



The Aubert Oracle



Suzanne Aubert
Catholic School
Engage - Inspire - Empower Through Christ

FRIDAY 5TH MARCH 2021

Message from our Principal - Tumuaki

Kia ora koutou whānau.

It is hard to believe we are half way through Term 1! What an exciting and challenging journey it has been for our Suzanne Aubert learning community. We found ourselves back in Alert Level 2 this week and completed the week with a Tsunami warning! As a school we are really pleased with the response to the warning today and that procedures were followed accordingly. Thank you to all our learners, whānau and staff for supporting our school procedures around Tsunami Evacuation and Covid-19 this week and responding appropriately. We are especially proud of our tamariki who have been demonstrating such compassion, resilience and flexibility through this time of change. As a faith-filled Catholic school community, it has been wonderful to see our learners engaging in their daily prayer, Gospel Hui every week, RE learning and their Lenten journey. It has also been rewarding to see the children engaged in many other learning opportunities such as developing playscape designs, solving Maths problems, plant identification, creative writing, portraiture, singing and dancing. Please enjoy this snapshot of the special moments and updates about our Suzanne Aubert school family.

Sand Dune Monitoring

Our Year 3-6 Mangatawa and Kopukairoa learners had a great opportunity to identify sand dune plant species and explore scientific data gathering methods this week. Unfortunately, the sand dunes visit was postponed due to wet weather. However, now with training they will be ready to go for their monitoring at Motiti Reserve in week 7. This is the first session in an ongoing project to monitor the health of our sand dune environment and Te Ara o Wairakei. Thanks to Emma Richardson from Discovery Through Nature who is our science educator for sharing her expertise and resources.



Our Kaiārahi - Student Leaders

We are very proud to announce our Kaiārahi Student Leaders for Term 1 and 2. These Year 5-6 learners applied for the positions by writing a letter to the leadership team and kaiako outlining the skills and experiences they have that support their chosen leadership responsibilities. Our staff appointed the Kaiārahi to the following positions where they will lead different projects under the guidance of a lead teacher. We have already seen great examples of tuakana teina from this group and look forward to their continued leadership in 2021. Congratulations team!



Prayer Kaiārahi: Saige Silbery, Joel Chiplin, Ryan Chiplin, Grace Mikkelson (absent)



Ambassador Kaiārahi: Bella Francis, Sienna Mills, Blake Connell.



Active Kaiārahi: Francesca Horne, Felipe Norman, Rainer Jager, Kalani Taepa, Vinnie Ball

Our Kaiārahi Responsibilities

Our Kaiārahi job descriptions include the following responsibilities:

Prayer Kaiārahi: Lead Gospel Hui (liturgy), support with school/parish Mass, design liturgy presentations, coordinate special liturgical events and celebrations

Ambassador Kaiārahi: Lead Celebration Hui (assembly), facilitate tours for school visitors, support office administrator at reception.

Service Kaiārahi: Lead compassion projects (e.g. aged care, ECE visits, foodbank drops), liaise with Young Vinnies, organise fundraising for service projects.

STEM Kaiārahi: Lead garden projects (e.g. herbal, sentinel and edible), monitor seismometer, organise robotics challenges, lead environmental monitoring (e.g. sand dunes and stream) manage environmental waste solutions

Active Kaiārahi: Lead sports rotations, monitor sports equipment, support coaches and managers of school sports teams



Service Kaiārahi: Lucy Dunne, Ella Blackburn, Isabella Young, Kade Ballott, Niko Lockhart



STEM Kaiārahi: Piper Lee, Matai McNicholl, Ali Braithwaite, William Magill (absent)

School Playscapes

This week our learners had the opportunity to share their playscape designs with Maree from Playground Creations. A playscape is a playful landscape that encourages interactive play and includes elements that connect to the natural environment e.g. timber, plants, water features etc. Maree facilitated focus groups with each whānau class where the students were able to discuss their plans and show their 3D construction. Together they looked at possible playground designs and how they could be achieved. Maree was very impressed with the planning and creativity of our learners and how they had thought critically about the criteria. The designs are expected to include:

- The story of our patron Suzanne Aubert
- The cultural narrative of the Legend of Mangatawa
- Equipment that provides open ended options for play
- Equipment that challenges and extends children's physical capability
- Equipment that encourages social interaction
- Designs that meet the expected health and safety requirements



Drumming to the Beat!

We were very privileged to have Carl Homersham from Fuse Drumming leading a workshop for our learners today. Our tamariki enjoyed rocking to hits such as 'We Will Rock You' on their bucket drums. If your child is interested in tuition with Fuse Drumming, they would have brought home a notice with information. See the link if you would like to know more:

[Fuse Drumming.NZ](https://www.fusedrumming.co.nz/)

Wishing you all a blessed and safe weekend with whānau and friends. Please look after yourselves and your families. We look forward to connecting with you all again next week!
Ngā mihi nui

Anthony Mills
Principal - Tumuaki





Welcome Matthauss!

We are very excited to welcome Matthauss Uhlmann to our Suzanne Aubert learning community. Matthauss has joined us from Golden Sands and is in Year 3 in Whanau Newlands. Welcome to the whānau Matthauss!

Welcome Silbery Sisters!

We are very excited to welcome Sarah, Sophie and Saige Silbery to our Suzanne Aubert learning community. They join us from Golden Sands and Sarah is in Year 1 (Whanau Clayton), Sophie is in Year 3 (Whanau Waddel) and Saige is in Year 5 (Whanau Waddel). Welcome to the whānau girls!



Welcome to the world Frankie!

We are very excited to congratulate James and Liz Ferguson (George's Mum and Dad) on the arrival of their precious daughter Frankie. George and his brother look very proud indeed!



Tiger Turf Installation

We are very excited to see our turf being installed this week! This will give us a great new play space for our tamariki to be active in their learning environment. The area will include painted courts for a range of sporting activities. According to the contractor, the turf should be ready for action next Monday. Thank you Tiger Turf!



Learning Hub Handover

We are really excited to see that the Harakeke learning environment is complete and ready for handover. The Council will be carrying out the inspection on Monday to issue the Certificate of Public Use (CPU). Once the CPU has been issued we will notify our community. This will be the learning environment for our Mangatawa learners (Year 3-4) and Kopukairoa learners (Year 5-6). The learners and staff are looking forward setting up home in their new environment. Our whanau classes within these learning teams will remain the same.

Special Catholic Character

A Message from our Director of Religious Studies



Lenten Prayer

God of infinite love, you shower me with limitless gifts in my life. In my every thought and action today guide me to the bright and loving light of your kingdom. Help me to be aware of the many ways you allow me to share in your life so intimately today. Thank you for the gifts you have placed in my life. Let me be grateful every moment of this day. Amen

The Gospel Unpacked The Transfiguration Second Sunday of Lent

Last Sunday's Gospel reading for the second week of Lent was the Transfiguration of Jesus on the Mountain. Transfiguration means "transformed". Jesus was transformed into a glorious image in which his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. This image was nothing like Peter, James and John had ever seen before. It showed them that Jesus truly was from God. This was an actual demonstration of the fact that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Moses and Elijah were seen standing around Jesus and would have been two of the greatest Jews that had ever lived. For Jesus to stand with them showed his importance. Then, the voice of the Lord came and God said 'This is my Son, and I love him. Listen to what he says!'. Moses and Elijah lived under the Old Law. Jesus had new words to say. The Lord told the disciples to "Listen to Him." To hear this new law or covenant. Moses represents the Old Covenant Law and the Promise of Christ. Elijah represents the Prophets and one preparing the way of the Messiah. As the Lord himself explained who Jesus was: "My Son"

Food Bank Appeal

Thank you so much for all your generosity so far with donating to our food bank appeal. The baskets are looking full! We continue to reflect the spirit of giving during Lent through helping the local food bank. We know that in this unusual Covid time many families are needing extra support and are turning to local food banks to make ends meet. We can help! Over this Lenten Season, we would love to receive any non-perishable grocery items that you can contribute. The staples of canned goods, rice and pasta are amazing as they will provide the basis for meals. Please help us with what you can. Thank you to those families that have already given so generously. It is much appreciated. The collection baskets are located in the Kawakawa learning hub.



Our Sacramental Candidates 2021

We are very excited to see that Lokki Perrott, Charlotte Grace, Matai McNicholl and Corin Jackson have all started their Sacramental preparation for this year. We hold them in our prayers as they journey toward the Sacraments and a closer relationship with God. Over the next few weeks they will be learning about the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation and will celebrate their Confirmation and Communion at the Parish Mass on Sunday 23rd May.

Turning over of the Tables

John 2:13-22 Third Sunday of Lent

This coming Sunday's Gospel is focused on Jesus in the Temple turning the tables over during passover. This reading once again reminds us of the cry of Lent "Turn away from sin, turn back to God." Stay faithful, be faithful, return to the Word of God for your sustenance and ignore the distractions and temptations of the world. Jesus was frustrated that the Temple itself had been overtaken as a marketplace and had been forgotten as the house of God and can't help but react by driving the market out of the temple. He is also foreshadowing the story of Easter with the line 'Destroy this temple and in three days I will build it again!' He is speaking of himself as the new temple, the place that houses the covenant or promise of God. The Good news.

Stations of the Cross Liturgy

To celebrate Holy Week, Suzanne Aubert Catholic school will have a special Liturgy to share the Stations of the Cross. This is a journey through the final moments of Jesus' life towards the cross. Our senior students will lead this liturgy which involves dramatisation, reflection and prayer.

When: Thursday 1st April

Where: Harakeke Learning Hub

More details to follow.



Sports update

The Rippa Rugby season kicked off on Friday 26th February and we were delighted to have 3 teams participating. The Suzanne Aubert Snappers (Year 1-2) were up first and had a tremendous win against Te Akau Ki Papamoa. Next was the Suzanne Aubert Stingrays (Year 3-4) who had a narrow loss to Golden Sands in a nail biting game, going down 8-7. Finally the Suzanne Aubert Sharks (Year 5-6) came up against a well-drilled Te Akau ki Papamoa Senior team. Despite a loss, they showed great courage and team work and we look forward to their next game on 12th March. Thanks to Mr Newlands and Miss Rood for organising and coaching on the day and to all the whānau for your support. A great time was had by all.



Enrolments

The opening of our new school has seen a steady influx of enrolment enquiries from local families keen to send their children to Suzanne Aubert Catholic School. If your child has a sibling that will be starting school later this year or in 2022, can you please make sure that you have filled in the online enrolment form on our website so we can ensure a place is reserved for them.