



Year 7&8 Team Newsletter

Term 1 2019

Welcome! Nau mai!

A warm welcome to our Year 7&8 students and their whanau for 2019. We welcome back returning Year 8 students, and we extend a special welcome to the students and families who are new to our syndicate or school. 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: Kirsty van Eyk k.vaneyk@stjosephs.school.nz
Rm 3: Ann Wilkinson a.wilkinson@stjosephs.school.nz

Team Leader - Rhonda McFarlane - r.mcfarlane@stjosephs.school.nz

Team Information Sessions for Parents

On Tuesday 12 February (Week 2), there will be **Team Information Sessions for Parents** held across the school. These are 20 minute sessions where you will find out more information about each of the syndicates within the school. We strongly encourage you to attend one of our Year 7&8 sessions so you are kept up to date with what's happening.

First session:

Year 7&8: 4.00 - 4.20pm - Room 1

Second session:

Year 7&8: 5.30 - 5.50pm - Room 1

Meet the Teacher Appointments

Week 4 - Tuesday 26th (2-6pm) and Wed 27th (3-5pm)

Following on from the Team Information Sessions, we extend an invitation to you to meet one to one with your child's classroom teacher. This is a time for you to come in, meet and get to know your child's teacher and discuss how the first few weeks of school have progressed. Bookings will be made through the online School Interviews system. The code will be in the next whole school newsletter.

Term 1 2019 Curriculum:

This term our learning includes:

<p>Literacy: <u>Oral language</u> - communicate ideas with clarity and fullness of expression</p> <p><u>Reading</u> - Integrate sources of information, processes, and strategies confidently to identify, form, and express ideas.</p> <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 4
<p>Religious Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prayer, Jesus, Lent and Liturgical Celebrations 	<p>Integrated Topic:</p> <p>Establishing a team culture.</p> <p>Te Reo: Pepeha / Mihinimihi</p>
<p>Physical Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Camp activities - Small ball skills - Teamwork/Team building 	<p>Hauora - Health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building relationships and confidence - Peer mediation skills - Digital Citizenship / Cybersafety

Religious Education Focus:

Our **Value Focus** this term is Faithfulness - Whakapono

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

This term in RE, students will study the Prayer strand, Jesus strand and Liturgical year(Lent) strand of the RE Level Four curriculum:

Prayer strand:

Develop personal prayer habits, consider the challenges people have with praying regularly, and discover some ways of helping people to develop personal prayer habits.

Use different prayer styles to pray about everyday life situations.

Jesus strand:

Look at the Beatitudes and their place in the lives of Christ's disciples today.

Consider how Jesus is an advocate for the poor, the weak, the powerless, those without mana, and how this challenges Christ's followers today to bring about justice tika and peace in the world.

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 once we have discussed it with students. Please sign and return this to class teachers if your child is allowed to bring their own device.

Technology and Arts at Fairfield Intermediate

Every Friday, Year 7&8 students have lessons at Fairfield Intermediate in their specialised facilities. The first block of lessons commence in Week 3, Friday February 22nd. Over the course of the four terms, students will rotate through the 5 different classes.

The 5 classes will be:

Health & Technology - Hauora

In this subject students will develop an understanding of hauora (wellbeing), lifestyle factors that impact hauora and ways of being responsible for their own hauora. Students will discover how products are produced and how ingredients can be manipulated to achieve specific outcomes.

The Arts - Visual

The subject of Visual Art provides our students with the opportunity to develop conceptual creative thinking skills through drawing, sculpture, ceramics, design, painting, printmaking and photography. Students create works of art by observing and contemplating what they can see and by make connections about how they feel.

Workshop Technology

Students are encouraged to use knowledge and skills from other areas of the curriculum; such as mathematics, to help them develop the practical skills required to create in the workshop. Students will have the opportunity to independently design, model, plan, and create a technological outcome.

Biotechnology

In this subject students will learn to understand the physical properties of a range of different materials and how these physical properties are manipulated to achieve specific outcomes. As the students develop their knowledge in this subject they will be able to identify how biotechnology processes expand human possibilities.

Physics & Technology

Students will explore everyday examples of physical phenomena, such as movement, forces, electricity, flight, sound, energy, light and optics, As the students develop their knowledge, they will be able to describe why a specific physical phenomenon occurs. This subject intends to spark an interest in an area of science that lays the foundation for high-school study and many exciting science -based careers.

Logistics for Techni at Fairfield Intermediate:

We walk to and from Fairfield Intermediate on Fridays, so students need to be prepared. This includes wearing a school sunhat during Summer and bringing a raincoat and/or umbrella if it looks like it may rain. During Terms One and Four, children need to bring sneakers to wear for health and safety.

The timetabling of lessons alternate each week. In Week A, lessons begin at 11:05 until 12:35pm. In Week B, lessons start at 9:15am -10:40am, with a break for Morning Tea, and then recommence at 11:05am -12:35pm. If your child is late or has an appointment during Techni 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 25th 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)
- Year 7's – Boostrix immunisation for diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.
- **Information sessions times: Monday 25th February**
Year 7: 1.30pm Year 8: 2.00pm

If you do not wish your child to attend the information sessions please let Mrs McFarlane 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 over the course of the week (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** - \$200 - due before camp, Thursday 28 Feb at the latest please.
- **Techni** at Fairfield Intermediate - Fees for materials - \$100.
- **Maths Buddy** - Online Maths Tutor - Annual subscription - \$26. Maths Buddy will be used both in classroom lessons and for homework. More information for parents regarding this programme will be sent home soon.
- **Hapara Student Dashboard** - \$5.00 - this is the electronic system used to manage student's digital learning.
- **Year 7 Leadership Retreat**- \$5
- **Year 8 Leadership Session with Sport Waikato**- \$5

Mobile Phones:

At St Joseph's Fairfield, cellphones are not permitted at school unless parents have written a letter to the Principal outlining its purpose.

If this is agreed, the cellphone will be powered off and left in the Principal's office until the end of the day when it will be handed back as the child leaves the school grounds.

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 one small pair of studs or sleeper earrings
- * Plain hair ties in school colours
- * Students need their PE gear at school every day.

Camp - Tui Ridge Monday 4th March - Wednesday 6th March

We are looking forward to our camp later this term. 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 by this Thursday 7 February.
- 4) **Student medical profile** - please fill in and return by this Thursday 7 February.

Important Dates for Year 7&8 - Term 1 2019

Week 1 (4 days)	Wednesday 6th Feb	Waitangi Day- no school
	Thursday 7th Feb	House leader elections - Year 8 only
Week 2	Tuesday 12th Feb	Parent information sessions
	Wednesday 13th Feb	Whole school Mass
	Wednesday 13th Feb	Year 7 Retreat - onsite Year 8 leadership day with Sport Waikato - onsite
Week 3	Friday 22nd Feb	Techni starts at Fairfield Intermediate -Week B 9:15am start
Week 4	Monday 25th Feb	Immunisation information sessions
	Tuesday 26th Feb	Meet the Teacher appointments (Day one)
	Wednesday 27th Feb	Meet the Teacher appointments (Day two)
	Thursday 28th Feb	Meeting for parents attending Camp @ 5:30pm
	Friday 1st Mar	Techni at Fairfield Intermediate -Week A 11:05am start
Week 5 CAMP	Monday 4th Mar	Depart for Tui Ridge Camp @ 9am
	Wednesday 6th Mar	Return from Tui Ridge Camp @ 2:30pm
	Wednesday 6th Mar	Ash Wednesday
	Friday 8th Mar	Techni starts at Fairfield Intermediate -Week B 9:15am start
Week 6	Friday 15th Mar	Techni at Fairfield Intermediate -Week A 11:05am start
Week 7	Tuesday 19th Mar	St Joseph's Day
	Friday 22nd Mar	Techni starts at Fairfield Intermediate -Week B 9:15am start
Week 8	Monday 25th Mar	CIS Swimming sports @ Waterworld
	Friday 29th Mar	Waikato Full Primary Schools Swimming Competition - WFPS Swimming
	Friday 29th Mar	Techni at Fairfield Intermediate -Week A 11:05am start
Week 9	Thursday 4th Apr	CIS Lit quiz competition
	Friday 5th Apr	Techni starts at Fairfield Intermediate -Week B 9:15am start
	Sunday 7th Apr	Top Schools Competition at Te Kowhai School
Week 10	Thursday 11th Apr	CIS Touch Tournament @ Swarbrick Park
	Friday 12th Apr	Techni at Fairfield Intermediate -Week A 11:05am start
	Friday 12th Apr	Last day of Term 1

