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E Te Atua - nga mihi o te ra, ki te whanau e hui nei. God, give us your blessing this day as we gather in your name.



ST THOMAS AQUINAS SCHOOL

Phone: 03 236 8261 or school cell phone 027 236 8263
E-mail: office@stthomaswinton.school.nz
Website: www.stthomaswinton.school.nz
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P.O. Box 33
Winton 9741



Mission Statement: Quality Catholic Education
Our Vision: A supportive environment where we live our faith and celebrate our learning in life.
At St Thomas Aquinas School we are **CHASERS**. We live through our Mercy Values of: Compassion, Hospitality, Social Justice, Excellence, Respect, Service.

Term 2 - Week 1

Thursday 2nd May 2019

Dear Students and Parents,

I hope you all have had an enjoyable Easter break with your loved ones and are ready for an eventful term. This term is set to be a time where our curriculum comes to life through creating our production dialogue. Each class will spend time planning and crafting scripts that will encompass our Mercy values. We are more than excited to see our student's thoughts and ideas come to light across the coming weeks in their writing. This is the first stage in our learning journey to create and perform our school production. We will keep you up to date with our progress.

Uniform Review

This week I will be sending out a survey for all parents to have their say about our current uniform. All surveys will be emailed out to parents to complete over the next week. I really look forward to gaining your feedback on this important aspect of school life and from there the results will be collated and a plan formulated. After the survey is completed I will share the results for you all to view. I thank you in advance for your participation.

This week we have been invited to join Winton School in sessions with John Parsons. John is an expert in Cyber Safety and has the innate ability to deliver relevant and important information and pitch it at the appropriate level. Having been to John's prior sessions, as a parent and an educator I came away with so many practical ways to keep our children safe in cyber space. Not only that I also extended my knowledge about social media platforms and apps/sites that our children are using and became more aware of the positives and negatives of this every changing technological world we live in. If you feel like you would like to be armed with this knowledge too John Parson's is hosting a parent session in the near future we will let you know about the timing of this once it has been confirmed.

I look forward to working alongside you all this term; it is great to have everyone back at school and rearing to go in their learning.

Ma te atua e tiaki, manaaki ia kotou katoa. May God bless you, Teresa Jarvis



Mrs Lenka Simpson

Name: Mrs Lenka Simpson
House: Mercy

Tell us about yourself: I have been teaching in all areas of school for the last 20 years. It's a job I love and couldn't imagine doing anything else. I have 2 grown up children, one overseas and one in Invercargill. I have a lovely husband and two beautiful grandchildren. I am loving working in Room 1 with Mrs Cooper, Bronnie and our lovely juniors.





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Key Dates

May 2019

- 3 Basketball at Central Southland College starts for Years 7-8
- 6 Hockey starts
- 9-10 Camp Omaui - Room 1 (Year 0-2) overnight
- 13 Book Fair
- 22 Junior Cross Country at St Thomas' /Winton School
- 24 Senior Cross Country at Browns
- 27 Learner Conferences - **school closes at 12.30pm**
- 28 Postponement date for Senior Cross Country
- 31 National Young Leaders Day in Dunedin Year 7-8's

June 2019

- 3 Queens Birthday - **school closed**
- 7 Central Cross Country at Dipton
- 18-20 Social Science Fair
- 19 Young Einstein quiz
- 21 Southland Cross Country at Waimumu
- 24 BOT Meeting
- 26 Teacher only day - **school will be closed**
- 28 Central Cup at ILT Stadium Year 5-8

July 2019

- 1-4 Year 7-8 Technology

September 2019

- 12-13 Room 2 Camp Columba
- 24-26 Room 3 Camp Tautuku

MASS

Sunday 5th May 10.30am. Please ensure if you are unable to be at Mass that you organise someone in your place.
Servers: Blake & Hayden Findlay.
POF Reader: Anton Langford.

WELCOME

This week we show the Mercy value of Hospitality to Alexa Rose Dela Cruz and Nicholas O'Driscoll who have joined our St Thomas Aquinas School family.

HOCKEY

Hockey starts on Monday 6th May - a draw has been sent home with children that are playing, if you haven't received one please contact the school office for a copy. Children require a mouth guard & shin pads to play. Please wear school sports uniform. St Thomas Stars Year 1-2 play at the Drill Hall at 4.30pm, please be there at 4.20pm. Year 3-5 players play at the John Street netball courts.



YEAR 7-8 BASKETBALL

Tomorrow Friday 3rd May Year 7-8 basketball starts at Central Southland College. The Draw has been given to students. This year we have paid referees to referee games so parents don't have to do this.

CROSS COUNTRY

All of our students will be practising for their respective Cross Country events this term. All children are encouraged to bring their sneakers/gym shoes for these practices.

LEARNER CONFERENCE - Please note change of date

Our learner conferences will now take place on **Monday 27th May from 1.30 - 8pm**. The purpose of these learner conferences is for students from Rooms 2, 3 and 4 to have an opportunity to share learning and for parents to be updated on their child's progress. A notice will accompany this newsletter outlining more details. **Please note school will be closing at 12.30pm on this day.**

TEACHER ONLY DAY - Wednesday 26th June

Our school wide target this year is around engaging our students in their writing. The teaching team have a Professional Learning session on Wednesday 26th June this term, this will mean that school will be closed on this day. We thank you for your support and cooperation in advance.

WINTER UNIFORM/SPORTS UNIFORM

All students are required to wear their winter uniform to school for terms two and three. We will continue to wear our sports uniforms on Friday's for the remainder of the year.

UNIFORM REVIEW

A survey will be sent out via email this week to all our parents. We are looking forward to gaining feedback on our current school uniform. This will inform us in our decision making moving forward. If you did not receive this survey please email us at office@stthomaswinton.school with your updated details.

REMINDER

That all Gladwrap, Baking paper & Tin foil orders are now ready for collection from our school library.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS

St Thomas Aquinas School Board of trustees' election. Nominations are invited for the election of 5 parent representatives to the Board of Trustees. A nomination form and a notice calling for nominations will be posted to all eligible voters. You can nominate another person to stand as a candidate, or you can nominate yourself. Both parts of the form must be signed. Additional nomination forms can be obtained from the school office. Nominations close at noon on 24th May 2019 and may be accompanied by a signed candidate statement and photograph. The voting roll is open for inspection at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours. There will also be a list of candidates' names, as they come to hand, for inspection at the school. Voting closes at noon on 7th June 2019.

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