



10 February 2021

Room 2 Parent Information 2021

Nau mai, haere mai, welcome to Room 2. We look forward to another fun-filled year of learning and growing.

We would like to share some information about how our classroom works.

Firstly, most of you will be aware that we job share. Our teaching hours are:

Mrs Sarah Stuart Monday, Tuesday (all day) and Wednesday until 11.30am

Mrs Diana Young Wednesday from 11.30am, Thursday and Friday (all day).

Mrs Tracy Walden Tuesday, Thursday in Rooms 1 and 2 (9.30-12.30)

Our Key Responsibilities are

Sarah *Religious Education and Literacy*

Diana *Numeracy and Integrated Studies*

How to keep in touch with us

- ★ Informally before or after school
- ★ email- sarah.stuart@stjosephstimaru.school.nz
- ★ email- diana.young@stjosephstimaru.school.nz
- ★ A written note
- ★ A phone call to the office
- ★ By appointment (before or after school)

Reporting to parents

Goal Books

Student Learning Conferences (the end of Term 2)

Written Reports (the end of Term 4)

Religious Education

The Special Character of our school is reflected in

- ❖ daily prayer (morning, lunch-time and end of day)
- ❖ the Religious Education programme
- ❖ Liturgies (e.g. Ash Wednesday)
- ❖ Assemblies (each term our class will take a turn leading Assembly Prayers)
- ❖ Class masses (beginning in Term 2)
- ❖ School/Parish masses
- ❖ a Special Character newsletter each term
- ❖ our Prayer Bag - each day the VIP takes it home to share with their family.

A useful R.E. resource for families

Faith Alive website [Home » Faith Alive](#)



Home

Home of Catholic Primary School RE in Aotearoa NZ



Managing Self

Students are encouraged to carry in their own school bag and unpack it themselves. See 'daily routine' (before school and at the end of the day) sheets in your child's 'goal book.'

Our Class Culture

Developing a positive class culture is a major focus during the first term. We are interested in learning about your children - their interests, strengths and areas where they may need extra support. The '**getting to know me**' sheet is a way of helping us to make the best possible learning environment for your child.

The students will be sharing their '**Personality Bags**' from Week 4. You will receive a notice explaining this and the date that your child is rostered to share theirs.

Class Treaty

The Mercy Gospel Values form the basis of our behaviour guidelines. These are displayed in the classroom along with the rewards for positive behaviour and consequences for inappropriate behaviour.

This term we are operating a '*Super Slip*' system to reward positive behaviour. A draw will be held each Friday.

Circle Time

Each Tuesday we have a time to focus on developing our understanding of ourselves, building relationships with each other, developing strategies for expressing our feelings and solving social problems.

Literacy

Oral language

listening and speaking, students have many opportunities throughout the day to develop these important skills.

Weekend News - Monday

News - Friday (students may bring news and put in the news box at the beginning of the day)

Tuesday -Thursday - oral language usually based around a school event, Religious Education, our literacy programme or integrated studies focus.

Reading

★ Library Day

Monday. Students may have two books. Please return them to the white basket by the next Monday morning

★ Alphabet and Jolly Phonics

Each week we focus on two letters (based on the Jolly Phonics programme). Each Monday the children will bring their books home to share with you (please remind your child to put their book into their browsing basket on Tuesday morning.

★ Poetry

The class read a different poem (song or prayer) each week. Poetry books go home on Friday. The students will be familiar with these poems, but the purpose of these poems is to share them with their whanau and to develop a love of the rhythm and language of poetry.

★ Guided reading

Reading books go home Monday - Thursday. Some books will be 'read again' books.

Please encourage your child to put their books inside their 'browsing basket' each morning. The only books that remain in their 'reading packs' are their Yellow Reading Diary and their Goal Book.

Reading strategies and comprehension strategies

A bookmark will be sent home with the Reading Strategy Prompts we use at school.



Writing

The focus for our class is 'learning to write'.

Monday

recount about the weekend.

It would be helpful if you talked to your child on Sunday night or Monday morning about what your family has been doing and what they could write about.

Tuesday/Wednesday

from oral language focus, Religious Education or other classroom learning e.g. shared book

Thursday

Integrated studies

Emergent writers - when students are beginning to write we focus on:

- leaving **spaces** between words
- saying words slowly and **hearing and writing the sounds** the letters make
- **finding little words** we know how to read to use in writing
- using a **capital letter** at the beginning and a **full stop** at the end of sentences
- writing **two or more sentences**
- adding '**wow**' words to make the writing more interesting for readers.



2 sentences

A. Sentences

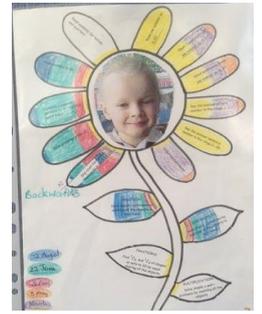
wow words

Alphabet card used with permission from butterflies.co.nz

The Writing Book

Numeracy

Our main focus is developing the students' understanding of numbers (number sense), addition and subtraction. We also spend some time learning about Statistics, Measurement, Geometry and Algebra. In the class each student has a "Flower" Goal sheet that tracks their number knowledge and shows next learning steps. These sheets will be shared with you regularly in the students' 'goal books.'



Discovery

Discovery is every fortnight on a Friday 11.30 - 12.30 (odd weeks). During Discovery the students practise using their Key Competencies.

Examples of Discovery activities:

- Obstacle Course + Adventure Playground
- Wheels
- Woodwork + puppets
- P.M.P. gear + dress ups
- S.T.E. M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths)
- Cooking
- Cardboard box construction
- Water play

Active Transport: Walking School Bus

At St Joseph's School we try to encourage people to be active. Parents and students are invited to join our adult-supervised Walking School Bus.

It leaves at 8.05am from 6 Park Lane

Details can be found in the 4 February school newsletter that you will find on the school website.

Education Outside The Classroom

Room 1 and 2 are planning a day out at Caroline Bay. Activities will include a walk, play at the playground, beach activities and will conclude with a swim at CBay. We would love you to come along and join us. More details will be sent closer to the time.

Wednesday 3 March Caroline Bay Trip (9.00am - 2.30pm)

Wednesday 10 March (postponement date)

Parent help please

We would love to have parent help in the classroom for writing, reading, maths, PMP, or Discovery. You may like to commit to a regular weekly slot or just come in casually.

We would love to hear from you.

Newsletters

Newsletters are posted on our school website <http://www.stjosephstimaru.school.nz/> every fortnight (odd weeks) on a Thursday. You will be reminded that they are posted by a text. Please read these important notices and make a note of any special events coming up.

Absences

If your child is going to be absent please let the office know before 9am, either by leaving a message on the telephone (688 1378) or emailing the office office@stjosephstimaru.school.nz. It is a Ministry of Education requirement that a reason is given for the absence e.g. sickness, funeral etc.

Class Facebook Page

Please sign up to our “**Room 2 St Josephs Timaru 2021**” facebook page. You will read all about things that are coming up in our class, see video clips and photos of the students in action. Grandparents and extended family members are welcome to join up to see what we have been up to..

To respect the students' privacy we have a “**closed**” Facebook page where any information shared is only accessible to the people who have been granted permission by the class teachers.

We are looking forward to getting to know you and your child this year.

If you have any questions regarding your child's learning, please come and talk to us.

Kind regards,

Sarah Stuart and Diana Young
ROOM 2 CLASSROOM TEACHERS