

8 February

Focus for the Week: Matthew 5: 15-16

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We often refer to Jesus as 'The Light of the World'. We know that he came to show us the way in the darkness of our lives and to lead us to heaven.

In this week's Gospel reading, Jesus tells us that we are to be like lamps, with the brightness of God's love and goodness shining out from us.

We are to share the light that we were gifted at our baptisms with all people, bringing light into the world around us and helping to lead people to a closer relationship with God.

At Marian School we ask, "How are we being the hands, the face and the voice of Jesus to those we meet?"

Value Focus: Diversity – Week 2

Many of us identify with a wide range of real world and virtual groups which our participation in makes us the person we are. Likewise we can identify a range of individual pursuits and pastimes which we prefer to do and enjoy. In doing these things we meet many people who are similar to ourselves, but different in many ways. This uniqueness needs to be celebrated. While it is natural to wish to be like others every now and then – part of being truly happy with ourselves is developing an ability to appreciate our uniqueness. Even identical twins, while having vast similarities, are unique in their thoughts, actions, likes, dislikes, strengths and weaknesses to varying degrees. Finding what makes us unique and rejoicing in it, means we can all be happy in our own skin.

"Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You." Dr Seuss

Maori Language Phrase: *Week 2 - Good Morning*

Kia ora, Ata mārie, Mōrena

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Principal's Reflection*He aha te mea nui o te ao**He tangata, he tangata, he tangata**What is the most important thing in the world? It is the people, it is the people, it is the people.*

The transition from the holiday break into our busy school year is certainly helped by the first two short weeks. I trust you enjoyed the lovely summer weather during the Waitangi Day week end. My transition into Marian Catholic School is certainly helped by the wonderfully welcoming friendly staff and absolutely gorgeous students. I have visited a number of classrooms and I am impressed with how quickly learning routines and expectations are being established, the positive hardworking approach to learning and how respectful the students are to their teachers and each other.

The **health and safety** of our students is paramount and the start of a new school year provides a perfect opportunity to revisit good safe practices for us all.

We want to work with you to keep your child safe.

- Please ring or e-mail secretary@marian.school.nz if your child is not going to be at school. You may leave a message on the school answer phone or send a message through the school App. If we have not heard from you, the school office will contact you via text messaging. This is to ensure that if children leave home in the morning but do not arrive at school, an appropriate search response is put in as quickly as possible to find them. Unfortunately many parents fail to notify us meaning that it can be a long list of calls that have to be

made and it can be quite late in the day before we are able to locate all children.

Please be aware that if your child is dropped off at school before 8am or are at school after 3.30pm and not at a sports practice or After School Care we cannot guarantee their safety.

Please remind your children that they should never get into a vehicle with someone they don't know and should never leave the school grounds with someone they don't know. Children walking to and from school are much safer to walk in groups.

- If children are cycling to school, ensure you are aware of the route they are taking and that they are travelling the safest route.
- Ensure your child has a school hat to wear during our play breaks.
- *Sick Children* We have a number of children with compromised immunity in the school. Please remember that if your child has vomited or had diarrhea they must not come to school within 24 hours of the last incidence. Similarly, children running a fever are too unwell to be at school.

Our Year 7-8 students headed off to Lake Karapiro, Mighty River Domain this morning for an action packed three days of team building, fun, challenging activities and lots of outdoor experiences. I would like to wish Team 4 – Year 7-8 a successful camp and I am looking forward to spending Thursday morning with you.

Ngā mihi nui,
Debra White

Bereavements: We offer our deepest sympathies to the following;

- To Denise Hird (RTLB at Marian School), whose much loved mother passed away.
- To Liam, Thomas and Zac Parker and family, whose much loved grandmother passed away.

May they rest in peace.

Yr 7 and 8 Immunisations:

Parents are invited to the Student Information Afternoon, where they will be given consent forms and information to bring home.

Year 7's 1.30pm, Wednesday February 15th in the Atrium in the senior school.

Year 8's 2pm, on the same day, same place.

More information and the video clips that are shown to the children are on the link below:

<http://www.health.govt.nz/your-health/healthy-living/immunisation/immunisation-older-children>

OUT OF SCHOOL MUSIC LESSONS 2017 – enrolments due now

Enrolment forms and information regarding the 32 week programme was included with last week's newsletter. More forms are available at the office. This is a tremendous opportunity for your child. Please give this your consideration and return your form promptly as classes fill up very quickly. Please discuss this with your child as the expectation is one year's commitment (32 weeks). Classes will commence in week 5, beginning 27 February. Please return your form to the school office by **Friday 10 February** so that we can collate classes and notify everyone of time and day of their lesson. Please indicate a second choice of instrument for Guitar as those classes fill up very quickly and numbers are limited. Any queries please contact the office or the Out of School Music Co-ordinator, Alison Hepburn ahepburn@marian.school.nz

Please Note: These are NOT the Private lessons which were advertised separately in last week's newsletter and for which you must contact the tutors directly.

PTFA AGM and first meeting for 2017 - 21st February, 7.30pm in the staff room.

All parents are very welcome to attend a short AGM. The AGM includes a review of the previous year as well as elections on the night for the positions of Chairperson, Treasurer or Secretary - if you would like to put yourself forward for any of these positions then please contact Cindy on 0274 433 905.

The AGM will be followed by a meeting where we will meet the new principal, Mrs Debra White and discuss planning of events for 2017.

Calling Young Photographers: For those of you who are talented photographers, here is a competition for you:

Photographs of zoo animals are called for in this great competition for different age levels. For details go to...

<http://hamiltonzoo.co.nz/snapped-at-the-zoo-photography-competition/terms-and-conditions/>

A Big thank You: We now have a Rugby Goal post in the Gully! A big thank you to Wayne Bates for his generosity of supplying materials and building skills. A special thanks to Bob Rigger, Matt Iremonger and Sean Botherway who gave up their time to assist Wayne with installation.

Urgent – Homestay needed: For one year by a Year 8 Chinese Boy. \$250.00 per week plus additional expenses to be discussed. I am looking for a family with a Yr7 or Yr 8 boy. Please email Martha urgently if interested; martha@marian.school.nz

Scholastic Book Club:

Order forms will be sent home in due course. The closing date for ordering is 24 March. All orders are to be done online through the LOOP system. See the back of the Scholastic flyers.

Found: Scooter left at school at the end of last year. Please collect from the office after giving description of colour.

This Week's Health Nugget:



Theatre Cats Speech and Drama: For all enquiries contact Sandra Timlin 859 0377 or lynn18@xtra.co.nz

St Mary's Scout Group has vacancies for both boys and girls.

Keas 6 – 8 years old (date TBA)

Cubs 8 – 10 years old Mondays 6:45pm to 8:15pm

Scouts 10 – 14 years olds Tuesdays 7pm to 9pm

Come along and check us out. Any more information, contact David Cannell 856 7243

Sausage Sizzle: This Friday - \$2.00 each

God Bless You

Debra White

Principal

Flyers:

- Sport,
- Credit Union