

MONTE CECILIA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

***Our Mission is to encourage growth through a Catholic way of life,
And share in the mission of the church by providing quality
education for the whole person based on Gospel values***

Newsletter No:01 07th February 2012

Dear Parents,

It's been a great start to the 2012 school year. All classes have settled well and are excited about their learning.

I am on duty at the bus shelter every afternoon Mon-Thurs and am happy for you to stop and have a chat or you can make an appointment with Mrs. Follows in the office.

We are looking forward to another fantastic Monte year.

God Bless
Brett Green
Principal

THANK YOU

A huge thanks Anthony Bonisch, Terry Phillips and their helpers, who have put in a huge amount of time and effort to refurbish the old changing sheds, install the traversing wall and re-clad the staffroom.

Thank you also to the PTA for their generous donation which has enabled the shade sails to be installed over the senior playground

TERM ONE SCHOOL MASS

A reminder that the first school mass of the year is the is Thursday 16th February, beginning at 6:00 p.m. We will present the School Leaders and House Captains with their badges and the Year 6 students will receive their Senior Class shirts.

The PTA will have a BBQ and we encourage you to stay and have a picnic dinner on the field. If wet we will transfer the mass to SJV Church.

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to the following children and their families who have started school at Monte.

Isaiah Fusitua, Etuale Fusitua,
Hunter Watson, Ethan Wong,
Sapphire Caulton, Keira Park.

STAFFING

We welcome Mrs. Harrison to the school and welcome back Mrs. Boffey.

Mr. Green snr, our Property Manager has retired over the Christmas break.

Mrs. Green has resigned from her position at the school.

MUM'S & DAD'S IN TOUCH

Thank you to this special group that is getting together to pray for our school community. They meet every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. All parents are welcome to attend at anytime. Prayer requests can be placed in the box located in the office foyer.

PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Support your School by making a Positive Difference.

***First meeting for 2012 Wednesday 03rd
February at 7:30***

***Don't forget to get your sunscreen and
swimming caps.***

***PTA Family Fun Day this Sunday from
11-2***

FRIENDS OF MONTE

We are looking to build up a supply of frozen meals for future use by families in need of support. If you have suitable containers, with close fitting lids (2l ice cream tubs are perfect) could you please leave them at the office. Any queries or offers of filling them please call Cathy Shearer on 6342641.

SWIMMING SPORTS

The Senior Swimming sports on 23rd February and will begin at 11:00 am.

The Junior Swimming sports on 21st February and will begin at 1:45 pm.

YEAR 5/6 CAMP

This will be held in term 4 from 29th October to 02nd November.

HIPPOCAMPUS

Named for the part of the brain that builds new memories on experiences and looks at research on learning.

EASING SCHOOL ANXIETIES

All kinds of stresses, from earthquakes to changing schools, can make a child feel worried and nervous about going to school. For all ages, a regular morning routine with set times and activities – bathroom, get dressed, eat breakfast, gather gear, be ready at door – provides a sense of security and structure. One mother finds if she gets up 30 minutes before the family, she can shower and dress and is ready to give her family a smooth start to the day.

Lay down set times for homework, bedtime and lights out. Everyone can help prepare lunches and set out clothes for the next day. Put out packets and cutlery needed for breakfast. Get your children into the habit of rising when their alarm rings and be ready to lock the door at a set time, whether they have everything they need or not. One morning of having to go to school with uncombed hair or missing a sock will usually fix bad habits.

Don't nag and don't apologise for insisting on routines. Some children may need extra help or training but most of them can quickly adjust to your expectations and those of the school.

PRE-SCHOOL

Do everything possible to make them feel secure. Tell them who is picking them up. Drive or walk by the school often and call out, "Hello pre-school! Hello, swings!" so they start to identify with the place. Establish calm, daily routines that they can depend on.

PRIMARY – MIDDLE

The security of one familiar teacher can change quickly for this age-group as they move from one class to another with different teachers and routines. Reassure them that they can cope with the changes by

reminding them about things they have mastered in the past. Make sure they get plenty of sleep. Give them time and space to adjust.

HIGH SCHOOL

The fear of making (or not making) new friends, harder work, scary new teachers, confusing buildings, missing the bus can build up for new high school students. Stay calm and encouraging but if they don't seem to settle down after a few weeks, it is worth talking to the school so you can work together to allay fears or help fix any problems.

IMPORTANT DATES

Please refer to the school website.

07 Feb	PTA meeting @ 7:30 pm
12 Feb	PTA Family fun day 11-2
16 Feb	Year 6 Puberty School mass @ 6 pm
22 Feb	Ash Wednesday Liturgy @ 2:15 pm
23 Feb	Year 6 Puberty Bike Day – Tour de Monte
28 Feb	Zone Cricket BOT meeting @ 7:30 pm
02 March	Interim reports home
07 March	PTA meeting @ 7:30 pm
08 March	Parent Conferences – school finishes @ 1:00 pm
13 March	Zone Softball
21 March	Junior Swimming Sports @ 1:45 pm
23 March	Senior Swimming Sports @ 11:00 am
27 March	Zone Swimming Sports BOT meeting @ 7:30 pm
28 March	Reconciliation
04 April	PTA meeting @ 7:30 pm
05 April	Stations of the Cross @ 12 Noon. End of term 1, school finishes @ 1:00 pm (no after school care)
23 April	Term 2 begins

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

A reminder that any child on school grounds BEFORE 8:30 a.m. must be registered and attend the Before School supervision at a cost of \$2 per day.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

A reminder that all children that are not in After School Care **MUST** be picked up by 3:30 p.m. unless they are involved in an after-school activity. Children that are not picked up by 3:30 p.m. will be placed in After School Care and families will be invoiced accordingly.

RETURNS

Please return any library books found over the holidays to Mrs. Fleming. Please return any reading books found over the holidays to Mrs. McAlpine

UNIFORM

Please ensure that ALL items of clothing; shoes/sandals/socks/hats/swimming attire/caps/goggles/towels are clearly and indelibly named.

HATS

Please ensure that your child has their school hat with them every day. Sunscreen is available in each classroom. Children without hats will be restricted to shade areas.

SWIMMING

Please ensure your child has their swimming gear on their timetabled days. All children, boys and girls, and regardless of hair length, must wear a swimming cap. Swimming is a compulsory part of the curriculum and each child is required to participate.

Please inform the classroom teacher if your child has had diarrhea as they are not permitted to swim for 2 weeks following.

BRAIN FOOD

Don't forget to pack a small amount of Brain Food and a water bottle each day. This is an integral part of our classroom programme and is essential to ensure that all our children are functioning at their optimum level.

DETAILS UPDATE

Please let the office know if your address or contact details have changed. This is especially important for day time contacts, such as mobile and work numbers. Emergency contact details also need to be updated.

ABSENCES

Please ensure that you let Mrs. Follows know ASAP if your child is going to be absent. This can be done through the phone system, option 1, the website www.montececilia.school.nz or email office@montececilia.school.nz

PLEASE DO NOT leave an absence message on the teachers' voice-mail as these are often not cleared in time.

PARENT HELP FOR READING

We are looking for parents who are available to read 1-1 with a child 2-3 times per week. Full training will be given. Please contact Mr. Judd if you are interested.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

These are available on a Monday only. Menus are available from the school office. Clearly labeled orders, with enough money, need to be placed in the order box in the office by 9:10 a.m. Late orders cannot be processed.

FRIDAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE

There will be no Friday sausage sizzle this term due to Lent.