

2 August

**Focus for the Week: Priceless Treasure - Matthew 13: 44-46**      Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

In Sunday's Gospel reading, we hear the Kingdom of Heaven being described as being like a precious treasure, a rare and perfect pearl. Jesus tells how the men who found these treasures willingly gave up all of their worldly belongings to own such things. His point is clear, nothing we have here on earth can compare to the gift of eternal life lived in God's loving presence.

How hard do we work to create the kind of lives we want here on earth, to gather the comforts of a nice home, fashionable clothes, maybe even expensive family holidays? These things all have value to us. They make our lives enjoyable and it is not wrong to work for them, as long as we do not place too much importance upon them.

The question is, how hard are we prepared to work for the reward promised by Jesus? How much effort are we prepared to put into gaining the true goal of everlasting life in heaven?

**This Week's Values Focus: Environment – Week 2**

Making efforts to save water and power goes hand in hand. Because much of New Zealand's electricity is generated by hydropower – it makes sense to conserve both.

What things could we be mindful of? Take care when washing and cleaning to turn off taps when not in use. Switch off TVs at the set or the wall. Consider whether you really need the light on and if you do – switch to energy efficient bulbs. Install water saving shower heads. Monitor sprinkler use. Use battery power and energy efficient settings for laptops some of the time... The list can go on and on, but each new way we think up to save water or power, the less chance of restrictions having to be enforced or worse – in the future having to go without.

*"Don't blow it - good planets are hard to find". ~Quoted in Time*

*"Though our Earth is made up of 2/3 water, only 1/100 of that water is drinkable" - -- Thinksglogans.com*

**This Week's Maori Language Phrase: Whakahokia ngā pukapuka.**      Put the books away.

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

**Principal's Reflection:**

"You are called to care for creation not only as responsible citizens but also as followers of Christ" Pope Francis

**Welcome to Chinese Students**

This week we welcomed 18 student teachers from Southwest University China. These students are training to be teachers in China and have come over to New Zealand for a Waikato University Teacher Education experience. The students have spent a week on the Waikato university campus and are now spending eight days in our school. The students have commented on what an excellent school we are, and are enjoying working in the classrooms and meeting our students.

**Enrolments 2018**

It is the time of year when we start looking at our classes for 2018. At this stage we will have some vacancies throughout the school for 2018. I encourage you to share this message among your circle of friends who may be considering our school for their child for 2018. Any interested parents are asked to make contact with the school office and I welcome an opportunity to meet with them and give them a tour of our school. It is important we know of any younger siblings who may be turning five next year. If you have a child turning five in 2018 please contact the school office to ensure we have your child on our list.

We ask that enrolment applications for 2018 are received by the school office by 15th September this year. This will enable us to make the best decisions in terms of school and class structure for 2018. Applications will be accepted after

this date and acceptance will depend on availability of spaces. Remember to get a Preference Card from the Priest.

**Open Morning Year 7-8 August 2017 @ 10am**

We invite parents interested in seeing our Year 7-8 area in action on 22nd August 2017 at 10am. The parents will be welcomed and given a tour of the Year 7 and 8 area of our school.

**Teacher Only Day Monday 21st August 2017**

This year we are having a Teacher Only day on Monday 21st August 2017. The school will be closed.

**Policy Review**

As part of our ongoing cycle of self-review, parents are invited to provide feedback on policies the Board of Trustees are reviewing. We have two policies available for parents to provide feedback. These are; Complaints Policy and Finance Policy. Copies of these policies are on display in the school office. They will be available for feedback for the next two weeks. The two week feedback period will complete the review process and the policies will be approved at our 14<sup>th</sup> August, Board of Trustees meeting.

**Learning Discussions**

Discussions on Tuesday 8th August 1.30 - 7.30pm and Wednesday 9th August 1.30 - 5.30pm.

These discussions are an opportunity to review existing learning goals and re set new goals for the remainder of the year.

To book your appointment please log on to the website

[www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) Enter the event code: **r4ab5**

Select your child's teacher and select your preferred time. If you have any problems please see your child's class teacher.

If you do not have access to a computer, pop in to the office and Marian will be happy to help.

### **Tackling Technology Information** session for parents

Tuesday 19 September 5.45pm

Get the confidence and skills parents need to be proactive when tackling technology. Topics include text bullying, gadget addiction, online safety and electronic gaming.

The evening is being run by The Parenting Place, hosted by Marian Catholic School, Hamilton East held in the Gerry Sullivan Events Centre

We welcome all parents.

### **"The Water Fight" book selling:**

It is in **WEEK 4** only that we will be selling the books by Mrs Tu'akoi. At the start of lunch time Team one may purchase the book for \$5 and have it signed by Mrs Tu'akoi outside St Mary's block on the courts. Those children who purchase the book may participate in a 30 second water fight using water pistols. This will be organised by the *Young Vinnies* group. Team two may purchase the book on Wednesday and Team three and four may do so on Thursday (the water fight will be after each book selling). The *Young Vinnies* will be receiving a portion of the book selling to donate to charity. The book is a great present for a young person (suitable for up to year 4).

### **Hot Milo at Morning Tea**

The *Young Vinnies* will be selling hot milo for \$1 (50cents extra for marshmallows) at every morning tea time this Term in the hall until further notice. Cups will be provided. Children must drink the milo in the hall to keep rubbish contained. All proceeds will be donated to a charity later in the year.

**Chicken Pox:** There still seems to be a small number of children coming down with Chicken Pox this term. Please keep an eye on your children if they have not had chicken pox before.

**Nits:** Please check your children's hair for Nits on a regular basis and treat if necessary.

### **The Great Smith & McKenzie 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Gourmet Cheesecake Festival 2017:**

- We are one of 10 schools/organisations entered into a Cheesecake competition and our cheesecake is Oreo Cookies and Cream
- **\$1** from **every** piece of our cheesecake sold goes directly back to our school.
- The winner of the most pieces of cheesecake sold (per ratio of students at our school) takes out a \*\*\*\*\$500 Book Voucher\*\*\*\*
- Every student from school receives a voucher for a free kid's meal when dining with an adult to encourage them to go in, taste and vote for their favourite.
- The winning school will take home the trophy to display for the year.
- The winning cheesecake will have a permanent place on Smith & McKenzie's dessert menu until Christmas.

**Sacred Heart Girls' College** is accepting applications for enrolments for all year levels. Please contact the school on 07 8567874 or visit our website for an enrolment pack [shqcham.school.nz](http://shqcham.school.nz)

### **To all International Chinese Parents/students:**

Our Chinese Teachers who are visiting the school would love to meet you and hear all about your experiences.

Please come and join us in the staffroom tomorrow (Thursday 3 Aug) at 3:15pm

Martha

### **PTFA Spring Social**

Tickets will be on sale Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August.

Where: Gerry Sullivan Event Centre

When: Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Time: 7pm – midnight

Tickets (Limited):

Gold Table \$280.00 (8 per table @ \$35.00 p.p.)

\$25.00 General Admission

Auction / Drinks / Dance / Platters

### **Important Dates for your Calendar**

3 <sup>rd</sup> August	Pasifika Full School mass
<b>8<sup>th</sup> &amp; 9<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Learning Discussions</b>
Tues 15 <sup>th</sup> August	Feast of Assumption Mass
<b>Mon 21<sup>st</sup> August</b>	<b>Teacher Only Day – no school</b>
Tues 22 August	Yr 7 & 8 Open Day
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept	PTFA Spring Social
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Speech Finals
<b>Thurs 14 Sept</b>	<b>Grandparents Day</b>
<b>Thurs 14 Sept</b>	<b>Scholastic Book Fair</b>
Tues 19 Sept	Tackling Technology Seminar

**NB: Please note that on Grandparents Day, the Scholastic Book Fair will also be on.** This will be on display in the Library for all grandparents to see and order.

### **Celebrating Success:**

Congratulations to our Math Teams on their results at the Catholic Inter-schools 'CathMath Quiz', Tuesday August 1<sup>st</sup>.

The results were as follows:

**Year 6 - 3<sup>rd</sup>** - William Hernandez, Nathaniel Chong-Linwood, Caleb McIntyre

**Year 6 - 4<sup>th</sup>** - Serenita Wijaya, Luka Dale, Jacob Binu Olakkattu

**Year 7 - 2<sup>nd</sup> equal** - Sarah Hilton, Christian Pearson, Adam Lewis

**Year 7 - 2<sup>nd</sup> equal** - Leejay Trenwith, Jack Frazer-Jones, Shion Hwang

**Year 8 1<sup>st</sup>** - Fidella Wijaya, YeonSoo Kim, Ryan Hall

**Year 8 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Hugo Barbour, Louisa Tan, Angel Medina-Cubillos

**Wanted:** A good quality mountain buggy to buy. Send photos to [martha@marian.school.nz](mailto:martha@marian.school.nz)

**Sausage Sizzle:** This Friday - \$2.00 each

God Bless You

Debra White  
Principal

### **Flyers:**

- Cheesecake Voucher from Smith and McKenzie
- Sport