

**CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER
TERM 1, 2017**

LEARNING TO LEARN

The new NZ Curriculum identifies 5 Key Competencies used by successful learners. Teachers will focus on 2 Key Competencies in each learning topic. This term we are focusing on:

*Thinking
Managing Self*



Developing and using *Thinking Skills* would look like:



Developing and using *Managing Self skills* would look like:

- Use personal knowledge
- Ask questions
- Experiment with idea
- Build knowledge
- Use imaginative thought
- Identify, describe and plan to solve a problem
- Make decisions
- Develop understanding
- Try out original ideas
- Shape actions
- Reflect on own learning

- Self motivation
- “can do” attitude
- Believing I can learn
- Can think about what I do and figure out how to make it better
- Being resourceful
- Being reliable
- Persevering
- Setting goals for myself
- Planning before taking action
- Setting high standards for myself
- Knowing when to take part and when to walk away

INQUIRY TOPIC

This term our schoolwide topic is called:

**“*Laudato Si - Care for our Common Home*”
Cry of the Earth...in our school**

Junior school theme:

- Goal setting
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Protecting our waterways

Middle school theme:

- Goal setting
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Harnessing Heat
- Saving Stormwater

Senior school theme:

- Goal setting
- Rights and Responsibilities
- The rivers in our lives



The teachers help the children to learn by using a method called Action Learning.

The children will:

- *Learn* new information from the teacher
- *Brainstorm* what they already know
- *Decide* on a question they want to ask to learn more.
- *Find* information that will answer their question
- *Use* that information to answer the question
- *Present* what they have learned to an audience. We hope you will be able to join us for our “Sharing Assembly” at the end of this term. We’ll let you know the date and time closer to the end of term.
- *Evaluate* what they have done.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In Term 1 we will be learning about the Liturgical Year through observing:

- **Lent**
- **Holy Week**

The Religious Education programme for Term 1 is:

- **Mission Charism**
- **God Strand**

*Learning about the **Mission Charism** is about:*

Service and Identity:

- We are learning about Euphrasie Barbier
- We are learning about Relating to others

Community

- We are learning about what an RNDM community is
- We are learning about caring for whānau

Apostolic Community

- We are learning about giving service

Outreach

- We are learning communities serve (St Patrick's ~ Holy Angels, Kalanypur, India)

Identity and Action

- We are learning about the influences on and by Euphrasie Barbier
- We are learning how this influence is felt and actioned today

In 2017 we are also focus on how we can bring together our RNDM Charism and the principles of Laudato Si (Care for our Common Home) – responding to Pope Francis' appeal that we hear the *Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor*

Whakarongo ki te Tangi o te whenua me te rawakore
Hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor

*In the **God Strand** the students will study and understand:*

- That God is holy and is source of all life and all grace and holiness.
- That people are created in the image and likeness of God
- That people are called to believe in God, to adore God and share in God's work of creation, as they build up the Kingdom or Reign of God 'on earth as it is in heaven', as members of the Catholic Church
- God's revelation began with creation, was continued through the history of Israel, and was revealed fully in Jesus the Son of God.
- God wants all people to be saved and through the Holy Spirit, God is at work in their histories and cultures, but most fully in Christ and his Church.
- God's desire for humanity includes a relationship of unconditional love with each person, through Jesus and the Holy Spirit who is present in the Church founded by Jesus.
- God is creator of all that is good, the source of all being, seen and unseen, of *tapu* and *mana*.

The Year level focus is:

- Year 1 – God is Creator
- Year 2 – Our Gracious God
- Year 3 – God is present in the World
- Year 4 – God is love
- Year 5 – God is Faithful
- Year 6 – Who is God?
- Year 7 – God's desire for humanity
- Year 8 – The mystery of God.



*In the **Lent, Holy Week and Easter Modules** the students will understand:*

- The stories associated with the Liturgical seasons of Lent and Holy week.
- The meaning, practices and rituals of Lent and Holy Week which help us understand the life, death and resurrection of Jesus
- The meaning and significance of the symbols used during Lent and Holy Week.
- What the Easter Vigil is and how it is celebrated

During these times families could:

- Attend Parish liturgies which celebrate or commemorate the seasons
- Talk about and/or create symbols that go with Lent, Holy Week and Easter:
 - ✠ a bowl of ashes
 - ✠ a palm
 - ✠ a cross,
 - ✠ a candle
 - ✠ an Easter Egg
- Display these on the family prayer focus
- Use the liturgical colours (a cloth or a candle) on the prayer focus:
 - ✠ **Purple** for Lent – **Red** for Holy Week – **White** for Easter

