

Newsletter

Friday, 12 November (Term 4, Week 4)



Tēnā koutou katoa, Whānau

As I write this newsletter, I am reflecting on all of the wonderful things that we have been able to achieve at Maranatha Christian School this year, at a time when the world is broken in so many ways. We are a school that is resilient in the face of difficulties and a community of Christ that is inspired by a common purpose. How encouraging it is that...

"...where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." **Matthew 18:20 (NIV)**

I would like to express my thanks to our Board of Trustees who have provided exceptional guidance, support and stewardship, especially as we have worked through the various Government mandates and Ministry of Education advice and guidance.

As mentioned in the last **Special Bulletin** (see attached), the impact of the mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations for all school staff and volunteers from next Tuesday (16 November) **will** be felt at Maranatha Christian School. Up to this point, we have been unable to share details of this due to the complexities of working through employment processes, therefore, a Special Bulletin will be sent on Monday with an update on the staffing situation at school.

At this time, we are reminded that we did not ask for this situation, or cause it to happen, and that the impact for some may be great. As a community we are founded on Christ and His love that above all else conquers all.

Special Moments from recent weeks...



White Sunday, Local Histories Tour, New Asphalt, Shake Out Day & Charter Workshop

In recent weeks, there has been so much to celebrate. A special assembly was held for (Samoan) White Sunday, staff spent a day learning about local histories to enrich their teaching programmes, work on the lower court has come to an end (only court markings and reinstating the basketball hoop remain), students practiced earthquake safety on National Shake Out Day and learned how their bodies are perfectly designed by God, how to care for them and how they change over time in our Human Development & Relationships Unit.

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well". **Psalms 139:14 (NIV)**

I would like to say a big **Thank you** to those who contributed their thoughts to our recent **Charter & Strategic Plan** consultation. This valuable feedback enabled the Leadership Team and Board of Trustees (including Proprietor (MFB) Representation) to work with a facilitator last Saturday to determine the direction of the school over the next five years.

Key outcomes from the day included...

Retaining the current school vision of “**Growing Christ-Centred Learners and Leaders**”

Retaining the current school L.I.F.E values (with changes made to the descriptors)...

Love – Love as God loves us

Integrity – Live our lives led by The Word and The Holy Spirit

Faith – Believe and trust God for all things

Excellence - Aim high, doing our best for God and His Kingdom

Retaining the three strategic aims of...

Strategic Aim 1

Navigating Life with Wisdom & Integrity

Maranatha Christian School will provide a Christ-Centred education that equips students to walk as confident Christians in a secular world.

Strategic Aim 2

Leaders of Innovation & Excellence in Teaching & Learning

Maranatha Christian School will develop a leading culture of innovation and excellence in all areas of school life.

Strategic Aim 3

Building a Connected & Interactive Community

Maranatha Christian School will build a connected and interactive partnership with the school, and the wider community.

Further details regarding what specific focus areas sit under these strategic aims will be shared in a future communication.

Looking ahead...

On **Wednesday 8 December** Hope Centre will be hosting a **Cyber Safety** evening that we encourage you to attend. This presentation will not be suitable for children.

Finally, due to COVID restrictions, we are **unable** to hold our **Celebration Evening** (Prize Giving) with the school community as planned. Further information will be shared shortly once an alternate plan has been finalised.

Ngā Mihi,
Steve Farrand
Principal



“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.” 1 Corinthians 13:13 (NIV)

Coming Up...

Tuesday, 16 November	BoT Meeting
Friday, 19 November	Year 7&8 Technology Lunchonline orders available (every Friday)
Tuesday, 23 November	Welcome Assembly – details to be advised
Friday, 26 November	Year 7&8 Technology
Tuesday, 30 November	Year 8 Graduation (details to be confirmed)
Thursday, 2 December	Year 6&7 Leavers Afternoon Tea
Friday, 3 December	Year 7&8 Technology
Tuesday, 7 December	Celebration Event
Wednesday, 8 December	Our Kids Online – Hope Centre (Please note change of date)
Friday, 10 December	Newsletter Year 7&8 Technology
Tuesday, 14 December	Certificate Assembly
Wednesday, 15 December	Last day of Term 4

Notices:

Term Dates for 2022

- Term 1 – Thursday, 3 February – Thursday, 14 April
- Term 2 – Monday, 2 May – Friday, 8 July
- Term 3 – Monday, 25 July – Friday, 30 September
- Term 4 – Monday, 17 October – Friday, 16 December

Reminders

- Please let the school office know if your child will be leaving Maranatha at the end of the year.
- Term 4 – Summer uniforms. **No Sunhat = No outside play**, so please remind your children to bring their sunhats.
- Please send your children to school with their drink bottle, the water fountains are turned off during Level 2.
- Please do not park in the bus parking area when you are dropping off or collecting your children to/from school
- The end of year events (Graduations and Celebration Evening) **will** look different this year. We will advise further when we have confirmed details. Please mark the dates above in your calendars.

Call for return of Cups and Trophies

Please return all cups and trophies received at last year's Celebration Evening. We are needing to prepare these now for this year's awards event. We appreciated the speedy return of some of these awards already, thank you to those of you who have sent them back.

Nits

We have received reports of students who have head lice (nits). Please check your own child's head **today** and, if necessary, apply the appropriate treatment so we can eradicate them as quickly and effectively as possible. Use your chosen medicated shampoo or a natural alternative. Children are able to return to school after treatment is given.

Fire Wise Programme

At the beginning of November children in the junior school had a visit from the Fire Wise team to follow up the class learning focus of fire safety. We have a message from the Fire Wise team for our community. Please see the message and the posters below.

“If students’ families have no smoke alarms or only alarms over 10 years of age they can apply for a free home fire safety visit. We will then install one free long life 10 year smoke alarm or we can go to any other home offering help with general fire safety tips, escape plans and safe meeting places. Our fire awareness programme is a free education based programme for young persons who have an unhealthy interest in fire.”

FREE HOME FIRE SAFETY VISITS

Fire and Emergency New Zealand offers these free home fire safety visits to help you reduce the risk of fire in your home.

For more information or to book a free visit, contact your local fire station or email: FFI@fireandemergency.govt.nz

FIRE AWARENESS INTERVENTION PROGRAMME

What is our Fire Awareness Intervention Programme?

The programme is designed to educate children and their whānau on how to be safe around fire, the dangers of fire and the consequences of fire. The aim of the programme is to reduce the number of deaths, injuries and damage to property caused by juvenile fire setting. Many young people who are involved in fire setting do not realise that New Zealand law treats both intentional and reckless damage by fire as arson.

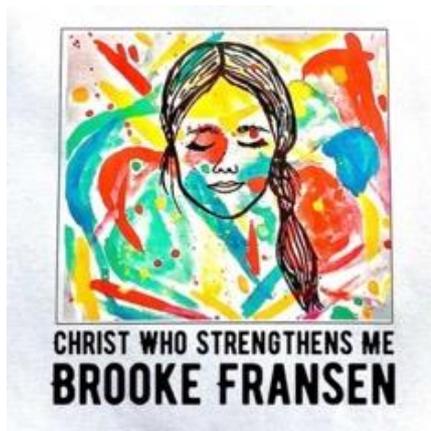
The programme is delivered by a trained practitioner, and usually in a home setting. It is strictly confidential and voluntary (with the exception of referrals from the police and the courts). The content varies according to the age and maturity of the young person involved and user education and behaviour modification responses to challenge and correct the negative fire lighting behaviour.

Contact us: **0800 FIRE INFO**
0800 3473 4636
FAIP@fireandemergency.nz

- 1 Client identified**
A young person has been identified as showing fire lighting behaviour, or has been referred to the service concerned about a child's fire lighting problem via contact with an emergency 111 or police (emergency or police contact).
- 2 Referral**
A referral letter is submitted in confidence. This can be via email: FAIP@fireandemergency.govt.nz or by mail: FAIP@fireandemergency.govt.nz or by post: FAIP@fireandemergency.govt.nz. It is only important when using email to ensure as much information is gathered as possible.
- 3 Assigned**
The response coordinator will contact a suitable practitioner for the case, based on client's gender, age, ethnicity and circumstances.
- 4 Contact**
The practitioner will contact the parent/carer, within 1 week and arrange a suitable time to visit to conduct an intervention. About two weeks prior to intervention the practitioner will make contact with the whānau to seek clarity.
- 5 Intervention**
The intervention will take place at the young person's home. However, they can also take appropriate outdoor space activities. Before the intervention a consent form will be signed and the carer will stay present during the visit. Resources such as written materials may be used during a visit and homework will be set. A home fire safety visit will be done by the practitioner with the young person being involved as much as possible.
- 6 Follow up**
A follow up visit may be done if the practitioner feels it would be beneficial to the young person. It is linked to their progress and whether the previous advice has been followed.

Congratulations

Well done **Ethan** and **Kris** on your latest swimming achievement!



Congratulations to **Brooke Fransen** (ex-Maranatha student) who has composed and written a beautiful song “Christ who strengthens me” which has been released on Spotify. We are sure you will be encouraged as you listen to it. Below is the Spotify link and a YouTube link:

<https://open.spotify.com/track/2oiXqTNQ9qAFUcaiaV6dq2?si=87XnNqu4R8iTbIAVVlm5GA>

<https://youtu.be/P0QaCV1GUSU>

Public Notices:



Thinking of Selling? Talk to Tony!

Tony Pitiroi has been gifting \$250 from every house he sells to Maranatha over the past four years – we are truly blessed to have received these gifts. Please give Tony a call on 021 562 564 if you are considering selling. Thank you Tony!



Title: Trauma – what is it and what can we do about it?
Audience: Parents and Caregivers
Date: Friday 19th November via Zoom link
Time: 10 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.
Cost: Free to join please register via info@skylight.org.nz

Trauma may not be exactly what you think it is. By the end of the webinar this may become clearer.

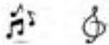
Presenter: Skylight Contract Counsellor Roni
Roni is a Strategic Interventionist/Relationship Educator and works within a trauma-informed practice. Her expertise covers such topics as attachment, addiction, trauma, emotional intelligence, and raising emotionally healthy children in today's stressful society.

The webinar will cover:

- What is Trauma?
- How do I know if I have trauma?
- Who can help me?
- How to regulate yourself



Enjoy Music? Learn to have fun playing the piano. All Ages welcome. Contact Juliana on 021 02991815 5



Opportunity to try Scouting

A number of Scout Groups across Lower Hutt have room for more.

If your child or children are looking for an after-school activity that provides hands on experiences, lots of opportunities to get messy, get out and about in nature, contribute positively to the community and learn leadership skills, then Scouts may be for them.

We offer Kea Scouts for 5 to 8* year olds, Cub Scouts for 8 to 11* year olds, and Scouts from 10.5 to 11 years upwards. (*Approximate upper age of the section.)

Our 10 Scout Groups across Lower Hutt encourage and inspire youth through adventurous experiences to make a positive difference in our local, national and global community.

We welcome any child 5 years and older, and you can find a list of groups at: <https://scouts.nz/join/>

The first four weeks are free.