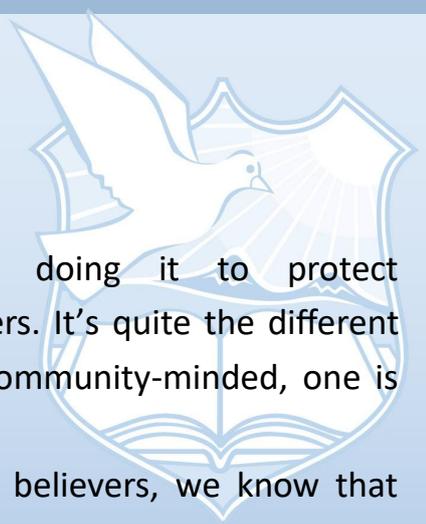


# TIMARU CHRISTIAN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*Te Kura Karaitiana o Te Tihi o Maru*

**Week 7, Term 3, 2021**



Kia ora koutou,

It has been lovely to see the children back at school today. While it is not exactly like it was when they left last month, we are working to make sure they feel safe and happy in the classrooms and playground.

One of the things that changed from the last Alert Level 2 is the encouragement for children aged 12 years and older to wear masks at school, though it is not mandatory. I had an interesting conversation with one of our teachers who taught overseas years ago. They explained that wearing a mask overseas was seen as a sign of respect in that the person wearing it didn't wish to pass their bugs onto others. As New Zealand starts adjusting to mask-wearing at shops and other community venues, there tends to be

messaging around doing it to protect ourselves from others. It's quite the different approach—one is community-minded, one is more fear-based.

As a community of believers, we know that we are called to love one another. There are many ways to do this, and our approach and attitude to different situations, if focused on showing love to others, will differ vastly to if we were to see ourselves as 'independent' of the wider community. "Because I care about you, I will give you space (or wear a mask) so you feel comfortable (even if I don't think it's necessary)." It's all about living a life of love, just as Christ loved us...(Ephesians 5:1-2).

*Ka manaaki te Atua ia koe me to whānau.*

God bless you and your family.

**Bethany Rentoul, Principal**

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

**Skool Loop**—We are now live with the Skool Loop app, available as a free download. This will be used to communicate with families so we encourage everyone to download the app onto their smartphone or tablet.

**Learning Conferences Postponed**—we will let you know when our Learning Conferences will take place as we move down alert levels.

### TCS Prayer Group

We are blessed to have a committed team of parents who meet together each week to pray for our school. If you would like to join them, they meet in the Korero Room from 9am-9:30am on Thursday mornings. If you have a prayer request, let us know at the Office and we will be sure to pass it on.

Done off-site  
In Alert  
Level 2

## Important Dates / Upcoming Events

- 16<sup>th</sup> Sept - Chapel at 2:30pm—if in Alert Level 1
- 24<sup>th</sup> Sept - Teacher Only Day (School closed)
- 27<sup>th</sup> Sept - South Canterbury Anniversary (School closed)
- 30<sup>th</sup> Sep—Chapel at 2:30pm—if in Alert Level 1
- 1<sup>st</sup> Oct - End of Term 3
- 18<sup>th</sup> Oct - Start of Term 4
- 25<sup>th</sup> Oct - Labour Day
- 28<sup>th</sup> Oct - School Board Meeting 7pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> Oct - School Photos
- 24<sup>th</sup> Nov - Rural Schools Athletics (pp 26th Nov)
- 30<sup>th</sup> Nov - SC Athletics
- 1st-3rd Dec - Year 5-10 Camp at Raincliff
- 13<sup>th</sup> Dec - Prizegiving
- 14<sup>th</sup> Dec - Last day of Term 4

Thank you to everyone who contributed their thoughts and preferences as to what we should be doing at TCS in terms of teaching Te Reo, Tikanga and Māori History. There have been some great suggestions we have taken on board, as well as support for our desire to continue to upskill both staff and students in these areas. One thing that became clear was that we need to better communicate what we have been doing, what we are currently doing, and what we have in our future planning. So here is an overview for your information:

## **What we have done to date:**

- The upskilling of our teachers is an ongoing process. Every year we focus on an aspect of the culture, language or history so we can pass on knowledge to our students with a firmer personal understanding. For example, this year we learnt about Biculturalism from a Christian worldview alongside the Christian Schools in Christchurch.

## **What we are currently doing:**

- We have incorporated our nation's history into our planning eg pre-European Maori and the impact of missionaries in Aotearoa.
- Our Year 9s and 10s attend a Maori cultural experience and workshops as part of their camp programme.
- This year, ten of our Staff have completed (or will soon complete) a Te Reo course to develop their confidence in speaking the language.
- We say a karakia in Maori and English each day, learn waiata at our weekly Community Singing, and teach basic rakau games as part of The Arts.
- We have invested in creating and purchasing Te Reo resources (poi, books, signs, labels etc) so students are immersed in them.

## **Challenges we have encountered:**

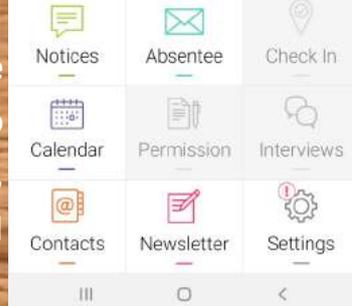
- Lack of access to marae experiences and kapahaka teachers (though we have appreciated when parents have been able to support us with this in the past).
- We need to find more effective and authentic ways to partner with Māori families as part of our ongoing consultation process.

## **What we are hoping to do:**

- We are looking forward to developing a more culturally responsive curriculum and practices in partnership with our ERO advisor over the next three years.
- Next year we are aiming to run a multilevel multicultural group one afternoon per week which students can opt into. We are very keen to involve families who are able to teach waiata, poi, and haka to our students.
- Have a team of parents of Māori students who regularly meet together to share their thinking and provide input into what we are doing at TCS.
- At the start of each year, students will further develop the memorisation of their mihimihi, incorporating into the process an opportunity for them to find out about and appreciate their own family's culture and heritage better.



Download the Skool Loop app free on your smartphone or tablet to communicate absences, receive notices and alerts, fill out permission forms, contact the school, and select interview times. A super simple app that will keep you informed.



Want to know how you could support learning at home? Go to the @home tab on



our school's website for some ideas.

### TCS Parents Coffee Group

Every morning

**On hold**

Friday our Ma-naakitanga

Team coffee the Wha-Come

**till Alert**

nau Room

hosts a group in from 9am. along and

**Level 1**

**A QUIZ NIGHT WITH A DIFFERENCE**

**Awesome Prizes**

LIFE CHURCH TIMARU YOUNG AND FREE CAMP FUNDRAISER

**IT'S IN THE BAG**

FRIDAY 1 OCTOBER 2021  
7 PM AT LIFE CHURCH

**IT'S THE \$\$\$\$ OR THE BAG**

**Door Sales \$5 per person**

## School Family Businesses You Can Support



Health & Safety | Occupational Health | Human Resources

### Compliance Partners

Compliance Partners delivers practical solutions that meet the requirements of current health and safety legislation and provides customised Health & Safety systems for your business which are easy to understand, use and implement.

We would like to assist Timaru Christian School parents to ensure their businesses are health and safety compliant.

We are offering all TCS parents a free 1-hour health and safety assessment of their business. Simply reference the school when you contact Marlene Battiss on 0272929716 or e-mail [marlene@cp.org.nz](mailto:marlene@cp.org.nz).



### Autotech Paint & Panel

Automotive panel and paint, Tyre fitting, general painting. Come and see Patrick and the boys at 50 Redruth Street Timaru for minor to major rust repairs, touch ups to full resprays, custom paint job, fiberglass repairs and fit body kits, painting small boats, insurance work, motor bikes. We are now doing trucks, buses and campers. 03 688 6488 / [autotechpnp@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:autotechpnp@yahoo.co.nz)

### King Street Takeaways

39a King Street  
688 8191

