

# St Joseph's School

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25<sup>th</sup> February 2015  
Newsletter 2, Term 1

Dear Parents, Students & Friends



**WATER SAFETY:** Sam McIntyre launching himself into the pool as Mr Tim Cross takes his class for water safety survival skills. Having a school pool is a real asset for the children. We are very fortunate that we are able to keep it running when many schools around New Zealand are having to close their pools.

**NEW STUDENTS:** We welcome the following students and their families to our school and parish communities: Oliver Jones, Manase Togia, Bria Crompton, Klaudia Strange and Evie Kidson.

**GIFTED & TALENTED PARENT NOMINATION FORM:** This form is on the back page of this newsletter (after the community notices). Please make sure you read it!

**PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE:** Hi my name is Helen Omlo and I am the Nurse for this school. I work from Mon-Thurs 8am - 4.30pm and am based at Public Health in Richmond. I visit this school once a fortnight otherwise can be contacted on any other working day. I am available to do home visits or I can meet at the school if you prefer. If you would like some support or any information on your child's health then please contact me on **543 7907** or ph/txt **027 246 0951**.

**Thank you** to the families who supported Lynette Miller and her daughters by sending baking and flowers and cards for Guy's funeral. As the girls are in the upper part of the school we asked for support from mainly that area and your level of generosity was absolutely superb. It was a time when the Catholic Character of our school shone through your goodness and kindness. Lynette was very grateful and has asked us to pass on her appreciation. There exists a "Give a Little" page for Guy and Lynette's daughters.

(<https://givealittle.co.nz/search?q=lynette+miller>)

**Junior Block Refurbishing** You may not have noticed this unless you have been looking towards the heavens! During the holidays the roof of this block was completely replaced and insulation and heat pumps installed for each room. Attendance Dues, collected by the Catholic Schools Board in Wellington, have paid for this work. The rooms are already noticeably cooler in the summer and will be lovely and warm in the winter.

**ROOM FIVE** getting down and dirty in the sandpit enjoying the hot, sunny weather. Cleaning off with the hose was just part of the fun.'



### ***Thursday Sushi Lunch Orders***

Sushi Thursdays is a parent volunteer programme. It is a weekly opportunity to NOT have to make school lunches. A few more parents are needed to keep the sushi efforts rolling along. If you are interested in helping one Thursday a month please contact Lori Brudvik Lindner on [llpowwow@msn.com](mailto:llpowwow@msn.com) or 021 027 93563.

For ordering sushi you need to send along with your child the correct money and they need to place an order between **8:30am and 8:50am** outside the Hall's main entrance.

At lunchtime they need to come back to that place to collect their sushi. We will ensure the juniors have their sushi delivered down to the classrooms.

The children seem to be really enjoying the healthy alternative (and possibly the parents pleased to not be making school lunches)!

Options are as follows:

**6 pack of Sushi (\$4)** ... child needs to specify chicken, salmon or vege

**Sushi Stick (\$3)** ... child needs to specify chicken, salmon or vege

**LOST:** Intermediate woollen jersey, size 92cm, not named. If you have come across please bring it to the school office.

**Wellbeing in Schools** In Term 2 last year the Board embarked on an investigation to determine the extent of bullying at St Joseph's. A Ministry of Education sponsored on-line survey, developed by the New Zealand Council for Educational Research, was used to gather data. Students and staff undertook the online survey (week ending 8 August) and the school paid NZCER for the collection and presentation of data.

The data was analysed by a committee of teachers, board members and myself on 25 September. The committee noted the overwhelmingly positive responses by students that indicated that bullying and factors that might contribute to it were at the extremely low end of the scale. However the committee decided on three actions that could be undertaken in 2015.

They are:

- To clarify for students what bullying actually is.
- To help students learn strategies for resolving conflict. The committee felt that this will help students manage some every day "fallings out / arguments etc" thereby reducing conflicts immediately and potentially eliminating situations that might otherwise escalate into bullying.

The Ministry of Education is developing a resource around bullying that they say will be distributed to schools in April. When we receive this we will work as a staff to further clarify and unify our understandings of bullying and then begin working with the children in their classes at one time.

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*My door is always open, feel free to call in any time.*

*Thank you*

**Mike Burton**

#### **COMMUNITY NOTICES:**

**(You are urged to make your own checks regarding the suitability of items in this section)**

**Calling all Master LEGO Builders! (Year 3 and above):** If you have keen and enthusiastic young master builder at home who want to join up with other brick loving children then there is finally a club for them. Each and every Wednesday after school during term time, starting 4<sup>th</sup> March, a few parents who are all particularly good builders themselves will host a LEGO club in room 10. If you are interested in your children coming along then register your interest via our website [www.bricksandpiecesnelson.com](http://www.bricksandpiecesnelson.com) as there will be limited spaces available. Or contact Nick or Kymberly Widley 03 548 7540.

**Marist Junior Rugby Registration:** If you would like to register and play for Marist Rugby Football Club this season we have teams from Under 6s to Under 13s. Registration day is Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2015 from 1 – 3pm, Marist Rugby Club Rooms, Hathaway Court, Nelson {Beside Trafalgar Park on the River Side} If you have any queries please contact Kathleen Thornalley 547 7863 or 0210 234 2116

St Joseph's School Nelson  
**PARENT NOMINATION FORM**  
**For Gifted and Talented Education**

Dear Parents / Caregivers

**Renzulli and Reis (1985)** claim that gifted and talented children "...are those possessing or capable of developing this composite set of traits and applying them to any potentially valuable area of human performance".

**Personality Traits**

Vivid imagination	Need to understand
Intellectual curiosity	Need for mental stimulation
Rapid learning rate	Exceptional reasoning ability
Facility for abstraction	Perfectionism
Acute self-awareness	Need for precision/logic
Insightful	Excellent sense of humour
Early moral concern	Sensitivity/empathy
Passion for learning	Intensity
Powers of concentration	Perseverance
Analytical thinking	Complex thought processes
Divergent thinking/creativity	Nonconformity
Keen sense of justice	Questioning rules/authority
Capacity for reflection	Tendency to introversion

**Gagné (1995, 2008)** noted that there was continuing confusion between the terms 'gifted' and 'talented' and developed a model to differentiate between the two. He defined giftedness as a naturally occurring ability, while the outward expression of that ability he labeled talent.

Your child may demonstrate **high ability** in one or more areas and exhibit some or many of the above personality traits. If you wish to nominate your child for consideration for the programme, please complete the information below.

We will use information initially from four sources to assist with the identification of potential candidates for the programme: **parent nomination**, peer nomination, teacher nomination and Listening Comprehension (PAT) results.

Students who obtain a high score in the above are then tested in the following areas: a speed-reading test, Ravens (academic) and Torrance (creativity). From there the highest scoring students will be offered a language-based extension programme of learning for one and a half hours on a Friday.

Please return this form to your classroom teacher **by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February**. Thank you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Caregiver: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Please share your child's interests, projects or hobbies
2. What are your child's strengths (specific ability)?
3. How would you describe your child's learning needs?

Is there anything else about your child that you think would be helpful for me to know? Thanks. Chris Gladstone