



Bishop Edward Gaines Catholic School

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newsletter

Term 1 Week 9

2018



Kia ora, Kumesta, Kia Orana, Maloilelai, Talofalava, Greetings to you all ☺

SPECIAL CHARACTER FOCUS:

Easter Symbols Explained by Cardinal John Dew



The history and meaning of our traditional Easter foods such as eggs and hot cross buns has almost disappeared beneath the weight of their commercialization. Eggs, hot cross buns and the Easter bunny all originated in the Christian celebration of Easter, and it is worth reclaiming their meaning. In some places Easter eggs are also called Paschal eggs. Eggs are a traditional symbol of fertility and rebirth in Christianity, but for the celebration of Eastertide, Easter eggs actually symbolize the empty tomb of Jesus. One ancient tradition was the staining of Easter eggs with the colour red in memory of the blood of Christ, shed at the time of his crucifixion. The Easter egg custom dates back to early Christians of Mesopotamia, so it is a very ancient practice. Hot cross buns were traditionally eaten on Good Friday in many English-speaking countries (although now they seem to appear from the end of January!). The cross represents the crucifixion of Jesus, and the spices signify the spices used to embalm him during his burial. The Easter rabbit originated in Germany among Lutheran Christians as the "Easter Hare". He came bearing Easter eggs and other gifts and his task was to "judge" whether the children had been good or bad. Our food and customs at Easter reflect the true meaning of Easter so let's keep the meaning alive!



Prayer Intentions:

For us all to have a blessed, holy and restful Easter.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

We began school this morning by celebrating a Holy Thursday liturgy. This celebration included a dramatization of Jesus washing his disciples' feet prior to the last supper meal. In the symbolic action of getting down on his hands and knees and washing his disciples' feet Jesus is showing us that love equals serving others. He also commands us to do the same, "As I have done for you, you should also do." (John 13:15)

The teaching staff & I are looking forward to the Easter break. An extra-long weekend will be a real blessing after such a busy term. May I encourage you all as families to participate in the liturgical traditions of Holy Week in our Church so that your children can truly understand the light and hope of Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday. See the end of the newsletter for the Mass / liturgy times both here in Tokoroa and in Putaruru.

INDOOR BOWLS



Our Year 7 & 8 students have been learning how to play indoor bowls. Our regular relief teacher, Mr Bob Abraham, is a member of the St. Pius indoor bowls club. Bob has been taking our senior students over to the parish hall on Wednesday afternoons to play this game. Our hope is to form a small team of senior students to take to the annual AIMS games tournament in Tauranga. Indoor bowls can be played as an individual, paired or team sport. Some of our students are showing a real aptitude for the game as well as learning all the etiquette.

WINTER SPORTS



After the April school holidays winter sports in Tokoroa will begin. We are hoping to enter a basketball team and at least one soccer team. Also, if we have any girls who are keen to play netball please see Caroline as she has the contacts to find a local team for our girls to play in. Please let Caroline know in the school office if your child is permitted to play winter sports. We can all rally together to support each other with transport. If you have any old soccer boots at home that no longer fit your child it would be fantastic if you'd donate them back to the school in a boot swap.

Soccer trainings will be during school lunch breaks and run by Miss M. We are looking for adults to manage the soccer team – this could be a shared / rotational role.

Year 8 student Vincent Pechay has been training our basketball team. It is great to see a senior student stepping up and sharing his expertise with younger students. Way to go Vincent.

EASTER HOLIDAY

There will be no school on Friday (tomorrow), Monday 2nd April or Tuesday 3rd April next week as these are part of the Easter holiday break for schools.

Have a blessed Holy Week and a happy Easter. See you Wednesday 4th April.

Helen McGuigan

Tumuaki / Principa

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Duffy Books Role Model Visit	9 th April - 9.30am
Science Roadshow (Yr 5-8)	11 th April @ Putaruru College
Term 1 finishes	Friday 13 th April 2018

Holy Week Mass & Liturgy Times

- Thursday 29th March: Holy Thursday Mass – Putaruru 7pm – joining in the washing of the feet and remembrance of Christs' institution of the Holy Eucharist at the last supper.
- Friday 30th March 3pm: Friday of the Passion of our Lord (Good Friday) Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion - Putaruru and Tokoroa at 3pm. Includes the presentation and veneration of the Holy Cross.
- Saturday 31st March: Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass – **Tokoroa Parish 7pm.** The blessing and lighting of the new Paschal Candles of Putaruru and Tokoroa parishes and the procession with candles as we celebrate together the great events of Easter.
- Sunday 1st April: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord! – Putaruru 9.30am Mass – celebrating the Risen Lord...and Hot Cross buns for morning tea following Mass.
- Stations of the Cross and Holy Hour:
Fridays: 4.30pm – 5.30pm

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