

CHAPEL MESSAGES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 4th AUGUST 2017

MONDAY, 31st JULY 2017

Kia Orana ... Greetings Everyone!

Te 'Epetoma o te Reo Māori Kūki 'Āirani: It is Cook Islands Language Week.

`Ei rāvenga nāku i te tuatua i tōku reo Māori Kūki 'Āirani ka anoano au i te turuturu ā tōku ngutu `are tangata `ē te matakeinanga.

The theme is 'An encouraging home and community environment is what I need to build my love and my confidence to speak my reo Māori Kūki 'Āirani.'

Language is a very important tool in helping us to CONNECT THE DOTS!

CONGRATULATIONS to all our rugby teams and their games in the weekend. Some results
1st XV vs Whanganui Collegiate 54-5 win which means a home semi-final for us.

Awesome!

2ndXV	vs	Kelston	24-13 loss
U15 B	vs	Manurewa	14-3 win
U14 B	vs	Aorere College	26-12 win
U14 W	vs	Otahuhu College	25-10 a loss though the team played very well.

GO HARD to the Girl's Rugby Team who this afternoon play their final game for the season.

Our theme for this week is CONNECTING THE DOTS!

The Bible reading was Luke 24th 28-36 on pages 1123 and 1304 in the Wesley Bibles
In the 1880s French artist Georges Seurat introduced an art form known as pointillism. He used small dots of colour, rather than brush strokes to create images. Up close, the work looks like groupings of individual dots but when you step back, the human eye blends the dots into brightly coloured portraits or landscapes.

The big picture of the Bible is similar. Up close, its complexity can leave us with the impression of dots on a canvas.

As we read it, we might feel like Cleopas and his friend on the road to Emmaus. They couldn't understand the tragic "dotlike" events of the Passover weekend. They had hoped that Jesus "was the one who was going to save them" (Luke 24:21), but they had just witnessed Jesus die on the cross. Jesus then appears from nowhere and walks alongside them.

After listening to their conversation, Jesus helps Cleopas and his friend to CONNECT THE DOTS of why Jesus had to suffer and die.

Later, while eating a meal with them, they recognize who Jesus is through his breaking bread.

Was it the scarred dots of the nail wounds in Jesus' hands that caught their attention? We don't know.

What we do know is that when we CONNECT THE DOTS of Scripture and Jesus' suffering, we see a God who loves us more than we can imagine.

Kia manuia

Have a blessed day

TUESDAY, 1st AUGUST 2017

Kia Orana koutou katoatoa

CONGRATULATIONS to our Girl's Rugby team who narrowly lost their final against Rosehill. A good season!

CONNECTING THE DOTS is our theme for this week.

The Bible reading was from Joshua 3:14-17 on pages 218 and 260 in the Wesley Bibles.

The 1850s, saw the disease cholera go global. It spread through food and water infected by bacteria.

In a particularly bad outbreak in London, a Dr. John Snow realized that the outbreak centered around a certain water pump.

Snow noticed that rather than being an isolated case, the fiercest outbreaks always seemed to focus around these water sources.

By CONNECTING THE DOTS Dr Snow was able to connect the outbreaks of cholera to infected water pumps, and was able to establish that cholera was being spread by contaminated water. By CONNECTING THE DOTS Dr Snow helped towards eradicating its terrible effects. CONNECTING THE DOTS resulted in something good.

Yesterday I took a student to Puke to buy him shoes. When I asked him why his shoes were looking so sad he said that he had lent them to another student and when he got them back, they weren't worth wearing. He then told me that he taken another pair of shoes to Maintenance to have them fixed but he forget to collect them and after a term when he finally remembered, they had been given away.

I asked 'So what have you learnt here?' His reply 'It's about CONNECTING THE DOTS faster Rev!'

As the Israelites crossed the Jordan River into the Promised Land, they could have seen it as an extraordinary but one off example of God's intervention. As the Israelites passed through the water, they were reminded of an earlier crossing through the Red Sea. God's providence isn't some random happening but part of a long history of faithfulness and God can be trusted to be faithful in the future!

Speaking our Pacific Island languages and preserving them so we don't lose them is one reason why we have week-long celebrations of the different languages throughout the year. This week - te epetoma o te reo maori Kuki Airani is a reminder of the gift of the Cook Islands language to us.

The Cook Islands are the second biggest group from the Pacific here in NZ but sadly only 13% of its people can speak Kuki Airani.

Language is vital to CONNECTING THE DOTS, to education, communication, achievement, to a way of being in the world.

Meitaki rava!

Kia Manuia - Have a blessed day

WEDNESDAY, 2nd AUGUST 2017

Kia Orana Everyone.

A cloudy day here at Wesley but not so cold. We give thanks for the new day.

MEITAKI MA'ATA to Mrs Natalie Faitala HOD English who led chapel worship this morning. Mrs Faitala is from the island of Tongareva (Penrhyn) in the Cook Islands and shared something of her homeland with us. Her presentation is attached for all to view.

Our song for chapel was My God Loves Me (English and Kuki Airani)

My God loves me
And all the wonders I see
The rainbow shines through my
window
My God loves me

Aro'a mai te Atua ia ku
I te ao me a tapu ki te nei
Te anuanua kua iti mai ki roto ia ku
Aro'a mai te Atua ia ku

Kia manuia

Have a blessed day

THURSDAY, 3rd AUGUST 2017

Kia Orana tatou katoatoa

CONGRATULATIONS to the 1st XIII League Team and Coaching staff who yesterday beat Manurewa 18-10 to make the final for the Secondary Schools League Competition. Nice one! As the winter season of sport starts to wind down, students are CONNECTING THE DOTS to see where their teams are placed in the competitions to date.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs Natalie Faitala HOD English who has begun her academic journey to PhD level. CONNECTING THE DOTS ... Awesome Mrs Faitala!

CONNECTING THE DOTS!

This morning we paid tribute to former Wesley student Malakai Fekitoa who will move to France to continue playing his rugby.

Malakai overcame an injury which saw him mocked 'cripple' as a child. It seemed the limp he developed as a result would prevent him from pursuing his dreams. He came to Wesley very shy, very humble and very thankful for the opportunity to complete his education and pursue his dream ... to become an All Black. Malakai was able to CONNECT THE DOTS ...

from his humble beginnings in Tonga, to arriving at Wesley to achieving his dream All Black # 1131 and now trusts, that those connections will place him in good stead for moving to France.

To all our former Wesleyans wherever you may be, here at home or throughout the world, our hope is that wherever you are when you need to CONNECT THE DOTS you know we are here ... your family, your School, your home!

Once a Wesleyan ... always a Wesleyan and that those connections are as real today as they were when you were all here.

We pray for and remember you always and in making that connection, hope and pray that you are all well.

Kia manuia

Have a blessed day

FRIDAY, 4th AUGUST 2017

Kia Orana tatou katoatoa

The end of te 'epetoma o te reo Maori Kuki 'Airani - Cook Islands Language Week.

Meitaki ma'ata for an enjoyable week hearing and learning te reo Maori Kuki 'Airani. Our prayers and thoughts go out to Yr 9 students Adam Nasmith and Mone Fisi'i'ahi as well as Year 12 AJ Lemalu who all are recovering at home.

A big shout out to all our teams playing tomorrow especially the 1st XV playing here at home against St Johns College from Cambridge at 12pm, Our homes games begin at 9.15am tomorrow.

It's been about CONNECTING THE DOTS this week.

The Bible reading was from Hebrews 11:1-8 on pages 1347 and 1521 in the Wesley Bibles. The reading reminds us of those of our Biblical ancestors who demonstrated faith in God. The greatest challenge for them and for us is to practice our faith every day, to make our faith part of our everyday life and living. They didn't always get it right and neither do we, but faith in action is about being able to CONNECT THE DOTS of our past to the present, in the hope that the connections we make will place us in good stead for the unknown, a future which we cannot see.

Our parents and grandparents did this, coming from our Pacific Island homes to this country ... they trusted in God to come with them, they placed their faith in God to bring them to a place unknown trusting always in God's care and guidance, providence and blessing.

THANK YOU to Yr 12 Beaux-Dene Tolomaki-Tanaki and Yr 11 Oliver Tainui who shared of their CONNECTING THE DOTS which enabled them to travel to Denmark and the Czech Republic to represent NZ in softball. Beaux-Dene presented his jersey to the School. MALO 'AUPITO to Dr Palatasa Havea Research scientist for Fonterra who shared his journey of struggle as a child at school and how he overcame those challenges to be where he is today. CONNECTING THE DOTS!

Kia manuia

Have a blessed day and weekend.

