



# Mānuka Syndicate Newsletter - Term 3, 2021

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2021

## Dates For Your Diary

Grandparents Mass: St Benedict's Church, Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July, 10:00am, followed by morning tea in the school library.

Room 1 and 2 trip to Zealandia Wildlife Sanctuary, Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> August, 9:00am – 12:30pm.

Room 3 and 4 trip to Island Bay Marine Education Centre, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August, 9:15am – 12:30pm.

Mānuka Syndicate Buddy Class Mass: St Benedict's Church, Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August, 9:15am.

St Benedict's School Art Exhibition: Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September, 3:00pm – 6:00pm.

Sport: Basketball at school. Weeks 2-9 inclusive and extending to Monday Week 10 if a rained-off session necessitates this. **Students wear sports mufti to school on Mondays Weeks 2-9 inclusive, regardless of the weather.**

**Dear Mānuka whānau,**

Welcome back to Term 3 at St Benedict's School, and a particular welcome to the new families joining our Mānuka 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.

We are very fortunate to have Mrs Charmaine McGowan with us for the remainder of 2021. Mrs McGowan is a very experienced teacher who will be working with the New Entrant students entering the school in this latter half of the year. She will be teaching in Room 1. Mrs McGowan has been covering our teacher release since February, and this role will now be undertaken by Mrs Gillian Grice, who is returning to our school following her maternity leave. We are so pleased to have both of these teachers back and working in our syndicate!

## **School Uniform**

Our school website clearly explains the winter uniform options, and clothing purchases can be made through the school office. Please remember that hair-ties and hairbands may be in the school colours of navy blue, black, maroon and white, and the school shoes are plain black. Plain stud earrings and watches are the only jewellery worn: dangling earrings, necklaces and bracelets (other than medical alert ones), are not safe at school.

# **What's Happening this Term?**

## **Religious Education and the Visual Arts**

In accordance with the rest of the school, each class will have a term long focus on an aspect of the World Health Organisation's goal for sustainability. Religious Education objectives will be integrated into this. The inquiry will be expressed through a variety of visual arts and will culminate in the school's Art Exhibition on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September, which whānau and friends are warmly invited to attend. Wherever possible, we will integrate this topic inquiry into the other school curriculum areas.

In relation to this inquiry, the Room 1 and 2 students will be going on a trip to the Zealandia Wildlife Sanctuary on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> August, and the Room 3 and 4 students will visit the Island Bay Marine Sanctuary on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August. Both trips will require parent help and you will receive a letter about these trips from your class teacher in due course.

## **English**

Our classrooms' reading and writing programmes will be integrated as appropriate into the term's inquiry, and will 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. Digital Technology will be integrated into curriculum areas as appropriate.

## **Physical Education**

The syndicate will begin 8 sessions of Basketball at school on the Monday of Week 2 and ending in Week 9 of the term. Please ensure that your child is appropriately dressed in warm sports mufti on these Mondays; including sports shoes. 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 Basketball sports 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.

### **Music Sessions**

We will enjoy another term of music with Rebecca Haswell each Friday.

### **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 support in the running of our syndicate; including your assistance with 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.

**Charmaine McGowan (Room 1), Anne Minto (Room 2), Sarah Wood (Room 3), Fiona Barnett (Room 4), and our part-time teacher Gillian Grice**

**Mānuka Syndicate Teachers**