

2016

TERM 1



ST IGNATIUS
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Mind Matters

Learning Community 2

Years 4 and 5



ST IGNATIUS
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



MIND MATTERS TERM I

TERM 1 2016

Hello and a very warm welcome to our 2016 learning year.

Thank you to those of you who came along to our Meet the Teacher open evening, morning or afternoon. It was a pleasure to reconnect with you again following our summer break.

This term we are excited about getting stuck into learning that will benefit our **FUTURE** and have already been working hard setting up new routines and establishing high standards for our learning habits and practices, as we continue to strive for excellence in Atawhai.

COMMUNICATION

GENERAL

The *Calendar of Events* is a vital port of call for all upcoming events and important information: www.stignatius.school.nz/event

HEADS UP news sheets and notices are emailed and available on our school website: www.stignatius.school.nz

WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

Email to arrange an appointment; include information about your query. Please be patient, teachers will communicate with you at the earliest opportunity.

Atawhai Team

Kaitiaki 2VK: Mrs Victoria King: vking@stignatius.school.nz

Kaitiaki 2SW: Mrs Steph Walsh: swalsh@stignatius.school.nz

Kaitiaki 2GA: Miss Georgia Andrews: gandrews@stignatius.school.nz

Kaitiaki 2GE: Mrs George Elgin: gelgin@stignatius.school.nz

WITH YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING COMMUNITY LEAD TEACHER

For information regarding learning in LC2, contact Victoria King:

vking@stignatius.school.nz

WITH THE PRINCIPAL or ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL

Contact directly to arrange an appointment:

Mrs Carol Sullivan principal@stignatius.school.nz

Mrs Robyn Lee rlee@stignatius.school.nz

OUR ROUTINE

8.30am-8.40am Drop off
and line up

8.40am L.C. Prayer

8.55am Register

9.00am Learning Time

10.10am Fitness

10.20am Brainsnack and
Listen To Reading

10.30am Learning Time

11.15am Buddy Reading

11.30am Lunchtime

12.15pm Mindfulness

12.30pm Learning Time

1.25pm Afternoon Play

1.50pm Learning Time

2.50pm School Day Ends

OUR LEARNING

CURRICULUM FOCUS

FUTURE

This term our school-wide concept is **FUTURE**. The enduring understandings and essential questions that ALL children are exploring are:

Enduring Understandings:

- God calls us to care for the future of our common home
- All we do affects the future

Visit our blog site to stay connected!

Essential Questions:

- What is the future?
- Why is the future important?
- How can we follow in Jesus' footsteps to choose actions that make a difference to the future?
- How does the past affect the future?
- What can we learn from the past to help us prepare for the future?

Through inquiry into these big ideas connections across all areas of the curriculum are made.

KEY COMPETENCIES:

"Key competencies are the capabilities that people have, and need to develop, to live and learn today and in the future." <http://keycompetencies.tki.org.nz/What-are-KCs>

In the NZ Curriculum there are 5 Key Competencies:

- Thinking
- Using language, symbols, and text
- Managing self
- Relating to others
- Participating & Contributing

Thinking: *Children will competently think, reflect, and problem solve by:*

- Actively seek, use and create knowledge
- Reflecting on their learning journey
- Asking questions to deepen understanding
- Challenging assumptions and perceptions

Relating to Others: *Children will:*

- Listen actively, negotiate and share ideas
- Recognise different points of view
- Demonstrate openness to new learning
- Work co-operatively
- Take on different roles in different situations

Participating and contributing: *Children will:*

- Learn, work and celebrate together
- Contribute appropriately as a group member
- Make connections with others in a group
- Understand the importance of balancing rights, roles and responsibilities

Using language, symbols and texts: Children will:

- Work with and make meaning of codes in which knowledge is expressed
- Use language and symbols to produce texts: Written, oral/aural, visual; mathematical, scientific, technological
- Interpret and use words, number, images, technologies
- Recognize how choices of LST, affect people's understanding
- Use ICT to access and provide information, and communicate with others

Managing self: *Children will:*

- Be self motivated
- Have a 'can-do' attitude
- See themselves as capable learners
- Be enterprising
- Be resourceful, reliant, resilient
- Develop strategies for meeting challenges
- Know when to lead, when to follow, when and how to act independently

GROWING SELF RESPONSIBILITY- OUR WAY

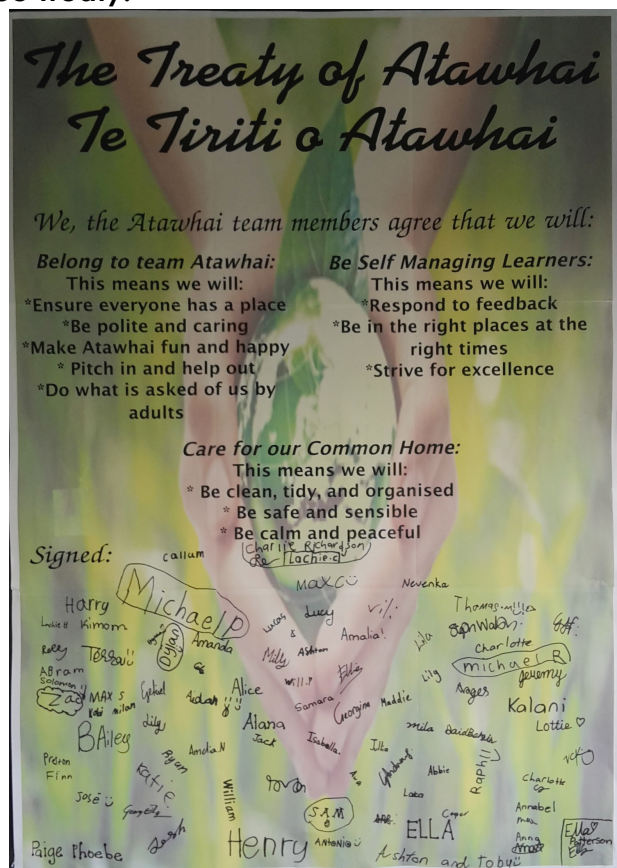
Our school values to be respectful 'responsible generous happy learners' underpin these 'Golden Rules':

- I am gentle & kind
- I am helpful
- I listen and speak thoughtfully
- I am honest
- I am an active learner
- I look after property

OUTDOOR Safety Rules

- I play well with others
- I care for our playground
- I keep myself and others safe

LC2 2016 Learning Space Treaty:



We, the Atawhai team members agree that we will:

Belong to team Atawhai: This means that we will...

Ensure everyone has a place. Be polite and caring. Make Atawhai fun and happy.

Pitch in and help out. Do what is asked of us by adults.

Be self managing learners: This means that we will...

Respond to feedback. Be in the right place at the right time. Strive for excellence.

Care for our common home: This means that we will...

Be clean, tidy, and organised. Be safe and sensible. Be calm and peaceful.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

For Mass and Assembly Prayer Share Times- check the events calendar at

<http://www.stignatius.school.nz/event>

*For more information about how to support R.E. learning at home, please visit our school website and access the: **Family Whanau Book, in Support of the Religious Education Programme, for Catholic Primary Schools in Aotearoa, New Zealand:** www.stignatius.school.nz/our-faith*

Term 1: Introduction to Prayer, Jesus Strand, Liturgical Year: Lent, Holy Week, Easter

Jesus Strand (Weeks 3-8)

Year 4 are learning that: **Jesus Came to Show People How to Live and Lead Them to God**

Year 5 are learning about: **The Life of Jesus**

Holy Spirit Strand (Weeks 10-11)

Year 4 are learning about: **Pentecost**

Year 5 are learning about the: **Titles and Symbols of the Holy Spirit**

Liturgical Year: Lent: Wednesday February 10- Thursday 24 March

Lent is the season of preparing the way for Jesus' death during Holy Week, and resurrection at Easter. In R.E. classes: Year 4 will learn that Lent is a season for turning back to God through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Year 5 will learn about Ash Wednesday, and that Lent is a time to repent do penance and grow in friendship with God through prayer.

2016 Caritas Lenten Appeal: Hear the Cry of the Earth and the Poor: Cambodia. For more information, visit www.caritas.org.nz/lent

Liturgical Year: Holy Week and Easter (Week 9-10)

Through learning about the struggles that Jesus underwent during Holy Week and His joyful resurrection at Easter, Y4 will come to understand that Jesus is hailed as King on Palm Sunday, that Jesus died on the cross on Good Friday, that we celebrate Holy Week using symbols and rituals, and how the Easter story is told in the gospels. Y5 will come to understand how we celebrate the liturgy of Passion/Palm Sunday, the themes in the readings celebrated at mass on Holy Thursday, the significance of celebrating Good Friday, and that Easter is the greatest feast in our liturgical year.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics Instruction

Children attend lessons in groups with their maths teacher to work on specific learning objectives building number knowledge and strategy use in number and algebra, geometry and measurement, and the statistics strands.

Numeracy: Number and Algebra: *Addition and Subtraction/ Algebra*

For the first six weeks we will work on setting up routines and practices in our new 'maths groups and building our repertoire of successful addition and subtraction strategies by exploring different ways to solve number problems, for example: using basic facts and doubles knowledge, reversibility, equal additions, tidy numbers, place value methods, and written algorithms. In the latter five weeks we will focus on developing algebraic reasoning through problem solving activities that involve using equations and expressions, and identifying patterns and relationships.

Strand: Measurement and Statistics

As a component of our connected curriculum concept learning this term the children have the opportunity to apply their mathematics skills in a **Measurement** and **Statistics** context. We will explore measuring distance in relation to athletics learning in P.E., and gather and record data for our **Future** connected curriculum concept inquiries.

Basic Facts and Number Knowledge: *Maintenance*

The children have regular practice of basic facts through practical activities, and mental mathematics, that reinforce their recall of these important facts. They will also continue to build knowledge and maintain basic facts learning at home using basic facts sheets and completing tasks at www.mathletics.co.nz.

LITERACY

Our literacy learning is centred in shared, guided and independent reading, writing and speaking.

Reading Instruction

- In groups, children attend 'Reading Café' sessions where they work with a teacher on specific learning objectives building **Comprehension**, **Accuracy**, **Fluency** and **Expanding** vocabulary knowledge.

Buddy Reading:

- Y4 and 5 are older buddy coaches to Y2 and 3 children in Kia Hari for three ten minute sessions per week.

Writing

- Children will learn about expressing ideas, feelings, and information within the context of purposeful, responsive writing topics.
- Connected curriculum writing this term includes: prayer writing, personal writing during Sustained Silent Writing time, reflective writing, recount writing, report writing, descriptive writing, and using writing as a thinking tool i.e. note taking.

Spelling

- Bright as a Button
- Joy Allcock: Switch onto Spelling
- Essential word lists
- Personal Dictionaries

CONNECTED CURRICULUM CONCEPT LEARNING: Social Studies, Drama, Science, R.E.

Key Competencies: Thinking, Relating to Others, Participating and Contributing

The children will **know and understand** that:

- Knowing about the past helps us to predict the future
- We are called to make right choices in order to grow a positive relationship with God
- All people have the right to a bright future
- Humankind are a community; we are one big family sharing a common home
- What we do today affects the future
- We are called to care for our common home and the people in it
- Our common home, the earth has specific needs
- When we share an environment with other living things we must care for it, and protect it

HEALTH

- Kia Kaha with Constable Taina Karaka – Week 10
- Life Education- Week 11
- Smiling Minds daily meditation; www.smilingmind.com.au

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Daily fitness
- P.E. on Wednesday afternoon
- **Future Games** Athletics Sports, Thursday 31 March

E-copies are always available online, just visit this link:

<http://www.stignatius.school.nz/connected-inquiry-learning>

CONTINUOUS LEARNING

- Is expected to be completed and handed in on time (please write to excuse if incomplete)
- Is set fortnightly on a Monday or Tuesday, and returned to school on a Friday
- Do discuss and support your children with this learning
- When handed in on time, teachers acknowledge and praise effort
- Opportunities for peer sharing are given when appropriate
- 'God Loves Me' Books will come home regularly to share with you

30 and 40 Book Challenge

As a component of Continuous Learning, all children keep a list of their reading, and complete **six (Y4) and eight (Y5) book reviews** about books on their list. When they have read **30 (Year 4) and 40 (Year 5)** books they submit their book list, and book reviews to their Kaitiaki teacher. At this point your child has earned a certificate to be awarded at our LC2 celebration gatherings. Their name will also go into a draw for one of five coveted book prizes. There is no limit to the number of entries, so encourage your child to be in to win!

OUR PLACE

- Library borrowing days below
- All children are expected to borrow when we visit the library so do ensure they bring their library bag to school on our library day. If your child has lost their Library Bag, a new one can be purchased at the office for \$5.

Kaitiaki Group	Library Sessions
Atawhai Year 4	Thursday 10.45-11.30
Atawhai Year 5	Thursday 9.30-10.15

Bring your bag to borrow books

OUR PEOPLE

A warm welcome to Mrs Georgina Elgin who has joined us from Remuera Primary School, and we are very happy to have Mrs Steph Walsh, formerly in LC3, join our teaching team this year.

We also welcome Jeremy Hall (2GE), Amelia Rettcowitz (2SW), Ezekiel Zumel (2VK) and their families to St Ignatius, and welcome back Ashton Prangnell (2SW)! We wish you all the best as you settle into our school community.

Helen O'Brien, Lian De Charmoy, and Melanie Jackett are Learning Assistants in Atawhai this year.

REPORTING TO PARENTS/COMMUNICATION

Parent Teacher Meetings *10 minute meetings scheduled for Wednesday 2nd March*

The intention is to provide opportunities to:

- enhance parent/teacher partnership
- share information
- discuss your goals for your child with their kaitiaki teacher

Sharing Our Learning

- Your child will invite you to visit them in our learning space to share work they are proud of and their **Future** inquiries. Week 11, Date TBC

Blogging in Atawhai

- Learning Space blogs will be set up by mid term. Please do visit and comment on what we are learning.

THANK-YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT