



FAITH
CITY SCHOOL

Te Kura Hāpori o te Whakapono

Address: 127 Springvale Road, Whanganui

Phone: 06 345 7737

Email: admin@faithcity.school.nz

Faith City School Newsletter

Edition 2 - Term 1 - 15 March 2024

From the Principal's desk

Kia ora Koutou

Term 1 has been going really well! I want to thank everyone for attending the Meet your Teacher and goal setting afternoon. We felt it was a very beneficial time in helping our students set for the year with a focus on achieving their best. We will review their progress at our mid year interviews with you and your child. Thank you also for the feedback we received from you in the gym lounge. It has really helped in setting our strategic goals for the next couple of years and also helps us in our day to day planning to make our school a better place.

One of the key pieces of feedback was a desire for us to upgrade our school playground. Planning for this is underway and fundraising has started. We will also be looking to apply for grants from Trusts. If you have any knowledge or information our PTA would be keen to have your help. What I have learnt about playgrounds is that they are incredibly expensive so every bit of support and fundraising is going to help us build an awesome playground for our kids.

I have included a link to the community feedback data that came in if you would like to see it. It is on our school website.

The whanau swim night was a lot of fun . Thanks for supporting the evening. It is so good for us to all get together as School Whanau. Thank you to the PTA for the sausage sizzle! We have booked the pool again for next year.

The new buildings are coming along. We hope to have the Admin Block open by the middle of the year. Thank you to the Dads who came to the demolition working bee. Building Costs have skyrocketed so that support certainly helped financially. There are going to be ongoing disruptions as we finish everything off – thank you for your support with this. We are going to have a really good facility when it is all finished.

Please continue to be vigilant in the car park. We know the carpark is not perfect and a bit like Auckland traffic for a 10 minutes or so. Please, if you have someone picking up the kids, it is really important that they know the rules. I think we are blessed to have a carpark at school. Most schools in Whanganui do not have one – we just need to be patient, stagger our pick up times, and watch out for our little ones.

We have decided to hold a 2024 School Production. The students are currently getting some acting training and preparing for auditions. Invariably, some students miss out on the parts they set their sights on. We will just keep supporting and encouraging them to support each other and do their best. We are going to need your support again. This year's production will be easier as there will not be as many costumes etc.

Thank you to all those who have helped with the beach trip and the swimming at splash – without you, we cannot hold these types of events.

Ma te wa

Marty Bullock

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

Term One

**Wednesday 31
Jan to Friday
12 April**

**Waiinu Beach
Trip
Mon 18th
March**

**Teacher Only
Day:
Friday 22
March**

**Easter
Weekend:
Friday 29 Mar
to Tues 2 Apr**

**Term 2 Dates:
Mon 29 April –
Friday 5 July**

Key Dates for Term 1 2024

- Monday 18 March
Waiinu Beach Trip

- Friday 22 March

Teacher Only Day – Staff are attending the Big Day Out at Cornerstone in Palmerston North.

- Friday 29 March to Tuesday 2 April

Easter Weekend

- Thursday 4 April

West Country Junior Tabloid Sports – we will update you when we have more details.

Reminder

Please can you remind your children that all phones need to be handed into the office at the beginning of the day and collected after school finishes at 3pm.

Swimming Lessons

Lessons began Friday 8 March and continue through to Friday 12 April. Please make sure your child brings their togs, towel, goggles, and P.E gear to wear on the bus as they will be getting changed back at school.

Drop off and Pickup Times

Please not drop off is not before 8.30am unless students are attending Breakfast club which runs from Mon - Thurs at 8.20am-8:45am. Pick up is 3pm and no later than 3.30pm – please stick to this as teachers have much to do after school and are not able to supervise past 3.30pm.

Mrs. Wessels Rm 7 – please note that Mrs. Wessels will be away for the rest of the term as she travels to South Africa for family reasons. The relief teacher will be in touch indue course via DoJo.

Car Park

Please do not walk across the car park. Walk to the footpath on the side you park on only. If you must cross only use the crossing path at the front gates and cross over there. Please ensure grandparents and other whanau doing pick up are aware of this rule.

If you can please stagger your pickup times as the car park is very congested at 3pm. by 3.10pm there are more spaces available. Please take care, be patient and courteous to others and drive slowly.

Breakfast Club

Weet-bix and Milos are available from 8.20am in the church lounge Mon – Thurs.

The team desperately needs volunteers to spread the load.

Please see Sarah in the office if you can help one morning each week, we would really appreciate it!

Special guest at breakfast club this week was Mr. Bullock, enjoying one of his many daily cups of coffee!



Room 2 - Art Projects

Room 2 students enjoying working on their art projects with their big buddies



Room 3 – Beach Scenes and Origami

Room 3 created beautiful beach scenes which included items that might be found around rock pools.



Our visiting classmate June is very clever with origami. He taught us easy origami on his last day with us.



Room 4 – Strength and Shine

Room 4 students are taking part in the Strength Boys and Shine Girls programme this term.

The topics being covered are:

I am valuable

I have resilience

I have courage

I have the power of choice

My potential is limitless



The students have taken part in lots of fun and discussion as they have teased out the above topics.



Room 5 – Discovery Time

In Room 5 we run Discovery Time for an hour a week, which is a time where students get to show leadership by creating and organising a range of learning activities for their classmates to do, in line with their interests. These photos are from our most recent one.



Elektra is completing a research activity on the Kaikoura Earthquake in Michael's NZ History Zone.



Ann is running a Bible Kahoot, which she has been working hard on at home.



Moses and Amelia are painting their favourite movie characters in Beau's Art Zone.



Our chess master Aaron has set up a chess competition.



Griffin is doing one of Estian's Technology Zone challenges.



Ivy and Ana are being timed by Johan on his football based obstacle course.



Rado is creating a visual aquarium in Tatum's "Theme Zone"

Eloise has expertly set up an election booth for the class to vote for a "Class President". Tatum Williams won this election by one vote, so he will be helping me as needed during the year.



At the end of Discovery Time students have a time where they acknowledge and encourage their peers. It is an extremely valuable hour of interactive, positive, student-led learning, which the class looks forward to each week.

Room 6 – Activities

Room 6 have been enjoying lots of different activities including:



Visiting Harold the giraffe in the Life Education bus that visited recently.
Games of Rippa Rugby

And math problem solving!



Kids Lit

Faith City School Kids Lit teams have been training hard for their competition, coming up on the 26th of March in Feilding.

Last week they took over the Davis Library with their unique blend of reading passions and skills.

During the practice we shared our reading strengths, searched for new book knowledge, and competed in a very tricky pairs quiz, which Bruno and Eloise won with the impressive score of 15/20.



The children's Librarian Jane took the group on a full tour of the library, including all the secret areas out the back, where they buy, sort, cover, classify and catalogue all of the books. They learnt a bit about the Dewey Decimal System with cataloguer Keren before she tried to stump the ultra-smart bookworms with some abstract and challenging questions. Some of the parents joined us for the library fun and played along with the quiz. This group is a vibrant, positive group of readers who will represent Faith City School with pride in a couple of weeks.



From the PTA...



Thank you to all our amazing volunteer parents and students who ran a Sausage Sizzle at MITRE 10 last weekend.

Together you raised a total of \$640 towards our school playground upgrade.

If you would be keen to help out with future MITRE 10 sausage sizzles (even for 1 hour) we would so appreciate that! Please contact Sarah in the office.

FAITH CITY PTA FUNDRAISER

Clothes Swap

We are in need of the following items for our upcoming clothes swap fundraiser:

TO BORROW

Clothing racks, clothes hangers and mirrors

Serveware, boards/ trays, drink dispensers

Possessions will be tagged with masking tape so there's no need to worry about items being misplaced

DONATIONS

Reuseable shopping bags / brown paper bags

Good quality women's and children's clothing

Baked goods or platter friendly kai

Help with any of these areas is greatly appreciated

We also have our Clothes Swap Fundraiser event next Saturday 23rd of March. We are still in need of the following support:

To Borrow:

- Clothing racks
- Mirrors
- Serve ware including glass drinking dispensers

(These items will be named and looked after, ready for return the following Monday of our event).

Donations:

- Of Kai, in the form of baked goods or platter friendly food.

Please get in touch if you can help, thank you for gathering around and supporting us!

We so appreciate it! 😊



Whanganui Ladies! Grab your friends, clear your wardrobes and join us as we swap clothes, eat, chat and enjoy an evening together at our Clothes Swap Fundraiser!

**Saturday 23rd
March 2024
7PM
Faith City
Gymnasium
127 Springvale Road**

\$25 TICKETS | NIBBLES AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

How it works:

Invite a friend and buy tickets (email us: faithcityPTA@gmail.com) →

Clear your wardrobe of good quality clean clothing- contact us to arrange drop off or alternatively you can bring a bag to swap on the night! →

Enjoy an evening out connecting with other women in our community and leave with a bag of "new" clothing.

Do you have clean, good quality clothes to donate?
Contact us:
faithcityPTA@gmail.com

This event is to raise funds for future playground developments for our school, we appreciate your support!



Faith City School PTA

Free Pickleball Lessons

RiverCity Pickleball Club are now offering pickleball for juniors.

It's free, kids just need to bring their drink bottle.

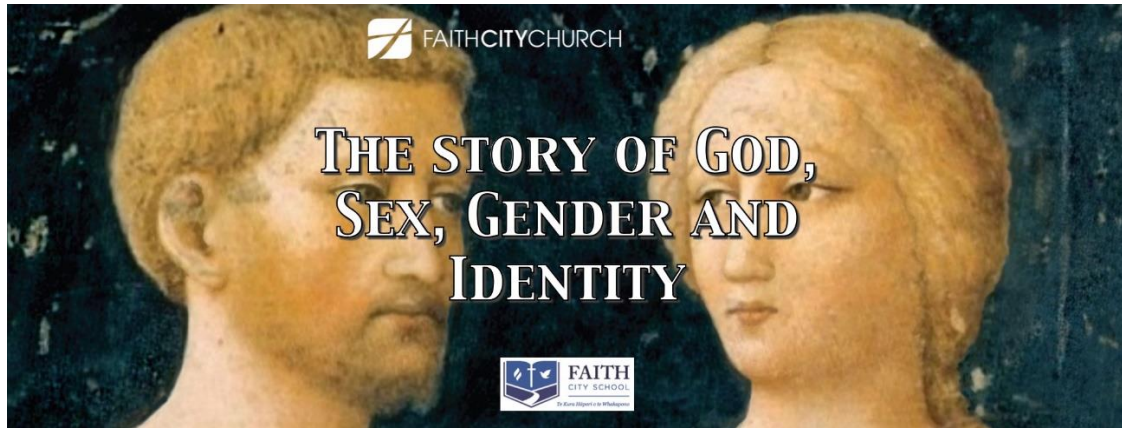
We start Thursday, 4.30-6pm at the Jubilee Stadium.

No registration required; kids just need to turn up.

Pickleball is a fast-growing sport all over the world and is a cross between tennis, badminton, and table tennis.



FCS parents - You are invited to



On **Thursday 18th April** we will have Dr Sean du Toit here at school to speak to us about the **topic of sexuality and how Christians can approach these complex issues. Special attention will be given to a biblical framework within which we can understand sex, gender, and identity.**

As a Christian school and community, it has become important for us to understand concepts associated with gender diversity. We know that this is a significant issue of our day. Being informed from a Christian perspective on these issues will help all of us navigate these tricky waters. As a school, we will need your support and understanding on these issues also.

Dr. Sean comes to us highly recommended in this field. I know Dr Sean very well and commend him also. He is a New Testament Lecturer at Alphacrucis University and a member of Connect Church in Timaru.

The **Faith City School Meeting is scheduled for Thursday the 18th of April at 6.30pm at Faith City Church.** There will be a children's programme at the FCS gym if you require childcare. Other members of your whanau are invited such as grandparents and aunties etc.

Please RSVP the FCS school office if you require childcare.

A letter from our Public Health Nurse

My name is Stephanie, and I am the Public Health Nurse for your school. I provide free, confidential support, advice, and referrals where appropriate with any health-related concerns that parents/caregivers/teachers may have for children in their care.

These include

- Bedwetting
- Daytime wetting and soiling
- Immunisation queries
- Nutrition concerns
- Vision and hearing problems
- Growth and development
- Head Lice support



I can be contacted at the Public Health Centre by phoning 021 902 896 or email stephanie.whiteman@wdhb.org.nz .

Stephanie Whiteman