

Manuka Syndicate Newsletter – Term 4, 2019

Dates for your Diary

St. Benedict's Spring Fair - Sunday 3rd November – 11:00am - 2:00pm

Rooms 1&8 Liturgy/Mass - Week 1, 16th October, St. Benedict's Church – 9:15am

Rooms 2&9 Liturgy/Mass - Week 5, 13th November, St. Benedict's Church – 9:15am

Rooms 3&10 Liturgy/Mass - Week 2, 23rd October, St. Benedict's Church – 9:15am

Rooms 4&11 Liturgy/Mass - Week 6, 20th November, St. Benedict's Church – 9:15am

All Saints' Liturgy - Week 3, 1st November, 1:30pm in the School Library. All parents are most welcome to attend. Thank You Parents' afternoon tea to follow.

End of Year Advent Mass - Week 8, Friday 6th December, St. Benedict's Church – 9:30am

Carol Service and Prize-giving - Week 9, Thursday 12th December, St. Benedict's Church - 6:00pm

Swimming - Fridays, Weeks 1 to 8 inclusive (Eight 30-minute sessions). **Please have your child dressed in named sports mufti that is easy to get changed into. All swimming gear must be clearly named. Please ensure your child brings a waterproof bag suitable for carrying wet items. Many thanks.**

Dear Manuka Parents and Whanau

Welcome back to the final school term of 2019, which will be full of exciting learning opportunities for your children. On behalf of the whole school community we wish to extend a warm welcome to the new families that will join us over the term. We are sure that you will quickly feel a valued part of our school.

Our School Fair will be held at school on Sunday 3rd November and will be a great start to the term. We're looking forward to seeing you there; enjoying the fabulous food and bargains. Don't forget to invite your friends and family along too!

This term we enjoy warmer, sunnier days and our summer uniform. Sunhats must now be worn during breaks and sport to protect your child's head and neck from the sun. All hats should be clearly named and can be kept at school in desks, chairbags, schoolbags or on your child's bag hook. It's a good idea to apply sunscreen to exposed skin before school. Please refer to our school website for uniform requirements and do remember that hair-ties and hairbands should only be worn in the school colours of black, white, navy blue or maroon, and that no jewellery or nail polish should be worn. For safety reasons, studs are the only earrings allowed.

Some of the Term's Events

A Religious Education, Social Science and Technology unit: *Advent 2019*. A topic focus for the term is the integrated Religious Education unit, *Advent 2019*. This unit will focus on sharing Advent with others by making gifts and preparing songs for a church celebration.

Our second unit for the term will be a Health and Physical Education-integrated unit on Water and Sun Safety. This will have a practical component that compliments the term's swimming programme.

Families are welcome to attend classroom Morning Prayers. These are held at the beginning of each school day and last approximately 10 minutes. You are also warmly invited to the All Saints' Mass on the 1st November, the End of Year Advent Mass on Friday 6th December and the Carol Service and Prize-giving on Thursday 12th December.

English The syndicate's reading and writing programmes will focus on the *structure* of writing. Classes will investigate the organisation of words, sentences, paragraphs and images within the reading programme and their writing. The school's Speech and Poetry Competition will be held in Week 7 on Friday 30th November, and all Manuka students will practise reciting a poem for this. You will receive more information about preparing for this competition later in the term.

Mathematics Our main focus continues to be *Number Knowledge* and *Number Strategies*. We will also study *Time and Money*.

Physical Education This term we will complete eight sessions of swimming at Khandallah School Pool. Details regarding this programme were e-mailed to Manuka Syndicate families at the close of Term Three, so please request a copy of this e-mail from your child's teacher or the school office if you failed to receive it.

A reminder that each swimming session is on a Friday from Weeks 1-8 inclusive and is 30 minutes long. Your child will be transported to and from the swimming pool by bus. Each swimming group comprises of roughly five swimmers with a trained Easyswim instructor, and four swimming groups use the pool at a time. Your child should come to school on Fridays in named sports mufti that they can independently change from into their named togs, and easily get dressed in after swimming. All swimmers need goggles and a swimming cap. If your child does not bring a swimming cap, one will be provided by the pool staff. Wet costumes and towels need to be easily transported back to school in a sturdy waterproof bag that is not their school bag.

Te Reo Māori Once a fortnight, our trained Te Reo Maori instructors will give each class a lesson in Te Reo. These lessons will be followed up by classroom teachers.

Kapa Haka lessons are optional for all students, however some of our classes may not be able to attend, due to a clash with swimming.

Syndicate Assemblies These run each Friday afternoon and we enjoy singing songs and celebrating some of our classroom work.

School Reports, Week 9: All students except for those New Entrant students beginning school in Term Four 2019, will receive a school report in Week 9 of this term. New Entrant students beginning school in Term Four will have an Entry into School Assessment after

approximately six weeks at school. Upon the completion of this assessment, parents will be invited by their child's teacher to attend an interview and discuss the results.

Thank you for supporting our classroom programmes, and particularly the homework tasks including reading practise. Our home and school partnership provides your children with a strong foundation for learning, and is very much appreciated.

Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions about our school activities. We wish you and your families a very fulfilling and happy term.

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

Manuka Syndicate Teachers