



DRS NEWSLETTER TERM 2 2017

Dear Families,

A warm welcome back to Term 2 and I hope everyone has enjoyed the holidays and spending time with whānau and friends.

From Week 1 to Week 4, we will continue with the Holy Spirit Strand - Te Wairua Tapu.

The focus the Holy Spirit Strand is:

Year 1: God the Holy Spirit.

Year 3: The Fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Year 5: Titles and Symbols of the Holy Spirit.

From Week 5 until the end of term, we will be following the Church Strand - Te Whānau a te Karaiti.

The focus the Church Strand is:

Year 1: Belonging

Year 3: Called to be like Jesus.

Year 5: The Church celebrates.

During this term the Church celebrates the Ascension of the Lord and Pentecost, which the children will also learn about in class time.

Key dates for this term are:

5th May Whole school mass with Baptism.

13th May Our Lady of Fatima Centenary Mass celebrated by Bishop Patrick Dunn.

2nd June Senior school mass.

7th July Whole school mass.

On 13th May 1917, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal. This was the first of six apparitions to Lúcia Santos and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto.

The three children were playing games in the field while tending their sheep. Suddenly they saw a flash of light. Thinking it to be lightning, the children gathered the sheep and started for home. They took refuge under a tree about a hundred yards away. They saw a flash of light again. They began running when they saw, standing over a small holm oak tree, a Lady dressed in white more brilliant than the sun.

That was the beginning of Our Lady at Fatima. She visited the children six times bringing them messages for the world. In all Her appearances at Fatima, Our Lady repeatedly emphasised the necessity of praying the Rosary daily, of wearing the Brown Scapular of Mount Carmel, and of performing acts of reparation and sacrifice.

Pope Francis has said: "Following the example of St. John Paul II, a great devotee of Our Lady of Fatima, let us listen attentively to the Mother of God and ask for peace for the world."

As a community, we will be commemorating the centenary of this important event with Novenas, Masses and the Rosary, culminating in a mass being celebrated by Bishop Patrick Dunn on 13th May 2017.

I hope everyone has a lovely Term 2, and I look forward to seeing you at our parish celebrations.

kia manaaki Atua koutou

Fiona Jones

DRS