

1 March

Focus for the Week: Do Not Worry Matthew 6: 25-34 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In Sunday's gospel Jesus tells us that we worry about unimportant things. If we worry about ourselves and the things which affect our lives, we can grow into selfish people, putting our own needs first.

Instead Jesus wants us to understand that we can share our troubles with God and trust Him to take care of us. By trusting God we can free our hearts and minds from our worries so that we will feel God's love and goodness working in our lives.

This week marks the beginning of the Liturgical season of Lent, which starts with Ash Wednesday. Lent is the period of forty days which comes before Easter in the Christian calendar. Lent is a time for reflection through prayer, fasting and almsgiving, in preparation for Easter.

Value Focus: Diversity – Week 5

Variety is the spice of life – so it is with opinions, both in the real and virtual world. On a more important level, the country we know and love: New Zealand would not have a flourishing democracy if it weren't for different political opinions and ideologies, coupled with the freedom to express them. Appreciating that others have different opinions and listening to these in dialogue with others, opens our minds to new possibilities and helps us to form the principles that make us who we are. Additionally, accepting the opinions of others, even if we don't agree in part or whole, does allow us to see things from other standpoints which immediately or in the future may help us look at things with broadened potential.

"For having lived long, I have experienced many instances of being obliged, by better information or fuller consideration, to change opinions, even on important subjects, which I once thought right but found to be otherwise." - Benjamin Franklin

Maori Language Phrase: Week 5 - Listen to me**Whakarongo mai**

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Principal's Reflection

-Ash Wednesday

"Lent is a favourable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognising in them the face of Christ. Each of us meets people like this every day.

Each life that we encounter is a gift deserving acceptance, respect and love. ... Lent is the favourable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in

his word, in the sacraments and in our neighbour. I encourage all the faithful to express this spiritual renewal also by sharing in the Lenten Campaigns ...

and thus to favour the culture of encounter in our one human family." Pope Francis Lenten Message 2017

This morning our full school attended a beautiful mass to celebrate Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent.

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer.

The theme for Caritas Lent 2017 comes from Psalm 27: *'Your face, Lord, do I seek'*. This phrase reminds us that when we encounter our brothers and sisters, wherever they may live, we encounter the face of Christ. This supports the message we give to all our students about being the "eyes, hands and feet of Christ to others". Drawing on the Caritas Resource our teachers will be working with the students on how they

can strengthen their relationship with God through, prayer, their actions and giving to others.

Thank you to Ms Amanda Luke and Mrs Nicki Whyte for their work organising the mass. I would like to acknowledge the contribution from the students and staff who work together to make the mass such a wonderful experience for us all.

-Payments for School Activities

Recently parents have received an account for various school activities. Thank you to the parents who have paid their accounts. We encourage families to set up a regular payment through online banking to help spread payments if required. Please do not hesitate to contact Marian in the school office, Martha or myself if we can assist.

Our Marian After School Care programme provides excellent supervision and care for the students in the programme. I am most impressed with the programme and delicious afternoon tea provided. It is essential that parents pay for this service. A.S.C. accounts are sent out and these accounts must be paid fortnightly.

-Sport "no pay no play approach"

All sports are self-funded and operate on a user pays system. Sports fees are expected to be paid prior to the first game of the season. Parents are encouraged to

set up regular payments to the school to pay their school accounts.

-Learning Discussions

Tuesday 7th March 1.30pm – 7.30pm and

Wednesday 8th March 1.30 -5.30pm

We will be using our online booking system:

Log onto: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz

Type in password code: **ymbub**

Select your teacher and times.

The Learning discussions will run from 1.30 pm each day. Supervision will be provided for all students until 3.00pm unless they have been signed out prior to this time.

Please book your Learning Discussion time now. If you do not have access to a computer either ring Marian at the school or call into the office and we can help you.

-Team Four Swimming Sports

Congratulations to all who swam on Monday in Team Four's Swimming Sports. The day went like clockwork due to the superb organisation and outstanding behaviour of the students. Thank you to the parents who carried out various roles during the day, and to the staff for their organisation and supervision. We wish our swimmers all the best at the Interschool events over the next week.

Welcome: We warmly welcome the following students and their families into our school community; Caleb Matijasevich (Rm4) and Paylin Hunt (Rm5).

Marist Soccer

The Marist Junior Soccer (football) Club registrations are now open and returning players will receive an email with instructions how to re-register on line. If you are a new player and want to register, or if you don't get your email go to: <http://tinyurl.com/gndyt4v> For those without computers, registrations will be taken Sunday 5 March between 11.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. at the Marian School staffroom deck. The cost per player is \$60 payable with the submission of the form. Please consider coaching or managing a team, volunteers are needed.

Minor Correction to House Leader Lists:

Lily Borrie and Abcin Thomas, House Captains of Blue House, are both from Room 19.

Apologies for the error.

Out of School Music Lessons are off to a great start for 2017. We have nearly 100 children enrolled in 9 classes. Everyone who enrolled should have received a confirmation letter and timetable last week. If you did not, please see Mrs Jordan at the office urgently. Thankyou.

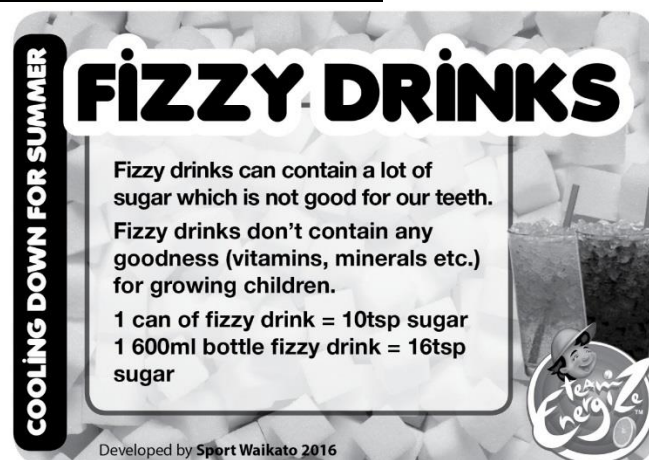
MUSIC BOOK AMNESTY: Please have a hunt at home and return any music tuition books to the office as we are running short for everyone. Remember, these books are the property of Marian School. Thank you!

Hamilton Children's & Families Trust, Hamilton City Libraries and Waikato Museum are running another Children's Day on Saturday March 04. This is a free family event with lots of activities for children of all ages, and runs from 10am to 2pm.

Lost:

- A school hat named Luiza. Please return to Rm16
- A long-sleeved shirt named Harry McLeman – please return to Rm6.

This Week's Health Nugget:



Rimbrook Study Centre: Two new programmes are being offered for young girls

- 'Avanti' – A transition programme for girls in Years 8 & 9 aimed at helping them to navigate the new social climate of college, including peer pressure. Also develop good habits for success and bridge the gap between primary and secondary school. Contact Monica Helbano 022 159 8898
- 'Stand UP' – A Speech and Drama Programme for girls in Years 5 – 7. Contact Rya Garcia 022 365 2684

Email rmbrookstudycentre@gmail.com

Sausage Sizzle: This Friday \$2.00 each

God Bless You
Debra White
Principal

Flyers:

- Learning Discussions
- Sport

2017 Term Dates:

Term 1 finishes Thursday 13 Apr

Term 2: Mon 1 May – Fri 7 Jul

Term 3: Mon 24 Jul – Fri 29 Sept

Term 4: Mon 16 Oct – Fri 15 Dec