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Newsletter No 4

Monday 13 March 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,

It is hard to believe we are now in Week 7. There is a lot happening over the next few weeks. Today we have had the trip to Te Papa. Coming up, Year 3-4 and Year 5-6 have a football tournament, Kauri has the yachting trip, we have our 'Community Event' coming up and Week 10 is Holy week. You will also no doubt be aware that **school will closed this Thursday, 16 March 2023** due to teachers and Principals going on strike.

Mihi Whakatau

Wow! What a special time for our school, a new teacher, 6 new families and a sibling coming to join our school community. Thank you to our current parents (tangatawhenua) who came to join us in welcoming manuhiri (new people) - Joseph, Adaline, Oluwaseyi, Eliora, Pauline, Ashli, Archie, Miss Young and their whanau.



Te Papa Trip

Thank you all whanau who volunteered to help yesterday. Without your assistance, this trip wouldn't have been able to happen. This trip is really beneficial for our ākonga, as it has many links to the work our ākonga have been doing this term. We will enjoy unpacking the learning that has happened today throughout the rest of the term.



School Closed - Thursday 16 March - Teachers and Principal Strike

As the teachers and Principal will be on strike, the Board has decided to close school on Thursday 16 March 2023.

Principals and teachers in primary and area schools and kindergartens have considered at length offers from the government to settle our respective collective agreements. The offers did not meet expectations, nor did they make sufficient steps towards the changes we need for our children to succeed.

You may have seen that they voted to take industrial action on Thursday 16 March. It's the last thing we wanted to do. And the decision was not taken lightly. We felt that this was the only way the government would listen and recognise our claims.

We recognise this may make life difficult for you and apologise for this inconvenience it causes.

Prayer Quilt



The Principal was privileged to be invited to speak at The Salvation Army Miramar "Children's Day" Sunday service about Miramar Christian School and show the congregation our new prayer quilt.

The prayer quilt was then available as one of their activities during the service.

We were very thankful to have had this opportunity to be present and for those who prayed for our school and the bigger vision of Christian Education in Wellington.

Football Tournaments

The notice for the Year 3-4 (Wed 22 Mar) Football Tournament went out last week. The Year 5/6 Football Tournament (Wed 29 Mar) notice is going home today. They are both very conveniently being held across the road at Miramar Park. These tournaments provide ākonga opportunities to challenge their skills and work as a team. We wish our teams well in these events. Please feel free to come and cheer our ākonga on. We are seeking parent assistance for this activity, if you can help for some or the whole time please let us know.

Yachting Trip - Kauri Class - Mon 27 March

Ākonga in Kauri have been working on the Kōrinorino module. Kōrinorino classroom experiences include activities that teach about the journeys of discovery to Aotearoa New Zealand. Kōrinorino sailing experiences include going sailing and imagining what it was like to sail across the ocean to this land and learning about Kāpehu Whetū - the Māori star compass. Ākonga use the skills and knowledge they acquire to retell the settlement histories of their area. This is part of ākonga "Aotearoa History" work. It is very exciting to be able to go on this yachting trip, provided through Worsler Bay Boating Club. We are so pleased Kauri class can have this experience. Please read the notice sent home yesterday for more details. We are seeking parent assistance for this activity, if you can help for some or the whole time please let us know.

Buddy Reading

One of our school values is Community. Four of our senior ākonga have started doing Buddy Reading with ākonga from our local Montessori. It is great for our ākonga to reach out and do something for others. This is something that we had been planning on resuming for quite some time and now that Covid restrictions are well behind us it has been able to happen.



Mini-bus

We are continuing to look for volunteer drivers for our mini-bus. We are looking for anyone who is willing to fill in if the current volunteer driver is sick or sometimes unavailable. This would involve filling in the "MCS Volunteer Mini-bus Driver Agreement" (available from the school office) and being police vetted, then being added to a list that



can be contacted as required. Being on the list does not mean having to say yes if you are contacted. Please continue to let others who are interested in our school know about the mini-bus service.

Wellington Christian Education Project (WCEP)




We have recently received and sent out an update of what is happening in the WCEP on Skool Loop. In case you missed it, we have attached a copy of it to the end of this newsletter. It is worth a read.

Active Parents and Teachers (APT)

Miramar Christian School has 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 6:30 - 7:30pm and will alternate between being 'online' and 'in person' at MCS school. The APT will be meeting on the following dates: -
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.

World Vision - 'Be Yourself' Day

 As a school we sponsor a World Vision child. His name is Pheaktra. It costs \$30 per month/\$360 per year to support him (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 donation. 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 31 March 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

Prayer points: -

Thank God:

- For a great community time welcoming new Kaiako, tauira and families.
- For opportunities to speak about our school and the 50 year Christian vision.
- For the prayer support from many Christians around Wellington and the country
- For input of all those who faithfully worked to bring our school to where it is today.
- For God's faithfulness to Miramar Christian School for the last 44 years.

Please pray:

- For lasting friendships for our new ākongā.
- 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 enquiries to turn into enrolments.
- For effective marketing.
- That our staff, (teachers, teacher aides, principal and office manager) and whānau including our ākongā) would during this time know God's support, help, direction, wisdom, and blessing.
- Please pray for Miramar Christian School, The Wellington Christian Education Project, and New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust, and Peniel Land Trust in establishing their 50-year vision for Christian Education in Wellington.
- That Miramar Christian School would be blessed and be a blessing to the community.
- For our prayer students and their families: -
Week 7: Audrey, Hannah, Daniel, Ashli
Week 8: Abishua, Samuel, Amia-Rose, Dylan

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

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

Miramar Christian 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

New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust (NZCPT) - Bank Account Number

School attendance dues (fees) are paid to the New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust. Please make internet banking payments to: -

New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust

ASB Bank

Account Number: 12-3107-0061704-16

Please use the student surname in the 'reference' field so they can match the deposit.

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 Piano Lessons, a.m. Kids Club @ Gateway Baptist 3-5pm
MAR	
Tues 14 Mar	Kelly Sports p.m.
Thurs 16 Mar	School Closed – Teacher/Principal Strike
Mon 20 Mar	BoT, 6:30pm, Room 3 or Staffroom
Tue 21 Mar	Kelly Sports p.m.
Wed 22 Mar	EZ Year 3/4 Football Tournament
Mon 27 Mar	Kauri Class Yachting Trip
Tue 28 Mar	Kelly Sports p.m.

Wed 29 Mar	EZ Year 5/6 Football Tournament
Wed 29 Mar	APT Mtg, 6:30-7:30pm, Online
Thurs 30 Mar	MCS Community Event (6pm)
Fri 31 Mar	Be Yourself Day (bring a gold coin donation)
Fri 31 Mar	Kauri Class Library Visit, 11:30am
APR	
Mon 3 Apr	
Tue 4 Apr	No Kelly Sports this week
Wed 5 Apr	
Thur 6 Apr	Last day of Term 1, 3pm finish
Fri 7 Apr	Good Friday – school closed
Mon 24 Apr	Teacher Only Day - school closed
Tue 25 Apr	ANZAC Day – school closed
Wed 26 Apr	Term 2 starts, 8:55am

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.



Miramar Rangers AFC 2023 Football Season

Miramar Rangers has a proud and rich football history of 116 years in the Eastern Suburbs. Are you interested in playing junior football this coming season? Registrations remain open for most grades.

We cater for boys and girls of all abilities in the following junior age groups:

- ☺ First Kicks 4-6 year olds – those born 2017 or earlier
- ☺ Junior and Youth Grades U7-U15 Grades – those born 2016-2008
- ☺ Girls Sunday Leagues U7-U14 Grades

To register please use the following link - <http://miramarrangers.co.nz/registration-1/>

For further information and details on how to register please either see our website www.miramarrangers.co.nz/juniors or contact our administrator Rosie Telford – secretary@miramarrangers.co.nz

SONRISE SERVICE

**EASTER SUNDAY 9 APRIL
6:30AM MT VICTORIA LOOKOUT**

Hosted by The Street Church in conjunction with the Council of Wellington Churches

Email: city@thestreet.org.nz ph. 04 385 7315

GIVE RUGBY A TRY!

SEASON STARTS 28 APRIL

- ✓ Make friends
- ✓ Have fun
- ✓ Build confidence
- ✓ Be healthy

Find out more about Marist St Pats junior rugby msprugby.co.nz/juniors or email mspjuniorg rugby@gmail.com



"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. wgt@bigairgym.co.nz



NZSO are excited to announce they are returning to Wellington for Open Doors on **Saturday 29 July** at the Michael Fowler Centre. Their musicians are going to be running several fantastic events – there will be something for everyone!

Tamariki Time – 10:00-10:45 (Renouf Foyer)
Tamariki Time is a free concert designed for the smallest members of your whānau. Suitable for pre-schoolers or students up to the age of 8 years. This 45-minute concert features various short, dance/film-related pieces and instrument demos that your kids will love!

We also have an exciting Storytime performance for you. There is a relaxed attitude to noise and movement during the concert and a chance to get up and move to the music.



Parent Help
For Parent and Family Support

**AFFORDABLE
COUNSELLING
IS AVAILABLE**

no long waitlists
self-referral online
for children and parents
all ages and stages

WE HELP WITH:

- rude behaviour
- pushing boundaries
- technology and device use
- sexual behaviour
- separation
- blended families
- parenting alone
- anxiety and depression
- sibling rivalry
- bullying
- tantrums
- self-harming
- refusing to go to school ... and much more.

request your counselling session now at:

www.parenthelp.org.nz/counselling



Pride Lands Fun School Holiday Adventures

Held at Western Suburbs Rugby Club (Wilton and Southern Suburbs SWIS (Berhampore-Newtown)

Dates: 10th – 21st APR 2023, from 7.00am-6pm daily
Interactive Activities and NO TV or Video Games, Cooking, Fitness, and Life Skills Programme creating healthy Breakfast, Morning Tea, Lunch and Afternoon Teas. One-on-one care and shuttle services available.

Daily: \$82.04/cub per session or \$139.47 for two siblings per session;

Weekly: \$328.16 per cub/week or \$557.87 for two siblings/week.

One-on-One Care: Available for cub(s) if extra support is needed at \$12/hr.

MSD Approved & WINZ subsidies are available for eligible families.

Contact us: 0800 PRIDE 4 U

Register online:

www.PRIDELANDS.co.nz<<http://www.pridelands.org.nz/>

or visit our **Facebook page:**

www.Facebook.com/PrideLandsChildcare<<http://www.Facebook.com/PrideLandsChildcare>>

On Wed, 1 Mar 2023, 1:23pm Mark Larson, wrote: -

Greetings all

I had the privilege of sitting under some wonderful teaching recently in Hebrews 11. The passage speaks of the heroes of the faith. A common saying goes "I'll believe it when I see it". Hebrews 11 turns that on its head and calls us to have faith so that if we believe then we may see!

As observed at other times, the Wellington Christian Education Project has taken a number of twists and turns, not the least of which was going back to the drawing board in our site search. Sometimes I feel I don't have what it takes to be part of finding a site to relocate Miramar Christian School. When I feel like that, the Spirit speaks to me and says "Mark - you don't have to have what it takes - I, Yahweh, have what it takes!".

Inspired by the heroes of the faith like Abraham and others, we press on believing God will carry us through.

We can celebrate all the ways in which God has provided so far;

- thank you Lord for all those who have labored in the field of Christian education in Wellington
- thank you Lord for the gift of Christian education itself
- thank you for Miramar Christian School (and Maranatha Christian School) who serve their communities faithfully
- thank you for the project partners from all around New Zealand and the WCET who have carried the vision so faithfully
- thank you for support from the Ministry of Education
- we celebrate NZCPT becoming Proprietor of Miramar Christian School and honour the Peniel Trust who have faithfully carried the school for more than 40 years
- we thank you that the school now has a minivan and a growing roll

Here is a [link](#) to a few words from Mark.

Miramar Christian School

Most of you will have seen news that the school has purchased a minivan and is running a bus service from the railway station. Grateful thanks to the Wellington Christian Education Trust who donated the money to the school to make this possible. You may recall the WCET was formed approximately 15 years ago to carry the vision for enhancing the provision of Christian education in Wellington. WCET are now partnering with other education Trusts from around New Zealand and Miramar Christian School to progress the vision. The school has been delighted to receive new enrolments as a result of the bus service. The school Board welcomes two new Board members - Stuart van Rij (a parent interested in enrolling at a relocated site) and Phillip Mark Bradley (from one of the partner Trusts in Auckland).

Miramar Christian School now has a new Proprietor. The New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust became proprietor effective 21st January. This has been in the planning stages for some time.

Site Search Coordinator

The project is delighted to introduce Ivan Wong Kee who commenced work in this role on the 6th of January. Ivan is busy networking, scouring the property market and also enquiring about properties that are not on the market but have potential.

[Zoom recording with Ivan Wong Kee](#)

If you have a lead on a potential property we encourage you to contact Ivan - email ivan.wongkee@remax.co.nz or phone 021 585 416. and cc Mark in.

Change of class application

Late last year we contacted all interested families and asked them to consider completely a survey to assist us with our application to change year levels and increase the roll once we have a suitable site found.

The application requires community consultation. This includes the current Miramar families and all those who have expressed interest in enrolling in the re-sited school. Thank you so much to all who have completed this.

Below is a link to a survey we would love you to complete if you haven't already and if you are a Miramar family or interested in enrolling your children in the school in the future. This will help us to understand in more detail what you are looking for and how our work to date matches that.

<https://forms.gle/Rn5Cq2j1ueG3ac6w7>

Public Meeting

With the delay in relocating Miramar Christian School we consider we are overdue for a face to face catch up. Programme to be confirmed but we hope to have some great speakers, nice food, excellent kids programme and a chance for everyone to reconnect as well as meeting new families. We are working on finalising the date and will advise you as soon as we can.

Expression of Interest List

Thank you to the families who signed up over the summer. Follow this [link](#) to see how this would translate into school roll and year levels.

Article of Interest

Developing the Wellington Christian Education Project comes at a challenging time in New Zealand's history for Christians. The thinking and values of the wider New Zealand society are increasingly at odds with the way that Jesus set before us. Here is a [link](#) to an article by Gavin Hastings, Principal, Hastings Christian School. It is a good reflection of how Christian educators are thinking about our times and what Christian education can look like. I was very encouraged to read this and commend it to you.

In closing, we acknowledge all those so profoundly affected by Cyclone Gabrielle. I realise some of you reading this will have relatives and friends who are struggling.

Regards
Mark Larson