

Newsletter

Monday, 8 June 2020 (Term 2, Week 9)

Tēnā koutou katoa

As we head towards the end of what can only be described as a very “different” Term 2, it is heart-warming to see the children’s smiling faces as they enjoy being back at school with their friends.

COVID-19 has certainly been a challenging time for us all. It is encouraging to know that when we face seemingly insurmountable obstacles we can overcome mountains when we trust in God and are reminded of His Amazing Grace.



[50 Countries Affected By COVID-19 Represented in One Song - Amazing Grace!](#)

*Was Grace that taught my heart to fear
And Grace, my fears relieved
How precious did that Grace appear
The hour I first believed*

*Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come
T'was Grace that brought us safe thus far
And Grace will lead us home*

This week, we await an announcement from the Prime Minister about a move to National Alert Level 1. Once this move is made, a Special Bulletin will be shared explaining what this will look like for Maranatha Christian School. In the meantime, we carry on operating within our Level 2 Safety Plan.

Special Announcement... Maranatha has been part of a cluster of Christian Schools and Early Childhood Centres since 2017. Our cluster is called the Lower North Island Christian Schools Community of Learning/Kahui Ako (LNICoL).

At the end of 2019, Dr Peter Ferrar, then Principal of Cornerstone Christian School and Lead Principal of the LNICoL, resigned from both positions. Gavin Clark (Principal of Hastings Christian School) and I stepped in to co-lead the cluster during Term 1 until an official appointment was made.

After prayerful consideration, and with the blessing of the Maranatha CS Board of Trustees, Gavin and I submitted applications to be Co-Lead Principals. We were interviewed during the lockdown period and were the successful applicants.

This amazing opportunity will allow us to continue leading in our respective schools while also facilitating collaboration and professional learning between other Christian schools. This will benefit all learners/ako (students and teachers) while also uniting God’s schools.

Practically, this will mean that I will be committed to LNICoL work on Fridays during which time I will frequently be working off-site. During my absence, Mrs Lexia Copp (Deputy Principal) will be Acting Principal of Maranatha CS. I will share updates about the work of the LNICoL in future newsletters.

Looking Ahead...

Learning Conferences are now being scheduled for next week. Options include on-site (face to face) or online (Zoom) meetings. Please book a time through the CareMonkey registration form or contact the school office for assistance.

Kia pai tō rā whakatā (Have a fantastic weekend).

In His love,
Steve Farrand
Principal

*“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.”
Proverbs 27:17 (NIV)*

Coming Up...

Monday, 15 June – Wednesday, 17 June
Friday, 3 July
Monday, 20 July
Monday, 20 July – Friday, 31 July
Friday, 24 July
Friday, 31 July

Learning Conferences (Book now)
Term 2 Ends
Term 3 starts
“Build and Play” trailer on site
Year 7&8 Technology starts
Cut-off date to receive enrolments for
children who turn 5 between 15 March & 6
June 2021

Term dates for 2020

Term 2 28 April – 3 July
Term 3 20 July – 25 September
Term 4 12 October – 16 December

Message from the Board of Trustees

The BOT met last week and it was great to hear how well the kids did during lockdown with their online learning – thanks for all the feedback on how it worked for you from our online survey! We all know how weird the lockdown time was and we hope that you and your family are navigating our level 2 world well.

It is lovely to see all the children back and we took a look at our data across each year level at our meeting and we were really pleased with the progress – and the interventions that teachers are continuing to deploy to raise achievement. Our staff have really had to do a huge ‘pivot’ into the online teaching space and now, back to face to face learning – they’ve done a great job! As parents, I think our appreciation for our teachers grew as the weeks went on 😊

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe and respecting our new ‘norm’ with contact tracing and hygiene – this has been going well, and we appreciate your support.

COVID-19 has meant a significant change for many of ours – and for some, financial strain is very real. If you do have any financial constraints that don’t enable you to meet your fee and donation commitments for school, please get in touch with Steve. On the other hand, hasn’t it been amazing to see New Zealand embrace ‘be kind’ and one of the ways you could take this to the next level is to offer financial help to a family that is struggling. Again, get in touch with Steve if this is a way you would like to support another family who is struggling.

Bless you
Rohan
Chairperson

He that dwelleth
in the secret place
of the most High
shall abide under the
shadow of the Almighty.
I will say of the Lord,
He is my refuge
and my fortress: my God;
in him will I trust.
Psalm 91:1-2



Notices:

Enrolment Cut-off dates:

For a child who turns 5 between:

15 March 21 - 6 June 21
7 June 21 - 29 August 21
30 August 21 - 21 November 21
22 November 21 - 13 March 22

Cut Off date to receive applications by:

31 July 2020
23 October 2020
12 February 2021
14 May 2021

Learning Conferences 2020

Monday, 15 June - Wednesday, 17 June

If you haven't already done so, please book your child/ren's Learning Conference via CareMonkey. Details of Learning Conferences can be found in the CareMonkey eform.

As the Learning Conferences will start from **2.00 pm**, students may be collected from 2.00 pm onwards on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. **Please note that the bus will run at the usual times on these days.**

If you are unable to pick your child up early, or if they are on the bus, these children will be supervised in the school hall between 2.00 - 3.00 pm. There will be no supervision available after 3.00pm so please ensure your child is picked up by this time.

Scholastic Book Club

A brochure was sent home earlier this week. The brochure can be viewed online <http://www.scholastic.co.nz/schools/book-club/>. Please ensure that orders are placed before Monday 15 June 2020.

Happy reading!

Parent/Teacher Association Fundraiser

2020/21 Entertainment Memberships are now available

The PTA is offering the Entertainment Book Memberships as a fundraiser again this year.

There are fantastic savings to be made at Wellington's leading restaurants, cafes and attractions. Your membership is a great way to find exciting new places to visit, or a reminder to get back to those old favourites. There are also great offers for over 2000 Hotels, Theme Parks, Rentals Cars, online shopping and so much more.

Here is the link from the PTA for the Entertainment Book:
<https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/10548p4>

Thank you for your support.

P.S. Don't forget to join our PTA & Secondhand Uniform Page via the closed group Maranatha Facebook page!

Do you have a Nescafe Dolce Gusto Machine at home?



At school we clean out the pods and send them away for recycling. If you would like to help the environment and recycle your pods, please clean them out, dry them and stack them in a bag as shown and place them in the box on the deck outside Kakariki class.

If we collect enough pods we can raise money for the enviro-group and their projects at school. For more information, check out:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=d8jJO_Kckel&feature=emb_logo

<https://www.terracycle.com/en-NZ/brigades/capsulebrigade-nz>

Any questions, email jasmyns@maranatha.school.nz

Public Notices:

Whitby Collegiate School – Open Day

College years are the years that set students up for life and this is the school that can do that. We're the only co-educational, independent school in the Wellington region for students who will be Year 9 in 2021. We have a rare ability to create a place where all students are happy, generous achievers. We'd be delighted to show you our school and tell you more in person. To register for our next open day visit our website whitbycollegiate.school.nz or give us a call on 04 234 1070

