



St. Joseph's School Takapuna  
Kiwi Team - General Information

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to the Kiwi team. We look forward to meeting you and working with your child throughout the rest of 2021.

Our Theme for the term is Cooperation. In term 1 in Religious Education the children will work within the Introduction to Prayer strand, the Liturgical Year strand and the Jesus Strand learning about 'What Prayer Is' and 'Where They Can Pray' as well as 'Jesus' Life as a child and how it compares to their life. At the end of the term we are learning about the stories and traditions of Holy Week. We will be having a visit from the Bee Lady and we will learn about the cooperation that takes place in the Bee Hive, what Bees need to stay alive and from a Technology perspective the children will be looking into the accommodation requirements for Bugs/Insects. New Zealand Opera will visit and the children will learn about story telling in the musical form. The children will be learning about Sun and Water Safety at Beach Education and in Physical Education they will be playing cooperative games. In Mathematics we will be working in the Number and Statistics strands, developing strategies for joining sets together, instantly identifying numbers and sorting objects into groups and talking about how they grouped them. The children will be learning to read simple stories and answer questions about the story and to write stories by recording the sounds they can hear in a word.

**Important Dates For Term 1**

Week 1 9/2 First day of school 12/2 Football Promotion

Week 2 17/2 Ash Wednesday Liturgy 1.45pm 19/2 Family Picnic 5.30-7.30

Week 3 26/2 NZ Opera visits 1.30-2.30

Week 4 3/3 New Entrant School Visits 5/3 Kiwi team Beach Education at Mairangi Bay Beach

Week 5 10/3 New Entrant School Visits 12/3 Atawhai Groups begin for Kiwi Team 2.15 -2.50pm

Week 6 15/3 New Entrants Start

Week 7 25/3 Feast of the Annunciation and Visit by the 'Bee Lady'

Week 8 29/3-1/4 Holy Week 1/4 Holy Week Liturgy 1-2pm 2/4 Good Friday (School Closed)

Week 9 5/4 Easter Monday 6/4 Easter Tuesday (School Closed both days) 7/4 New Entrant School Visits

Week 10 11/4 Shore to Shore Fun Run 14/4 New Entrant School Visits

These pages contain important information and will assist you in providing a smooth transition from home to school for your child.

Your child is in the Kiwi team. The Kiwi team is currently made up of 4 Home Groups. The teachers will be planning together and some activities and school trips will be done together. The classes and teachers in the Kiwi team are:

- Home Group 15 - Mrs Dunne (year 0/1)
- Home Group 16 - Miss Ryan (year 0/1)
- Home Group 17 - Ms Kang (year 0/1)
- Home Group 18 - Mrs Pratt and Mrs Saxon (year 0/1)

Mrs Saxon will also be the Release Teacher for the Kiwi Team

Mrs Anita Foster and Mrs Suzanne Bell-Booth will be our Teacher Aides

### Morning and Afternoon Routines

The children do need to be at school before the bell goes at 8.50 am. If you aim to arrive, where possible, at around 8.40 you will give your child time to unpack and greet their friends and have a quick play outside before the bell rings. The children should be encouraged to play outside, after they have unpacked or, if staying in the class, read from the library corner. Lateness can be unsettling for your child, the other children and the teachers. The children are expected to put their bags in the bag area (cloak bay) and put their book bags into their chair bags inside the classroom. Please encourage your child to be independent and let them carry their own school bag and do these tasks on their own. Any notices being returned to school, should be in a named envelope or snaplock bag and placed in the designated area in the learning space.

The end of the day can be a little hectic and the children are tired and easily distracted. We would like to ask all parents to wait outside the classroom so that the children can complete their duties and take part in class prayers without being distracted. All children will finish school at 2.50 pm. Please discuss fully with your child where they will be met, and who will be meeting them at the end of the day. Please let us know if someone different is picking them up. For the first week at school, if you are picking your child up, it is best if you wait for them outside the classroom. After the first full week at school, and especially if you will regularly arrive to collect your child after the bell has rung at the end of the day, it is best if they learn to wait at the 'pick-up' area. We will be showing the children where this is.

### Timetable

This is how our day is divided up.

8.50-10.25 Learning Block 1

10.25-10.35 Read and Feed

10.35-11.00 Morning Tea Break

11.00-12.40 Learning Block 2

12.40-1.30 Lunch Break

1.30-2.50 Learning Block 3

### Parent Help

We will put a 'Parent Help' notice on the door. Please complete this if you are able to help on a regular basis. Parent help for story writing will commence from week 4. Story writing will take place on Mondays through to Thursdays from approximately 9 am. to 10 or 10.15. If you would like to help and have pre-schoolers could you please discuss this with your child's teacher. If you are unable to help with story writing there are other ways in which you can assist, for example:

- Sharpening pencils before or after school
- Cleaning the desks
- Putting reading books away
- Washing art shirts

### Drink bottles

Your child is welcome to keep a drink bottle inside the classroom. It is important however that the bottles are named and contain only water. It is preferred that these bottles are not iced or wrapped in towels.

### Home Learning

Each night your child will bring home a reading book (once the reading programme is up and running). Please sit with your child and listen to them read. Encourage your child to point to each word as they read the text and ask them to tell you the story in their own words. Please remember to write the title in the reading log (in the Home Learning book) and sign it and return the book and reading log to school the following day. Once our Library day is established, your child will bring home a library book or a poem that you can read with or to them.

All library books must be returned to school prior to library day. Religious Education work will come home from time to time with work that needs to be done with family support. Please see that your child completes all work with the reverence it deserves. It is important this work is returned the next day. Work must be completed using HB pencils for written work and coloured pencils **only** for illustrations (**no felt pens or crayons**). Please help us to maintain a high standard of work between school and home.

Parents often ask what they can do at home with their children to make the transition to school easier for the child. Here are a few ideas:

- Basic manners ~ please/thank you etc.
- Can hold and use a pencil
- Provide supervised opportunities to practise using scissors to cut around pictures and shapes.
- Can put on his/her own jersey/jacket.
- Have some alphabet knowledge and familiarity with books.
- Can follow instructions
- Can handle morning tea and lunch items independently.
- Can pack and unpack his/her bag.
- Can express him/herself clearly.
- Can listen carefully
- Show developing responsibility for his/her own personal items.
- Can initiate some conversation e.g. 'Good morning.'

### Uniforms

Could parents please ensure that shoes, sun hats, school jumpers, lunch boxes and drink bottles are all clearly named. Lost property increases daily and if items are not named they cannot be returned to the rightful owners. The lost property box is in the 'sick bay' in the office area.

### Behaviour

At St Joseph's we expect children to behave in a way that demonstrates the Mercy values of **Tika** - Justice, **Pono** - Truth, **Aroha** - Compassion, **Manaakitanga** - Hospitality and **Tapu** - Respect for our Environment. We encourage the children to take responsibility for their actions.

### Birthdays

We ask that you **do not** send birthday cakes, 'goody bags', lollipops etc. to school, for the class to share, on your son or daughter's birthday.

### WANTED by the Kiwi Learning Pod...

If you are having a clean out the Kiwi Pod would really appreciate any donations of the following items:

- Barbie Dolls and clothing
- Plastic animals
- Matchbox or Hot Wheels cars or vehicles
- Dress up items e.g. hats, animal masks
- Sylvanian Family animals
- Buckets and spades, sandpit toys
- Woman's Weekly, New Idea type magazines

Please send/bring in any donations to your child's teacher.

Thank you!

### Miscellaneous

It would be appreciated if each child could bring a box of tissues to school for use in the classroom during the year.

Staff prayers are held in the Staffroom each Tuesday morning. Teachers will not be in the classroom until approximately 8.30 am. on these days. Children are not permitted in classrooms until 8.20am.

Our email addresses are: Debbie Pratt [debbiep@sj.school.nz](mailto:debbiep@sj.school.nz) Rebekah Saxon [rebekahs@sj.school.nz](mailto:rebekahs@sj.school.nz) Riok Kang [riokk@sj.school.nz](mailto:riokk@sj.school.nz) Cate Dunne [cated@sj.school.nz](mailto:cated@sj.school.nz) Maria Ryan [mariar@sj.school.nz](mailto:mariar@sj.school.nz) This is a good way to contact us for non-urgent matters, it is still best to phone the office for matters of a more urgent nature. Please remember to identify yourself and your child if you email us as some addresses can be difficult to link to a family.

### Missions

During the year children are encouraged to bring mission money to school. There is always a mission box on the prayer table and the school has a different mission focus each term to which the school makes a substantial contribution. Or your child can bring a packet or can of non-perishable food for the food bank. It is a good idea for the child to do something like help in a small way at home or do something to make others happy, to earn the mission money or food.

### Stationery

This is purchased online through Office Max (contact the school office for any queries). Please make sure you are purchasing 'Kiwi Team' stationery. Your child will require a clear Book Bag (cash if possible) this can be purchased from the school office. Please do not cover your child's books.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. If you have any concerns about anything please do not hesitate to speak to us.

Regards

Debbie Pratt, Rebekah Saxon, Cate Dunne, Riok Kang and Maria Ryan

Kiwi Team Teachers

Dear Parents,

Below are the prayers we say in Kiwi team each day. We have also copied the words to 'God Defend New Zealand' and the school creed. We will learn the English version first and then we will learn the Maori translation. The children will be singing the song each day to familiarise themselves with it.

### **Morning Prayer**

At the beginning of this day we thank you God for the gift of life. Help us to use our gifts this day to help others and make life enjoyable for all of us. Bless each of us in our classroom and help us to become the best person we can be. Amen

### **Grace Before Meals**

Bless us O Lord, and bless our food. Bless those who have prepared it and give food to the hungry. Amen.

### **Afternoon Prayer**

At the end of this day we come to you God to say thank you. For the good we have done today, thank you. For anything we have done that has hurt others we are sorry Lord. Bless us as we go home and may we bring your love and peace to our family and friends. Amen.

# National Anthem of New Zealand

E Ihowā Atua,  
O ngā iwi mātou rā  
Āta whakarangona;  
Me aroha noa  
Kia hua ko te pai;  
Kia tau tō atawhai;  
Manaakitia mai  
Aotearoa

God of Nations at Thy feet,  
In the bonds of love we meet,  
Hear our voices, we entreat,  
God defend our free land.  
Guard Pacific's triple star  
From the shafts of strife and war,  
Make her praises heard afar,  
God defend New Zealand.



## School Creed

This is our School.  
Let peace dwell here,  
Let the rooms be full of contentment,  
Let love abide here,  
Love of one another,  
Love of life itself  
And love of God.  
Let us remember that,  
As many hands build a house,  
So many hearts make a school.

# Reading

## When You Get Stuck...

1. Look at the picture
2. Say the first sound
3. Go back to the beginning of the sentence
4. Read it again
5. Think about what would make sense
6. Have a try!



# Writing Letters with Casey Caterpillar.

<u>a</u>	open mouth, short stick.
<u>b</u>	tall stick, tunnel, close it.
<u>c</u>	open mouth
<u>d</u>	open mouth, tall stick.
<u>e</u>	twig, open mouth.
<u>f</u>	feeler, twig.
<u>g</u>	open mouth, possum tail.
<u>h</u>	tall stick, tunnel.
<u>i</u>	short stick, spot.
<u>j</u>	possum tail, spot.
<u>k</u>	tall stick, twirly vine.
<u>l</u>	tall stick.
<u>m</u>	short stick, tunnel, tunnel.
<u>n</u>	short stick, tunnel.
<u>o</u>	open mouth, close it.
<u>p</u>	hanging stick, tunnel, close it.

q open mouth, hanging stick.

r short stick, half a tunnel.

s snake shape.

t tall stick, twig.

u cup, short stick.

v sloping stick, sloping stick.

w sloping stick, sloping stick

sloping stick, sloping stick.

x sloping stick, cross over

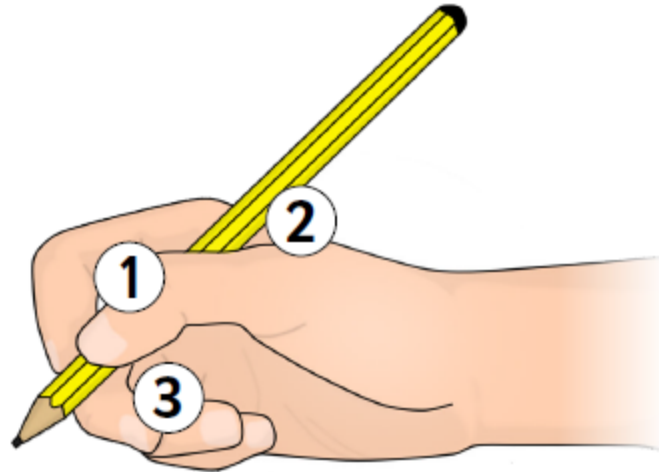
sloping stick.

y cup, possum tail.

z twig, sloping stick, twig.

## Correct Pencil Grip (Left and Right-Handed)

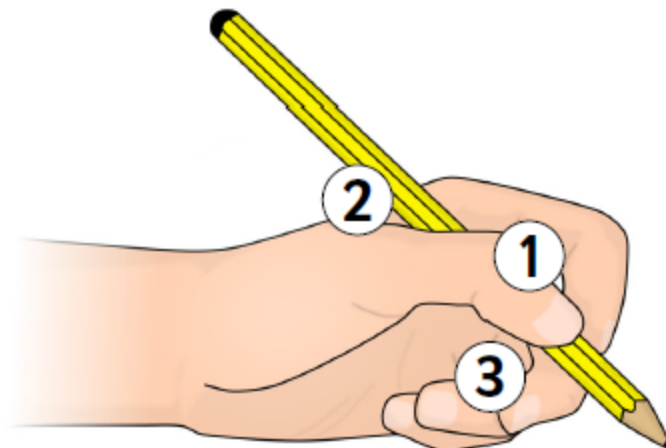
### How to Hold a Pencil



1. Put your thumb and forefinger just above the cone shaped part of the pencil.
2. Let the pencil rest between your thumb and forefinger.
3. Then put your middle finger underneath for support.

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### How to Hold a Pencil



1. Put your thumb and forefinger about 3 cm above the coned end of the pencil.
2. Let the pencil rest between your thumb and forefinger.
3. Then put your middle finger underneath for support.

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