



18th June 2018 (Vol. 18)

Room 1 Topic Writing

Geckos are cold and the gecko is camouflaged. By Shreya

Geckos can camouflage and they can run very fast. By Peter

The gecko is cold. It went up the tree. By George

Geckos can hold on to trees. By Kora

The gecko's tail sense if there are enemies. By Aidan

I saw a gecko. It was in the sun. By Uma

I am looking at a gecko. By Sirius

I saw some baby geckos. By Isabella

Geckos climb up the window. By Zurriel

Geckos are very cold. Geckos can climb. By Charlotte

Geckos tails can hook to the branches and go upside down. They have no eyelids and cold blood. The gecko man is coming. Geckos are camouflaged and I love them. By Benji

Lizards have cold blood and lizards have no eyelids too. They have sticky legs too so they can climb up trees. By Rylan



**Friday 29th June
School Closes at
1pm** NZEI Paid Union acher

**B O T Meeting
Wednesday
20th June**

**Lunch Orders on
Wednesday
Sausage Sizzle
Fridays
\$2 Pre Order**

Whakataukī

Ma te Korero, ka mohio

Through discussion we become aware

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Catholic faith community committed to quality education

Focus for Term 2 is Respect

Luke 14:10

But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you.

Nativity of Saint John the Baptist June 24th White

'Calming a storm'

Isaiah 49:1-6, Psalm 138, Acts 13:22-36,

Luke 1:57-66, 80

Celebrating a Saint's birthday is something the church hardly ever does. This makes John the Baptist a member of a very exclusive club indeed. The other members are Mary the mother of Jesus (September 8th) and no less than Jesus himself (December 25th). The celebration of the Baptist's birth (a solemnity) far outranks that of his martyrdom (a Memorial, August 29th).



When the angel visited, Zechariah doubted that he and Sarah

could have a child because they were both so old. Zechariah's doubt left him speechless. The child was born and both Sarah and Zechariah insisted on the name John for their child. John means God is graciousness. The graciousness of God returned Zechariah's speech. "All their neighbours were filled with awe and the whole affair was talked about through the hill country of Judea." The graciousness of God was clearly visible to all as they discussed the wonder of this event.

Sometimes it takes an extraordinary event for us to pause and see the graciousness of God. Such graciousness might be made apparent through the kindness of a friend or neighbour or family member. It might be through someone's courtesy on the road or in the supermarket. It might be through a cure of an illness or through some alleviation of difficulty.

Though we might not see it, God's graciousness is ever present. God is the eternal giver, the eternal lover, the eternal comforter. God is the giver of life and the one who desires that we have life in abundance – to the full.

Principal's Pen

Kia Ora,

Welcome to week eight, this week we are experiencing high levels of sickness with our staff and children. Please if your child is sick they should stay at home and recover. We have both Gaye Rowberry and Debbie Trenwith sick this week, please keep them in your prayers so they may recover very soon. This does mean we will be a little behind with administration duties, and that the office will have to close at certain times. So apologies in advance, please bear with us. Room 1 have the Lizard man visiting on Wednesday morning.

The New Zealand Catholic School Convention in Wellington was a wonderful opportunity to connect with people who can make a difference in our school. They are currently working on a new curriculum and seeking input from all schools. The Bishops and Cardinals spoke very highly of the work we carry out in our schools and wanted us to ensure our school communities know, much they appreciated and how hard they work to make Catholic Schools so successful.

Thank you to everyone here at St. Francis, you all make a real difference to every member of our community. Thank you for your generosity and hard work and may we continue to work together to bring excellence to all the children at St. Francis Catholic School.

Have a great week.

Kia te wairua tapu ki runga ki a koutou katoa. ~ May the Holy Spirit be upon you all.

Geraldine Sumner ~ Principal.

St. Francis School Board of Trustees

Protected disclosure policy is up for review, we would like your feedback on this policy.

Go to stfrancis-thames.schooldocs.co.nz

Enter the community login details:

Username: stfrancis-thames **Password:** mackay

School Lunch Orders—Just a reminder that these yummy lunches will be available to order every Wednesday. Children's orders should be dropped off to the school office before 9am please. Putting the money in an envelope with the child's name and order on the outside would be helpful. The menu is available on our website under the Newsletter tab or at the school office. Thanks.

Sausage Sizzle Friday - \$2.00 Each Please remember to pre-order your sausage sizzle on Thursday. Thank you

St Francis Sacramental Programme ~ Calling all parents of baptised Catholic children who wish for their 7 years and older children to receive the Blessed Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion in 2018. We are now taking registration for our 2018 programme.

The programme will be organised :

Start with 8.30 Mass followed by morning tea and working from 10am—12pm

Next session 1st July covering 1st Eucharist

Final session 5th August covering confirmation

The Bishop will be in Thames on 12th August for the Celebration of the Sacraments.

Any one interested in Baptism, could they please contact Geraldine or Sister Paula.

Assembly ~ assembly this week

Warehouse Stationery~ Just a reminder that if you are shopping at Warehouse Stationery, that St. Francis School is part of the school rebate scheme. Every time you make a purchase mention our school name and they donate 5% of the total purchase to our school.



AFTER SCHOOL HANGOUTS.....

For ages - 12-20

**Come Hang out at the Youth Centre
126 Kirkwood Street.....**

**Monday - Friday during School Terms
Starting Monday 9th April
3pm - 5pm**

**Free Wifi
Pool Comps
Playstations
Band Equipment
Dance
Hang out**



Helping Kiwi parents reduce
the cost of education

Every year thousands of parents don't claim back their school donations -
you can now easily claim these back online at www.schoolrebates.co.nz

TIME IS TICKING TO MAKE A CLAIM
as the IRD close another tax year on the 31st of March every year

MAKE EDUCATION CHEAPER
by getting cash back in your pocket - if you've never claimed you can claim back 4 years
No dealing with IRD

CLAIMING IS QUICK AND EASY
and with your schools support they will provide us copies of missing receipts

1. Enter your details at Schoolrebates.co.nz
2. Request missing receipts from your school(s) via our website
3. We'll do the rest and let you know when to check your bank account

Already have receipts?
You can upload these as part of your claim

@SchoolRebates
Help other Kiwi families by sharing this with them

Upcoming Events for Term 2

Please remember to watch the weekly newsletter as sometimes we do need to change dates.

Every Tuesday and Wednesday	Sharyn Clark will be in for Piano Lessons Call Sharyn for any possible vacancies 027 4485089
Every Tuesday	Clive hosting free brass instrument lessons from 2.30—3.45
Every Thursday	Rm 5 will be going to Technology Training at Thames High School
Every Wednesday	School Lunch orders (from Food for Thought)
Every Monday and Wednesday	Runners Club 8.45—9.00 am
Wednesday 20th June	B.O.T. Meeting
FRIDAY 29th June	School Closes at 1pm for NZEI Paid Union Meeting



Dear Parents

You may be aware of the nationwide crisis in recruiting and retaining teachers.

While there are many more children coming into the school system, there are not enough new teachers being trained. Urgent and significant changes are needed to ensure that the teaching profession can attract the people it needs and to ensure class sizes do not start to increase.

On **Friday 29th June** the teachers from this school will be attending a NZEI Te Riu Roa paid union meeting regarding the *Kua Tae Te Wā - It's Time* campaign. The campaign aims to free teachers to teach and principals to lead, by getting the additional support and staff that schools need. The meetings will allow our teachers to discuss how the Ministry of Education has responded to changes that the union is seeking.

Our teaching staff are members of NZEI and legally entitled to attend this meeting. The teachers will be leaving school on **Friday 29th June** to attend their paid union meeting which starts at 1:30pm.

I strongly encourage parents to make arrangements to pick their child(ren) up from school by 1.00pm on **at Friday 29th June**.

I appreciate that this creates some inconvenience for families. However, I encourage you to support your teachers as they strive to achieve the changes which will safeguard quality education for all children and ensure we make teaching an attractive profession for graduates. Anyone who may need help with arrangements should contact the school office.