

# ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS—

Lisa Crescent, Rotorua PH: 07 3481362  
[www.stmichaelsrotorua.school.nz](http://www.stmichaelsrotorua.school.nz)



## Principal's Blurp

Newsletter No 19

5 Decemeber 2017

### Kia Ora Koutou

what a magic few weeks it has been!

Our senior students did us proud at camp and enjoyed perfect weather for their whole stay at Totara Springs. It was inspiring to see the students challenging themselves and conquering their fears as they participated in abseiling, kayaking, rafting and rock climbing. My thanks to Sara Mines for an absolutely flawlessly organised camp and to Rachael McLanachan for stepping in at the last minute to attend. Thanks also to the parents who generously gave up their time to be camp mums and dads for the week.

Another magic moment was our Kapa Haka group's performance at the Ahurei last week. I'm sure many of us shed a tear or two as they dedicated their performance to Whaea Liz Katene. Liz would have been very proud looking down on the group as they gave a wonderful performance. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes and I'd like to thank Wiki and Marama Hill and Whaea Kelly for all of their dedication and commitment.

We also shared a magic moment of huge pride when two of our students, Kalani Aldworth and Bentley Simpkins not only won their age divisions in the 400m track event at the interschool athletics day, but also broke the Rotorua records! Well done to these two talented students and thank you to Mr Guilford who has put many hours into coaching them.

I was also immensely proud of Mrs McLanachan and Mrs Mines last week as they gave a presentation at a conference on Accelerating Learning in Mathematics. We can be sure in the knowledge that our teachers at St Michael's are among the top practitioners in New Zealand.

Last Thursday evening the Board confirmed teaching places for Term 1 of next year and these are as follows:

**Mrs Tiedt,  
Mrs Brits and Whaea Kelly,  
Mrs McLanachan,  
Mrs Knox,  
Mrs Paget, Galilee,  
Mrs Mines, Galilee,**

**Acting Principal  
The Ark, Year 1 / 2  
Eden Rm 7, Year 3 /4  
Eden Rm 6, Year 3 /4  
Year 5 Guardian  
Year 6 Guardian**

**Mrs Hunt, Specialist Teacher for children with additional needs and leadership release teacher (2.5 days per week).**

It is great to be able to provide stability for our learners next year. These places are only confirmed for Term 1, however, as once a new principal is employed (hopefully by Term 2), Mrs Tiedt will return to the classroom. Mrs Mines will also be out of the class for two days per week from Term 2 next year in her new role as Across School Leader for our CoL. More details about Term 2 will be available once a principal appointment has been made.

**We look forward to a wonderful few weeks ahead. In the diary are important events such as our end of year Mass, class trips, the annual Nativity Play and prize-giving. We look forward to seeing many of you at these special occasions.**

**God Bless  
Shelly Fitness  
Principal**

If you are interested in sending your children to a Holiday programme over the term break there are two flyers found in the school office foyer. One from Playtopia and the other from Mid-Island Gym Sports.

## FAITH FACTS

### Week 4 – 8 December

Liturgical Year Module Advent

First week of Advent

8<sup>th</sup> The Immaculate Conception of Mary



### **First week of Advent**

Advent is the period before the [Christmas](#) season. It begins on the Sunday nearest November 30, the feast day of St. Andrew the Apostle.

On the first Sunday of Advent, the first purple candle (symbolising hope) on the advent wreath is lit. This candle is typically called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, primarily [Isaiah](#), who foretold the birth of Christ.

### Week 9: December 11 - 15

Second week of Advent

13<sup>th</sup> St Lucy

14<sup>th</sup> St John of the Cross

Lucia of Syracuse (283–304), also known as Saint Lucy or Saint Lucia (Latin: **Sancta** Lucia), was a young Christian martyr who died during the Diocletianic Persecution. She is venerated as a saint by the Roman Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran, and Orthodox Churches.

### **Second week of Advent**

The 2nd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.



## HEALTH & SAFETY

### **Complaints Procedure:**

Concerns and complaints should be handed in the following way:

1. The parent or caregiver should request an appointment to see the child's teacher to discuss the issue. After this meeting both parties will hopefully be satisfied with the outcome or an understanding will be put in place for future action.
2. If the matter remains unresolved, the action is unsuccessful, or the problem resurfaces, an appointment should be made to see the Principal
3. If the matter remains unresolved after meeting with the Principal, the complaint should be put in writing and addressed to the Board Chair. All written complaints should be signed as the Board does not act on anonymous complaints.
4. The Board Chair will convene a committee of three trustees (including a minimum of one elected representative and one Proprietor's Representative) to consider the course of action, seeking advice as prudent.

**Office Hours:**

Monday closed

Tues-Frid 8am –2.30pm

PH: 348 0289

**Mass Times:****St Michael's, Lake Road; Sat 5pm (Vigil); Sun 8am**

St Mary's, cnr Seddon &amp; Ranolf : 10am &amp; 5.30pm Sunday

[www.catholicrotorua.org.nz](http://www.catholicrotorua.org.nz)

Parish Priest: Fr Eamon Kennedy

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**Here are our Advent Rite II Reconciliation times****St Mary's Rotorua Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00 pm****THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL****Volunteers Urgently Required**

*The conference of St Michael's has been involved in assisting the community in Rotorua since 1957 and has helped many people in need. We are now looking for volunteers to assist us in our work. In every community there is a lot of need: the hungry, homeless, sick, lonely, elderly and the refugees all need help. If you would like to know more about our work or feel you can assist us in our charitable work please give Alan a call on 346 3321*

**ADVENT****Day #1 - Acts of service -**

Christmas is a wonderful time of year to think of those less fortunate, or show appreciation for those who have contributed to your year. The options of service are endless - gathering gifts or donations for a group, feeding others, visiting those in need of company. Choose something meaningful for your community, and everyone's spirits will be lifted.

**Day #2 - Belonging -**

As humans we are born to connect with others, and the festive season is a great reminder of how special it is to belong to a community. Create opportunities for celebration, involvement, and contribution.

**Day #3 - Childhood -**

Christmas can be a magical time for all, but especially for our children. See the season through their eyes, and remember how it felt when we were young. This spurs us on to make an effort, to add the little big touches, and really make it the most wonderful time of the year.

**Day #4 - Decor -**

Let your Christmas environment feed the soul! Putting time into decorating sets the scene for an amazing season. Beautiful ornaments, twinkling lights, rustic pieces, and authentically child-made treasures add enchantment for all.





## KAPAHAKA



Our Kapa Haka group did us proud at the Kapahaka Festival singing in memory of Whaea Liz Katene. An amazing performance. Thanks to all the parents, Whaea Kelly and Tutors Marama & Wiki Hill for all their hard work and support.

## SCHOOL BANK ACCOUNT CHANGE

**Attention Parents of Automatic Payments and future direct Credits**

As from the **29th December** St Michael's School Account will be held with the **ASB in Amohau Street**. Hopefully Westpac will be advising all AP users of our change in the near future. All parents / caregivers who have presently set up automatic payments must notify their bank of **our new account Number as follows:**

**123155: 0265162:00 -**

**St Michael's Catholic School Rotorua Board of Trustees  
For next year stationery fees, start your AP now!**

## COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

### 2018 Term Dates:

**Term One:** Tuesday 30th January to Friday 13th April (*Waitangi day 6th February; Good Friday 30th March; Easter 2nd—3rd April*)

**Term Two:** Monday 30th April to Friday 6th July (*1st June Teacher only day; Queens Birthday 4th June*)

**Term Three:** Monday 23rd July to Friday 28th September (*17th August Teacher only Day*)

**Term Four:** Monday 15th October to Tuesday 18th December (*22 October Labour Day*)

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### Virtually on Track wants to know What's Your Magisto Moment?

**These summer holidays, Sport Bay of Plenty's Virtually on Track is holding a summer photo competition – with a twist.**

Using the free smartphone app Magisto, we want you to create a short clip of your summer adventures using photos and video taken in one of our beautiful Gem Sites, which include The Redwoods, Waihi Beach, Papamoa Hills Regional Park, Ohope Beach and surrounds, TECT All-Terrain Park and more!

It's easy to use – simply download the free app, upload your outdoor photos and videos, create a short clip of your adventure, and send it to [admin@sportbop.co.nz](mailto:admin@sportbop.co.nz) to be in to WIN awesome prizes from our generous local sponsors!

**Entries open from Monday, December 18 to Sunday, February 4, with winners announced mid-February.**

For full details, a list of our Gem Sites and instructions on how to get involved, visit [www.virtuallyontrack.co.nz/magistomoment](http://www.virtuallyontrack.co.nz/magistomoment)

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### MID-ISLAND GYM SPORTS– SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Now available, flyers can be found in the school office foyer. Be in quick to make your booking! PH 07 349 3108 E: [migsholidayprogramme@outlook.co.nz](mailto:migsholidayprogramme@outlook.co.nz)

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### CURE KIDS

Cure Kids is proud to be the official charity for the Junior Tough Guy & Gal series in 2018! (**Rotorua 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> August 2018**)

Cure Kids funds research into better treatments and cures for health conditions that affect our children. We are excited to partner with the Tough Guy & Gal team as we work towards a healthy childhood for all kiwi kids.

Last year Tough Guy & Gal participants raised an incredible \$59,278 for Cure Kids. Our goal is to hit over \$60,000 in 2018, but to do that we need your help! You can get involved by donating to Cure Kids on registration, or getting your school on board to fundraise. Every person who raises \$100 will receive a FREE Cure Kids t-shirt.

Taking part in the Tough Guy & Gal series for Cure Kids is more than putting on your runners and having an awesome day out, it's helping improve the health of kiwi kids.

Please get in touch with Nicky on 027 531 5603 or [nicky@curekids.org.nz](mailto:nicky@curekids.org.nz) to find out more.



## EBOP / CENTRAL BOP ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to all our athletics that represented our school at the Rural and Central Bay of Plenty Athletic Championships. Special congratulations to pupils Bentley Simpkins and Kalana Aldworth for setting new track records.

Many thanks to the parent helpers and our dedicated staff especially Ray Guildford for the preparation of our fields, training and encouragement given to our athletes. Your our star Mr G!

### Placing Results:

- ♦ Hunter Pocock (9yr Boys ) 3rd Long Jump
- ♦ Brooklyn Edwardson (11yr Boys) 3rd Shot Put
- ♦ Connor Swinyard (9 yr Boys) 3rd Shot Put
- ♦ Dana Kerby (9yr Girls) 4th High Jump

### Track Events

- ♦ Kalani Aldworth (11yr Girls) 2nd 200 meters
- ♦ **Bentley Simpkins (11yr Boys) 1st 400 meters—NEW TRACK RECORD**
- ♦ **Kalani Aldworth (11yr Girls) 1st 400 meters—NEW TRACK RECORD**
- ♦ Willow Parry (10yr Girls) 4th 400 meters

All the best for the final EBOP and CBOP Championships tomorrow







### **SCHOOL BOOKS: JOURNALS / LIBRARY**

Count down begins, two and a bit weeks before term four finishes. As it is the end of year we need all readers and library books to be returned. There are a lot of out standing readers / journals, so please have a good hunt around home with your children.

Many thanks for your co-operation.





## CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM 3 2017



Date / Week	What	Where and time
Wed 6/12	EBOP/BOP Championships	Whakatane
	Helpers Morning Tea—	11am—Staffroom
Thurs 7/12	Class Mass Eden Y3	Church 8.30 to 9.30am
Fri 8/12	Ark Nativity Play	12 pm -Mercy School Hall
Sun 10/12	Weet-Bix Tryathlon	Kuirau Park
Mon 11/12	Kapahaka performing at Citizenship Ceremony	Notice to follow
Wed 13/12	BOT Meeting	6.30pm
Thurs 14/12	End of year Mass	St Michael's Church 9.30 to 10.30
	Prize giving	6pm to 7pm -Mercy Hall
Fri 15/12	Y6 Leavers Lunch	
Mon 18/12	Final School Assembly	2pm—Farewell Miss Fitness
Wed 20/12	Last Day of Term 4	School finishes 1pm

### REAL CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE—\$25 PER TREE

For every tree purchased  
St Michael's school will receive \$5.  
To order your tree phone  
0272741159. We will deliver the  
trees to the St Michael's School  
during the first week of December.

*MERRY CHRISTMAS*

*Brian and Veronica Aislabie*





## Y6/5 TOTARA SPRINGS CAMP







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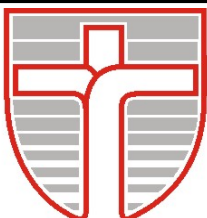
## GOLDEN QUALITY BAKERY

**Western Heights Shopping centre**

**Hot Food / savouries / pies**  
**Sandwiches / filled rolls**  
**Yummy Cakes / Muffins**

*School Lunch order forms available from the shop*

**Catering available:-**  
**PH: 3478978**



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