

15 March

Focus for the Week: God's Glory on the Mountain

Matthew 17: 1-9 Second Sunday in Lent

When Jesus was on the earth, there were a lot of different ideas about who he was. Many people thought that he was just a good teacher. Some people thought that he was Elijah or one of the prophets. There were some who thought he was John the Baptist. Even his own disciples didn't really understand who Jesus was.

One day Jesus took three of his disciples - Peter, James, and John - up on a mountain so that they could be alone. While they were on the mountain, an amazing thing happened. Jesus' appearance began to change. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Then Moses and Elijah appeared and were talking with Jesus. The disciples couldn't believe their eyes! Then they couldn't believe their ears! They heard the voice of God saying, "This is my Son. I love him and I am pleased with him. Listen to what he has to say."

From that moment on Peter, James, and John had no doubt about who Jesus was. He was the Son of God. Peter himself said, "We were eyewitnesses of his majesty...we ourselves heard the voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the mountain." (2 Peter 1:16,18)

There are many people today who still don't know who Jesus is, but we know because we believe.

Value Focus: Diversity – Week 7

There is a common saying "If you matter to God, you matter." The realisation is that God as our creator loves us unconditionally no matter who we are, or what we're good at. Ultimately God is a champion of diversity. Looking at the vast number of positive people, cultures languages, beliefs and behaviours in the world today, we can see that God wants the world to be an interesting place. What is the message for us? Ultimately God appreciates our differences! We should follow his lead by being the best that we can be with what we have.

It doesn't matter who we are or where we're from. Having committed ourselves to believe in God, God commits to believing in us. At the end of the day, we should celebrate our uniqueness because we have God's backing.

"What we are is God's gift to us. What we become is our gift to God". ~Eleanor Powell

Maori Language: *Week 7**- Have a wonderful day***Kia rā pai tēnei mōu**

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Principal's Reflection:

*Whakamana ki te ako, whakahihiko ki te ora
Empowered to learn, inspired for life.*

Screen Time: Advice for Parents

After watching Seven Sharp last night I thought I would share this helpful article with you:

How much is too much?

Unfortunately – there is no magic number, children use their devices and computers for lots of different reasons – to learn, to play, and to socialise. The most important thing is to set clear boundaries on screen time and set a good example.

'Screen time' is an obsolete concept. As digital media become integrated into all aspects of daily life, it is more important to think about what your child is doing online and who they are doing it with than to consider arbitrary rules about time

Helpful Pointers

1. Agree a clear set of rules with your child on screen time in the home. Talk to your child on when you think it is appropriate and inappropriate to use screens. Agree times when screens are allowed and not allowed in the home. For example dinner time, homework time and bedtime.

2. Do as you say Modelling behaviour is THE most powerful way you can influence your child's behaviour.

3. Restrict the use of computers/devices in the bedroom. Depending on the age of your child you may want to set a curfew or ban devices from the bedroom completely.

4. Buy an alarm clock for your child's bedroom and charge their phones in your room at night time. This can be a helpful way of giving them a break from the internet.

5. Try not to rely on screens too much to keep the kids amused.

It can be easy to encourage kids to pick up the tablet or play a game on the computer to keep them occupied. This only confuses rules on screen time, try and stick to the agreed rules with your child and remember to set a good example.

6. Chat to your child about what they do online and encourage them to use their screen time for learning and education.

7. Pick one evening a week where you do a family activity together, whether it's movie night, games night. Doing activities together as a family will help implement screen time guidelines and offer fun alternatives.

8. Don't have screens always on in the background. Turn off TVs and Computers when not in use, these can be distracting for kids if they are trying to participate in another activity.

9. Finally, join in, why not set some time aside to play your child's favourite computer game and discover the online world together. Source: <https://www.webwise.ie/parents/screen-time-advice-for-parents>

Solidarity Day This year our annual Solidarity Day Mass will be held on **Thursday 30th March**. We will begin by celebrating **Mass in the Cathedral at 10.30am**. All parents and members of the Marian School community are most welcome to join us there.

Following the Mass, students and teachers will gather together to share a simple meal of plain boiled rice. We ask that you send your child to school that day with a **small plastic bowl** or other empty plastic container from which to eat their rice.

It is a tradition at Marian School that **students in Teams 2, 3 & 4 do not bring any other food** to school that day. This is so that they, for just one day, can enter into true solidarity with those less fortunate than themselves.

All students will bring home a permission slip with further details. In order to help with our planning, please complete and return the permission slip to school as soon as possible.

We would be grateful for any donations of plain uncooked rice and for the loan of named chilly bins.

God bless - Ms Luke and Mrs Whyte
Directors of Religious Studies.

Team 4 Parents: All Team 4 classes will visit Waikato Museum on Tuesday 4th or Wednesday 5th April. We will walk to and from the Waikato Museum, to view the Sunlight- Ihi Komaru Exhibition and would welcome parents who would like to join us on the day your child is attending.

Rooms 19 and 20 will depart at 9am, Tuesday 4th and be back by lunchtime.

Rooms 21 and 22 will depart 11.45am, Tuesday 4th and be back by 3pm.

Rooms 17 and 18 will depart at 9am, Wednesday 5th and be back by lunchtime.

Please contact your child's class teacher via their email, if you are able to accompany us.

Nothing Naughty Protein Bars and Fruit Bars:

Now for sale at the school office. A variety of flavours on offer and are low in sugar and gluten free. An excellent choice and alternative to muesli bars. \$20.00 per box. Get in while stocks last.

Incredible Years Parenting Programme (for parents of 3 – 6yr olds): Are you interested in attending a morning session, once a week for 12 weeks.

Either Thursday mornings or an evening programme. We will go with the majority. Please email Martha;

martha@marian.school.nz

Fill a Bag for Free Op Shop: A generous donor has given lots of clothes and household items. Come and fill a bag for free.

Open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30 – 3:30pm in Room 1 (by the juniors) starting tomorrow.

The Parent Teacher and Friends Association

(PTFA) meeting was held on Feb 21st. Charlene Casson was elected as Chairperson, May Low and Morag McKenzie as secretaries. Clarion Ferdinands will continue her role as Treasurer.

Thank you to Cindy Borrie (Chairperson), Kym Plaisted (Secretary) and Clarion Ferdinands (Treasurer) for the work they have given to the PTFA over the past few years.

The next PTFA meeting is on Tue March 21st @ 7.30pm in the staff tea room. You are all invited to come along and join this fun and enthusiastic group! Bring ideas on how we can encourage a closer link between home and the school community.

Easter Eggs Wanted: Young Vinnies are collecting Wrapped Easter Eggs for their Easter Raffles. Please send any donations of Easter Eggs to the school office.

Scholastic Book Club Order: The latest flyer has gone out. The next issue closes on Wednesday 22 March.

All orders are to be completed online. See instructions on the back of the flyers.

Creative Writing Competition

In an initiative to cater for our children who love to read and write, Konica Minolta, in conjunction with the League of Libraries program are sponsoring a Creative Writing Competition.

Interested children years 3 to 8 are asked to compose an illustrated story featuring their favourite Vodafone Warriors players.

The winning classrooms will receive a league in libraries morning with some of the Vodafone Warriors, tickets to a Vodafone Warriors home game and two 2016 signed Steeden Rugby League balls. The overall winner will receive a signed Vodafone Warriors jersey, presented to them at their school by a Vodafone Warriors player.

You can get an entry form and more information from the school office.

Its Entertainment Book time again.

Over \$20,000 worth of offers for just \$65. Pre order your book or digital copy now by visiting www.entbook.co.nz/1540g39 or fill in the enclosed form and return it to the school office.

Delivery date April 3rd.

Many thanks – Jane (PTFA)

You can win digital cameras for your school! Just

send in your old mobile phone to the school office

1 Phone = 1 Entry

Two chances to win.

Each **phone** sent in between 14th March - 1st May 2017 gives our school **1 entry** to win.

The school will send phones to the Mobile Phone Appeal Warehouse. This campaign is used to help Sustainable Coastlines to look after our coastlines and waterways.

Draws will take place and winners notified on the 8th May 2017.

This Week's Health Nugget:



Available to assist: An experienced, reliable, catholic available to home help, or clean. Previous experience includes café assistant, and registered nanny. If interested, contact Beatrice 0210 880 4217

Sausage Sizzle: This Friday - \$2.00 each

God Bless You

Debra A White

Principal

Flyers:

- Solidarity Day
- Sport