

6 September

Focus For the Week: God's call and our response. Matthew 16:21-27 Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time. In Sunday's gospel Jesus makes clear what the demands of discipleship are. We, as disciples are called to take a stand against injustice. We must learn to pray and judge by God's standards. We are called to give ourselves in loving service. It's a big call. Thanks to God we have the example of Jesus taking up his cross. In the garden Jesus was reluctant to accept the task set for him by his Father and had to struggle to overcome his reluctance.

As faithful believers in Jesus we will also have crosses to bear for the sake of the Gospel. Like Jesus we will find purpose to our lives only by losing everything for the sake of God's reign.

This Week's Values Focus: Environment – Week 7

As the 21st century progresses, the rate of urban populations expands exponentially.

With the demand for further residential, industrial and commercial real estate and natural resources to support these ventures, we must look at our use of the natural environment and the benefits it gives us in its natural state.

Questions that arise are: Should future generations have the same rights to enjoy the natural environment? How will our actions now affect the environment in the future?

How can we balance the advancement of our society while being mindful of sustaining and enhancing the environment?

Food for thought for us, for now.

"I would feel more optimistic about a bright future for people if they spent less time proving that they can outwit Nature and more time tasting her sweetness and respecting her seniority. ~Elwyn Brooks White, Essays of E.B. White, 1977

"When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world." - John Muir

"I conceive that the land belongs to a vast family of which many are dead, few are living, and countless numbers are still unborn." - Nigerian Chief

Maori Language Phrase:

Ka pai hoki koe!

Good on you!

Principal's Reflection: *"Technology is nothing. What's important is that you have a faith in people, that they're basically good and smart, and if you give them tools, they'll do wonderful things with them." Steve Jobs*

This quote from Steve Jobs highlights the important role people play to optimise the true potential from technology. Our children today are growing up surrounded by Social Media. Social media is a modern communication tool with great potential to unite communities in the face of tragedy and rally support for people as seen in Christchurch earthquake clean-up efforts. However, we also see how social media can be abused when used inappropriately. Parents play a crucial role in supporting their children in safe use of social media. I read a recent article in the Herald where Ana Homayoun, a Silicon Valley-based expert on teen behaviour advised the following ways parents can help support their children:

Check your child's phone: Parents are encouraged to regularly check their children's phones. This enables parents to discuss conversations their children are having and provide support if needed.

Be APP-savy: It is important that parents familiarise themselves with any APPs their children are using.

Help kids understand 'why': Parents can help children develop their awareness of technology use by asking their children 'why' are they picking up their phones. Are they lonely? Are they bored? Does spending time on this APP make them feel energised or drained?

Set ground rules: Clearly state rules and expectations around social media and stick to them.

Digital detox: It is important for children to be ok with being offline. Parents can model 'digital free' times in their families weekly routines.

Tackling Technology Evening

We encourage our parents to attend the Tackling Technology Evening we are hosting run by The Parenting Place. Held at 5:45 in the Gerry Sullivan Event Centre

Education Review Office Confirmed report

Earlier this year we were reviewed by Education Review Office (ERO) and we have received the confirmed report. The review highlighted many strengths and helped to shape our priorities to move our school forward. Some positive areas:

"Trustees, senior leaders and staff demonstrate strong commitment to the school's special Catholic character, which is explicitly promoted and continues to underpin, and be evident, in all aspects of school life."

"Well-established learning and care partnerships with children and families effectively promote children's wellbeing and sense of belonging at the school. These partnerships are characterised by positive relationships."

"...the school has considerably strengthened its affirmation of Maori children's culture, language and identity and improved the staff appraisal system."

"Many school processes, such as targeting and planning for at-risk learners, positive staff and community relationships, and increasing bicultural perspectives throughout the school, are effective in achieving equitable outcomes for all children."

A very positive review providing clear direction moving forward and great acknowledgement of our strength areas. The link to our latest ERO report is on our website.

Welcome: We warmly welcome into our school community the following students and their families; Greta Croall (Rm4), Byron Rementilla (Rm4), Louie Morgan (Rm 5) Shay McIvar (Rm5) and Adelene Maslai (Rm4)

Bereavement: We offer our deepest sympathies to Conor and Megan Giles whose much loved great-grandmother passed away. May she rest in peace.

Found: A ring (band). See Marian at the school office.

Team 3 Grocery Raffle

Thank you to all those people who bought tickets and donated items for the grocery raffle. This has really helped the students fundraise for camp. Also thank you to the students and families who donated their fundraised money to other students. The grocery raffle was drawn by Mrs White at the Team 3 assembly and the winners are as follows:

1st - Mary (Sold by Nyasha)
2nd - Sandra (Sold by Amelia)
3rd - T Denton (Sold by Coco)

Parent Information Evening- Circle your calendars on September 19th, as Marian School are hosting a meeting for parents and Caregivers, not to be missed. Tackling Technology is a presentation about how to keep your children safe on-line and what to look out for. The world our children are growing up in is one we need to learn to navigate- so come along for a gold coin donation and learn what you need to know. Start time 5.45pm in the Gerry Sullivan Events Centre, at Marian Catholic School.

PTFA Meeting has been changed to Tuesday 12 September. All welcome.

PTFA Thank you: Hope you all had fun at the Spring Social! We will publish our total fundraising amount in next weeks newsletter. If you would like to donate to our new school playground please place your donation into the PTFA account 03-1555-0014515-00

Student Volunteer Army Team 3 will be working as a Student Volunteer Army this *Thursday from 9-3pm* in the Events Centre. We are helping out the Environment and our Community, by creating Boomerang Bags, Fabric bags that aim to reduce the



amount of plastic bags in our local community. Thank you to those who have provided donations of Fabric etc. If you would like to volunteer some time to work with us feel free to drop in at anytime, bring your sewing machine if you have one :)
TEAM- Together Everyone Achieves More

Te wiki o te reo Maori- Maori Language Week 2017

Maori language week runs from the 11th-17th September and this year's theme Kia ora te reo Māori was chosen to celebrate New Zealand's indigenous greeting.

We will be celebrating te reo Maori in a variety of ways within the school context from learning Traditional Maori Games, solving daily clues, completing quizzes and creating Maori Art. What could you do within the home?

Here is a link to support you with ideas.

<http://www.tetaurawhiri.govt.nz/events-and-promotions/maori-language-week/>

Even simple efforts to use te reo in terms of greetings and reading Maori Myths and legends is a great way to start. - Check out YouTube for online stories and games.

Grandparents Day – please help

We will be celebrating Grandparents Day on the 14th of September. As in the past, our school community is asked to provide morning tea for our treasured grandparents. On the morning of the 14th of September please bring any plates of food over to the Gerry Sullivan Events Centre Kitchen. We find that club sandwiches are very popular and we have a working bee to make them on the morning of the 14th. If you are able to help with this (all ingredients are provided) please email Kay Petchell kpetchell@marian.school.nz

Timetable for Grandparents Day - 14th Sept

9.45 - Mass
11.00 - Morning tea for GSEC
11.30 - 12.40 Grandparents visiting classes
12.40 - Grandparents picnic with children
1.00 - in the GSEC - Senior music performances
1.40 - GSEC Team 1 performance
1.30 - Hall Team 2 performance
2.00 - Team 2 Folk Dancing on the courts if fine or GSEC if wet
2.30 - Kapahaka in the Hall

Children may go home with Grandparents but have to be signed out in the office

Important Dates for your Calendar

TODAY 6 th Sept	Speech Finals
Thurs 7 Sept	Vision & Hearing Technician
Fri 8 Sept	Team 2 – 4 Cross Country
Tues 12 Sept	PTFA Meeting
Thurs 14 Sept	Grandparents Day
Thurs 14 Sept	Scholastic Book Fair
Tues 19 Sept	Tackling Technology Seminar

Op Shop Donation: Young Vinnies would like to donate some unused belongings to an Op Shop. If you have any unused belongings that are in good condition and are not in use, we would very much appreciate the contribution. The items that are brought in, will be kept in your child's class and the Young Vinnies will come and collect these items every Wednesday. At the end of this term, Young Vinnies will donate everything contributed.
- Young Vinnies

Gymsports Results On weds 30th a fabulous group of Team 3 students represented Marian at the Gymsports festival supported by their fab coaches from Team 4 - Emily Penrose and Paige Hayward.

Results:

Amelia Kepa 2 firsts, 1 second and Top Springer Overall
Indiana Maher -2nd place in Springers Beam
Raphael Ferdinands- Two 3rd placings in Springers Trampoline.
3rd Place Overall
Jamie Hayward- 2nd Place Flyers Beam

Social Justice Week: Climate Change Challenge –

Grab a friend or two and join in the fun at the Gerry Sullivan Event Centre Fri 15 September at 6:30pm.

Pizza and refreshments will be provided at the conclusion.

The event is run by students and teachers of Sacred Heart Girl's College and sponsored by the Parish Pastoral Leadership Team. The aim is to provide and interactive evening and learn of the effects of climate change as it occurs in the Pacific.

Marimba Music Workshop

Sunday 10th September for Primary Teachers and Students interested in Marimba Music

1.00-4.00pm * \$40 Teachers * \$30 students 8+ years
- Music with Gerard van der Geer - Gerard is a fantastic musician, composer and teacher. He has written two books of marimba music and he has a fun repertoire to play.
Bookings taken through email. admin@exciteacademy.com
If you have any questions please email or ring us.

Sausage Sizzle: This Friday - \$2.00 each

God Bless You
Debra White
(Principal)