



Issue 3 Term 3 2013

# “boardtalk”

**ST IGNATIUS**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Welcome** to our new Board members - Verna Love, Francisco Serrano and Mathew Anderson. It is great to have you as part of the Board and thank you for your commitment to our school and our children.

Paula Dell and Jasmine Connolly have been elected as co Treasurers. I can assure you that the school's finances continue to be in very safe hands. Due to the increasing expense of running the school and expanding our IT, costs will increase next year.

Thank you also to Robyn Lee who continues as our Staff Representative on the Board and continues to bring her wisdom and commitment to our meetings.

Therese Arahill, Paula Dell and I are Bishop Appointees on the Board. While every Board member is responsible for the Catholic Special Character of our school, Bishop Appointees or Proprietors Representatives have the special responsibility to ensure the school fulfills its primary purpose of catholic education for catholic students. The Catholic Schools Office recently ran a workshop on the purpose of our catholic schools and we have shared some of the information from that workshop in this BoardTalk.

We hope that everyone had a happy successful term and a safe and relaxing holiday. Term 4 is always a busy time, and the weeks will be filled with events and celebrations, so come back rested and revived and ready to go!

Kind regards  
Marcella

## **The purpose & philosophy of a Catholic School includes:**

- It is in the person of Jesus that we find our meaning and purpose. We don't just want to send out good people from our catholic schools. We want to send out good catholic people and we link our values to the Scriptures.
- We use our Charism as a way to express our catholic special character.
- Importance of the catholic social teaching that is behind our good works.
- Catholic schools provide more than an academic education with a spiritual aspect. Emphasis is on a Catholic Faith environment and Holistic education.

## **Grants**

**The Board would like to thank the hardworking grants team of Diana Walton and Jemma Ennis, who after almost three years of applying for grant funding for our school is stepping down.**

**They have been very committed and successful in applying for funding.**

**Paula Goh has agreed to take over this fundraising role. If you are interested in being part of a new grants team with her, or you would like further information, please contact Paula Dell.**



**ST IGNATIUS**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St Ignatius School, in partnership with parents and within a caring and supportive Catholic environment, is committed to quality education and achievement where the focus is on the development of the whole child, guiding each child on their faith journey, and helping them to grow up as caring and contributing members of the community.

Respectful  
Responsible  
Generous  
Happy

## THANK YOU to our PTA

Everyone who attended our Wild West Fundraiser will agree that it was a hugely successful night and the Board thank the dedicated hard working PTA and its team of helpers for making that happen. The time devoted to this event is huge, the talents shared are limitless, and we are blessed to have you all coordinating and managing this event. The money raised is vital to the running of the school, so **THANK YOU** also to everyone who came and supported the event, as it is all about giving assistance to our school, not bagging a bargain. And finally a special thank you to Mark Wright whose skill, talent and humour makes the event so professional and memorable.

## MINECRAFT - What's all the fuss about?

Minecraft is a game about breaking and placing blocks. It is a bit like virtual Lego with bricks. It is a very simplistic game without a lot of rules.

Children are hooked on Minecraft as it allows them to be creative, interact with others if they choose to and teaches them survival mode. Minecraft was released in May 2009 and it is an effective teaching tool and is being used to teach everything from geography, maths, reading, to creative writing.

Minecraft has shown to be a very successful teaching tool with engaged learners who have a high level of motivation and participation which suggests improved learning. As a parent if you like the sound of Minecraft one thing you need to do is play it first. You don't have to become an expert but knowing the basics will improve your ability to have an engaged conversation with your child about it and/or knowledge of what your child is getting up to with Minecraft. Knowledge of Minecraft will also assist in how to use the game in a learning context.

At St Ignatius we have a lunchtime Minecraft club that the senior pupils can participate in.

If you want to know more about Minecraft refer to these on-line sites to become more connected:

- Minecraft Teacher ([minecraftteacher.tumblr.com](http://minecraftteacher.tumblr.com))
- Minecraft accessibility to schools ([minecrafteu.com](http://minecrafteu.com))
- Using minecraft in the classroom ([minecrafteu.com/wiki/](http://minecrafteu.com/wiki/))
- Quick start to using minecraft ([fizurl.com/minecraftstart](http://fizurl.com/minecraftstart))
- Minecraft teaching group ([fizurl.com/minecraftvln](http://fizurl.com/minecraftvln))

**Community Alert** There will be an increase in the total cost per child in 2014. This will be advised early Term 4.

## New Building

In late August the Catholic Diocese advised us that our school has been approved by the Ministry of Education to receive funding towards new learning spaces. All buildings and fittings at the school are owned by the Catholic Diocese and are managed by the Diocesan Property Office (the Bishop's Agent). This approved funding is Government capital assistance and enables the Catholic Diocese to proceed with the building plans that together with their appointed architect we have been working on for some time. Further information regarding the planned building and the modern learning spaces that we intend to incorporate within it will be shared with the community soon.



## Some People at Our Place.

**Anderson family.** Hi, for those of you who don't know me, my name is Mathew Anderson. Pictured with me, is my wife, Anita, my daughter Julia (8) in Year 4, Lucas (5) in Year 1, both of whom are at St Ignatius, Reid (4) who is at St Heliers Kindergarten and Skyla (1, nearly 2).

I am a self-employed builder, who is passionate about great building and architecture. In my spare time I love BMX racing with my kids and listening to music. I have just been elected onto the board and so am currently finding my place. I will definitely be involved in the future building work of the school so am likely to slot in to the **Our Place** Committee, and any other committees that I feel I can add value. I look forward to the next three years of being on the Board. I have been to a few meetings already and the dedication and enthusiasm of the team is really great to see. I am excited and honoured to be a part of it. So thanks to those who voted for me. See you in the playground at pick-up!



## CHRIS LAWSON, CURRICULUM SUPPORT TEACHER

### What is Curriculum Support?

Supporting identified students to reach their potential at St Ignatius Catholic School.

### Best Practice

Supporting the Implementation of strategies and tools for target students-making engagement and learning more accessible for diverse learners. Embed best practice that supports Dyslexia Friendly learning, strategies that may benefit all children.



### What Does Curriculum Support Involve?

#### Pastoral Care

Mentoring new teaching staff to ensure smooth transition. Effectively communicating with others to facilitate positive outcomes for all. Accessible to students who may require guidance.

#### Organization/Communication

Learning Assistants timetabled in classrooms to maximize learning opportunities for all students. Co-ordinate specific interventions to support learning for some students. Liaise with teaching staff, students, families and others who may be involved in supporting students.

#### Collaborative Planning

Provide opportunities for individualizing learning programmes for some target students.



### Identification

Ensuring that an identification process is in place and that students are monitored through a Curriculum Support register which tracks and follows progress.

### Facilitating learning

Implementing programmes to develop/accelerate Learning eg. Focus groups in Maths, writing, Inquiry, The P4C programme (philosophy for Children) , exploring and using thinking tools in authentic context, social skills, Rainbow Reading Programme.

### Sourcing of Resources

Research and acquire resources that will support effective learning for identified students in the school environment.

### Transitioning

Support identified students with moving to their next learning place-ensure scaffolding is in place.

## Accounting Skills Required

**We have a casual vacancy arising on the Board due to Jasmine Connolly's family moving overseas in December. Jasmine is a co-Treasurer on the Board and was initially selected for her accounting skills as part of our succession planning.**

**If you have accounting skills, and would be interested in being part of our hard working team of Trustees with shared responsibility for the Treasurer's role, please contact any of us.**



### Thank You

The Gordon family would like to thank the St Ignatius community for their support after their recent home invasion. From food vouchers to zoo vouchers, and offers of accomodation, your generosity has been truly appreciated.

### Park safely and keep our kids safe.

Next term our school is likely to participate in Auckland Transport's 'Safety at the School Gate' programme. Drivers who stop in the wrong place to drop off passengers put the safety of children at risk. Parking officers will be on patrol outside the school during the term and will be issuing tickets to drivers who park illegally.

The agreed approach is 'zero tolerance' – There will be no warnings issued, you will receive a ticket if you are double parked, parked on yellow lines, or over someone's driveway – or for any other vehicle safety offence.

Please park legally to keep our children safe and to avoid being ticketed.

Our traffic rule is once again detailed on the next page for your information.

Marcella Thomas (Proprietor's Rep, Chair) All committees  
Ph 5284565 or 021 819979

Carol Sullivan (Principal) All committees Ph 5757081

Paula Dell (Proprietor's Rep) Our Place and Our Faith

Francisco Serrano (Parent Rep)

Therese Arahill (Proprietor's Rep) Our Learning,  
Our People

Verna Love (Parent Rep)

Mathew Anderson (Parent Rep)

Robyn Lee (School rep) Our Learning Ph 5757081

Jasmine Connolly (Parent Rep) Ph 5850181 Our People,  
Our Place, Future Planning

Joanne Humphrey (Co-opted) Ph 5216177 Our People,  
Future Planning

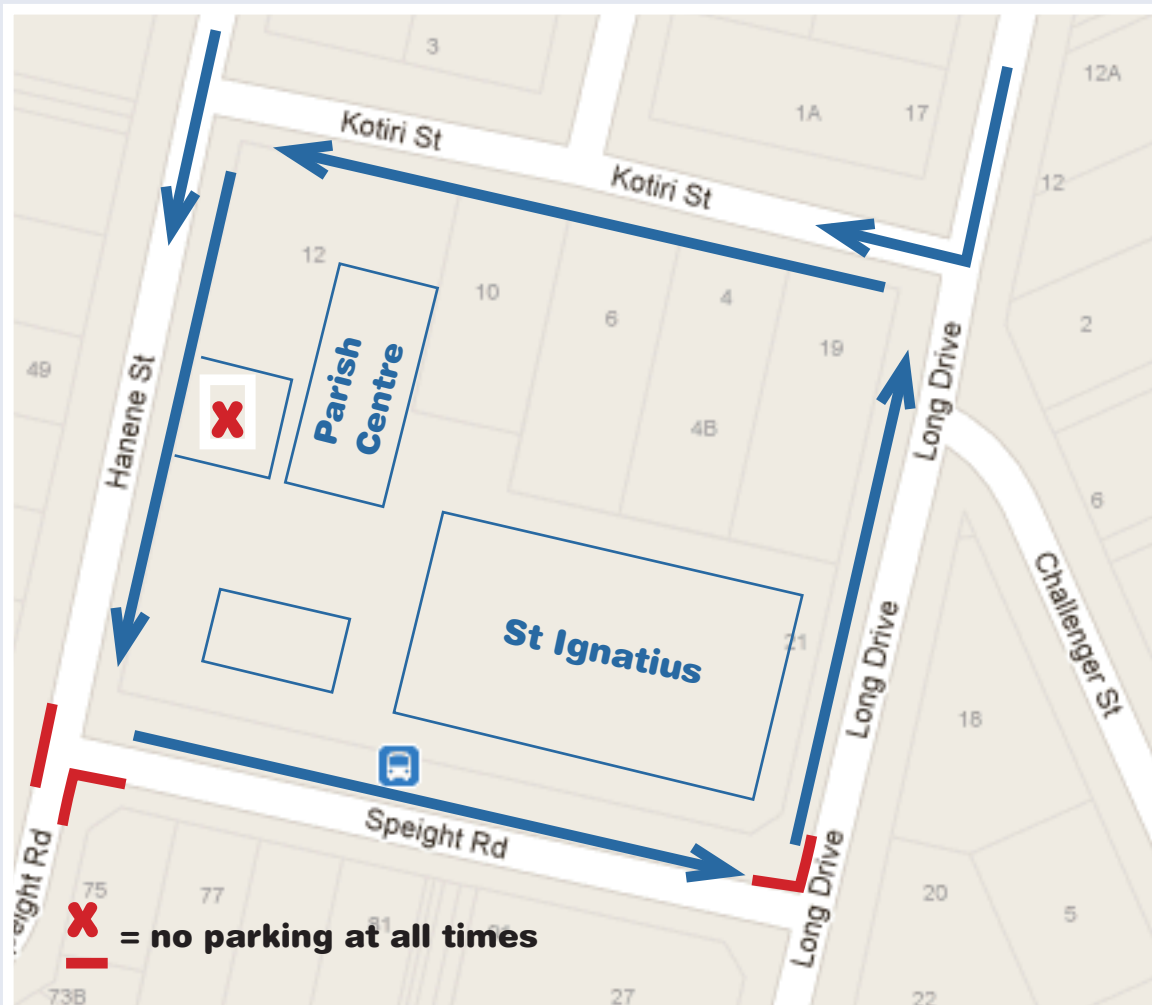
## Traffic Rule at our place St Ignatius Catholic School

### TRAFFIC RULE

**We ask that all traffic follow a ONE WAY system - keeping left around the school block.**

- For the safety of our children this means that children will always be dropped on the left side of the road (i.e. they don't have to cross the road to enter school grounds).
- This system eases traffic flow, helps relieve congestion for all school users and our neighbours too.
- Enables school bus access into Speight Road and bus parking at pick up times.

A diagram below illustrates how you **should** drive around school.  
We urge **everyone** to use and respect this **one way** traffic system.



- Please consider “dropping off and driving on” in the morning so as to ease congestion. Our school encourages independence of the children and we can assist this by “dropping off”.
- Space is at a premium so please park near the next car, don't leave unnecessarily big spaces which can't be used.
- Share this rule with the people who pick up your children including grandparents, nannies etc. It will work best if everyone follows it.
- Please also consider walking, bussing or car-pooling options.

Thank you.

**St Ignatius Catholic School Board of Trustees**