



John Paul II High UPDATE

Thursday 29th March 2018

March Issue

Kia ora from the Principal



This is my last report to you as Principal of John Paul II High school. The term is passing by so quickly and as we head into Easter we reflect on what it really means to be a Christian and Catholic. Christ died so that we may live! Easter truly is a time to give thanks and praise to the Lord for all that we have.

It has been a privilege to serve the Catholic communities of Greymouth and Hokitika, and it has been a pleasure to see our school grow from strength to strength during the 15 years that I have been here. We look forward to watching two of our former students as they compete in the up-coming Commonwealth Games; Sharlotte Lucas in road cycling and Ruby Tui in sevens rugby. I still hold by what I said to 'Stuff' last year that our school is about quality and not quantity!

No one is irreplaceable in a school and nor should they be. The Board of Trustees is at present going through the process of selecting a new Principal for the school and we pray to give them guidance and strength as they carry out this important process. I know whoever is selected will require the full backing of the staff, our families, the student body and the Board of Trustees as he/she continues with the guidance of our school through an ever-changing education system, while at the same time keeping it true to our Marist and Mercy roots.

Finally from me, 'when you grow up by the sea, you spend a good deal of time looking at the horizon. You wonder what on earth the waves might bring - and where the sea might deposit you - until one day you know, you have lived between two places, the scene of arrival and the point of departure'. (Andrew O'Hagan).

God bless to all! Nga mihi nui!

Kieran Stone



KEY DATES TO REMEMBER

- Mar 30 Good Friday
- Apr 2 Easter Monday
- Apr 3 Public Holiday
- Apr 5 Jnr Boys Rugby 7's
- Apr 6 Bishop Lyons
Uni Canterbury
Liaison Person
- Apr 13 Cross Country
Last day Term 1
- Apr 14 School Holidays
Begin
- Apr 29 Last Day of School
Holidays
- Apr 30 Day 1, Term 2
- May 8-9 Senior Retreats
- May 16 Open Day
- May 17 WC Kids Lit Quiz
(JPII Hosting)
- May 18 Cultural Day
- May 21 Early Finish 2pm
- May 22 Football Girls &
Boys
- May 23 Rangatahi Day
- May 25 Snr Reports Issued

JPII Students break School Athletics Records

Congratulations to our three students who broke some school athletics records. Abby Newcombe broke our Over 16 Girls Shot Put record, throwing a whopping 9.43m; Leo Smith jumped out of his skin producing an Under 16 boys record of 1.63m; and Zeb Thompson was the Flash, sprinting 200m in 25.2s. Well done to these three students.



Special Character Report with Mrs Webster

Anahere House organised the first House Mass. They designed a label for their House candle which will be used for future Anahere Masses. It was good to see their banner lead the procession. Katie Thwaites and Jayme Beynon did the Karanga for the banner and candle. A large number of Anahere Whanau members participated in the different ministries throughout the Mass. The Choir had its first performance during Communion. Sarah Williams, the Choir teacher, has worked hard with the students so that their singing enhanced the reverence of the Mass. Students from Year 9 – 13 including Kapa Haka students make up the Choir.



Father Peter blessed a number of different badges at Mass. The Special Character Committee members received their gold crosses at Mass as well as the three Pumanawa Leaders and Student Councillors. The new House Leaders received their blessed badges at Karakia on Monday and the Arts Leader and Sports Leaders were presented with their badges at assembly on 23 March. NCEA Endorsements were also blessed at the end of Mass. The 2017 Year 13 Endorsement badges were posted out and the Year 2017 Year 11 and 12 received theirs at the end of the Holy Week Liturgy.

New prayer books have been organised for Whanau time as well as new resources for assembly prayer. Students are becoming more confident at leading assembly prayers and are choosing prayers that reflect the important Special Character aspects of the school.

St Patrick's Mufti Day on 17 March, saw a large number of students dressing in something green. The proceeds were for Caritas Share Lent Appeal which is for strengthening communities in Timor-Leste. The second collection for Caritas took place at the Holy Week Liturgy in the form of a 'retiring collection'.

Mrs Smith worked hard organising the Caritas Challenge where a large number of our students stayed overnight in the cardboard city. This activity, as well as being a fundraiser, gives our students a taste of what life is like in a large number of countries around the world. Father Tien attended assembly and spoke about living in a country that is poor and how challenging it is for families to survive. He told students of his life as a child and the challenges he faced growing up, including the half hour bike ride every day to attend school.



A group of Year 12 students, accompanied by Mr Bergin, set out very early in the morning on 7 March, to attend the Caritas Leadership Day held in Christchurch. This day is about Social Justice and becoming people of actions. The students are expected to go back into their schools and run activities that teach about justice and how we can

make a difference. They will organise activities for Social Justice Week later in the year.

Mr Stone and a group of students, including Head Girl Annie Molloy, attended the Ordination of our new Bishop, Paul Martin. It was an amazing experience for all involved in the trip. Annie represented our school in the procession.

At assembly on 23 March, we had a presentation on The Duke of Edinburgh Awards programme and the William Pike Awards programme. These are both aimed at getting students involved in the community, learning new skills and trying new activities. Ms Morgan, who was involved in the programme for 6 years in Wales, has taken up the challenge of getting students involved in these awards programmes.

Samantha Bergin and Maddie Sweetman led the Stations of the Cross at St Patrick's Parish on Friday 23 March. Leo Whitcombe was one of the readers of the Passion at Palm Sunday Mass. They all represented the school well.

A group of students represented the school at the Funeral Mass of Margaret Jamieson. Margaret was a strong member of the St Patrick's Parish, playing the organ for many years. She will be sorely missed. A card was sent to her sister-in-law, Mrs Carmel Kelly at St Patricks Primary School.

Cards of congratulations have been sent to our students for their spectacular athletic performances for the West Coast as well as those who broke records in our Athletic Sports. We are very proud of our students and really enjoy celebrating their achievements.

A sympathy card was sent to Hon. Damien O'Connor on the death of his father, John O'Connor.

Mrs Webster's Year 9 class had their first Mass, with Father Peter explaining the parts of the Mass and the various items and gestures they use.

Year 11 went with Mrs Zampese and Mrs Webster to the Anointing of the Sick as part of their Reverence for Life Unit. Several students were anointed. It was good to see our students participating in a different Mass and supporting our sick and elderly in prayer.

The Mentoring activities with Year 9 and 13 continue with students focusing on communication and confidence. The Year 13 are thoroughly enjoying organising and running the different activities. Two more sessions are left for this term.

Ms Lauder has begun the training of 5 Mediators from Year 13. These students support the safe school environment and provide an avenue for students to work through conflict in a positive manner.

Mrs Webster sent a letter to all parents with the dates and times of the Holy Week Liturgies. This is the highlight of the Catholic/Christian year.

It has been good seeing many Year 9 and 10 students attending Mass over the past month. The students were completing the RE homework, becoming familiar with Sunday Mass so that they are able to understand the work being covered in class, with Year 9 covering the Church's Year, and Year 10 studying the Meaning and Significance of Eucharist.

Caritas Challenge—2018

On Tuesday the 27th March, 25 John Paul II students and five members of staff traded their beds for the comfort of a cardboard box and a sleeping bag in order to raise funds for Timor-Leste (Caritas' fundraising focus for 2018).

The whole school has been involved in this event either directly or indirectly with Whanau classes taking a team approach to the tasks involved in the evening. Some students collected the cardboard and built the dwellings, others gathered sponsors and some stayed overnight, or into the evening.

The event began after school on Tuesday and involved cooking your own dinner from a rations box, sleeping rough for the night, cooking up some more rice out of the ration box for breakfast, spiced up with a little coconut milk and a banana, then the big clean-up and off to class for the day.

A number of staff assisted us in various ways with some sleeping over and others spending the evening with us or helping in other ways. We also had great support from our parents who donated much of the food used in our ration boxes and checked in for a peek during the event.

Participating in this event has helped us all to realise the comfort that we live in, the miracle of mattresses, and the variety of food we enjoy. Hopefully, in Timor-Leste, our participation in this event will mean that someone can eat a square meal, or go to school, or wear a pair of much needed shoes because of our efforts.

We are still collecting in our donations, it's not too late to support our students if you would like to give to this worthy cause. Special thanks, also, to the businesses around town who generously supplied us with cardboard, it was appreciated.



UGLY SHAKESPEARE—ROMEO & JULIET

The Ugly Shakespeare Company performed their thoroughly entertaining version of Romeo and Juliet earlier in the month. The dynamic trio were Meg Andrews, Mila Fati and Calum Hughes. The theatre company was started in 1996 and its aim is to take live NZ theatre and comedy to New Zealanders irrespective of their social, economic or geographical isolation.



New Zealand Playhouse Performs Shakespeare 'As You Like It'

NZ Playhouse performers L-R Connie O'Callaghan, Trubie-Dylan Smith and Sophie Petersen performed "Shakespeare: As You Like It" for John Paul II students on Wednesday 7th March, the first stop on their West Coast tour. The trio get their inspiration from the audience and then improvise their way through the show, much to the delight of staff and students alike.



West Coast Secondary Schools Senior Boys and Girls Touch

On Friday the 2nd March the Senior Boys and Girls from John Paul II High School Teams, travelled to Hari Hari to compete in the secondary schools Touch Tournament. The other schools from the West Coast were: South Westland Area School, Greymouth High School, Westland High School, Buller High School and Reefton Area School.



(Pictured L to R: Janae Fitzgerald, Jazmin Anderson, Emma Wilson, Meg Lunn, Daniella Sollitt, Baeleigh Connell, Kate McCann, Klaudia South & Bianca Thomas).

John Paul II Athletics Day—Thursday 8th March



South Island Secondary Schools—League Nines

On Thursday 15th March, JP11 travelled to Christchurch to take part in the SISS League 9's Competition. John Paul showed lots of spirit and played well. They played 3 hard fought matches against Aranui, Hornby and Lincoln. Thanks to Terena Molloy & Dan Duggan for transporting & managing the team.

(Pictured L to R: George G, Henry G, Denzel C, Jordan D, Breegan G, Leo S, Brett R, Zeb T, Leo W, Jack C, Joe H & Brock R.)



Some Posters Made by Year 9 Health - "How to build Resilience"

Resilient Youth Can:
Figure out when it is the best time to seek help.

Once one of my friends was bullied and she came to me and asked me if I could help her find help.

Resilient youth are Determined.

When something happens with a personal problem or an act seems to be wrong, always be determined to bounce back, forget about the problem and move on, or correct the situation and learn from that mistake.

Even though each challenge will be a struggle, always face it and overcome it.

thelowdown.co.nz youthline.co.nz sparx.org.nz commonground.org.nz

Resilient Youth Have:

people that you can trust that offer love and support unconditional even when your in the wrong.

Example:
If you were to do something wrong you should always have someone to turn to that offers love/support.

Resilient Learners...

Find ways to solve problems!

"The secret to success is that we never, never give up."
- Wilma Mankiller

A reminder about the correct school uniform as outlined in the JP11 Prospectus, & personal grooming. Please note: no body piercing is allowed other than one stud in each ear. Year 12-13 Boys shirts must be tucked in and socks pulled up. All girls are to have their hair tied back and socks pulled up. Only John Paul II logoed jackets & raincoats are permitted. Reminder that socks are available from the office, girls \$5 per pair, boys \$10 per pair. Please name all clothing clearly. Thank you.

Please refer to the JP11 website:
www.johnpaul.ac.nz

HOMework CLUB
WEDNESDAYS
3.15-4.15PM

In the Library
Afternoon Tea Provided

Teachers and computers are available to assist students with study, projects and general homework.

All students are welcome.