

# Friday Newsletter

# St Bernadette's School



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Yesterday the Mānuka and Rimu Hub went to a 600 head, Dairy Farm in Outram. It was a great sunny day, albeit a bit windy. There were 4 stations set up. First one, the milking shed. Here we watched the cows get milked and then drank the fresh, warm milk. Then we moved to the tractors where the students were able to move the buckets up and down - some even lifted the whole tractor up!

Next we moved into the filtering room where Guy from Fonterra talked to us and we had a question and answer session. He was so impressed with our questions that he gave us a cold flavoured milk and he had some impressive give-aways. Finally we were able to explore the Fonterra tanker.

The Tanker driver was extremely knowledgeable and could answer heaps of our questions.

Some of us were quite keen to be a tanker driver one day. Our last activity at the farm was a hay bail race. Mr Bones group had some motivational speaking and took out first place.

The parents/staff hay bail race ended in a wee bit of cheating involving a tractor and not pure muscles. After our mammoth trip to the farm, we headed off to enjoy our lunch and a play at the Mosgiel playground. A huge thank you to all of the teachers, parents and most of all the St Bernie's kids. You really impressed Farmer Cam and all of his helpers.



## Dates to Remember.

Tuesday December 8th  
- Junior Swimming (Final swim)

Wednesday December 9th  
- Nativity Play 2pm

Thursday December 10th  
- Nativity Play (2nd Performance) 2pm

Friday December 11  
- Leavers' Assembly 9.15am  
- Kavanagh Pantomime 1pm  
- End of Year Progress Reports sent home.  
- 'Take Away' Night 5pm-7pm (+Santa)

Sunday December 13th  
- 3rd Sunday of Advent

Monday December 14th  
- End of Year Mass. 9.30am. St Patrick's Basilica  
- Leavers' Lunch

Tuesday December 15th  
- Last school day of the Year  
- No After School Care

Wednesday December 15th  
- Teacher Only Day

Wednesday 3rd of February 2021  
First School Day of 2020



**Dec 4th**  
**Term 3**  
**Week 8**  
**2020**





We had our last day of Wednesday School for the year this week. Mary-Lee organised some Christmas craft and then we had a party and the children received a Christmas decoration each. It was a lovely way to end the year.

## Congratulations



Three children from St Bernadette's received the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time last Sunday. They were unable to celebrate their first communion with their classmates the week prior.

Big congratulations to Fred, Beth and Maia (abs)

FEE: \$60 per entry



# FUTSAL

## LEAGUE

# 2021

**9 & 10 YEARS OLD**

**\$500 IN PRIZES TO BE WON**




DUNEDINFUTSALACADEMY

**7 FEB - 4 APRIL**  
**EVERY SUNDAY**

**SUNNYVALE**  
**SPORTS CENTER**



Website: [www.kellysports.co.nz/dunedin](http://www.kellysports.co.nz/dunedin)  
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# SUMMER 2020/21

## HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

KAIKORAI VALLEY COLLEGE GYMNASIUM





# MERCY VALUES AWARDS

Aroha – Compassion  
 Rato Awhina – Service  
 Tika – Social Justice  
 Manaakitanga – Hospitality  
 Panekiritanga – Excellence  
 Te Tapu o te Tangata – Respect



Top – Bella, Kaliti, Bianca, Riley, Daniel

Middle – Chelsea, Isaac, Toatai, Jordan, Ollie, Ryley, Joseph

Bottom – Elizabeth, Liam, Flo, Poppy, Kobe, Blake

A massive thank you to Kavanagh College for sending along swimmers to help supervise our junior swimmers while they have their free swim. Life is very busy as parents and there are lots of commitments pulling on your time. Without Kavanagh's help, the juniors would not have been allowed to go for their free swim and they would have missed out on valuable time in the pool.



Today at assembly these children were presented with certificates in recognition of successfully completing NumberWorks tuition this year. The certificates were presented by Alofa Lale, Mission Co-ordinator from Mercy Hospital. Congratulations to the following children:  
 Back - George, Toini, Abigail, Elani and Alofa.  
 Front - Susana, Toutai, Hinaliana and Storm. (Te Marama abs)



## ***Room 1 ~ Prayer Assembly Dec 4th***

# **'Aotearoa Advent'**

## **The Coming of Christ to Aotearoa - New Zealand**

Today at Prayer Assembly the Room 1 children presented a different slant on the traditional Jesse Tree and Advent Calendar. Room 1 called their version of the traditional Advent calendar 'Aotearoa Advent'. They called it that because the symbols they used traced the coming of Jesus to Aotearoa. When Jesus lived on earth he did not visit New Zealand. He did not visit us in person. So it is important for us to know how we, as a country, came to know Jesus. The children used the silver fern as their symbol of the Jesse tree. The silver fern has been accepted as a symbol of New Zealand's national identity. To Māori, the shape of the fronds stands for strength and power. The underside of the silver fern reflects moonlight, making them useful aids in navigating bush pathways at night. This seems a good symbol for Advent as we make our own pathway to Christ at Christmas.

### **The 1<sup>st</sup> Symbol The Word of God**



#### **The Word of God**

In Māori culture there has always been a strong belief in God. When the first European settlers began to arrive in Aotearoa over 200 years ago, the Māori people opened themselves to this idea of God being seen in the person of Jesus. Although luggage for the settlers was limited, their Bible was seen as an essential item. As they settled into life in their new land, their contact with Māori people increased.

### **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Symbol Weaving**



#### **Weaving**

Gradually the strands of the Maori understanding of God and the Christian message of peace, love and reconciliation became woven together as one. The ancient wairua of these islands of Aotearoa that lived in the mountains, lakes and rivers became interwoven with the Christian story.

### **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Symbol A Boat**



#### **A Boat**

More and more settler families were making the journey from countries on the other side of the world and from the islands of the Pacific.

The journey was very dangerous but these people placed their trust in God that they would arrive safely to the new land.

### **The 4<sup>th</sup> Symbol Religious Orders**

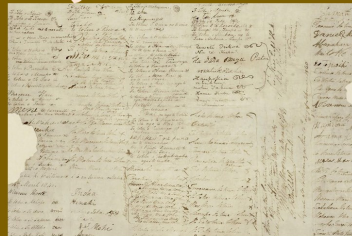


#### **Religious Orders**

As the number of Christian people grew there was a need for priests and religious orders. In answer to their call, many priests and nuns left their families and their homelands and made the journey to New Zealand.

Lead by Bishop Pompallier these people made their way to New Zealand to preach the Gospel.

### **The 5<sup>th</sup> Symbol Treaty of Waitangi**



#### **The Treaty of Waitangi**

To assist Maori and European to live together in harmony as numbers increased, the Treaty of Waitangi was signed. The Treaty was understood as a sacred agreement that would enable people to live together with respect for one another.

It is because of this understanding that the Treaty is recognised as an important symbol of the presence of Jesus in this land.

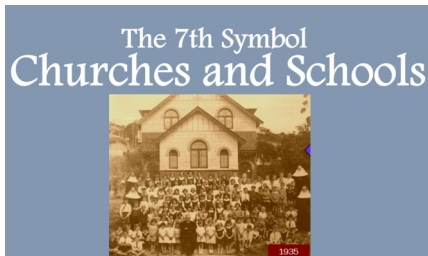
### **The 6<sup>th</sup> Symbol Koru**



#### **The Koru**

As the population of New Zealand increased the Seeds of the Word of God were being planted in the soil of this land. As the fern unfolded with new growth, so too the message of the gospel continued to unfold and grow in the hearts of the people.

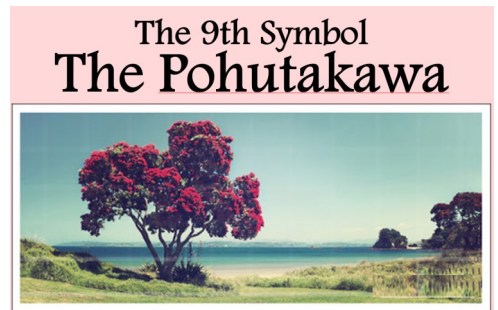




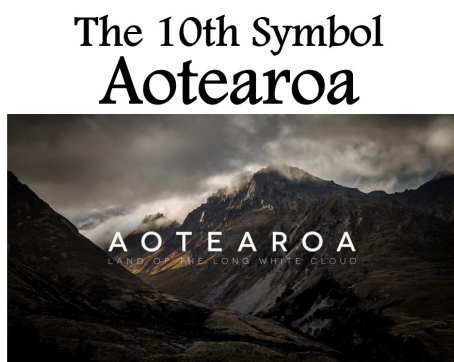
**The Churches and Schools**  
The Christian message continued to be spread throughout the communities. All around the country communities built simple churches where they could gather to celebrate their faith and soon after, school, were built. Today children continue to hear the message of the gospel and learn how to live by it.



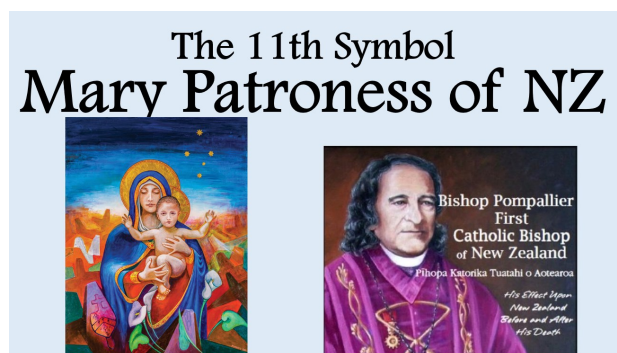
**The Cross**  
The message of Christianity that was brought to New Zealand continues to shape the lives of people today. Alongside the Celtic crosses and other Christian symbols, we can see examples of art that expresses the faith of people from many cultures who seek to live the message of Jesus.



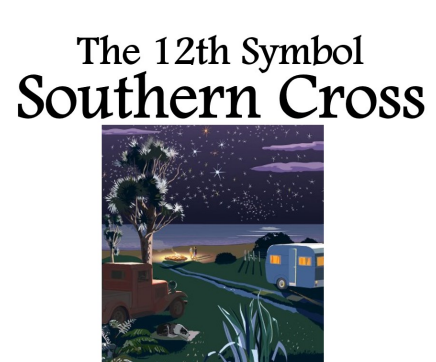
**The Pohutakawa**  
The increasing warmth and light of the summer sun reminds us of the warmth and brightness of the love Christ offers us. The Pohutakawa tree waits in bud throughout spring for the warm breezes of early summer to burst into spectacular bloom and announce to our land the celebration of the birth of Jesus our Saviour. Emmanuel is with us.



**Aotearoa**  
The name that was given to our country long, long ago by Māori was – Aotearoa - the land of the long white cloud. A cloud is an Old Testament symbol for the Spirit of God. God's voice was often heard from a cloud. We long to live in peace together, and, as the season of Christmas approaches we remember again the birth of the Prince of Peace.



**Mary, the Patroness of NZ**  
Mary was the first follower of Jesus. She was the first disciple to hear his message. She listened to what Jesus said and then acted on it. Just like the first people who brought Jesus' message of peace to Aotearoa New Zealand, Mary showed courage and patience. During Advent we wait with Mary to celebrate the birth of her Son, Jesus. Bishop Pompallier declared Mary as the Patron Saint of Aotearoa New Zealand.



**The Southern Cross**  
As Christmas draws closer we can recognise signs in our land that announce the coming of Jesus. The stars of the Southern Cross that brighten our night sky remind us that Jesus is coming – the light is increasing each week as it does on our Advent Wreaths. Jesus is ready to be born again into the hearts of all people.

