

Newsletter



We come to the end of another wonderful year at St Joseph's school. After settling into a degree of comfort, during this year we were again challenged by the emergence of the Delta variant and lockdown once again. It has been a trying time with Masses cancelled, gatherings postponed and people separated. As we go on our Christmas holidays let us think about those who are in need around this time and keep them in our prayers.

Peyton, Sophie, Noah and Grant our Year 8 students move on to High School Next year. It has been a pleasure getting to know you over the time you have spent at St Joseph's School. The staff and myself would like to wish you well on your next journey.

I would like to say thank you to the wonderful staff, thank you to the Board and thank you to the PTA for all your hard work here at St Joseph's School.

May the peace and joy of Christ be with you and your loved ones throughout Advent and this holy season. The staff and myself would like to wish everyone a very happy and holy Christmas.
God Bless
Annette

Mass

12 December 2022

Altar Server

Noah Saro

Over Head

Astrid Murray



St Mary MacKillop Awards

Silver
Lilah Jenkinson

Bronze
Ryan Rejin
Logan Murray
Ellie Navarosa

End of Year Celebration

On Wednesday 15 December the children from Year 0 to Year 3 must be picked up at 12:30. All other children will attend the Year 8 graduation here at school. This will start at 1.30pm. Buses will run as normal for these children who finish at 3pm.

It is very important all children in Year 0 to Year 3 be picked up at 12:30. We understand this is a difficult time but it is important we think of the safety of all our students and community.

Only Parents of Year 8 students are allowed to attend the Year 8 graduation. These parents must wear a mask, sign in and follow social distancing guidelines.

Thank you for your support around this celebration, it is the only way we can do it.



St Joseph's is a Catholic School. Educating children to their full potential, inspired by St Mary Mac Killop to be just, compassionate and humble in the Spirit of God

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Message from the Board

Tena koutou katoa

2021 was again a different year for our school community. In these uncertain times you can be rest assured that the Board and our wonderful staff are doing the best they can to ensure our tamariki are safe and fulfilling their potential. The staff has worked very hard to be agile with the children's learning as the management of Covid 19 continues to effects us. This will no doubt be true in 2022 as well. Unfortunately this situation has meant we won't be holding our usual end of year mass and prize giving with our school and parish community. I am sure you will miss the speech from the Board chair – haha! With this in mind the School Board still wanted to acknowledge the year that has been and what next year holds.

On behalf of the Board I would like to thank Hazal Dowling for everything she has done for the school, not only as the office administrator in recent years, but as a parent and contributor to our wider school community for many years. We wish her and Kevin all the best in retirement which involves being newly crowned grandparents. We welcomed Shirley Katon to our Office Administration role during the year, we hope you are enjoying our school so far ☐☐ We also wish to thank Mrs Anna Grant for her contribution to our school over the past decade. Not only has she been a great teacher, she has also served as a staff trustee on the Board. We wish her and Simon all the very best for the future, especially with the raising of their young family. We welcome back Mrs Rowena Miller to a permanent position on our teaching staff in 2022. The children are accustomed to her presence (and humour) so it will be a smooth transition.

The Board has hired Mrs Lyn Clark, who is already known to the students, to work 2 mornings next year to help with extra needs arising from a growing school roll.

After serving approximately 9 years as a proprietor's representative on the School Board, Tracey Murray has recently 'retired' from this role. She has worked tirelessly through this service and has been a great advocate for the school community. Over the 2nd half of her tenure she has been a fantastic financial officer for the Board. Thank you Tracey for all the hard work you have put into our school over the years, your wisdom will be missed.

The tri-annual School Board Parent Representative elections will be held in September next year. The election process will start in the middle of the year calling for nominations. An electronic voting option will be available for the first time in 2022. Please feel free to ask any current Board members or browse the NZ School Trustees Association website to learn what school governance is all about (<https://www.nzsta.org.nz>). It is a rewarding avenue to contribute to your community.

Next year we will be undertaking consultation with parents, whānau, staff, students and the wider school community to help shape our strategic direction. The more willing to engage everyone is, the better the outcomes will be. We like to think we are tracking well, but we always want to do better.

Our school community wishes our year 8 graduates all the best for their first year at High School. You won't go wrong if you take every opportunity that comes along. Thank you for being great role models for our younger students.

On behalf of your School Board I wish everyone and their friends and family a safe and Merry Christmas.

Nga mihi nui
Ben Cameron
Board Chair