



Year 7&8 Team Newsletter

Term 1 2018

Welcome! Nau mai!

A warm welcome to our Year 7&8 students and their whanau for 2018. We welcome back returning Year 8 students, and we extend a special welcome to the students and families who are new to our syndicate. We pride ourselves on the programme we offer our Year 7&8 students and we look forward to working with you all this year. Many aspects of our programme are different to the rest of the school. We will endeavour to keep you up to date through termly newsletters, app alerts and extra notices home, but please don't hesitate to contact staff if you have any questions. The first point of contact should be your child's class teacher, who will be available in the classroom from 8.30am each day for quick queries, or you can email them directly with questions or to make an appointment.

Our Year 7&8 staff are:

Rm 1: Rhonda McFarlane r.mcfarlane@stjosephs.school.nz (Rhonda teaches in Rm 1 on Tues, Wed & Fri)
Kylie Malpass k.malpass@stjosephs.school.nz (Kylie teaches in Rm 1 on Mon & Thurs)
Rm 2: Steffan Beaurepaire s.beaurepaire@stjosephs.school.nz
Rm 3: Ann Wilkinson a.wilkinson@stjosephs.school.nz
Rm 4 Aleise White a.white@stjosephs.school.nz

Team Leader / Deputy Principal - Tracy Svendsen - t.svendsen@stjosephs.school.nz

Camp - MiCamp Taupo Tuesday 20 Feb - Friday 23 Feb

Accompanying this newsletter is:

- 1) A notice with camp information for parents.
- 2) Equipment List
- 3) **Permission Form / Risk Disclosure** - please fill in and return tomorrow!
- 4) **Student medical profile** - please fill in and return tomorrow!
- 5) **Aquatic Activity Consent** - please fill in and return tomorrow!

Please return the three camp forms TOMORROW! Friday 2 Feb!

There are only 8 school days until we go on camp and we urgently need health and dietary information! As students are not at school on Monday or Tuesday next week, we need these forms tomorrow!

Thank you.

Term 1 2018 Curriculum:

This term our learning includes:

<p>Literacy: <u>Oral language</u> - clarity and fullness of expression <u>Reading</u> - Comprehension of texts linked to our learning experiences at camp</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Non-fiction - NZ geography, animals and sustainability- Fiction - stories linked to nature in NZ <p><u>Writing</u> - through a range of writing contexts, the skills focused on will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- planning and development of ideas- use of punctuation for impact (editing and revising)- vocabulary choices	<p>Maths: <u>Number Strand</u> - Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division strategies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Students will be in targeted classes from Week 3
<p>Religious Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prayer, Lent, Liturgical Celebrations- "Let us go together" Caritas Lent Unit focusing on the country of Timor-Leste	<p>Integrated Topic: Students will use their research skills to follow an inquiry process inspired by educational experiences at camp. Learning will be based on our New Zealand environments - landscapes such as the volcanic plateau, native animals and sustainability.</p> <p>Te Reo: Mihi/Peheha</p>
<p>Physical Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Camp activities- Swimming Lessons (later in the term)- Small ball skills	<p>Hauora - Health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Building relationships and confidence- Peer mediation skills- Digital Citizenship / Cybersafety

RE Focus:

Our **Value Focus** this term is The Fruit of the Spirit - **Kindness : Manaakitanga**

Liturgical Year: There are several liturgical celebrations we will focus on this term, including Ash Wednesday, St Joseph's Day and of course Lent and Easter.

This term in RE students will:

- Learn about life in Timor-Leste.
- Use the context of Timor-Leste to reflect on aspects of social justice, such as poverty and economic opportunity.
- Learn about the work of Caritas in Timor-Leste.

If you want peace, work for justice. If you want justice, defend life. If you want life, embrace truth. — POPE JOHN PAUL II

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device)

If your child has a laptop or ipad which can be used for their learning, **we encourage you to take up our BYOD option.** We have secure storage for devices at school. A copy of our BYOD agreement will be sent home next week, once we have discussed it with students, for you to sign and return to class teachers if your child is allowed to bring their own device.

Create' Lessons at Fairfield Intermediate

(previously known as Techni)

Every Friday morning, Year 7&8 students have lessons at Fairfield Intermediate in their specialised facilities. It is exciting that this year, the programme has been re-designed and modernised, including being renamed as "Create" (rather than 'Techni'). Over the course of Terms 1, 2 and 3, students will rotate through the 5 different classes to get 'a taste' of each. Then in Term 4 there will be an element of choice involved. The 5 classes will be:

Hauora (Wellbeing): Students learn to prepare nutritious, affordable and exciting kai for their whanau.
(Covers aspects of the Health, PE and Technology Curriculums)

Performance: Students develop confidence creatively expressing themselves through drama and music.
(Covers aspects of The Arts and Literacy Curriculums)

Fusion: Students are inspired to be curious and appreciate the scientific process.
(Covers aspects of the Science and Technology Curriculums)

Maker Space: Students are inspired and empowered to be innovative with materials and manual/power/CAD-CAM equipment. (Covers aspects of the Technology and Numeracy Curriculums)

Media Lab: Students develop proficiency recording and manipulating digital media. They will produce digital images, graphic design, and short films using 21st century software and hardware. (Covers aspects of the Digital Technologies and The Arts Curriculums)

Logistics for Create at Fairfield Intermediate: Please be aware that we walk to and from Fairfield Intermediate on Fridays, so students need to be prepared by bringing a raincoat and/or umbrella. They also need to bring sneakers to wear to Create on Fridays. We leave school at 8.50am and are back by approximately 11.30am. If your child is late or has an appointment during Create time, they will need to be taken to or collected from Fairfield Intermediate – please communicate with class teachers if this is the case.

Year 7&8 Immunisations - Information Session

Monday 12th February

Accompanying this newsletter is an outline of immunisations for Year 7&8 from the Public Health Nurse. The nurse will be speaking to students about immunisations which are available for Year 7&8. Parents are also welcome to attend the session if they wish, but do not have to, as students will bring home information and consent forms for:

- Year 8's – HPV (Human Papillomavirus) – **please note that this is now available to Year 8 boys also** (prior to 2017 it was only girls.)
- Year 7's – Boostrix immunisation for diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.
- **Information sessions times: Monday 12 February**
Year 7: 1.30pm Year 8: 2.00pm

If you do not wish your child to attend the information sessions please let Ms Svendsen know.

Home Learning in Year 7&8

Our homework routines will begin properly in Week 3. Whilst we value home learning, we are also aware that some children have many commitments outside of school hours, so we always keep homework requirements reasonable.

If your child says “I don’t have any homework this week”that is not true! Weekly homework for all students will be:

- Maths Buddy – questions that can be completed online (approx 20-30 minutes).
- Current Events – an activity which will often relate to Kiwikids News www.kiwikidsnews.co.nz
- Daily reading for at least 20 minutes each evening. This doesn’t have to be students reading on their own - reading to and with your child is still important, even at Year 7&8. Read newspapers, articles online, books, comics....anything! Read and talk about it together!

In addition to these weekly tasks, students may be asked to complete class work or have projects to complete at different times of the year. Check their homework books for information.

We encourage children to manage their time well – if your child cannot complete their work in class time or at home, classrooms are open from 8.30am for this purpose. Please support your child to develop independence in this area, and discuss any homework concerns with class teachers.

Term 1 Costs:

The costs you will be invoiced for this term are listed below. Please make payment as soon as possible so that we can pay our upcoming costs. Thank you.

- **Camp** - \$250 - due by Monday 19 February please.
- **Create Lessons** at Fairfield Intermediate - Fees for materials - \$100.
- **Maths Buddy** - Online Maths Tutor - Annual subscription - \$26 (Maths Buddy is used both in lessons and for homework, information for parents will be sent home soon.)
- **Swimming Lessons** at St Paul’s - \$48 (8 lessons later in the term, dates to be confirmed).
- **Hapara Student Dashboard** - \$5.00 - this is the electronic system used to manage student’s digital learning.

Mobile Phones:

If your child brings a phone to school, we ask that it is turned off and handed in to the teacher on arrival at school, to be collected at the end of the day. If your child needs to contact you during the day, this will be via the class teacher or office. The school can accept no responsibility for loss or damage of phones. Students are asked not to take photos or be on social media on the school grounds before or after school.

Uniform Reminders:

Our Year 7&8 students are great role models. They wear their uniform proudly and it is fantastic to see everyone looking so smart at the start of the year. Please remember:

* No nail polish

* No jewellery except a small pair of studs or sleeper earrings

* Plain hair ties in school colours

* Students need their PE gear at school every day.

Important Dates for Year 7&8 - Term 1 2018

Week 1 (2 days)	Friday 2 Feb	Camp forms due back to school please!
Week 2 (3 days)	Monday 5 Feb	Teacher Only Day - no school
	Tuesday 6 Feb	Waitangi Day - no school
Week 3	Monday 12 Feb	Immunisation Information Sessions for students run by Public Health Nurse in Library 1.30pm: Year 7 2pm: Year 8 Parents are welcome to join us; all info and consent forms will be sent home with students today.
	Wednesday 14 Feb	Camp Parents Meeting - for parents volunteers at camp 5.30pm Rm 1
	Thursday 15 Feb	Swimming Sports at Fairfield College 11.00am - 3.00pm
	Friday 16 Feb	'Create' starts at Fairfield Intermediate - 8.50am-11.30am
Week 4 CAMP	Tuesday 20 Feb	CAMP - depart 8.00am
	Friday 23 Feb	Return from camp approx 2.30pm
Week 5	Tuesday 27 Feb	Catholic Interschool Swimming - CIS Swimming
	Wednesday 28 Feb	Parent Evening - David Galbraith speaking - 7.00-9.00pm
	Thursday 1 March	PCT Challenge
	Friday 2 March	'Create' at Fairfield Intermediate : 8.50am-11.30am
Week 6	Monday 5 March	Parent Evening - Screenagers - Martin Hughes facilitating - 7.00-9.00pm
	Friday 9 March	'Create' at Fairfield Intermediate : 8.50am-11.30am
Week 7	Friday 16 March	'Create' at Fairfield Intermediate : 8.50am-11.30am
Week 8	Friday 23 March	Waikato Full Primary Schools Swimming Competition - WFPS Swimming 'Create' at Fairfield Intermediate : 8.50am-11.30am
Week 9	Friday 30 March	Good Friday - no school
Week 10 (2 days)	Monday 2 April	Easter Monday - no school
	Tuesday 3 April	Easter Tuesday - no school
	Wednesday 4 April	Teacher Only Day - no school
	Friday 6 April	'Create' at Fairfield Intermediate : 8.50am-11.30am
	Sunday 8 April	Top Schools Competition at Te Kowhai School
Week 11	Tuesday 10 April	Immunisations: Year 7 Boostrix Year 8 HPV Student Led Conferences 2pm - 6pm
	Thursday 12 April	Year 7&8 CIS Touch Tournament
	Friday 13 April	'Create' at Fairfield Intermediate : 8.50am-11.30am Term 1 ends