

Dear Parents/ Caregivers

Malo e lelei, Talofa Lava, Kia Orana, Greetings, Tena Koutou, Bula Vinaka, Chao, Namaste and Welcome to Week 6 of Term 4 . This week welcome Mrs Brenda Williams and Mrs Karen Carding to St Josephs. Mrs Williams and Mrs Carding are from the Education Review Office and this is their regular three yearly visit to St Joseph's. The last visit was in 2007. The role of ERO is to ensure that schools are providing an excellent education for your children and that each child is learning to the best of his/her ability in a safe and secure environment, supported by the parent community and the Board of Trustees. ERO writes a report on the school which we will feed back to you in due course.

We had a wonderful weekend of celebrations:

Firstly on Saturday we had 20 of our Year 7 and 8 girls who did a liturgical dance in St Patrick's Cathedral at the special diocesan Mass in honour of St Mary MacKillop. Many, many people complimented the girls on both their dance and their prayerful demeanour. We were very proud of them. Special thanks to the girls themselves for working hard and to Miss Lutita Luafalealo for teaching them the dance on Saturday mornings. My thanks also to parents who allowed their daughters to be present at the Mass. I appreciate that it means making special family arrangements, so THANK YOU! I would also like to say a special thank you to the staff members from St Joseph's who assisted and supported in so many ways. We are very fortunate to have such generous staff as they also have families to attend to on the weekend.



Then on Sunday we had a beautiful Mass for Confirmation and First Communion. Bishop Pat Dunn celebrated Mass and it was a lovely, prayerful and reverent occasion. Congratulations to the following children who were confirmed and received Holy Communion for the first time.

Sulieti 'Aholelei	Tui'ono Atkinson	Bellatina Ekeroma	Paul Faletogo
Grace Grove	Aundrey Latu	Makaola Latu	Philomena Lemisio
Junior Lemisio	Lemisio Moors	Elizabeth Ponifasio	Cheno Punzalan
Margaret Rusia	Avionne Tonga	Iorah Tyrell	Obrah Tyrell

Very special thanks to Mrs Dervan who prepared the children over many weeks and to the families who supported them. My thanks also to all the children who came and sang in the Choir. We had nearly 80 children which was just marvellous. Thank you parents for your support...AGAIN! Thank you also to all other staff members who again helped in so many ways. It is very much appreciated. It was a memorable day and one we hope the children will remember all their lives as they strive to live the message of Jesus, stay faithful to the Mass and live lives that are filled with the grace of the Holy Spirit THANK YOU to the parents who attended the Third and final parent meeting for those families with New Entrants on 2011. It

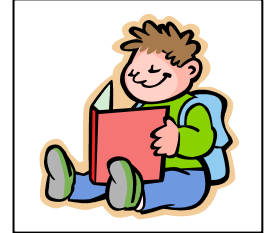
is really good to see parents making the effort to attend those meetings as it shows a real commitment to the importance of PARTNERSHIP between school and home in the education of your children.

REMINDER: Families with children starting at the beginning of 2011 need to get their uniform organised BEFORE the school year closes. The UNIFORM SHOP will be open only ONE afternoon in January. Friday 28 January 2011 at 1.00 – 3.00pm. The Uniform price list was in your pack of information.

WELCOME to our latest and final New Entrant for 2010 – Dominic Tapuai- Soti who started school yesterday.

NOTICE:

Needing PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION for your child?
We have vacancies at St Andrews Christian Pre-school,
Otahuhu for children aged 3 – 5 years. For further
information call in and see us at 18 Station Rd,
Otahuhu or ring 2764534



I would point out to families that good pre-school education is very important and helps get your child off to a good start at school. Please don't forget the importance of TALKING with your children. The more words children hear and speak the better they will learn. If children come to school with very few words (limited vocabulary) then learning will be very hard for them. Little children should be TALKING, DRAWING, WRITING, BEING READ TO, PLAYING and EXPLORING rather than sitting in front of TV or computer games! Their young brains need lots of interesting activities and their questions answered. That is how they learn!

CONGRATULATIONS to all past pupils from St Joseph's who have received prizes at their Secondary schools for academic achievement, service/ leadership awards and sporting achievements. We feel very proud whenever we see the names of St Joseph's pupils. Special CONGRATULATIONS to Carmelita Maletino who is Head girl at McAuley for 2011. Your family and your primary school are all very proud of you Carmelita and our prayers will be with you in your important role of leadership.

NCEA Exams: We remember in our prayers all those who are sitting examinations over the next few weeks. May you do well and make your families and yourselves proud.

God Bless
Miss Horgan (Principal)



