

## BOARD NEWSLETTER – TERM 4 2017

### **Magnificat**

*My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,  
for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden.  
For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed;  
for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.*

*And his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation.*

*He has shown strength with his arm, he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts,  
he has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of low degree;  
he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away.*

*He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,  
as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity for ever.*

(Luke 1:46-55)



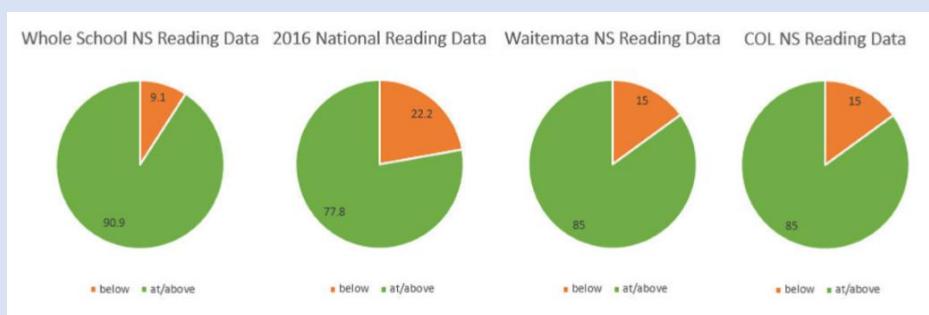
Hello, Kia ora, Talofa lava, Malo e leiei, Kia orana and Namaste!

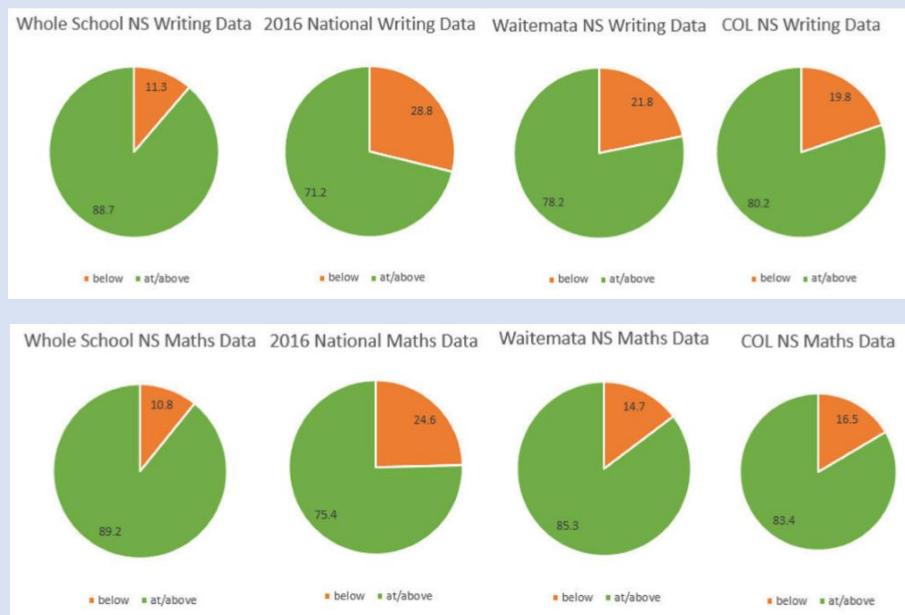
### **QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

As a board of trustees, it is our primary responsibility to ensure that every student at Marist Catholic School Herne Bay is able to attain his or her highest possible standard in educational achievement.

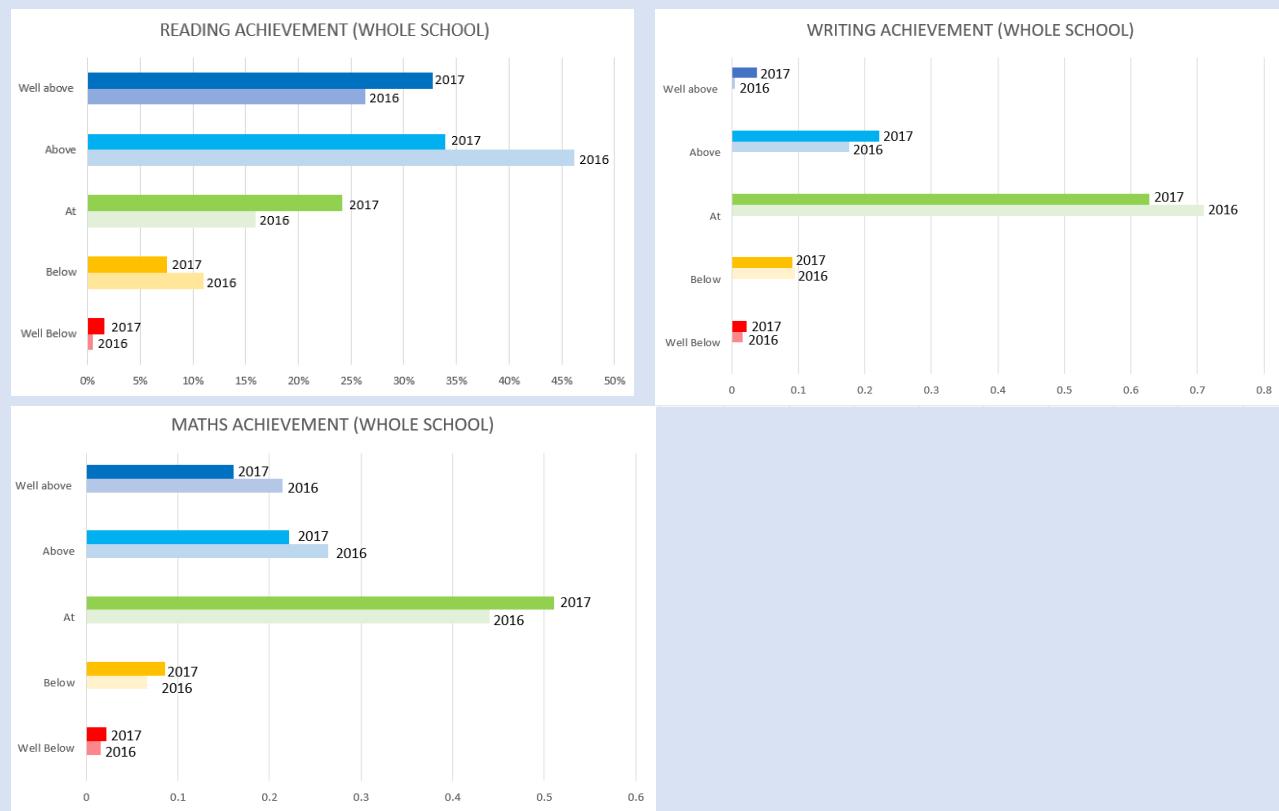
We are delighted with the 2017 year-end National Standard reporting, which showed that our children are performing very strongly against these requirements across all subject areas, when compared nationally, across our central Auckland Catholic School Community of Learning (COL) and across other neighbouring schools including Westmere, Bayfield and Ponsonby primary schools in the Waitemata area.

The graphs and pie charts below summarise this information and tell a clear story of our success, with Marist Herne Bay consistently performing better than all comparable groups in all three main curriculum areas.





In addition to our excellent performance in comparison with other schools, I am really pleased to report the progress that our students have made in comparison with last year. The graphs below show that more of our children are performing well above, above and at the National Standard in 2017, compared with 2016. I am particularly pleased to note the consistently high reading achievement and the progress made with respect to writing, where a specific school target for 2017 was to increase the proportion of students working well above and above the National Standard.



Specific learning plans are in place for all those that are currently below the National Standard. If you have any concerns about your child's progress, please do not hesitate to speak with your classroom teacher or Mrs Campbell.

Our sincere thanks and congratulations to Louise and the teaching staff for the wonderful job they have done.

## INVESTMENT IN SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE

Nurturing our positive environment is a key strand in our strategic plan and has been a very important focus for the Board this year.



We are very excited and pleased to announce that our six new teaching spaces are complete.

Over the coming weeks our teachers will begin the exciting process of settling into these new spaces, ready for classes to start in Term 1, 2018.

As announced in our Term 3 newsletter, Tiger Turf will be laid in the quadrangle over the summer holidays, once the contractors have finished their landscaping works on site.

The Board would like to offer a huge thank you to everyone that has contributed to this project. We are looking forward



to an exciting 2018, making the most of our new indoor and outdoor learning spaces.

## RAISING THE PROFILE OF OUR SCHOOL

We have commenced a project to revamp our school website and new enrolment brochures to reflect the special character and rich culture of our school. This work will continue, and more information will be shared as we progress in 2018.

## 2018 SCHOOL FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

As an integrated school we do not receive the same funding as a state school and therefore must seek the support of our community in the form of voluntary financial donations so that we can provide teaching resources such as computers, teacher aides, Mathletics, support staff and reading recovery programmes.

Please note that the collections on behalf of the Catholic Schools Office are compulsory however, the simple fact is we could not run this school without additional voluntary financial contributions from families.

We note that you may qualify for an income tax credit from Inland Revenue in relation to contributions made to the school.

In 2018, our attendance dues and voluntary contribution structure will be as follows:

Item	2018 annual cost
Catholic Diocese of Auckland – Attendance Dues (compulsory)	\$430 / child
General Purpose contribution	\$195 / child
Special Character contribution	\$50 / child
Activities fee (compulsory if you wish your child to participate)	\$60 / child
Mathletics fee (compulsory if you wish your child to participate)	\$30 / child
Building contribution	\$120 / family
Family Assistance Fund contribution If you wish to make an additional contribution in addition to this \$65 to support families in our school community with their contributions please clearly identify this by name in the reference sections when making a payment online ' <u>extra family assistance</u> '	\$65 / family

It is noted that Mathletics and activities covered by the Activities Fee are additional to the core curriculum and payment is requested in respect of these activities.

If you think you may have difficulty with payment, please contact the school office at the beginning of the year to discuss. We can set up payment options to help you as much as possible.

## THANK YOU

Our school would not be where it is without the dedication of our teachers and their willingness to give their best. We celebrate our passionate teachers, focused on our children and their learning. Thank you Mrs Louise Campbell and your teaching team for your enormous efforts throughout a very busy and challenging year.

Once again, a huge thank you to the PTA for the wonderful work that you do in our school. We are so lucky to have you all in our community and really appreciate all the time, effort and love that you put into everything that you do.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I also thank Father Rory, parents and the many friends of our school for your support throughout the year. We are truly blessed with a community that cares, gives and works together in partnership so that our children can learn in an environment that nurtures teaching and learning, enriched by our special Catholic Character.

We thank those students and their families who leave Marist Catholic School this year. You will remain in our hearts as you take your RICH values and everything you have learned at Marist with you to your new schools. May the road rise up to meet you and the wind be always at your back.

Board members, I thank you for sharing your skills, experience and time as together we look to the future and make decisions that have a positive impact on student achievement.

## **FAREWELL**

It is with sadness that we farewell Mrs Emma Costello, Ms Kate Heveldt, Mrs Susan Butters as class teachers, Mrs Kris Maddren and Ms Kristin Petersen as teachers aides, and Mr Ray Nansen as our caretaker. We thank you for all that you have contributed to Marist Catholic School and wish you every success, happiness and many blessings for the future.

We also farewell Mr Frank Costello from his role as proprietor's representative on the Board of Trustees. Thank you for the huge contribution that you have made to the school.

If you have any questions, we warmly welcome inquiries and will do our best to assist.

We wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas

*Nga mihi and God Bless*

*Board of Trustees - Marist Catholic School Herne Bay*