



MAI I TE KOPAE KI TE URUPA, TATOOU AKO TONU AI FROM THE CRADLE TO THE GRAVE, WE ARE FOREVER LEARNING

My name is Tauke Kirkwood, I am a trained family therapist/social worker and have worked in child/adolescent mental health services for over 25 years. As the new Centre Leader at Marist my aim is to continue to advance and promote the learning needs of each and every young person that attends Marist Alternative Learning. The center has a new lead teacher Cherie and we have dedicated staff who are Jacqui, John and Don who continue to support the learning of all students at Marist. We care about the young people who attend Marist and we

want to support their wellbeing by practicing manners, having a good attitude to learning, being in positive relationships, showing respect to all, having personal ideas that build character and by being thoughtful towards others and yourself. In our work we seek to immerse ourselves in the lives of our students by meeting them in their own culture and promoting curiosity around this. We seek to extend our programme through free time, leisure and sports and cultural activities to compliment their learning in the curriculum. Tauke Kirkwood



At the beginning of the year, Blake lacked confidence in the water and was reluctant to swim. Look at him now, floating on his back and eager to go swimming at every opportunity. Although Marist staff and students supported Blake, he did all the hard work, getting out of his comfort zone, listening to advice and practicing tirelessly; gradually getting up enough courage to float on his back. He was extremely proud of himself and rightfully so!

"I learned how to float on my back at the pool. I used a swimming board, I put it on my chest so it can help me float. My goggles helped me too because I didn't get water in my eyes. I learnt how to backstroke - I just floated and moved by two hands backwards and kicked the water. I learnt how to breaststroke a little bit and now I am only a little bit afraid of the water." - Blake

We are grateful to our neighbours Dee and Mike who have kindly offered to print t-shirts for the centre at no cost and supply shirts at cost price. All students have designed a t-shirt and we are now in the process of selecting a final design. The lucky designer will get to work with Dee and Mike to go through the printing process and help them produce the t-shirts. Community connections such as this offer new experiences for our students and we are forever looking for opportunities such as this for our young people.

Kia Ora, My name is Cherie Jaeger and I am excited to be the newly appointed teacher at the Marist Learning Centre. I am a trained primary school teacher and have been working in alternative education for the past 3 years. In the words of Marcellin Champagnat I believe that "to raise children properly, we must love them and love them equally".

Marist Learning Centre provides a safe environment with caring staff who nurture each individual to be the best they can be and help them to see a future full of hope and possibility. To be part of this process fills my heart with joy and I look forward to the year ahead with great excitement for the future of the young people in our care.



THE STUDENTS WROTE HAIKU POEMS ABOUT WHAT SUMMER MEANS TO THEM:

*Swimming time is here
We dive under the big waves
Bombing at the beach*

By Jessica

*Swimming in the pool
Kicking my feet in water
Bombing off the board*

By Seth

*Sandy water splashing
Children screaming and shouting
Playing and running*

By Eben

*Bright sun shining bright
Sparkling white, glittering sand
Gleaming, salt water*

By Harmony

During these hot summer days, our afternoon programme often involves outings to Waiake Beach or Pt Erin Pools. These outings give students the opportunity to practice many skills such as travelling in the school van safely, using their manners in public, learning about safety and confidence in the water as well as being a time to socialise with students they may not normally mix with at the Centre.

Thank you to our donors for your support. Your contribution enables our young people to not only succeed in the classroom, but in their home lives and communities as well!

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APRIL 2019