

Junior Team Information

Ruma Korora, Kea and Kakapo

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MISSION STATEMENT

At St Joseph's School we will provide a high quality Catholic educational programme aimed at developing the whole child in a supportive environment.

SCHOOL MOTTO

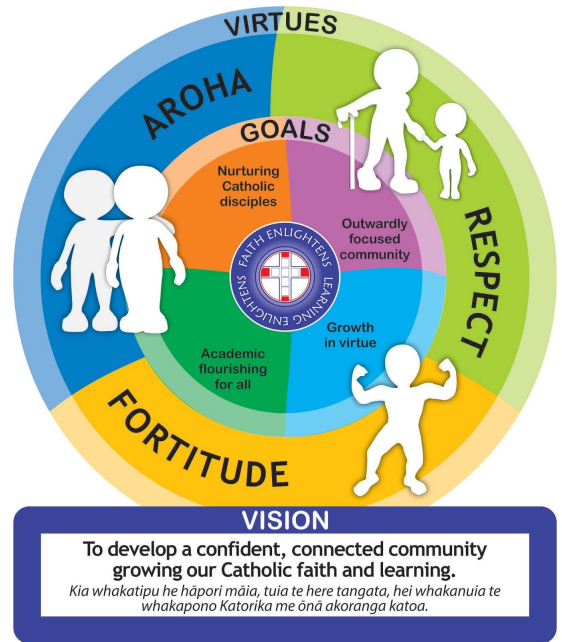
Learning enlightens

Faith enlightens

Virtues: Our virtues are Fortitude, Aroha and Respect. Each fortnight we learn about a different aspect of these virtues.

General

- **Key Competencies** are the capabilities people have, and need to develop to live and learn today and in the future - include Managing Self, Relating to Others, Participating and Contributing, Thinking and Using language, symbols and text. These are integrated into all learning programmes.
- Encourage independence in your child through helping them to take responsibility for bringing in their reading folder, library books, remembering to bring sun hats and also remembering to pack everything they need into their bags at the end of the day.
All books in the reading folder must be returned each day. PLEASE DO NOT PUT FOOD OR WATER NEAR THIS FOLDER.
Try and avoid Yogurt in lunchboxes. It makes an awful mess!!
- Please ensure your child can both put on and take off their jersey, shoes and socks. Ideally if they have shoes with laces they should be able to tie them themselves. Please ensure all clothing and personal belongings are named.
- Children are not permitted to enter the car park without an adult under any circumstances. Please ensure when entering or exiting the school through either gate that you close the gate firmly behind you.
- They are also expected to be able to take to and manage themselves at the toilet.
- It is important that the correct uniform is worn every day. Please ensure your child has the correct footwear. This footwear needs to be supportive and able to be worn for physical activities. Our uniform does not include jewellery or elaborate hair accessories.
- **No toys** to be brought to school please, including News time. Exceptions to be discussed with the classroom teacher. No treats for birthdays to be shared at school.
- A school newsletter is emailed out once a fortnight, usually on a Thursday. Children are expected to attend one school Sunday Mass each term and the 'Leavers' Liturgy' at the end of the year.
- We have achieved our Bronze status as an Enviro school. We are therefore encouraging children to bring in Waste free lunches. Bringing morning tea in a small container is a good idea. This ensures that your child does not eat all their food at morning tea.
- Attendance - Please ensure your child arrives at school in plenty of time to settle and organise themselves ready for learning. The classrooms are not open to the children until 8.30am as prior to this it is valuable preparation time for teachers.
- After school all children are expected to stay outside their classroom until their parent or caregiver has arrived to collect them. Any child not collected by 3.15pm will be taken to the office to wait.
- Outside of school hours no child is allowed to play on the playground without their parent or caregiver.
- House/Family groups: Waimakariri/blue, Maukatere/yellow, Rakahuri/red and Karetu/green. Children are organised into family groups with 4 family groups making up each house. Children from the same family are allocated the same house group but may end up in a different family group.
- If you have a problem with another student we would appreciate that you approach us. Do not approach someone else's child.



Religious Education

- The six main strands (God, Jesus Christ, The Holy Spirit, Church, Sacrament, Communion of Saints) will be covered during the course of the year as will the Liturgical year, Prayer, Myself and Others and Sacramental Celebrations.
- All aspects of the Religious Education programme are integrated as much as possible in all curriculum areas.
- Some activities include homework to involve the whole family so please take time to discuss the programme with your child. The activity book needs to be returned each day.
- Encourage children to pray at home on a regular basis as the Religious Education/faith of your child should be done in partnership with school and families.
- In the Junior school children will start by learning the Sign of the Cross and how to Genuflect. By the end of their time in the Junior school they should know the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be to the Father and the Act of Sorrow prayers.
- We will be focusing on reverence during prayer time and at Mass and would appreciate your support in doing this.
- Every family should have a copy of the Whanau book (or an e-book). These are useful for adding comments at the end of each strand.

Literacy

- Instructional reading books sent home Monday - Thursday with Browsing box books on Fridays.
- Library day will be **Monday** afternoon.
- Reading logs need to be signed every night so that we know that your child is reading. (Comment if you wish). Books **MUST** be returned the next day so that another book can be sent home.
- Some children will have a bag of sight words and/or alphabet cards to practise and learn each night.
- A poetry book will remain in their reading folder so you can read these together and enjoy.
- Phonics - This will be run in conjunction with the Spelling programme at school.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4Sl87VPX_4 (Informative video on reading the school reader with your child at home)

Numeracy

All children have a Studyladder login glued into the front of their Home notebook. This will support their Maths learning at school and home.

Incorporate maths into your day to day lives:

- Talk about $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ when cutting a cake or a pie etc.
- Counting forwards and backwards, identifying numbers, leading through to counting in 2s, 5s and 10s which in turn lead into times tables.
- Telling the time, sharing out.
- Simple at home games include: Snakes and Ladders, jigsaws, Connect 4.
- The numeracy programme is based on teaching children the knowledge and strategies to incorporate maths into their day to day lives.
- Learning strands: geometry, measurement, statistics, number and algebra. At this learning stage number and algebra take up to 80% of our Maths time.

P.E./Fitness

- Fitness will be done four mornings per week.
- Physical Education is taught once a week. Once a fortnight we have specialist coaches from Sports Canterbury to assist with this.
- Children are expected to participate in Fitness/PE unless they have a written note from home. If your child is at school it is expected that he/she will take part in daily fitness to the best of his/her ability.

Topic/Inquiry

- We are beginning the year with a focus on Ourselves and our Families.
- The Junior School will participate in the school-wide Inquiry 'Change' and will look at plastics..

