

CHAPEL MESSAGES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 6th APRIL 2018

MONDAY, 2nd APRIL 2018

Easter Break

TUESDAY, 3rd APRIL 2018

Easter Break

WEDNESDAY, 4th APRIL 2018

Good Morning All

Christ is Risen ... He is Risen indeed! A Happy Easter to one and all.

WELCOME back to all our students and staff after a long but well deserved Easter break.

With only one and a half weeks left to the term, the emphasis is on the classroom and academics.

Our theme for this week is EASTER! A time of thanksgiving, of celebration, of joy and of peace.

The Bible reading was from John 20:24-30 on pages 1162 and 1344 in the Wesley Bibles.

'Thomas the Doubter' as he was known and remembered deserves to be respected for his faith.

He was a doubter but his doubts had a purpose ... he wanted to know the truth!

Thomas gladly believed when given the reasons to do so. He expressed his doubts fully and discovered the truth of his doubting in all its fullness. Despite Thomas' scepticism he remained loyal to Jesus and those who followed Jesus.

We can doubt without living a doubting way of life. Doubt encourages us to rethink stuff, to help sharpen our minds rather than to change it. Doubt helps us to ask the questions, to find the answers which then push us towards making decisions. Doubt is not meant to be a permanent condition though.

We are encouraged not to settle into doubt but move on from them to decision and belief.

Blessed are those who believe and yet have not seen.

Have a blessed day.

THURSDAY, 5th APRIL 2018

There was no Chapel message today.

FRIDAY, 6th APRIL 2018

Good Morning All

A beautiful sunny autumnal day here at Wesley. God is good!

TGIF and the end of a short week. We look forward to our last week before the holidays.

EASTER

The Bible reading was from Jeremiah 29:10-13 on pages 818 and 958 in the Wesley Bibles.

I'm involved in a three day Health Sciences Academy Camp being organised by the Waitemata District Health Board for Year 11 and 12s from Onehunga High School which began yesterday.

The theme for the camp is 'Standing on the shoulders of Giants.' The aim - to build potential for identity and leadership, to accelerate academic skills and to expose students to career options, pathways, mentors within the area of Health Science.

'Standing on the shoulders of Giants' comes from a quote by the late Sir Isaac Newton who wrote 'If I have seen a little further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants' which means that each generation benefits from the insights and discoveries of those who have gone before.

The late Sir Isaac Newton was English, a mathematician, an astronomer, a theologian, an author and a physicist. He is widely recognised as one of the most influential scientists of all time.

Not many of us can claim to be English, we are Maori and Pasifika but we can claim to be descended from mathematicians, astronomers, theologians, physicists, voyagers and explorers. People so in tune with their environment, the land and sea and sky that they could travel thousands of miles across the Pacific ocean without GPS or a compass.

Perhaps we have here in each one of you students, the potential to follow in the footsteps of our ancestors, standing on the shoulders of giants.

Associate Professor Damon Salesa at Auckland University recently published his book called 'Island Time' and speaks about a Pasifika future which is already here and that those best to be part of and to fully realise what this means, it actually lies with Pasifika communities and Pasifika people themselves. He says if our future looks as it has in the past for Pasifika living here in Aotearoa then our story will be one of unrealised potential. We are the potential to change it ... We have the potential to change it.

The late elder statesman Sir James Henare said 'We can't know where we are going, if we don't know where we have come from' our identity is key to our future. Whose shoulders have we stood on or stand on to enable us to be here at Wesley?

As young people about to make some huge decisions about your future how will you make those choices, whose shoulders and wisdom will help you to see further?

In this season of Easter we're reminded of the future laid down for us in the life death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the potential to live life in good relationships with one another, the potential to be people of good character, the potential to be anything you want and choose to be. The reading from Jeremiah is the reminder and encouragement that our God does nothing to harm but to only prosper us. I'm particularly proud because the young man who is leading the Health Science camp is a Wesley Old Boy Fijian Malcolm Andrews who left here in 2009 and you can tell how proud he is of Wesley. He walks and talks his values which he says he owes

to coming to this school and he acknowledges he would not be where he is today were it not for the shoulders of those he continues to stand on to achieve what he has. He is forever thankful.

Tomorrow we have the first of our rugby season games. U14s and 15s Black and White teams playing at Tamaki College and the 1st XV playing against Dilworth at Karaka. Our teams were reminded they are not just playing rugby, they will represent us in the best way possible on and off the field. They will be playing on the shoulders of many a Wesley giant who has gone before.

Have a blessed day and weekend.

