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Newsletter No 1

Thursday 2 February 2023

Character, Excellence, Community

Term 1 Theme: God is peace
Threads: Challenging distortions, overcoming setbacks, pursuing peace, seeking justice
Key Competencies: Critical thinking, relating to others, participating and contributing, thinking about thinking, initiative

Our Mission Statement:

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

Memory Verse for 2023

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding. Acknowledge him in all your ways, and he will make your paths straight.
Proverbs 3: 5-6

Principal's Pen

Kia ora Whānau,

Our memory verse for 2023 is above, and this is exactly what we intend doing. To look to Him and trust in Him. He answers our prayers in His time and His ways. He is good and has been so good to us.

Welcome to 2023. After a fabulous finish in 2022 – (with our best ever academic results!), 2023 is also starting off extremely well. 2023 is set to be a truly fabulous year.

There is so much happening. We have been praying for more ākongā (students), especially girls in the senior class and we've had *three* new senior girls start. But God is a God of abundance, and has also blessed our school with *three* new entrant ākongā. That's *six* new ākongā! Last year we started with 21 ākongā at the beginning of the school year and this year we are starting with 32! How fabulous is that.

We are also very excited to being able to offer a new Mini-bus transport service from the Wellington Railway Station to Miramar Christian School in the morning and then from Miramar Christian School to the Wellington Railway Station after school. This will help ākongā

(students) who live further away to be able to access our school. The School Board have worked on hard on this over the school holidays, so to have it finally operational is a huge celebration.

We have had notification that the New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust (NZCPT) are now our new proprietors. This is a significant step in moving towards the vision for Christian Education in Wellington.

We are thankful to the Sylvia Hull Trust who have funded 15 new Chromebooks for Kauri class. These will start being used over the next few weeks.

In addition we having lots of things planned for the term - visiting Te Papa, having a dog handler visit, activities with Kelly Sport, Kapa Haka and a yachting session (for Kauri), it has been confirmed we will have 10-12 international students visit for a week in Term 3 from Japan.

With everything mentioned above you can see why we're buzzing and celebrating such a wonderful start to the school year!

Welcome

We warmly welcome our new students Adaline (who starts on 14 Feb), Ashli, Eliora, Joseph, Oluwaseyi and Pauline to Miramar Christian School. We pray God's blessing on them and their whanau as they grow and learn at MCS.



We also warmly welcome Miss Melanie Young who will be teaching Kauri class. Miss Young has a deep faith and great testimony. She has set up a very welcoming environment and is ready to help ākongā into learning. I think Kauri is in for a great year with Miss Young. We invite God's spirit to rest on Melanie and Kauri class as they became a team.

2022 Start of School Blessing – Tues 14 Feb 9am

We'll be having a "Start of School Blessing" held at Gateway Baptist on Tuesday 14 February at 9am. This will focus on seeking God's blessing and favour on our school



and all those associated with it. All are welcome and we'd love to see you all there. *Please drop your ākonga at Gateway Baptist instead of MCS on this day.*

Farewell



We were advised during the school holidays our Teacher Aide, Mrs Jennifer Cottman, has accepted a new job. Jen has worked with ākonga with either additional learning needs or ākonga who are learning English as a second language. We wish to thank

her for her wonderful service at Miramar Christian School over the past four years and wish her God's blessing as she starts her new job. She will certainly be missed!

Mini-bus



We are so grateful to the Wellington Christian Education Trust (WCET) who have paid for a Mini-bus for our school. This is an amazing gift which we plan to use to help parents

who live a distance from the school get to us. The Minibus is starting at the Wellington Railway Station at 8am and weaving its way to school to be at school in time for the school day. It takes a reverse trip in the afternoon. If you think this service would help your family there is a Mini-bus Application Form attached to return to the school office. If you know of any families who live a distance from the school, who are looking at Christian education, please let them know about the Mini-bus too.

We are so grateful to Andrew Green (School Board Presiding Member) and Jonathan Tay (Parent Rep on the School Board) who organised the purchase of the Mini-bus. A huge thank you also to Otto Azucena (Parent Rep on the School Board) who has offered to be the main volunteer Mini-bus driver. *We are still seeking other volunteer drivers to relieve Otto as needed from time to time. Please contact the school office if you are happy to have your name added to the Volunteer Mini-bus Drivers List. Drivers will need to be Police vetted and hold a 'full' drivers licence.*

New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust

The New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust are taking on the role of school proprietor previously held by the Peniel Trust. Peniel Trust continue to be the owner of the school land and responsible for school maintenance.

This results in a change in administration of the attendance dues that parents/caregivers pay, that contribute to the insurance and maintenance of the school property. So, sometime in the near future you will see a different name and bank account number on the attendance dues invoices you receive. There will be no difference in the way the attendance dues are used to maintain the school. If you have already paid your fees to Peniel they will forward this payment to the New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust. The Peniel Charitable Trust and the New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust are committed to making this transition as smooth as possible.

If you have any questions regarding this please see the Principal, Mrs Kaye Gillies.

Meet the Teacher Evening – Tues 14 Feb @ 6pm

Please prioritise attending our "Meet the Teacher" evening.

Our "Meet the Teacher" evening on Tuesday 14 February at 6pm provides an opportunity for whanau to meet your child's teacher and learn how your tamariki's class operates. Please mark this date in your diary as we would love to see you all there. More information will follow.

Active Parents and Teachers (APT)

For those of you who are new to Miramar Christian School, we have a parent/teacher group who assist with fundraising, profile raising activity, along with various other activities. They are an active group (as their name suggests) who meet once a month. They are keen to welcome new members.

APT meetings are scheduled to take place on the last Wednesday of the month from 6:30pm - 7:30pm and will alternate between being online and in person at MCS school. The APT will be meeting on the following dates: -

Wed 22 February – In Person

Wed 29 March – Online

Wed 26 April – In Person

Wed 31 May – Online

Wed 28 June – In Person

Wed 26 July – Online

Wed 30 August – In Person

Wed 27 September – Online

Wed 25 October – In Person

Wed 29 November - Online

The link for the online meeting will be sent via Skool Loop. If you cannot make every meeting that is fine, the APT appreciate anything you can offer. We look forward to seeing you there.

Digital Citizen Agreement

It is again that time of year when we renew our Digital Citizen Agreement. We do this each year so ākonga are kept safe and reminded about school technology expectations. Please take the time to read through this agreement and explain what this means with your tamariki and sign it with them. Thank you for your support with this.

Wellington Christian Education Project (WCEP)



The WCEP are committed to their vision for Christian schooling in Wellington. They are currently looking for a site for us to move to.

World Vision - 'Be Yourself' Day



As a school we sponsor a World Vision child. Her name is

Pheaktra. It costs \$30 per month/\$360 per year to support her (whether we are at school or on holiday). To raise these funds the school has a 'Be Yourself' day on the last Friday of each month where you get to wear your own clothes (instead of the school uniform) for the cost of a gold coin. We thank you in advance for your support in ensuring this target will be reached, it truly is appreciated.

Our next 'Be Yourself' Day is Friday 24 February 2023.

Term dates for 2023

The term dates for 2023 are as follows. They can also be found on the school website.

Term Dates for 2023:

Term 1: Wed 1 Feb - Thursday 6 Apr

Term 2: Wed 26 Apr - Friday 30 Jun

Term 3: Mon 17 Jul - Friday 22 Sept

Term 4: Mon 9 Oct - Friday 15 Dec

Teacher Only Days in 2023:

Monday 24 April 2023

Uniform

Summer has arrived. Ākonga wear a summer uniform in Term 1. As the sun can be fierce in Term 1, all ākonga are to wear a sunhat when outside. Please check your tamariki has a hat each day. We also ask for ākonga to bring a **named water bottle** each day as our drinking fountain is out of action at Red Traffic Light. Suncream may also be of benefit at this time. The school sunhat and other formal uniform items can be purchased at The Warehouse in Lyall Bay. School PE uniform is available from the office. We encourage all ākonga to wear their uniform with pride.

Absences

It is important you communicate with us when your tamariki is away and to let us know why. This helps with tamariki safety and allows us to know how to support your tamariki. Tamariki who are self-isolating at home are expected to continue their education through distance learning online. Tamariki who are physically sick are not expected to continue their learning until they are well enough to do so.

Prayer points: -

Thank God:

- For holidays and the refreshing they bring.
- For the New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust who are now officially our new proprietor.
- For the 6 new students who have started this week.
- For input of all those who faithfully worked to bring our school to where it is today.
- For the new Mini-bus.
- For God's faithfulness to Miramar Christian School for the last 44 years.

Please pray:

- Continued growth in our school especially in the senior room.
- For the perfect site in central Wellington to be found and be available in Gods perfect timing for our school to move to.
- For effective marketing.
- That Miramar Christian School would be blessed and be a blessing to the community.
- For our prayer students and their families: -
Week 1: Anna, Amy, Dylan, Zephaniah
Week 2: Cindy, Oluwaseyi, Eliora, Hazel

I thank you for your on-going commitment, support, and prayers. If we can help you with questions or concerns relating to your tamariki's education, please see your tamariki's class teacher or contact me on 021 293 5390. If you need privacy and/or a longer conversation, please book a time to talk with your classroom teacher or myself. We are here for you.

Ka nui tēnei
Kaye Gillies
Principal/Tumuaki

Music Lessons

Registration forms for piano lessons have been sent home today. These need to be filled out and returned to the School Office by **Wednesday 8 February** please. Piano lessons will take place again on a Friday this year, starting from next Friday 10 February.

Skool Loop

Please check if you still have your notifications on for Skool Loop. This is one of our important

communication tools. We would love all school families to receive all communications sent. We also wish to thank all our sponsors of our Skool Loop App. There is a poster at the end of our newsletter showing our sponsors logos.

- Annie Newell – Lowe & Co Realty
- Miramar Auto Centre
- Julia Kuiper at Broker Intel
- Toma's Kebabaria
- Peninsula Dental Centre

School Bank Account Number

For all school banking e.g., uniform payments, 'Be Yourself Day' koha payments, school fundraisers, etc. please make an internet banking payment to: -

Miramar Christian School

ASB Bank

Account Number: 12-3481-0040719-00

Peniel Trust Bank Account Number

School attendance dues (fees) are paid to Peniel Charitable Trust Board Inc. Please make internet banking payments to: -

Peniel Charitable Trust Board Inc.

ANZ Bank

Account Number: 06-0529-0894147-00

SCHOOL DIARY	
Every Mon	Wear Formal Uniform Wheels Day
Every Tues	Wear PE Uniform Assembly 2:30pm
Every Wed	Wear Formal Uniform Subway ordered lunch (optional)
Every Thurs	Wear Formal Uniform Kapa Haka
Every Fri	Wear PE Uniform Paid Music Lessons, a.m. Kids Club @ Gateway Baptist 3-5pm
FEB	
Wed 1 Feb	First day of school - Term 1, 2023
Mon 6 Feb	Waitangi Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
Tues 7 Feb	Kelly Sports p.m.
Wed 8 Feb	Subway lunch orders start for 2023
Thur 9 Feb	Kapa Haka starts for 2023
Fri 10 Feb	Piano Lessons start for 2023
Mon 13 Feb	First Assembly for 2023
Tues 14 Feb	"Start of School Blessing" 9am at Gateway Baptist
Tues 14 Feb	Kelly Sports p.m.
Tues 14 Feb	"Meet the Teacher" Evening, 6pm
Tues 21 Feb	Dog Handler Visit 9:15am
Fri 24 Feb	Kauri Class Library Visit, 11:30am
Fri 24 Feb	Be Yourself Day (bring a gold coin donation)

Mon 27 Feb	BoT, 6:30pm, Room 3 or Staffroom
MAR	
Wed 8 Mar	EZ Cricket Tournament Yrs 5-8 @ Miramar Park

Miramar Christian School

Thanks to the below businesses for sponsoring our school app:



If you would like to advertise on the Miramar Christian School Skool Loop App please email Content@skoolloop.com



To download our app: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose Miramar Christian School once installed.



"Gymnastics is a great and fun activity for developing confidence, coordination,

strength and agility. Harbour City Gymnastics, Hataitai Park, are currently taking in enrollments for Term 1 and have spaces available in our Monday and Tuesday Ribbon Award 5-6 y/o class! We also offer fun, safe, and educational preschool classes for your younger ones ages 3+. Email our office office@hcg.org.nz for further information or to register"



If your child loves doing Cartwheels, Handstands, Jumping, Swinging, Climbing or doing Flips, then they will

thrive at Bigair Gym! **TERM 1 CLASSES ARE STARTING NOW, SO DON'T MISS OUT, BOOK IN TODAY!** Bigair Gym classes are excellent for fun, focus and fitness! Children learn new skills and develop personal confidence and self-achievement! Strong focus is given to safety and technique, ranging from fundamentals to advanced skills. The structured classes follow a Bigair Badge Programme, which creates focused learning, and allows children to achieve and progress! Classes include **GYMNASTICS, TRAMPOLINING, TUMBLING, FREE RUNNING (thats parkour with flips) &**

CHEERLEADING! Inquire about Bigair **BIRTHDAY PARTIES** too!

Its easy to book online at www.bigairgym.co.nz or contact our Bigair Gym office. We would love to hear from you. Bigair Gym Owhiro Bay ph. 383 8779 e. wgtm@bigairgym.co.nz



Wellington Music Centre
Te Pokapū Puoro o Te Whanganui-ā-Tara

Nau mai! Kuhu mai!

- Instrumental and vocal tutition for tamariki aged 5-12
- Weekly classes on Saturday mornings
- Friendly and experienced kaiako for beginner to advanced ākonga
- \$120 for a full year's tutition!

Enrol NOW for 2023!
www.wellingtonmusiccentre.org.nz

Discounts available



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