



Week 7 Term 1 18th March 2019

School website www.stmarys.ac.nz

School Facebook www.facebook.com/groups/stmarysschoolwanganui

School App From the Google Apps / Play Store: SchoolAppsnz St Mary's School

Thank you to all who joined us for Mass yesterday.

It was a very moving experience to be worshipping with our community on such a beautiful day but also a very challenging weekend for our country.

I know that you will all stand with me in sending our prayers and condolences to all those who have been affected by this tragedy - those who have lost loved ones, those who are injured or those whose whānau are injured.

We also send our heartfelt gratitude to the emergency and support services who will be working tirelessly with the victims and their families over this terrible time.

Kia kaha to all New Zealanders.

Whilst we hope and pray that this event in Christchurch is an isolated occurrence, I would like to reassure and inform you a little more about our school's already established lockdown procedures.

You may be aware that we work with the Police to guide us in the best ways to manage students and staff in an emergency situation. We have trial evacuations and lockdowns each Term.

We do ask that parents DO NOT come to school in a lockdown situation, as this can place you in danger, and we are unable to let you into any part of the school. Staff and children can only be released from a lockdown situation by myself or the deputy principal with directives from the Police. We communicate directly with staff to keep them apprised of the situation and also liaise directly with the Police. We would update you as appropriate via our school app.

Our strong belief, is that it is you, the whanau, who should decide how, when and if, you will address these events with your children, but I also know that questions and conversations between children will be a possibility over the coming days. On the next page I have placed a message from the Ministry of Education with suggestions for talking to your children. I have also put a link on our school Facebook page.

On Monday morning, we met as a staff to discuss ways of responding to our children's questions and prayers, as well as their concerns as they emerge. I will be working to ensure, with the staff, to deal sensitively with any questions or concerns that may arise. We will contact you if your child is finding it hard to manage.

God Bless
Jacqui Luxton



Tips for parents and educators: Supporting children and young people.

Lockdowns are an important part of school safety and crisis preparedness. We want to thank schools and early learning services for keeping all children and young people safe on Friday.

Now we need to help them recover well. An incident like this can confuse and frighten anyone who may feel unsafe or worried that their friends or loved-ones are at risk. They will look to others for information, guidance and support.

Parents and teachers can help children and young people feel safe by;

- providing reassurance and keeping to routines
- staying calm and promoting a calm environment
- doing enjoyable things together
- taking time to listen and talk

Be guided by their questions, be factual and age appropriate with your response. Children and young people do not always talk about their feelings readily – ask them if they are feeling worried.

- Keep your explanations developmentally appropriate.
- Very young children need brief, simple information that should be balanced with reassurances that their ELS, school and homes are safe and that adults are there to protect them.
- Older primary school aged children will be more vocal in asking questions about whether they truly are safe and what is being done at their school. They may need assistance separating reality from fantasy. Discuss efforts of school, emergency services and community leaders to provide safe schools.
- Observe children's emotional state. Changes in behaviour, appetite, and sleep patterns can also indicate a child's level of anxiety or discomfort. In most children, these symptoms will ease with reassurance and time. However, some children may be at risk for more intense reactions, particularly those who have experienced difficulties and change. Parents and teachers, seek support through your school pastoral care system or your GP.



**Mass
on the
Grass**



In Christ I Can... Champions!



Inclusion

Courtesy

Integrity

Courage



St Marys School In Christ I Can

Name: Nataliyah

Room: 11

Inclusion

Courtesy

Integrity

Courage

Reason: For being a great help and supporting students in Room 6

Teacher: Miss Cooper



St Marys School In Christ I Can

Name: Lucy O'Rourke

Room: 8

Inclusion

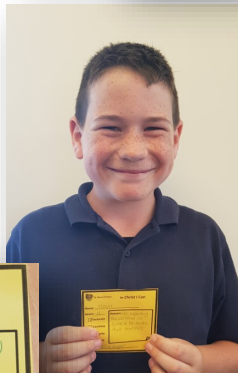
Courtesy

Integrity

Courage

Reason: Giving up device time to tutor other students who found the math concepts very tricky.

Teacher: N. Kava



St Marys School In Christ I Can

Name: Samuel

Room: 6

Inclusion

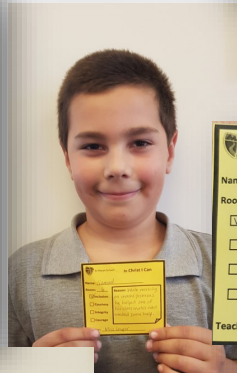
Courtesy

Integrity

Courage

Reason: Wrote working on maths problems he helped one of his classmates who needed some help.

Teacher: Miss Cooper



St Marys School In Christ I Can

Name: Mason

Room: 11

Inclusion

Courtesy

Integrity

Courage

Reason: for supporting the children in Room 6 to make their monsters.

Teacher: Miss Cooper

St Marys School In Christ I Can

Name: Mia

Room: 6

Inclusion

Courtesy

Integrity

Courage

Reason: Really liked how Mia stayed back at lunchtime to help a class friend who was struggling to finish his work.

Teacher: Lenne



St Marys School In Christ I Can

Name: Mia

Room: 6

Inclusion

Courtesy

Integrity

Courage

Reason: Really liked how Mia stayed back at lunchtime to help a class friend who was struggling to finish his work.

Teacher: Lenne



INCLUSION

The second commandment is 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." Mark 12:31



In Term 1 we are focusing on the Gospel Value of Inclusion.

We would love you to take the time to talk about and reinforce each aspect of our ICIC Gospel Values with your child.

This week we look at Curiosity... there are 4 skills that we can work towards.



Curiosity

Getting to know your classmates likes & dislikes
Meeting someone in a language that is important
to them.

Valuing a person's culture through our actions
Recognising the value of learning about cultures
from the world.



**FREE
ENTRY**

futures
WHANGANUI



Want to give golf a go?

JUNIOR GOLF

OPEN FUN DAY

Celebrate the launch of the Futures Whanganui Junior Golf programme with a fun golf activity day!



Activities
include:

Snag Golf
Mini Putt
Fun Comps



Castlecliff Golf Club

Sunday 24th March: 11am - 1pm

Everyone welcome!

For further information contact Chris Fong:
email futureswhanganui@gmail.com | phone **027 480 3412**



**COMING
SOON**

March

19th:

- Intermediate Club

20th:

- JLC & Room 3 at the Splash Centre
- Year 7/8 Tech @ Cullinane
- Kapahaka
- Rotary Readers

21st:

- Pita Pit Go to lunchonline

22nd:

- Gifted and Talented
- Mass at Cullinane Rooms 8 & 9
- Year 7 & 8 Immunisations

25th:

- PTA Meeting 5.30pm

26th:

- Room 11 Red Cross
- Contributing Swimming Sports
- Intermediate Club Lawn Bowls

27th:

- JLC & Room 3 at the Splash Centre
- Year 7/8 Tech @ Cullinane
- Kapahaka
- Rotary Readers
- Assembly Room 8
- Date Night with a King 5pm - 7pm in the Library

28th:

- Pita Pit Go to lunchonline
- Inter School Intermediate Swimming

29th:

- Gifted and Talented
- Room 10 Red Cross
- Mass at Cullinane
- Duffy Books Role Model Assembly



Staff Only Day 4th June