

2 December 2015

**Focus for the Week:** Advent has arrived! Everyone is busy getting ready to celebrate the birthday of Jesus.

This is a time for giving, not just gifts, but time and love for one another.

Jesus truly is living in our world today, offering us His gifts of love, forgiveness, peace and happiness. I often explain to children that we give each other gifts to celebrate because we cannot give them directly to Jesus but this is only partly true.

We can give Him the gifts that He most desires from us - our love, our faith and our care for others.

Let us all try to share those gifts with others this Christmas season. That is the best present we could give to Jesus.



**Values Focus: Love of God, Self and Others – Week 8**

The guidelines for how we should live our lives are outlined in the Ten Commandments. In understanding the meaning of the Commandments God asks that above all we heed “Love God”, followed closely by “Love your neighbour”. Indeed all the commandments are underpinned by these understandings.

Jesus Christ died to strengthen our relationship with God and our neighbour.

He offered us a perfect example of how we should live according to God’s will. One of the most powerful ways he showed us was to forgive others, even those who put him to death. When we forgive, we are doing as God asks, and as difficult as it may be to forgive those who have done us wrong, it begins a healing process, through which God gives us the power to continue with our lives.

*“Forgiveness is the economy of the heart... forgiveness saves the expense of anger, the cost of hatred, the waste of spirits.”*

Hannah More

*“Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself”.* [Romans 13:9]

**Maori Language Phrase:**

<b>8</b>	<i>Kia waimarie</i>	<b>Good luck</b>
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Dear Parents and Friends of the School

**Principal’s Platform**

E ngā mātua, Tena Koutou, Talofa

Last Friday, teacher Nicole Higby (Rm 20) was surprised with an award from Office Max and the New Zealand Principals’ Federation with an ‘A Day Made Better’ award. Only 15 teachers in the country receive this award annually for commitment to the students above and beyond the classroom. Mrs Higby had no idea that she had been nominated by some of her peers and was totally surprised when an entourage of reporters and officials invaded her classroom. The children present at the time were so proud of Mrs Higby and genuinely pleased for her as were all the staff. As for Mrs Higby, once the shock had passed, she humbly accepted the praise and the outreach of love from all around her. Congratulations to Mrs Higby, a worthy recipient of this award.

Consultation on classes for 2016 has now closed. The following change has been made to the staffing previously notified with Mrs McLeod and Mrs McPherson swapping roles.

Rm 13 Mr Stuart/Mrs McLeod Y5/6

Rm 16 Mrs Maarhuis/Mrs McPherson Y5/6

Please do not ask for classes to be changed once they are announced. Our roll is full and so are the classes, there is no room for swapping children around. Unless already known to us, people wanting children to start at Marian over the next 12 months now go on a waiting list. It would be very helpful to them and us if you would let us know, earlier rather than later, if your child is leaving Marian.

**Welcome:** We warmly welcome into our school community, the following students and their families; Jemimah Sarah Sam (Rm4), Lana Fassler (Rm4), Oliver McGahey (Rm14), George McKenzie (Rm5), Emil Kurisinkal Nisanth (Rm5), Yohan Boby (Rm4), Sienna Casson (Rm4), and Carter Hay (Rm4).

**Reminder:** The Marian School Community Morning Tea will be held this Thursday, 3 December for all our parent helpers throughout the year. 10:55am in the School Hall. All helpers welcome.

**Did you know**..... as their guardians you are legally responsible for anything your children post on social media? It pays to keep a close eye on it

### **What you need to know**

- The Ministry of Education has distributed a consultation document, *Have your say about updating the Education Act 1989* containing a number of questions focusing on core sections of the Education Act that the government intends to update!

*It is available here:*

<http://consultation.education.govt.nz/education/update-of-the-education-act-1989/useruploads/updating-the-education-act-1989-a-public-discussion-document.pdf-1>

- Submissions have been invited and **close on 14 December 2015**. It is important you, your students and families and community use this opportunity so that quality public education prevails

*How to make a submission*

- You can make your submission online at <https://consultation.education.govt.nz/>
- You will find an introductory video from Education Minister Hon Hekia Parata. There are questions to get you started, or you can upload a submission from your computer.
- You can also email your submission to [education.update@education.govt.nz](mailto:education.update@education.govt.nz)

This is a once in a generation opportunity to have our say and voice our ideas and make submissions on behalf of our kids.

**Enviro Schools Produce Project:** We encourage everyone in our community to bring in excess produce to share on the table outside the office.

**Celebrating Success:** Congratulations to the following;

- Emma Parsons swam a 40.56 second 50m Breaststroke on Friday night and with that qualified to compete for the first time at the NZ Junior Swimming Champs in February next year.

**School Uniform Hair Accessories:** Samples and order forms are available at the office. \$1.00 from all sales go to the Welfare Fund at Marian School.

**Lost:** A skate board (green with red wheels). Please return to Piper Rm13.

**KITTENS**- Free to a good home. 3 x tabbies, 1 x black. Cute, fluffy and very cuddly. Great Christmas gift. Contact Sarah for details 0220847800

**Hams:** Orders close Friday 11. Delivery Monday 14 Dec.

**Out of School Music:** A reminder to return all hired instruments before the end of term for cleaning and checking.

### **Important Dates:**

Tues 3 Dec	Community Morning Tea
Tues 8 Dec	Toy Run (The Hits/Vinnies)
Thurs 10 Dec	Full School Mass
	Full School Assembly (Gold Card)
Fri 11 Dec	Team 3 and 4 Prizegiving 9am
	Class Lists out, Reports go home
Mon 14 Dec	Hams delivered
Wed 16 Dec	Carol Service 5:30pm
Thurs. 17 Dec	Last day – school finishes at 12noon

### **Sacred Heart Girls Uniforms for Sale:**

1	blazer	size 12
1	skirt	size 12
1	PE Top	size 10
1	PE Top	size 8
1	PE shorts	size 10
1	Jersey	size 12

\$150.00 the lot

*Also* = A Mazda MPV 2002 95,668 km (\$3,990.00)

Contact Yvette 021 251 9952 or 843 4042 A/H

### **This week's Health Nugget**

**LUNCHBOX RECIPES**

## APRICOT WEET-BIX BALLS

**Ingredients:**  
200g dried apricots  
1/4 C coconut  
2 Weet-Bix  
1-2 Tbsp water extra coconut

**Instructions:**  
Place apricots, coconut and Weet-Bix into a food processor and process until smooth. Add water gradually and continue to process until well combined. Using wet hands, form mixture into balls. Makes 18. Roll in coconut. Leave in fridge to set.  
Adapted from weetbix.co.nz

Developed by Sport@aikatozhs

Add some nuts to mix it up!

Eternally Healthy

**Sau  
sag**

**e Sizzle:** This Friday \$2.00 each

God Bless You

John Coulam  
Principal

### **2016 School Dates :**

**Term 1:** Tues 2 Feb – Fri 15 April  
**Term 2:** Mon 2 May – Fri 8 July  
**Term 3:** Mon 25 July – Fri 23 Sept  
**Term 4:** Mon 10 Oct – Fri 16 Dec

### **Flyers**

- How to view 2016 Class List
- Sport