TEAM 3 @ 2:15-2:45pm

TEAM 2 @ 2:20-2:45pm



JOIN US ON FACEBOOK....

To find us following the link...

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

TERM DIARY

Wk 7	Fri 25 th Nov: Team 3 Assembly 2:15-2:45pm Team 2 Assembly 2:20-2:45pm
Wk 8	Mon 28 th Nov: Prayer Ass @ 8:55am CH: Perseverance Tues 29 th Nov: Sacrament of Reconciliation, 1:40-2:30pm Wed 30 th Nov: Whole School Sports Assembly, 2-2:45pm Thurs 1 st Dec: Technology Y7/8 @ TAI Christmas Choir singing @ Baptist Church Fri 2 nd Dec: Road Patrol Reward Day, 9-10am Class Mass RM10/11 Team 1 Assembly @ 2:30-2:45pm Free Ear Clinic@St Pats School,9-2pm.
Wk 9	Mon 5 th Dec: Prayer Ass @ 8:55am CH: Advent-Christmas WFP Athletics @ Porritt Stadium Tues 6 th Dec: YR 8 Graduation Dinner, 5:30pm@TA Workingman's Club. Wed 7 th Dec: BOT Meeting6-8:30pm Fri 9 th Dec: Whole School Assembly, YR8 leading
Wk 10	Mon 12 th Dec: Prayer Ass @ 8:55am CH: Advent-Christmas Adrenaline Forest – YR7&8 Tues 13 th Dec: YR7&8 Retreats (Separately) Class Parties, 11am-2:30pm Wed 14 th Dec: School Prize giving Assembly, 1:30-2:30pm@Church. EOY Christmas Liturgy & YR 8 Graduation,6-7:30pm. Thurs 15 th Dec: LAST DAY OF TERM 4 EOY Thanksgiving Mass, 11:45-12:45pm. Fri 16 th Dec: STAFF ONLY DAY-NO SCHOOL

Please check the online version of the school calendar by following the link: http://www.stpatta.co.nz/1/embedded_items/1-school-calendar as this is updated as events or changes co

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

As we finish 2016.....

Year 8 Dinner is on Tuesday 6th at the TA Workingman's Club from 5:30pm.

Final School Assembly (led by Y8's) is on **Fri 9th December**.

End of Year Reports will be issued on **Friday 9th December**.

Class EOY Celebrations Tuesday 13th December, 11-2:30pm.

Prize giving Assembly is on **Wednesday 14th 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 **Thursday 15th Dec**. Students may go home after Mass (around 12:45pm).

And move into 2017.....

Please refer to the following table below:

	School Office Hours - 2017
Tues 24 th Jan	Office open 8:30am -12:30pm
Wed 25 th Jan	Office open 8:30am -12:30pm
Thurs 26 th Jan	Office open 8:30am -12:30pm
Fri 27 th Jan	Office open 8:30am -12:30pm
Mon 30 th Jan	Holiday – Auckland Anniversary Day
Tues 31 st Jan	Term 1 Commences Office open 8:15am – 3:15pm
Mon 6 th Feb	Holiday - Waitangi Day observance

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.



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.

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



St Vincent De Paul/Young Vinnies Joint

Initiative... 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.

We look forward to your support with this venture.

God Bless, Patsy Wisniewski, Convenor Young Vinnies.

Noho Marae... Thank you !!

What a great week we had last week and a big thanks to all those parents, teachers and helpers including the whanau whanui from Whakamarama Marae who always make us feel so welcome!!!

Although the weather was not that kind to us, we learnt lots and most importantly re-established and strengthened the relationship with Whakamarama. Mihi nui ki nga matau ma me te whanau ma e te tautoko e tenei kaupapa.

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

School Community Survey – Let's get engaged!

Thank you to those that have already completed the survey as of the morning of the 23rd November we have had 70 responses which is fantastic!

We have 186 families at the school so that is a 38% response rate which is great, but we really want to achieve our target of 60%, so we have a few more to go!

The survey is completely anonymous, it's a simply tick box exercise with the option to provide comments if you wish. All feedback is valuable, so come on Have your Say!

Survey closes on Friday 25th November.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/stpatsta>

Lorraine Kendrick

Board Chair St Patrick's Catholic School

FREE EAR CLINIC FOR CHILDREN @ St Patricks School,

Rewi St Entrance,

Friday 2nd December

9am-2pm.

(Closed for lunch 12-1pm)



PTA NEWS

IMPORTANT NOTE – PITA PIT THIS WEEK

Lunch orders MUST be in to the office by 3pm each Thursday afternoon.

ALL information MUST be completed on the envelope.

SPORTS NEWS

Imperious Dance Showcase...



Over the weekend Imperious Dance Company had their end of year showcase. The theme was "Ten Decades of Dance" to celebrate 10 years of Imperious Dance Company. There was hip hop, jazz, ballet, contemporary and tap.

There were a lot of students from St Pats who performed in the show: Abbie Osborn, Madeleine Watt, Savannah Freeman (Rm 10). Molly Osborn, Olivia Bell, Annabelle Fielder, Madison Chisholm, Millie Russ (Rm 9). Xanthe Johnson (Rm 8). Imogen Russ, Tara Old, Michaela Sweeney, Addison Spiers, Ashlee Bell, Jade Brindle, Azaaliyah O'Donnell, Charlotte Mackie (FLE) Brooke McKeany (Rm 4). Olivia Bell received the 'Most Outstanding Junior Jazz Dancer' award and Abbie Osborn received an 'Encouragement Award'. ***Awesome! Well Done Imperious Dancers and what a great show it was to.***

Miniball St Pats Authority... We have received very positive feedback in regards to this team showing great sportsmanship by not retaliating to negative comments and behaviour of their competitors. ***Well done St Pats United, we are extremely proud of you!***

St Pats Authority... had a loss to Korakonui Bolts this week 32-8, and the week before they had a win against Puahue Jets 32-8. ***Learning to lose gracefully teaches you to win with grace also. Well done Team..!***

Miniball DRAWS... The weekly miniball draws for all teams are published at:
<https://www.facebook.com/TACBasketball/>

Sports Committee 2017... I am still looking for parents to be part of this initiative for 2017. This concept will help to support our Sport and P.E programmes in our school. We are in need of Netball Co-ordinators, parents interested in organising lunchtime/afterschool sports programmes, and parents who have administration skills. Please make contact with Marcus Oxenham marcus@stpatta.co.nz if you are interested in being part of this concept.

God bless

Brian Belczacki
Principal

ST PATRICK'S PARISH NEWS

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



Mass Times

Sunday 27th November 2016

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(Sat 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

Weekday Masses

Monday @ 7:15am

Tuesday @ 7:15am

Wednesday to Saturday @ 9.15am

Holy Hour: after 9:15am Mass each Friday

with Benediction around 10:30am

Sunday's Gospel Reading: 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming.' Matt 24:37-44.



COMMUNITY NEWS

GOWAIPA

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

MONDAY 16th January 2017 -

FRIDAY 25th January 2017

For bookings/information please contact GoWaipa reception:

Phone: (07) 871 2080

Email:

holidayprogramme@gowaipa.com

OSCAR
FUNDING

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME DETAILS

We provide an environment where children can learn, take part in something challenging and be rewarded with a sense of accomplishment upon completion of activities within a structured programme. The GoWaipa holiday programme is for children aged between 5-13 years.



If there are any students registering in the weetbix kids TRYathlon as an individual or would like to join as a team please contact Mr Oxenham as he is looking at entering a school team.

There will be discounts for entering and prizes up for grabs.

Please contact: marcus@stpatta.co.nz

November 2016

Information Technology at St Patrick's

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Such a lot has happened in the ICT field since our last letter to you in June!

1. Update of our infrastructure

Our ultra high speed internet connection is now up and running and so we are now connected to the ultra high-speed network. As part of this, our security filtering system is now provided by Network for Learning (N4L). As a further security measure we will be installing Hapara Dashboard that enables teacher to monitor student activity in 'real time'. Students in Teams 2 and 3 have been invoiced \$5.00 for this (refer Newsletter 27th October 2016).

2. BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD) - *Thinking about a Christmas gift for your child??*

Now that the infrastructure is completed and *Google Apps for Education* (GAFE) is up and running we are now inviting students in Team 3 to bring devices. The plan is that the BYOD roll out continues in Team 3 and we will begin the journey in Team 2 (FLE - Colgan Learning Hub) in 2017.

The process currently being used and to be used in the future is that parents will need to complete a 'permission to bring a device to school' form that is approved by the classroom teacher and principal. This will be attached to the current year's cybersafety agreement, and the classroom teacher and child will have a copy. The preferred devices in the middle/senior part of the school are chromebooks, with iPads in the Junior/middle School.

You can view the preferred options for chromebooks and/or iPads that are available through Cyclone Computers (follow the link) <http://www.cyclone.co.nz/byod/> password: stpatta.

They offer a competitive package for our school that includes Google Console for Chromebooks, which is a critical part of device management needed for our school.

If you decide to buy elsewhere, you may find the device does not include Google Console. If this is the case, the device will need to be handed into the school for it to be set-up for our network which will include installing Google Console. There is a cost of \$46 inclusive of GST to parents for the cost of the license.

3. Google Apps for Education

We are a Google Apps for Education (GAFE) school. This enables us to enhance the way we use technology and share information within and beyond our school community. Staff members are becoming more confident in our use of GAFE, and can see the educational benefits of having our classes also using GAFE. This has proven to be a successful venture with students collaborating with each other and with their teachers. This is now being rolled out in Team 3.

What does this mean for my student?

- Students now have a google email (eg *[first.lastname]@stpatta.co.nz*) with their own password. This becomes their username and password for all web-based tools that we currently use.
- At this stage students are only able to email, communicate and share work with St Patrick's staff and students.
- All student correspondence will be checked randomly by the class teacher and made to ensure that correspondence is school work related only.

As a parent, what do I need to know and do?

- Whilst in school, all internet traffic is filtered by Network For Learning's (N4L) firewall. This is attached to the student's login when they login with their *[first name.last name]@stpatta.co.nz* login, even when they are at home/away from school. If students use their BYOD devices and login with another login, the school security measures will not activate and as a result cannot control access to inappropriate content students may

encounter and save/transfer in their Google Docs. Whilst in school, we prepare students for these encounters and expect them to report any untoward occurrences to the teacher. We encourage you to spend some time discussing consequences of inappropriate use with your children, monitor their time on devices and consider using a parental control. Perhaps a simple solution is for students to only use the school login on their BYOD devices regardless of where they are.

- Parents may also want to use this opportunity to explore GAFE with your child and decide on your own home rules to keep cyber safe.
- Students should consider their school email as an extension of the classroom, as these are subject to the same rules of respect and courtesy that we expect in school. As you talk to your child about the acceptable use of email, you might use an analogy of adults' work and personal emails. Most employers ask that work email only be used for work, and employers have access to view and limit use of email to make sure it is used appropriately.
- When students leave St Patrick's their Google account will be deleted. However this will not happen immediately as to give time for students to transfer their record of learning to another school based account.

GOOGLE APPS FOR EDUCATION (GAFE) Focus Reminders:

- Do not share passwords.
- GAFE is for school work only.
- Teachers can monitor all items created and shared.
- Be courteous on all documents.

Essentially, GAFE is a cloud based learning platform allowing teachers and students to create a range of documents online, email, share calendars and 30 gigabytes of data to be accessed at home and school on any device. GAFE allows us to collaborate and learn more effectively through the use of technology, and offer a range of new learning opportunities for teachers and students.

Learning does not just happen within the confines of classrooms between 9am and 3pm. Our teachers, like our students, are on a life-long learning journey and with today's technology it can happen anytime, anywhere. Keeping in line with our Cyber Safety Agreement, we will be working with students to educate them around using GAFE in a productive and responsible manner. Further information about GAFE can be found here


<http://www.google.com/enterprise/apps/education/benefits.html>

Thank you for your support as we work to leverage collaboration tools for 21st century teaching and learning. If you have any feedback you would like to share, please feel free to email us on GAFE@stpatta.co.nz


Kind regards



Brian Belczacki
Principal



Aimee McMillan
eLearning



Marcus Oxenham
Assistant Principal/eLearning

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