

Newsletter – 1 December 2022

 smcs.school.nz/2022/12/01/newsletter-1-december-2022/

Tēnā koutou katoa St Michael's Catholic School Community,

“He taonga rongonui te aroha ki te tangata”

Goodwill towards others is a precious treasure

What a pleasure it was to celebrate the Year 6's journey at St Michael's with a beautiful Graduation Dinner last week. It was lovely to hear their recollections of their time spent with us, and their excitement as they prepare to transition to their new schools. We are proud of the wonderful young people that they have become, and wish them all of God's blessings as they enter this exciting new phase of their lives.

A big thank you to the wonderful team of Year 6 parents who helped to coordinate this evening, particularly **Ange Murray** who led the team; **Yii Petrus, Laura Thomson** and **Amanda Thomas** who assisted with the set-up and organised the children's desserts; **Ulliana Lee** who provided the beautiful dessert platters for the adults; and **Steph Kerr** who coordinated the slideshow.

We also had a very generous donation (from a parent who wishes to remain anonymous) which helped to reduce the cost of the dinner.

Congratulations to our amazing team of athletes who represented the school at the Remuera Zone Athletics event earlier this week, and an extra thank you to the parents who supported the team by transporting and marshalling on the day.

This evening we will continue to celebrate the Year 6 Graduates with our annual **Thanksgiving Mass**. Please have all children to the Parish Centre (underneath the Church) by 5.40pm to meet their classroom teachers. Children must be in full school uniform please (including the correct footwear). We look forward to seeing you all there!

Staffing Changes for 2023

At the end of this term, we will be farewelling two of our wonderful teachers: **Jessica Jost** and **Sophie Dodd**.

Jessica started with us in 2018 and has been a highly valued member of our Senior Team since. We thank Jess for all of her hard work and her dedication to her children. She is a passionate teacher who has happily taken on new responsibilities, including her role as Acting DRS this term. Jess is looking forward to travelling in 2023, and spending time with her family.

Sophie began teaching at St Michael's in 2020 and is a much-loved member of our Junior Team. Her passion for teaching, and devotion to the children in her class is obvious to all who meet her. We will miss Sophie's creativity, energy and enthusiasm. She

will be travelling overseas at the start of 2023, and is looking forward to new adventures in the UK.

To fill these two positions, we are happy to announce that we have employed **Kristie Larsen** to join the Junior Team, and **Emma Cotterell** to join the Seniors. We are looking forward to welcoming both Kristie and Emma to school in 2023!

As previously mentioned, **Deahna Barrington** will also finish with us at the end of the year, as she returns to a classroom teaching position. We know that she will be a valuable asset to her new school!

We strive to offer our teachers new opportunities to nurture their professional growth and passion for teaching. In light of this, we have several changes to the make-up of our **Junior School** next year:

- **Charlotte Bagnall** will be teaching a Year 0/1 class in Room 3
- **Catherine Westwood** will be teaching a Year 1/2 class in Room 2

And finally, **Lauren Brown** has won a role as part of our school's Kahui Ako (Community of Learners) and will be the Across School Teacher for Literacy. For two days a week, Lauren will be working outside of St Michael's, and we have employed **Sarah Burrows** to team teach with her in Room 5 next year. We congratulate Lauren on this wonderful opportunity!

Calendar updates

- **Whole School Thanksgiving End of Year Mass:** 6.00pm, Thursday 1 December (Church)
- **Athletics Prize Giving:** 2.00pm, Wednesday 7 December (Hall)

Lost Property

The bins are full! Please remind your children to collect their items of clothing and shoes.

Encountering CHRIST

Excerpt from 'The Catholic Education of School-Age Children' (NZ Bishops, 2014)

A genuine and ongoing encounter with Christ gives rise to a desire to know more about him and his teaching. Facilitating that encounter is an essential function of the Catholic school. Without it the student will not have a passion for those things which pertain to Christ and his Church, and Religious Education will have little effect on the heart, the mind and the will.

St Michael's Parish Website – Mass times – Sunday 8am, 10am & 5pm; Monday – Friday 7am & 12noon; Saturday 8am.

School Masses – Every Thursday at 9:15am

Thursday 1 December 6pm – whole school Thanksgiving End of Year Graduation Mass
08/12/22 – Rooms 4 & 7

Second Week of Advent

"In this season of Advent, prepare my heart for the coming of



Jesus, our Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Fill my heart with your peace which passes all understanding. For the greatness of his government and peace, there shall be no end. Amen."

Manaaki ki te Atua,

Ann McKeown
Principal Tumuaki

| Ministry of Education Update

ENROL privacy statement and usage

The information in ENROL is being shared with Stats NZ for the purposes of the schooling **Equity Index**, which enables us to better target school funding and resources.

The ENROL privacy statement has been updated for parents and whānau and outlines how ENROL collects and uses student information.

Please click on the links below to view/print.

ENROL privacy statement – Ministry of Education

Additional information for parents and whānau on enrolling their child/children at school.

For parents and whānau – Ministry of Education

| PTA News

Pizza Fridays and 'My Kindo'

Please update your My Kindo account

Please make sure that you update your child's classroom number on your My Kindo account when you find out which class they are going to be in next year.

Simply look under 'My Details,' find your child and update the details there.

Food orders will restart on Feb 7th 2023.

Thank you to **Room 8** for helping with pizza this week.

Thank you to all of the parents from all rooms who have helped to make pizza Fridays a success over the past year. The children really love it and it helps to raise funds for the school. Thank you!

School Uniform Shop

Second hand School Uniform shop open Fri 2nd Dec 22 from 2:30 PM to 3:15 PM
Bargains Galore!! **STOCK CLEARANCE SALE ON!!**

- All St Michael's 'Old Logo' jackets and shoes are **FREE!!**
- All **PE Clothes \$5**
- All **Winter Clothes \$5**

Donations needed – We are in real need of donated uniforms especially size 8 upward of all uniform. We are often able to repair some items if not badly damaged so please don't throw items away, as we may be able to save them! Thank you.

PTA Situations Vacant

We are pleased to say that **we have filled the positions of Chairperson and Secretary for next year**, they will officially be proposed at the AGM at the beginning of the year.

We are really grateful to our Class Reps who do a great job of communicating relevant information to you. We have had a few who are happy to stay on and continue in the role next year, but would be very happy to hear from anyone who would be keen to help out in this way.

It's quite useful if there are two people to share the role as we would like at least one person from each class to try and come to PTA meetings as it helps with the flow of information both to and from classes. Obviously we don't know which rooms we will all be representing until the end of term, but if this is a role you think you could do, please contact us on ****

Key roles:

- Keeping parents informed about key events happening around the school.
- Acting as a conduit between the classroom and the PTA to communicate information either way.
- Organising social events for your class possibly in conjunction with other classes where year groups are split.
- Looking for pastoral care needs within the classroom and directing it initially to Ann who can pass it on if required to the pastoral care team of the PTA.

Have a lovely weekend

Ree and Sarah x