



District of the Pacific Update

Champagnat Marist

Kia Ora, Greetings, Ni sa bula vinaka, Kam na mauri, Talofa Lava



25th January 2019

Current News Items

Welcome Home Brother Tim Leen



Brother Tim Leen arrived back in New Zealand during this week - from Malaysia. Brother Tim really enjoyed his time working with the Brothers, pupils and lay people and is going to miss them greatly. We wish him all the best as he settles back home. He has been appointed to the community at Mangere Bridge.

District Dates

Monday 28th January - Auckland Anniversary.

Tuesday 29th January - New Zealand School Year begins.

Links:

[Marist District of Asia News Letter](#)

Brother David Lavin Reporting from American Samoa



It is a holiday today, so we have been laying the new name plates on the Brothers graves at Leone, preparing for a blessing on 1st February, the 74th anniversary of Brother Frederic Henry Gerken. Otherwise, we have two weeks down and 20 weeks to go before the holidays now that Semester two has started. Brother Donald and I are bearing up - it is the hot humid season, as you would well re-member. Think upon the workers in the vineyard!!!!

KIRIBATI News from Brother Barry Burns

The New Year began dramatically here in Kiribati with, for many of the local people, the biggest storms in living memory. Our January 2nd Celebrations had to compete with torrential rain and high winds. A faithful remnant braved the conditions to join us on our flooded land at La Valla. That night, by 2.00 am, Tangaroa and his family, staying in the Brothers' house at Teoraereke over the holiday period, were awoken by waves crashing over the sea wall and entering the house. Many of the classrooms and offices at St Louis High School were also awash. On his arrival back in Kiribati, one of Damien's first tasks has been to clean up the storm's legacy in his bedroom and classroom.

Last Saturday, 12th January, we hosted a meeting of the newly formed "St Louis Former Students Association" which now has government recognition as a Charitable Trust. There is much enthusiasm among these former students to contribute back to the school which they continue to hold in high regard. Already they are launching a fund-raising drive to assist the present growth and development of their former school: in the storm's aftermath the Principal's urgent priority is to see to the reconstruction of the badly damaged sea wall alongside the 7th Form classrooms near the Brothers' house. We hope and pray 2019 continues in a more peaceful mode. This week Damien and Amberoti are participating in the St Louis Staff Orientation. **(see photos on the next page)**



District of the Pacific Update

Champagnat Marist

Kia Ora, Greetings, Ni sa bula vinaka, Kam na mauri, Talofa Lava



Photos of the Storm at Kiribati



: Children enjoying the high tide

: The La Valla Community front yard

: Welcoming Brother Damien back to Kiribati



Staff Orientation, Samoa by Mr Dan Dungey

I concluded my work with Brother Siaso and his staff at Marist Brothers Primary School in Mulivai on Friday 18th January.



I was very impressed with the leadership and commitment of staff. This year is all about em-bedding the Marist pillars into the teachers consciousness via a staff wide Marist Mindfulness approach e.g. Week 1 and 2 - 'In the Way of Mary.

- St Joseph's College staff returned this week, however, I met with Fou Lauulu to share material for their staff orientation this week so in essence both schools should be on the same page. I believe there is an opportunity for key staff members of both schools to come together to share how they are keeping the Marist Spirit alive in our schools and to support one another.

And at Chanel College, Masterton

- At the request of Whaea Debi Marshall Lobb (Principal), Brother Stephen Filipo and myself led the staff on a charism development day in Masterton on Thursday 24th January. Following Whaea Debi's attendance at last years 'Champagnat in the Pacific' formation programme, she has committed her community to three staff and two student leadership days to promote the Champagnat Marist charism.

At Sacred Heart College

Br Anthony Walker presented the prayer and staff reflection at Sacred Heart College to a hundred staff. The theme was on the cross which is in the centre of the Sacred Heart College emblem.

