37/2026 25 November 2026

St Patrick's School

Faith, Good Works and Striving for Excellence

Learn, Create, Share

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Kia ora Parents and Caregivers,

Firstly, have fun on the long weekend. School is closed on Monday due to Westland anniversary day. We will see you back on Tuesday as normal.

Judging by the number of PJ's on display today you are all well aware that it is book character week. The students are having lots of fun as are the staff. I think just about everyone is ready for a nap!

Thanks to everyone who attended our termly mass on Saturday night. Fr. Peter did a great job of making everyone welcome. As you will note in this newsletter we move into advent. This week is the 34th and final week of ordinary time.

In the Catholic Church, Ordinary Time is the longest liturgical season (33 or 34 weeks), named for its ordinal (sequentially numbered) weeks rather than meaning "plain" or "unimportant".
In Latin, it is called Tempus per annum ("time through the year") and covers the parts of the liturgical calendar outside of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter.
When It Happens
Ordinary Time is one season split into two parts:

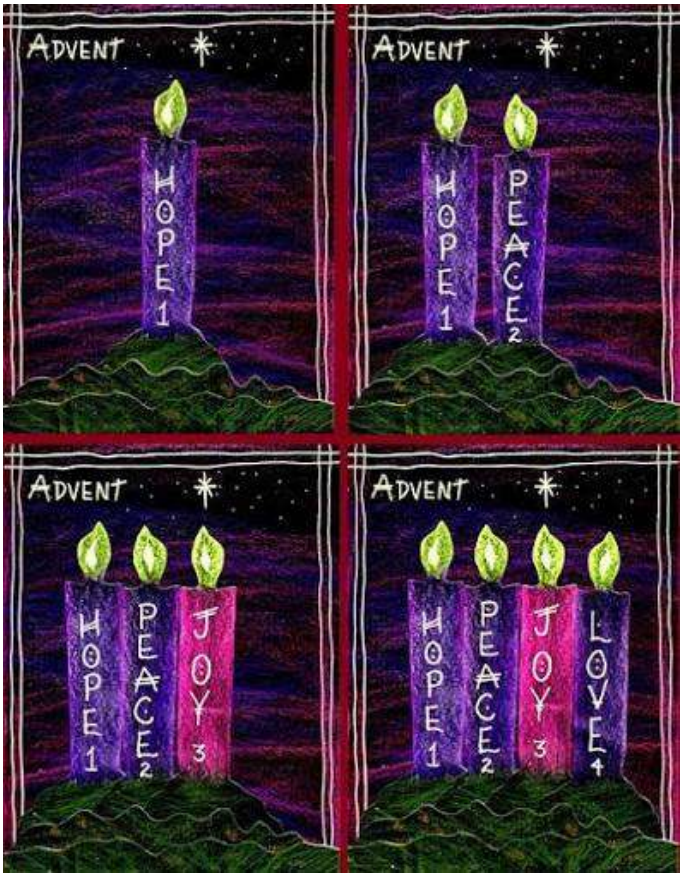
- Part 1: Starts the Monday after the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and runs until the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday.
- Part 2: Resumes the Monday after Pentecost Sunday and continues until the Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent, ending with the Solemnity of Christ the King.

Meaning and Focus

- Numbered Order: Sundays and weeks are counted in sequence (e.g., the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time).
- Everyday Discipleship: Instead of focusing on a single mystery like Christ's birth or Resurrection, it highlights Jesus's public ministry, teachings, parables, and miracles, and how to live out faith in daily life.
- Liturgical Color: Green is the standard vestment color, symbolizing life, hope, and steady spiritual growth.

End of year testing is completed and I will have some data to share with you next week. Teachers are working on reports currently so they are ready for the end of the year.

We have had some different teachers in classes this week due to teachers being away. So if your child





shares they have had a change don't be worried all should return to normal next week. As always any questions or queries just ask.

This weeks progress on our new classrooms:



Giant wack a mole!



Piles are almost done.

God Bless

Ian

SchoolDocs
Policies and Procedures

St Patrick's School Policies & Procedures can be viewed on the SchoolDocs website, using the below login details:

http://stpatricksgm.schooldocs.co.nz
Username: stpatricksgm
Password: patrick



All unnamed lost property is taken to St Vincent de Paul. Please ensure all items of clothing are named.

What is Advent?

Advent is the first season of the liturgical year in the Catholic Church.

It always begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day - which is also the Sunday closest to November 30 - and ends on Christmas Eve.



The Catholic Parish of Greymouth, St Patrick's Church
st_patricksgreymouth@hotmail.com 037685263
Mass times: Greymouth: Saturday 6.00pm & Sunday 9.30am
Cobden: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays at 8.00am, Kumara: 5th Sunday 11.00am, Ngahere: 4th Sunday 11.00am

Welcome to Reception



A friendly reminder to all students and parents due to the recent changes to our school gates, everyone must sign in at the school office when arriving during school hours. Late students are to sign into the office when they arrive at school, they are not to go directly to their class.

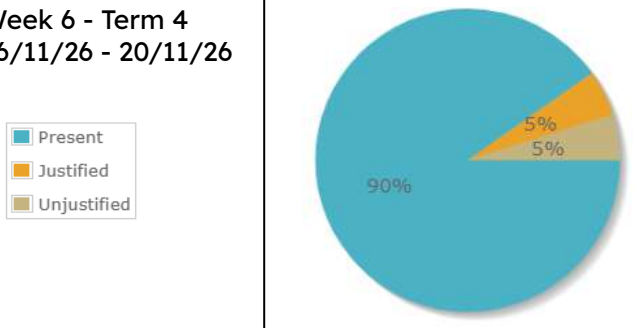
This helps us ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students and allows us to keep accurate records of who is on site.

If you are collecting your child/children from school early, please also ensure you check in at the school

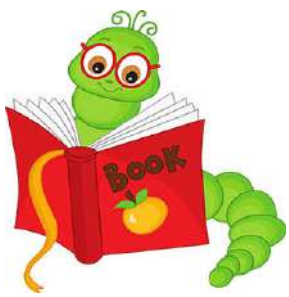
Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

Attendance will be reported to our families each week

Week & date	Attendance 90%
Week 6 - Term 4 16/11/26 - 20/11/26	





Guess the number of book worms in the jar.

During Book Character week when you

office before taking them from the school grounds.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY.

If you would like your child / children to participate in the Christmas Play at the 7.00pm Vigil Mass on Thursday 24th December 2026 please email Ivory at: paddysflockgreymouth@gmail.com





receive a 'Caught Being Good' you can have a guess at how many book worms are in the Jar on Mrs Winter's desk

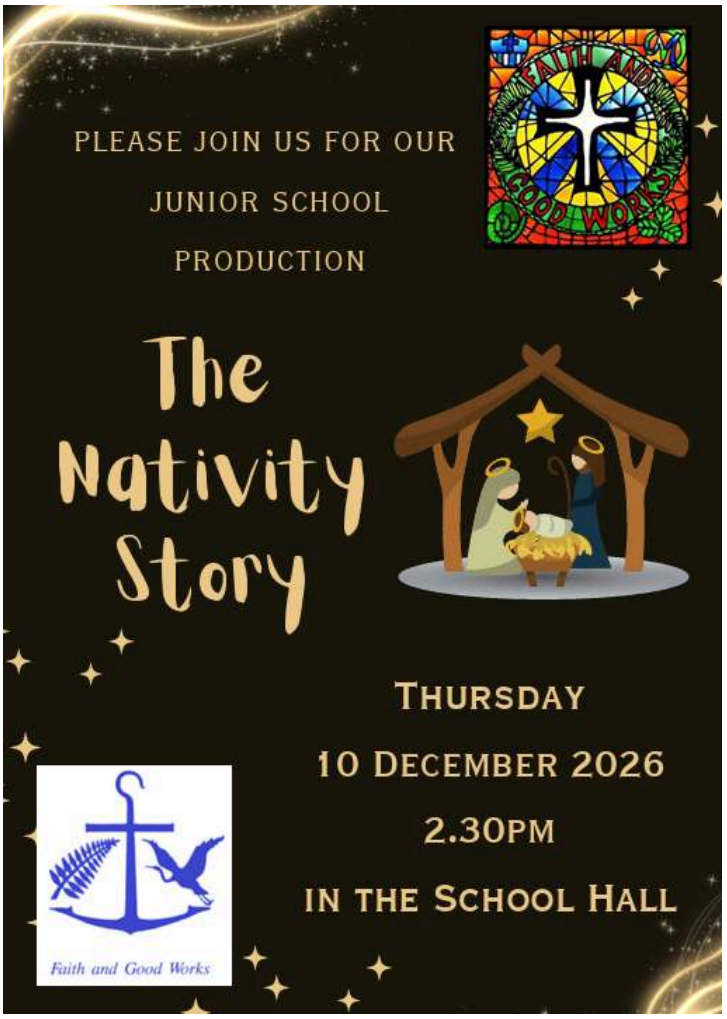


Zarren, Bodhi B & Maddy were the winners of our Catch Me Being Good. Keep up the good work.



Bus students - All bus students are required to wear their fluro vests. Please see the office for a vest





Dash in Cafe	***Monday, Tuesday & Friday Various items*** We ask you to please send the correct money to school for lunch orders. Thank you
SUBWAY	***Thursday*** Complete your order on-line subwaylunches.co.nz In order for your child/children to receive their order, the order has to be placed on line before 9.00am. This is out of our control, so don't be late. Thank you
SUSHI BAR ASIAN EATERY	***Wednesday Sushi, rice tray, spring rolls kids pack*** We ask you to please send the correct money to school for lunch orders. Thank you

Class	Day to wear sports uniform to school
Eden, Jordan, Nazareth, Zion and Galilee	Friday
Bethlehem,Samaria, Cana, Capernaum & Jerusalem	Thursday

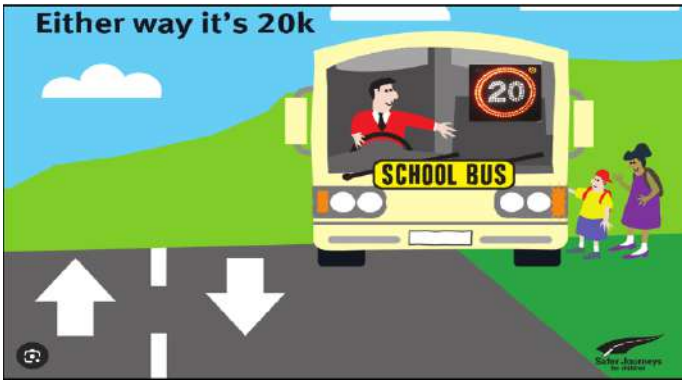


Gifts for Christmas
Children helping Children

This Christmas we are encouraging children to bring a gift for another child less fortunate than themselves. These gifts will be given to the St Vincent de Paul Society and Sisters of Mercy to distribute to local children in need. Please label the gift boy/girl and the age the gift is suitable for and leave at the school office. Thank you







Chromebooks
We have noticed that a number of students are arriving at school with their chromebooks either low or flat batteries and therefore not ready for learning at the start of the day.
Could you please ensure that your child / children charge their Chromebook each evening before coming to school? While we do have a small number of charging stations available, there are not enough to accommodate all students. Thank you for your support in helping us ensure students are ready to learn each day.

Sunhats - Term 1 - Sunhats are to be worn this term during all breaks.. No child will be allowed to play in the sun without a sunhat on. $15.00 for a new sunhat which can be purchased from the school office.



Children are expected to take their lunch box rubbish home with them each day please. We have three red rubbish bins supplied by the council which are collected fortnightly.



Please make contact with the school office for a consent form if medication is to be given during school hours.



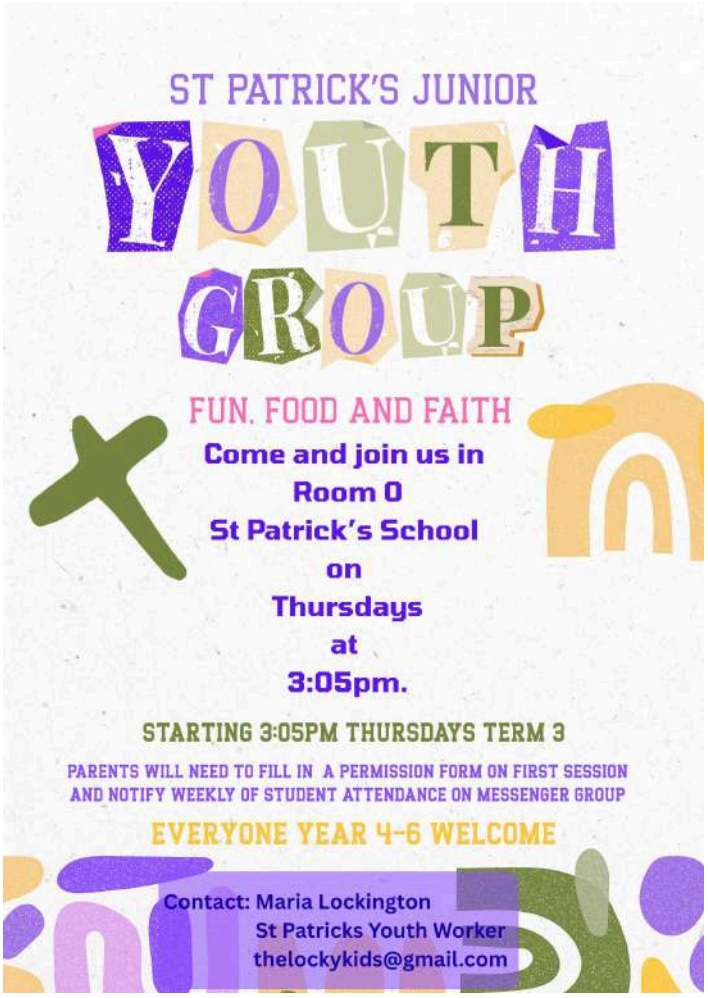
St Patrick's School is closed
on the following dates:
Westland Anniversary Day - Monday 30 November



	Starting date	Ending date
Term 4 -2026	12/10/26	15/12/26 midday
Term 1 - 2027	2/2/27	9/4/27
Term 2 - 2027	27/5/27	2/7/27
Term 3 - 2027	19/7/27	24/9/27
Term 4 - 2027	11/10/27	TBC

2026	
Capernaum technology @ JPIIHS	25/11
Board meeting	25/11
Canterbury/WC Athletics Y7/8	25/11
St Patrick's Junior Youth Group Year 4-6 students @ school 3.05pm	26/11
Book Character Week	23-27/11





St Vincent de Paul shop- 109 Mackay Street (next to Ellery's and Carpet Court). They are in need of clean clothes, shoes and household items (not electrical). If you have any to donate, please feel free to drop off to the new shop or to school. Thank you.

Celebrity Readers in the Junior Classes	23/11
PJ Day - wear you favourite PJ's to school (PJ's - Pyjamas)	24/11
Whacky Wednesday, add something to your school uniform to make it Whacky	25/11
Teddy Bears Picnic - Bring your favourite Teddy to school	26/11
Book Character Dress Up Day	27/11
JPIIHS Year 8 Orientation Day	27/11
Westland Anniversary Day - School closed	30/11
Jerusalem technology @ JPIIHS	2/12
St Patrick's Junior Youth Group Year 4-6 students @ school 3.05pm	3/12
Mission Market Day	4/12
Junior School Nativity Story 2.30pm in hall	10/12
Christmas Parade	12/12
End of Year Mass & Prizegiving 6.00pm @ St Patrick's Church	14/12
School finishes at midday	15/12
2027	
Start of Term 1 2027	2/2
Waitangi Day	8/2
Y7&8 Camp to Bridge Valley	9-12/2
Y6 Camp to Arthurs Pass	24-26/2
Easter school closed - Good Friday Easter school closed - Easter Monday Easter school closed - Easter Tuesday	26/3 29/3 30/3
Last day Term 1 2027	9/4
Please note some dates may change which are out of our control, As dates are made available to us we will Include these on the calendar. TBC - to be confirmed.	