



The Aubert Oracle



Suzanne Aubert
Catholic School
Engage - Inspire - Empower Through Christ

Message from our Principal - Tumuaki

Tena koutou katoa whānau. Nau mai haere mai ki te Hata Meri Hohepa - te Kura Katorika o Papamoa.

It has been an exciting and action-packed time of learning at Suzanne Aubert over the last couple of weeks. Our learners and kaiako are well into their journey of structured literacy, our senior learners attended the Catholic Schools' Sports and Cultural Day in Rotorua and our sports teams have launched a successful winter season representing our school. We are very excited to be supporting a group of our tamariki as they take an important step in their faith journey this weekend in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Appropriately, this will be celebrated during Pentecost Mass - the 'Birthday of the Church'.

Please continue to talk to your child about their learning at Suzanne Aubert. Consider questions such as:

- What were you learning to do today?
- How did you best learn today?
- What was enjoyable in your learning today?
- What did you find tricky in your learning today?
- What helped you in your learning today?

Engaging in learning conversations with your children helps to promote curiosity, critical thinking and strengthens the home-school partnership. Wishing you all a blessed and safe weekend. We look forward to connecting with you all again next week. Ngā mihi Nui

Anthony Mills
Principal - Tumuaki

FRIDAY 21ST MAY 2021

Our Sacramental Candidates

This Sunday at 11am at St Thomas More Church, a group of our learners will be taking an important step in their faith journey as they celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. In the Catholic Church, Confirmation is a Sacrament of Initiation. It is a time to confirm our Baptism by being graced with the Holy Spirit. Bishop Steve will be present to lead this special Mass. We warmly invite and encourage our school families to come along and support our learners this Sunday as they celebrate this joyful and special moment together.

From 2020

Lucy Dunne
Francesca Horne
William Magill
Grace Mikkelsen

From 2021:

Corin Jackson
Matai McNicholl
Lokki Perrott
(absent from pic)



Sports and Cultural Day

On Tuesday our Year 5 and 6 Kopukairoa learners competed in the Catholic Schools' Sports and Cultural Day at John Paul College in Rotorua. This is an annual event for Catholic Primary Schools in Mount Maunganui, Tauranga, Rotorua, Putaruru, Tokoroa, Taupo, Gisborne and of course Papamoa. This event is a friendly competition including sporting events Rippa Rugby, netball, football, hockey, basketball and chess. It also includes cultural activities such as scripture reading, speech, drama and RE knowledge quiz. Our learners were very excited and privileged to have been awarded the St Sebastian Trophy which is given to the school that demonstrates school spirit, fairplay attitude, Gospel values and maximum participation. Special mention goes to Ali Braithwaite for winning the sportsperson award in chess, the drama team for coming equal runner up and the quiz team that came third place. Thanks to our parents for transport, support and supervision. This experience was a special way for our learners to engage in competition, make new friends and see that they are part of a larger Catholic learning community.



Active Learning Through Sport - "GO4it"

Throughout term 2, our learners in Kawakawa are participating in Go4it every Thursday morning. Go4it is a fantastic programme facilitated by Sport Bay of Plenty that links directly to the five key competencies in the New Zealand Curriculum - thinking, using language and symbols, managing self, participating and contributing and relating to others. It also relates to the underlying concepts of the health and physical education curriculum. Our little learners have been having loads of fun out in the sunshine playing games that focus on three fundamental movement areas – stability, locomotion and manipulation.



St Mary's Catholic School Visit

We were privileged to host the Tauranga St Mary's Catholic School leadership team, learners and whānau who performed and presented a koha to our school. St Mary's visited last week to welcome our kura to the Catholic School community. This was an important opportunity to strengthen the partnership with one of our local kura katorika. Thank you St Mary's for the beautiful singing and precious taonga!



Haere Mai Lauren!

We are very excited to welcome Lauren Hutchinson to our Suzanne Aubert whānau! Lauren joins us from Papamoa Primary and will be in Mrs James' Whanau in Kawakawa.



Check out our team of lead learners at Suzanne Aubert. Not quite as you have seen them before!

Key Dates for Term 2

- Sunday 23rd May: Confirmation Mass
- Friday 4th June: School Cross Country
- Monday 7th June: Queens Birthday
- Wednesday 9th June: BOT Elections close
- Saturday 19th June: School & Parish Mass
- Thursday 8th July: Last Day of Term 2
- Friday 9th July: Teacher Only Day

Board of Trustees - Voting Now Open

Voting Papers have been posted out to families and we are starting to receive them back. Please make sure to have your votes in to the school office by Wednesday 9th June 2021. Our new board will take office on Wednesday 16th June.

Trading Cards Banned

Every once in a while, a new trend will come along that children engage with. Pokemon cards, fidget spinners, Poppits, marbles etc. Unfortunately, when these enter into school they often create problems. Recently at Suzanne Aubert, we have observed a number of our learners trading these items at school. This has led to unfair trading, arguments and caused a distraction in the learning environment. Therefore, trading cards and any other collectible items are now banned from school. Could you please ensure your child leaves these items at home to enjoy in their own time. Thank you for your support with this.



Structured Literacy

At Meri Hohepa te Kura Katorika our practice and pedagogy in literacy (reading and writing) reflects the Ministry of Education intent 'to improve literacy outcomes for all learners'. We believe the quality of the teacher is one of the greatest 'in-school' influences on student achievement. We believe in consistency and an evidence-based approach when teaching literacy. With this knowledge in hand we have engaged Learning Matters (iDeaL Platform) to support our journey into Structured Literacy. Current research shows that this will be a game changer - not only for those students who struggle with reading and writing but also for those students who already find success in Literacy.

Principles of Structured Literacy

Structured literacy is distinctive in the principles of how the critical elements are taught. These principles are:

- **Diagnostic teaching:** the instruction is based on careful and continuous assessment, both informally and formally.
- **Explicit instruction:** the deliberate teaching of all concepts with continuous student teacher interaction. It is not assumed that students will naturally deduce these concepts on their own.
- **Systematic and cumulative:** systematic means the organisation of material follows logical order of language. The sequence begins with the easiest and most basic concepts and elements, and progresses methodically to more difficult concepts and elements. Cumulative means each step must be based on concepts previously learned.

Research tells us the crucial elements of Structured Literacy for reading instruction are phonological awareness, alphabetic principle, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Therefore, at Suzanne Aubert Catholic School, these are explicitly and systematically taught. Our teachers are beginning to teach Structured Literacy across the entire school. This is supported by the iDeaL digital platform which provides our kaiako with guidance with the structure of their literacy lessons. It also provides rigorous assessment data which allows us to determine exactly where each learner is at, where their gaps are and where they need to go next. Marion Kirby from Learning Matters is supporting our learning by providing Professional Development in the form of research, modelling lessons and providing feedback and feedforward on teacher lessons.

We will be holding information sessions for those interested in finding out more later in the term. Please join us in our Structured Literacy learning journey! Keep an eye out in the Aubert Oracle, Facebook and HERO for more information. Please click the link to find out more about the research that underpins this approach. [Science of Reading](#)



Special Catholic Character

A Message from our Director of Religious Studies



What an amazing first few weeks this term has been. Full of new beginnings, learning and hope. This Sunday marks the end of the season of Easter and is often called the **Birthday of the Church**. This is Pentecost Sunday, where after Jesus' Ascension into Heaven, the Holy Spirit came to each of the Apostles to strengthen and lead them in their journey of proclaiming the Gospel to all. This was a moment of transformation for the disciples as they were empowered to not only be followers of Christ but also the embodiment of him here on Earth. They were commissioned to continue his mission of love and service for all mankind. This call is the exact same call we all experience everyday and is the call that we bring to life in our actions for and with others.

Pentecost also marks an amazing celebration for some of our Suzanne Aubert whanau as Lucy Dunne, Francesca Horne, William Magill, Grace Mikkelsen, Corin Jackson, Matai McNicholl and Lokki Perrott complete their Sacraments of Initiation into the Church through Confirmation. We offer them the sincere prayers and support of the whole community in this important step in their faith journey.

Pentecost Prayer

God of power,
may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
may the gifts of your Spirit
be our goal and our strength,
now and always.
Amen.



What can we do at home to celebrate Pentecost?

MAKE A FRUIT SALAD: The Holy Spirit is said to bring nine spiritual fruits – Love, Joy, Peace, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control, Truthfulness – Make a fruit salad together and discuss what each fruit could mean and how they all work together in balance.

CELEBRATE WITH BIRTHDAY CAKE: Pentecost is the birthday of the Church, the moment that thousands of people from diverse backgrounds believed in Jesus and were baptised into the Church. Making a birthday cake is a delicious reminder that the Church is one year older. Each candle can represent a century in the life of the church and the flames could represent the tongues of fire said to visit the Disciples at this time.

BAKE BREAD: Before it was a Christian holiday, Pentecost was a Jewish holiday called the Festival of Weeks, which was a festival to celebrate the wheat harvest. As part of the festivities, loaves of bread were baked and offered in the Temple. Everyone loves fresh baked bread, so this is the perfect excuse to remember the original meaning of the holiday and do some baking with the family.

DECORATE WITH THE COLOUR RED: Because of its connection with the tongues of fire, churches all decorate with red on Pentecost. You can do the same at home — red streamers, red napkins, red plates. It's simple and easy but helps the kids recognize that it's a special day.

DO A MULTI-LANGUAGE CRAFT PROJECT: At the first Pentecost, St. Peter began speaking in many languages as a sign of both diversity and unity. To signify this, you can cut out dove or flame shapes and write "Holy Spirit," or some other word like "Unity," or "Peace," on them in many different languages.

HAVE FUN: This is a true celebration of the Church. It is us, the people from all over the globe with different cultures, ethnicities and backgrounds that are the Church together as one. The one true 'Body of Christ'.

Winter Sports Update

The winter sports season started last weekend with some very excited children taking the courts.

NETBALL:

The Suzanne Aubert Magic year 5-6 netball team played in a grading tournament on Saturday morning, coming up against some tough local competition. The girls put in an awesome effort, playing 4 games back to back. A big thanks to our coach / management team Nicole Young and Philip Blackburn. A great start to the season girls!



BASKETBALL

Despite the disappointment of our Friday night opponents not turning up for the first game of the season, the SACS Breakers Year 3-6 basketball team went on to have a great practice on the weekend. They ended up with a game between siblings and parents. It was a great way to get familiar with the court, experience what a little contact feels like and play together as a team.

LITTLE LEAGUE BASKETBALL

Our Little League Year 1-2 Basketball team had their first game on Monday evening. It was a close game against Omanu and everyone gave it their all and had loads of fun. Well done team!



Good luck to all our basketball and netball teams with games over the weekend!

Our Service Focus For May - 'The Blanket Drive'

In the compassionate spirit of Meri Hōhepa, our school are joining in with the Parish Drive to collect blankets for winter. Many people struggle as the season changes and the weather gets colder. So at Suzanne Aubert Catholic School over the month of May we will collect any pre-loved blankets of good quality or new blanket donations for those in need. It is amazing to see what has already been donated. Thank you so much for your generosity and support. The 'Blanket Buckets' are located by the main office in the admin foyer.



Liturgy and Mass:

During the first three weeks of this term, the learners in Hikurangi team have been privileged to celebrate a Liturgy of the Word with Father Stuart every Tuesday at 11am. It is wonderful to see them growing in confidence to proclaim the word and share their own special intentions with the other learners. This week Father will celebrate Mass with the learners in the Harakeke hub. The hubs will take turns to celebrate with Father over this term at 11.15am on Tuesday mornings.

Special Baptism Liturgy

There will be a special Baptism Liturgy at school on Tuesday 1st June at 11:15am. This is a joyful celebration to welcome Jack Phillips (Max's brother) and Georgia and Sophia Finch into the Catholic Church family through the Sacrament of Baptism. Please keep these three children in your prayers as they prepare for this special occasion in taking the first step in their faith journey.



All Saints by the Sea

All Saints by the Sea Parish Weekly Mass Times

Please feel welcome to come along to our weekly Mass to celebrate with the Parish. Masses are held every:
Sunday at 9:30am and 5pm
St Thomas More Church
17 Gloucester Rd - Mount Maunganui
Saturday at 5:15pm
Suzanne Aubert Catholic School.

Upcoming Events:

School and Parish Mass: On Saturday 19th June we will be celebrating Suzanne Aubert's Birthday with our School and Parish community Mass. Mass will be held in the Harakeke hub and begin at 5.15pm. There will be a Birthday celebration afterwards including some light refreshments to enjoy as a community.

Sisters of Compassion Visit: In week 8 (20 June - 26 June) we are privileged to have Sister Rachel and Sister Ema coming from the Home of Compassion in Wellington to spend time with our learners. They will be sharing their story and history and leading us in guided meditation. Your help is needed! We would like to create a roster of helpers to make one meal a day for the Sisters while they are staying here. The ideal meal would be a simple dinner they could take with them and heat up each evening e.g. lasagne. If you are able to help please contact eclayton@suzanneaubert.school.nz. Many thanks.

