

## Manuka Syndicate Newsletter – Term 3, 2018

### Dates for your diary

Grandparents' Mass: St. Benedict's Church, Friday 27th July, 10:00am

Rooms 2 and 3 Mass: St. Benedict's Church, Wednesday 2nd August, 9:15am

Room 4 Mass: St. Benedict's Church, Wednesday 22nd August, 9:15am

Room 5 Mass: St. Benedict's Church, Wednesday 29th August, 9:15am

School Production *The Amazing Adventures of Superstar*: Victoria University, the evenings of Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th September

Sport: Gymnastics at Nairnville, Weeks 2 – 9 inclusive (8 sessions). Rooms 2 and 5 Fridays, Rooms 3 and 4 Mondays. **Children wear sports mufti to school on their sports day**

A very warm welcome to the third term at St. Benedict's School, and a special welcome to the families joining our Manuka syndicate this term. We are delighted to have you in our school family and wish you every success as you embark on your child's education with us. Please don't hesitate to ask your child's teacher any questions. You will find our school office manager Coralie, very helpful as well.

A friendly reminder about our school uniform: please send your children to school correctly dressed in our school colours. This means that hair-ties are navy blue, black, maroon or white. The school shoes (not boots) are black; boys wear navy blue, long socks with the school colours as stripes at the top, and girls wear either plain white ankle socks or navy blue tights. Plain stud earrings and watches are the only jewellery worn: dangling earrings, necklaces and bracelets (other than medical alert ones), are not suitable for school.

### What's Happening this Term?

**The Performing Arts / Technology** With our fabulous school production *The Amazing Adventures of Superstar* showing on the Wednesday and Thursday evenings of 5th and 6th September, a major focus of this term will be the preparation for this. All students will have opportunities to participate.

**Social Science / Technology** Additional to the school production, a key topic for the term will be *Toys and Games: Past and Present*. This unit will focus on the toys and games that your child enjoys, those that you remember as a child, and also, the ones that other members of your family remember. You can support this unit by sharing some of your family memories with your children and we will need some parents to accompany us on a trip to Pataka in Porirua. The visit to Pataka is scheduled over 2 days: Wednesday 8th August (Rooms 3, 4 and half of Room 5), and Thursday 9th August (Room 2 and half of Room 5). The children will learn about historic games and toys that are traditional to our Pacific and European cultures. As feasible, we will integrate this study into the Arts, English, Technology and Maths.

**English** Our classroom reading and writing programmes will integrate the term's Social Science and Performing Arts topics, and will cover how an author uses oral, written and visual features.

**Religious Education** This term's strands are The Church and The Sacraments. Our students will learn about how we can work for Jesus in our homes, at school and in the wider

community. We will learn about the significance of the sacraments in our lives. The Assumption Mass will be celebrated during this term.

School families are most welcome to join us in our classroom morning prayers and when it is our turn to attend mass at St. Benedict's Church. Thank you for remembering that the morning prayers establish the focus and tone of our school day. We really appreciate a timely arrival.

**Mathematics** We will continue to emphasise Number knowledge and strategies, however we will also look at the strand Geometry and Measurement. This strand will focus on position, orientation, mass, volume and capacity.

**Physical Education** A Gymnastics programme will begin at Nairnville Recreation Centre in Week 2. This programme will run for 8 weeks, ending in Week 9 of the term.

Rooms 3 and 4 will walk to gymnastics each Monday, beginning in Week 2.

Room 2 will travel by car and Room 5 will walk to gymnastics each Friday, beginning in Week 2.

Room 2 will be transported to and from Nairnville in cars, by Room 2 parents. All Room 2 children will be transported in a child safety car seat. Please speak with the Room 2 teacher, Mrs Amy Miller, if you have any questions or concerns about this arrangement.

In the event of rain, we may postpone a gymnastics session to a later date at the end of the term.

Regardless of the weather, please ensure that your child brings wet-weather clothing to school on their sports day. They should wear sports mufti, including shoes appropriate for gymnastics. Please talk to your child's teacher if you have any questions about the gymnastics programme. Weather-dependant, each day we endeavour to keep our students active at school with a skill-based fitness programme.

**Te Reo Māori and our Syndicate Assembly** We are fortunate to have Jo, our Maori language teacher, continuing to work with us this term. She holds a language session on alternate Tuesday afternoons, and this term will focus on how to ask and answer questions about everyday school objects.

Our weekly syndicate assemblies are a lovely way to reinforce a variety of songs and celebrate students' successes our school's EPIC values.

We are very grateful for your assistance with our various school activities including book returns, transport and trips. We would also like to thank you for supporting us in your child's learning at home and in the classroom. We wish you all a safe and very rewarding term.

**With kind regards and best wishes,**

**Anne Minto, Amy Miller, Charmaine McGowan, Sarah Wood and Fiona Barnett**