



Manuka Syndicate Newsletter - Term 3, 2020

Monday 20th July, 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Dates for your diary

Rooms 1, 2 and 3 Mass: St. Benedict's Church, Tuesday 28th July, 9:15am

Room 4 Mass: St. Benedict's Church, Tuesday 11th August, 9:15am

Grandparents Mass: St. Benedict's Church, Friday 28th August, 10:00am, followed by morning tea in the library at school

Sport: Gymnastics at Nairnville Recreation Centre: Tuesdays Weeks 1 – 8 inclusive

(8 sessions). **Students wear sports mufti to school on Tuesdays Weeks 1-8 inclusive**

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Welcome back to Term Three at St. Benedict's School, and a very warm welcome to the new families joining our Manuka syndicate this term. We are delighted to have you in our school family. 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.

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. School shoes are black with no white writing on them. 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?

Religious Education and Science We begin the term with an integrated Religious Education and Science inquiry of *Planet Earth and Beyond*. The syndicate will look at the planets and sun in our solar system and God as the creator of these. There is also a focus on Matariki and we will visit the Carter Observatory on Monday 17th August. We will be asking for parent help on this day and a notice about this trip will be emailed to you shortly. Wherever possible, we will integrate this topic inquiry into the other school curriculum areas.

English Our classroom reading and writing programmes will integrate the term's inquiry and we will also look at how we can use written and visual features to make our writing more interesting.

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

Unplugged coding will be integrated into curriculum areas as appropriate.

Physical Education The syndicate will begin an 8-session Gymnastics programme at Nairnville on the Tuesday of Week 1. The programme will run for 8 Tuesdays, ending in Week 8 of the term. Please ensure that your child is appropriately dressed in sports mufti on these Tuesdays, including warm coats and sensible shoes. We will be walking to and from Nairnville during the coldest time of the year. Talk to your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns about this programme.

Weather-dependant, 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 Gymnastics sessions.

Te Reo Māori Sessions Our Maori language teacher, Whaea Adrienne, will continue to work with us this term and we will consolidate our developing knowledge through classroom activities and the daily use of te reo.

Morning Prayers 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.

We are very grateful for your assistance with the running of our syndicate, including book returns, transport and 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.

Manuka Syndicate Teachers,

Anne Minto (Room 1), Charmaine McGowan (Room 2), Fiona Barnett (Room 3), Sarah Wood (Room 4), and our part-time teachers Wendy Treder and Mary Ryan.