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Newsletter No 1

Tuesday 7 February 2017

Character, Competence, Community

Term 1 Theme: GOD IS WISE. He wants us to be wise.
Values: Respecting rules. It is entirely possible.
Habit of the Mind: Thinking about your thinking.
Key Competency: Managing self.

Our Mission Statement:

For each learner the school community will provide quality learning opportunities that encourage Christian perspectives and affirm Biblical principles.

Memory Verse: Week 1

"Listen to advice and accept instruction and you will be wise".
(Proverbs 19: 20)

Principal's Pen

Welcome back, especially to our new parents as we begin a new school year. I hope, pray and trust that your Christmas and the holidays were spiritually meaningful. It was so pleasing to arrive at MCS today and see our focused, friendly pupils and parents as they made their way back onto our site.

Personal Testimony:

Over the holidays, I happened to be at school at the same time as one of families, the Youssefs, who have had two students with us: Lydia, Lyden and little Daniel, who will make a start with us in June. The Youssefs were here to show Daniel his new School. I took the opportunity to speak to Lydia, who had just received her NCEA results. Here is her written reply, which I wanted to share with our parental community:
'When I started my first year at primary, I had just returned from a 3 month visit to Iraq and because we speak Assyrian at home, I had absolutely no English and forgotten everything I learnt at kindergarten. In less than 2 years I was fluent (mind you I was only 5-6 years old) because I had amazing [Miramar Christian] teachers who could help me. I liked learning. They create an atmosphere where as a child, you want to be there and you want to know things.

In 2016 I had been a year 11 student doing NCEA Level 1. I achieved NCEA level 1 with an Excellence endorsement and when all our results were released, I found out that I had gained individual subject endorsements too. I take a total of 6 subjects and gained 4 merit endorsements and 2 excellences, meaning I had endorsements for all subjects, on top of my overall one. Although I had

learnt some things specifically to those assessments at East, the fundamentals I didn't. The drive to do well didn't come from East, it came from Miramar Christian School'.

It is so rewarding to hear and receive these stories and I am more than happy to publish other people's testimonies. Please share the story with family and friends.

Academic:

Our academic staff and teachers' aides met last Friday for a full and productive **Teachers' Only Day**. We were lead in our first session by a past Staff member, Gillian Kissling, who is assisting us in our curriculum focus choice for 2017 to ensure that our most gratifying National Standard results from 2017 are maintained and built upon.

We also dealt with other administration and subject issues, to ensure that our year has begun in a positive and smooth manner.

We want to also maintain and build on the **National Standard** results and successes from 2016.

Cultural:

We wish to continue the wonderful **Kapa Haka** work begun single-handedly by parent and Staff member, **Zelda Dahya**. After only a few weeks of solid practices, our students made an amazing and moving impact at our Christmas concert and Prize Giving ceremony. Our two itinerant teachers, **Shan Jordan (Piano)** and **Bekky Boyce (Guitar)**, will be continuing their tuition on Fridays. Please complete the return form, which accompanies this newsletter.

Sports:

We have again made a successful application for Kiwi Sports' programmes in Term 1, 2 and 3. This term our pupils will receive coaching and skill building in Athletics. This programme entitled 'Get Set Go' (Years 1-3) and 'Run, Jump, Throw' (Years 4-8) will begin next Friday 17 February.

Spiritual:

Our **Interact theme**, for this term: **GOD IS WISE**, will continue to be lived out and pursued in classroom lessons. From time to time, it would be interesting to ask your children to reflect on this theme and realise the impact that it has made in their daily lives and work about our School.

Working Bees:

You will have seen that a huge amount of time and effort has been put into our buildings and grounds over the holidays to ensure our site is presented in the most appealing and safe manner. Thank you to those who joined us over the last two weekends: we can be proud of our combined labours.

House Groups

All our students have been assigned to one of our School Houses: Bethlehem, Canaan, Jericho and Sinai. We congratulate the following pupils who have been chosen as leaders of their respective Houses:

- Bethlehem** (Green) - Enlil Odisho (Leader)
- Pauls Matti (Deputy)
- Canaan** (Blue) - Jessica Singh (Leader)
- George Bato (Deputy)
- Jericho** (Red) - Joseph Hamill (Leader)
- Carmen Kroch (Deputy)
- Sinai** (Yellow) - Andrew Pthyo (Leader)
- Demetra Grivas (Deputy)

God Bless You
Kevin Boyce
Principal

Welcome

Welcome to Anna (Mum, Juliann Simeona) who returns to MCS after being away for a year. We warmly welcome you and your family back to our school community, and know you'll enjoy your time with us.



Anna

PE Days

Kowhai: Tuesday and Friday. Kowhai class wear their PE uniform to and from school.

Totara: Wednesday and Friday. Bring your PE uniform on Wednesday to change into at school and wear your PE uniform to and from school on Friday.

Kauri: Tuesday and Friday. Bring your PE uniform to change into at school both days.

2017 Invoices

Class Sets, Athletics Licenses, Technicraft etc

The total amount to be charged for Class Sets for 2017 has yet to be determined, however these will be completed and invoices sent out by the end of the month.

At this stage, Athletics Licenses remain at \$17 pa (excl GST).

Bibles for students moving up into Year 3 and New students are priced at \$32.00

Technicraft – Technicraft for Yrs 7 & 8 will start THIS week at EBIS on a Thursday afternoon. The cost, once known, will be invoiced on.

Voluntary Donation

The school's annual Voluntary Donation for 2017 remains the same as previous years at \$70 per student per year. These will be sent out at the same time as the Class sets.

Music Lessons

Registration forms for piano and guitar lessons will also have been sent home today. These need to be filled out and returned to the School Office by **Monday 13 February** please. Both piano and guitar lessons will take place on a Friday this year, starting from next Friday 17 February.

Prayer Requests

The following students and their families are prayed for by the staff each time we gather to pray during the week. We ask that you also pray for them too.

Week 1: Amia-Rose, Divya, Elizabeth-Jin

Week 2: Lotus, Phoebe, Lubna

Otago Problem Challenge:

Two numbers add to give 11 and multiply to give 24. What are the two numbers?

Answer from last newsletter: n/a.

Subway

Subway is still available to order on Wednesdays in 2017, starting from next Wednesday 15 February.

NB: For children in Totara and Kauri this won't be an option next Wednesday 15 February as they'll be on a school trip to Te Papa.

SCHOOL DIARY	
Every Monday	Principal's Assembly, 2.30pm
Every Tuesday	Prayer Group, Rm 4, 9.10am - 9:40am
Every Tues/Thurs	Wheels Day
Every Wednesday	Subway ordered lunch (optional)
Every Thursday	Technicraft (Yrs 7-8)
Every Friday	Music Lessons, 8:30am - 1:30pm
Every Sunday	10am Gateway Baptist Church - All Welcome
February	
Tuesday 7	First day of school - Term 1 2017
Thursday 9	Technicraft (Yrs 7&8) starts
Wednesday 15	Subway starts - Kowhai only this week
Friday 17	Music Lessons start
Friday 17	Get Set, Go' & 'Run, Jump, Throw' starts

Island Bay is having its annual festival from 11-19 Feb.

There's a lot going on over the nine days so make a date to experience the Parade and Variety Show on Saturday, a Day in the Bay on Sunday, the Ribble Street Races on Sat 18 Feb (don't forget to enter and race) and the Teddy Bears' Picnic at Shorland Park on Sun 19 Feb. Everything you need to know is on the website and Facebook (www.islandbayfestival.org.nz and <https://www.facebook.com/Islandbayfestival>).

STANDOUTS- DRAMA, DANCE & SINGING

Creative, fun Saturday classes in Lyall Bay.
4-6yrs 11am-12.30pm, 7-14yrs 1pm-4pm
Free trial class on Sat 11th Feb. For more information
contact Gemma at: gemma@standouts.co.nz, Ph:
9072929 or www.standouts.co.nz. Why fit in when you
were born to STANDOUT!

The **'Bubble Show'** is coming to the Gryphon's Theatre
on 23rd, 24th & 25th February as part of the Wellington
Fringe Festival this month. It is a family friendly act
involving Storytelling, magic, science - all using Soap
bubbles! Bookings are through the Wellington Fringe
website.

Local **Drum Lessons** with Mark Lockett (B.Mus Perf
Jazz, Dip Mus). Mark's recently returned from
performing & teaching in NYC. Mark is happy to teach
individuals or as a group. Contact Mark at
www.drumlab.co.nz or Ph: 021 0433 663.

Girl Guides is about to start up for 2017 and welcomes
new members. If you are interested in joining please
contact Rose O'Connor on Ph: 0800 663 466 or at
rose.oconnor@girlguidingnz.org.nz.

Are you new to New Zealand? The Citizens Advice
Bureau along with Migrant Connect is offering a free
information session on Employment, Education and Job
Assistance from 5.45 – 7.45pm on Monday 27 February
2017 on the Mezzanine Floor Meeting Room at the
Central Library; 65 Victoria Street; Wellington. Contact
wellingtoncentral@cab.org.nz or Phone: 460 9398 for
more information.

Heart Foundation Annual Street Appeal – needs your help!

The Heart Foundation's 2017 Wellington Region Street
Appeal will take place on 17/18 February 2017.
The Annual Appeal is the Heart Foundation's
opportunity to raise crucial funds needed to continue
our work in beating heart disease and stopping people
dying prematurely from heart disease. One person dies
from heart disease in NZ every 90 minutes, many of
these deaths are premature and preventable.
Volunteer and help us fight back!
We are now recruiting volunteers to help with the 2017
street appeal. We have various locations where we will
be collecting across the region (Wellington, Porirua,
Kapiti, Hutt Valley) so if you want to help us please
email [MaryL@heartfoundation.org.nz](mailto:MarylL@heartfoundation.org.nz) back and let us
know your preferred area. We would love to hear from
you!



**33 Park Rd
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Phone: 388 6535
Pastor: Phil Coates

**GATEWAY
BAPTIST CHURCH
MIRAMAR**

*We're an ordinary group of people
with faith in an extraordinary God,
serving the needs of people &
families in our community,
and making an impact for Jesus.*

**Come and join us!
Sundays @ 10am**

*Please contact the GBC office
for more details
office@gatewaybaptist.org.nz
www.gatewaybaptist.org.nz*

Register Now!

JUNIORS

MARIST ST PATS RUGBY



MSP Junior Rugby has built one of Wellington's proudest and most successful sports clubs.

The club is about children enjoying their sport and developing their skills in a fun, safe and family oriented environment. Come and check out our vibrant club culture with a strong family atmosphere offering:

- **Little Rippas (age 2-4):** for the smaller ones
- **Rippa Rugby (under 6 & 7):** non-tackle rugby
- **Tackle Rugby (under 8 to 13):** fun rugby for kids aged 8-13

Free rugby ball and
mouth-guard
when you register

Register online at www.msprugby.co.nz or come to one of our registration events at the MSP gym (next to St Pats College artificial turf) on Saturday 18th February 1pm to 3pm, Wednesday 22nd February 5pm to 6:30pm and Sunday 26th February 12pm to 1:30pm. Not sure? Email us at mspjuniorgym@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page for more.