



Manuka Syndicate Newsletter – Term 3, 2019

Dates for Your Diary

- Grandparents Mass and Morning Tea: St. Benedict's Church, Friday 26th July, 10:00am
- Assumption Day Mass: St. Benedict's Church, Thursday 15th August, 9:30am
- Rooms 1 and 8 Liturgy: St. Benedict's Church, Wednesday 31st July, 9:15am
- Rooms 2 and 9 Liturgy: St. Benedict's Church, Wednesday 11th September, 9:15am
- Rooms 3 and 10 Liturgy: St. Benedict's Church, Wednesday 7th August, 9:15am
- Rooms 4 and 11 Liturgy: St. Benedict's Church, Wednesday 18th September, 9:15am
- Father's Day Breakfast: St Benedict's School, Friday 30th August (before school)
- Art Exhibition: St Benedict's School, Thursday 26th September, 3:00pm – 7:00pm
- Sport: Kiwihoops Basketball: Weeks 1 – 8 inclusive (8 sessions). **Students wear sports mufti to school on Wednesdays for these weeks**

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 staff, Coralie and Emma, very helpful as well.

Uniform: A reminder about our winter school uniform: please send your children to school correctly dressed in one of our uniform options. This means that hair-ties and hairbands may be in the school colours of navy blue, black, maroon and white and the school shoes are black. Plain stud earrings and watches are the only jewellery worn: dangling earrings, necklaces and bracelets (other than medical alert ones), are accidents waiting to happen. Our school website clearly explains the winter uniform options and clothing purchases can be made through the school office.

What's Happening this Term?

Our School Art Week Presentation Please attend our biannual Art Week Presentation on Thursday 26th September. Our school will be transformed into an inspiring display of all our students' art from 3:00-7:00pm. Being in the final week of the term, it will be a wonderful conclusion to the major focus on the Visual Arts that will run across the term.

Religious Education Other than the Visual Arts, the second major topic for the term will be an integrated Religious Education study of water in our local environment. The syndicate will consider the creation of water by God, His charge to humanity to protect it, and the ways in which we can respectfully use it and care for it at school, home and in our local community. We will look at the significance of water in the Catholic Church, with a particular emphasis on Baptism. We would like to explore the significance of water for the cultural groups represented in our syndicate, including its significance in Māori culture. Please talk to your child's teacher if you can contribute to this cultural study of water. We would be very grateful for your assistance. Wherever possible, we will integrate this unit into the other school curriculum areas.

Developing our
children's **MINDS**,
guiding our children's
HEARTS...



School families are most welcome to join us in our classroom morning prayers and when it is our turn to attend a liturgy or 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 your timely arrival.

English Our classroom reading and writing programmes will integrate the term's Religious Education and Visual Arts topics, however a further focus will be on how we and other authors can use written and visual features to draw attention to our work.

Mathematics Number knowledge and strategies will continue to be our primary focus, however we will also study the strand topics of Geometry and Measurement, with an emphasis on position, orientation, mass, volume and capacity.

Physical Education A very worthwhile *Kiwihoops* basketball programme will commence at school on the Wednesday of Week 1. This programme will run for eight Wednesdays, ending in Week 8 of the term. Please ensure that your child is appropriately dressed in sports mufti on these Wednesdays, bearing in mind that we will be outside during the coldest time of the year. Talk to your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns about the basketball programme.

Weather-dependent, each day we endeavour to keep our students active at school with a skill-based fitness programme. This programme will in part reinforce the skills covered in the *Kiwihoops* sessions.

Te Reo Māori Sessions Our Maori language teachers will continue to work with us this term and will teach us each alternate Friday.

We are very grateful for your assistance with the running of our syndicate, including book returns, transport support and parents helpers on school trips. We would also like to thank you for supporting your child's learning at home.

We wish you all a very rewarding and happy term.

Anne Minto, Sarah Wood, Charmaine McGowan, Fiona Barnett and Lata Govind

Manuka Syndicate Teachers