

17 May

Focus for the Week: I Am the Way John 14: 1-12

In Sunday's Gospel Jesus said that He is 'the way'. This word way has a few different meanings. It might mean to demonstrate how to do something or to show you how to get to a place. Jesus is 'the way' because He shows us what we must do so that we will be able to enter heaven.

By following God's commandments, listening to the scriptures and living our lives as Jesus taught us, we will be on the right path which leads us to everlasting happiness.

Value Focus: Respect – Week 3

"We are all something, but none of us are everything" Here Blaise Pascal points to recognising strengths in others. This quote's implicit humility encourages us to seek out, be respectful of and celebrate the strengths that others have. This does not mean thinking less of ourselves, but perhaps thinking of ourselves less. This tenet leads us respect others' talents and use them together to make our communities better. Respect comes through setting aside negative thoughts of possessiveness and self-interest and embracing others abilities by celebrating their successes and understanding their differences from our own. This sets up a steady platform for co-operation, for sharing, for collaborative enhancement of our families, our school, our society.

There is no respect for others without humility in one's self. --Henri Frederic Amiel

"Respect your fellow human being, treat them fairly, disagree with them honestly, enjoy their friendship, explore your thoughts about one another candidly, work together for a common goal and help one another achieve it."

-- Bill Bradley

The Week's Maori Language Phrase: Kei runga noa atu koe. You're the best

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Principal's Reflection:

Empowered to learn, Inspired for Life

Learner Agency

The concept of learner agency has had a profound impact on modern educational theory and practice. One way of thinking of learner agency is when learners have "the power to act". Agency is when learning involves the activity and the initiative of the learner. In the past, schools have catered mostly for groups of learners, for classes of kids, with a one size fits all approach. Current educational practice is moving the learners from being passive recipients to being much more active in the learning process, and actively involved in the decisions about the learning. This approach is more a partnership for learning between teacher and learner. This is learner agency.

This Term we are offering a Ministry of Education programme Accelerated Learning In Mathematics (ALIM). At the heart of this programme is learner agency and equipping the students with the skills, knowledge and attitudes to take an active role in their mathematics learning. Working in partnership with their teacher students are working on an individualised programme to accelerate their learning in mathematics. These students will be taking an active role in their learning through: participating in rich learning discussions, being challenged and extended by the teacher, being immersed in a variety of resources working collaboratively through problem solving challenges using learning progressions as a road

map for their learning and setting themselves realistic achievable learning goals.

The teacher's role is crucial to help our students develop learner agency.

Learner agency involves the initiative and self-belief of the learners. The learners need to believe that their behaviour and attitude is going to make a difference for them in their learning. To achieve this the teachers work closely with their students to build a positive relationship and develop a positive learning culture in their classrooms.

Learner agency is interdependent. Teachers support students to understand that learning is not done in isolation. Learners need to understand how their environment and people can impact on their learning decisions and actions.

The social aspect of the learning process is important for learners to understand. Teachers support their learners to developing an awareness of the responsibility of one's own actions on the environment and on others is important. Every decision a learner makes, and action she or he takes, will impact on the thinking, behaviour or decisions of others.

Consultation with our parent community – Board of Trustees Policy Review

The Board of Trustees have an ongoing cycle of policy review. An important part of our review process is consultation with our parent community.

We would like to invite any interested parents to view our policies – up for review and provide any feedback. We have displayed the policies in our front office with an exercise book for your feedback.

Policies up for review: Leave Policy, Staff Appointments Policy, Out of School Music Policy and Staff Performance Management Policy. These policies will be displayed for two weeks. Feedback needs to be received by Friday 2 June.

Hamilton Combined Christian Foodbank Trust

A HUGE Thank you to our families for your generous donation of food at our school masses. I have received a lovely letter of thanks for our contributions. "We receive such a lot of food items throughout the year from the school and we think you have an amazing and very caring school culture! Please pass on our grateful thanks to your wonderful students and community for their generosity." Thank you for modelling the face, hands and feet of Christ to your children.

Fieldays:

The PTFA are still needing a large group of volunteers to help at the Mystery Creek Fieldays (14 June – 17 June). A flyer will be sent home today that indicate how many people are still required for each slot. Marian School has managed this fundraiser for many years and this has always been successful due to the generosity of our wonderful Marian School community. After School Care will be free for parents who commit to the 11:00-2:00pm shift.

Welcome: We warmly welcome the following students and their families into our school community; Amber Evans (Rm4) and Jerome George (Rm5)

School Photos: PhotoLife Studios will be at the school on Friday 26 May for class and individual photos. Envelopes have been sent home with this newsletter. Student's names are on the envelopes. Sibling packs are available at the school office. Please return orders with payment to school office **no later than Wed 24 May.**

Upcoming Events for Team 4:

PCT Challenge- Two teams will represent Marian School, on Tuesday 23rd May, at this Police Challenge.

EPro8- Science and Technology Interschool Competition- we have a further two Year 7 and 8 teams competing at this event on Thursday 25th May, 5pm start time, at Southwell School. Team 3 will attend their age group event with two teams on Friday morning. We wish all teams all the best and know you will represent us with pride.

Sacred Heart Open Day- Wednesday 24th May at either 9am or 12.30pm. Parents, please inform your child's classroom teacher which time tour they will be attending, prior to the day.

Lit Quiz On Wednesday the 10th of May the literature Group went to Southwell School to compete in the 2017 Waikato Lit Quiz. Marian #1, came fourth out 65 teams and Marian #2, came twenty-second. Before the competition we spent 8 weeks preparing for the big night. We read books ranging from comics, to myths and legends, to historical fiction. Each week we read 10 books. Overall we had a great time learning new things and testing our knowledge of literature. Thank you Mrs Versluys for coaching our team.

Nothing Naughty Bars: We still have boxes of the yummy Nothing Naughty Protein Bars available at the school office. Many flavours to choose from. Boxes are \$20.00 each.

For your diary - Volunteers required for Fieldays - 14th - 17th June

We still need to fill over 80 shifts for Fieldays volunteers for the gates. This has been a major fundraiser for the PTFA for many years. Great benefits, raising money for a new playground and seating area for the children outside the office as well as free entry to Fieldays and great parking at the top of the hill. Please ask friends, family, work colleagues. You can find more information on the Marian School website under Quicklinks or email cindy@emote.co.nz or phone 0274 433 905.

| Shifts | Wed 14 th June | Thurs 15 th June | Fri 16 th June | Sat 17 th June |
|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 5.30 – 8.30am | 6 people | 6 people | 9 people | 8 people |
| 7.30 – 11.30am | 10 people | 11 people | 8 people | 9 people |
| 11.00 – 2.00pm | 5 people | 4 people | 4 people | 6 people |

There is also a 1.5 hour meeting at Mystery Creek on the 11th June.
Cindy Borrie M: 027 443 3905 E: cindy@emote.co.nz

Entertainment Book: Books are available at the school office. Collect yours now as the coupons can be used until 1 June 2018. Books are \$65.00. We receive a good commission from selling these. Proceeds will go to the PTFA as part of their fundraising.

This Week's Health Nugget:



Hamilton Boys High Enrolments

- **Enrolments Open:** Monday 29th May 2017.
- **Information Evening:** Wednesday 5th July 2017 from 6pm - 8pm.
- **Open Day:** Tuesday 15th August 2017 at 9.30am or 11.30am or 1.30pm.
- **Enrolments Close:** Thursday 31st August 2017.

Sausage Sizzle: This Friday - \$2.00 each

God Bless You

Debra A White

Principal

Flyers:

- Photo Envelopes to return by 24/5
- sport