



## Sacred Heart School, Petone

*Te Kura o Ngākau Tapuki Pito-One*

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Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers

At the Board of Trustees Meeting on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> August the board confirmed the school would be closed on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August. The board supports the teaching staff taking this action.

**Teachers and Principals will be on STRIKE on  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August for the whole day.**

This means the school will be completely closed.

**THERE WILL BE NO SUPERVISION AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL  
FOR ANY STUDENTS.**

PLEASE MAKE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CARE OF YOUR  
CHILDREN ON THIS DAY.

### **WHY ARE WE STRIKING!**

### **WHAT DO OUR CHILDREN (and SCHOOL) NEED?**

#### **To help our special needs children**

We need significant increases to staffing - there aren't enough resources available for supporting children with additional learning needs. There just aren't enough teachers to give your kids the education they deserve.

We need special needs funding to be more accessible and equitable.

We need specific training to deal with students with certain needs.

We need living/sufficient wages for Teacher Aides and Support Staff.

#### **Time to teach and time to lead**

We have immense workloads and more responsibilities without any additional staffing or time.

#### **To fix the teacher shortage crisis**

You send your children to school to help set them up for life. Yet, we are facing a teacher shortage crisis, with a 40% drop (between 2010 – 2016) in people training to be teachers; and a growing number of school-aged children and school rolls.

Schools are struggling to find enough staff to teach our children. We are losing amazing teachers across the board because the hours are so long and the pay is too low.

We have extreme difficulty finding relieving teachers resulting in some instances when classes are doubled up.

#### **Pay increases**

#### **Career Development**

An invitation for parents to take part in the *We'll miss them when they're gone* campaign.

Check out [www.weneedteachers.co.nz](http://www.weneedteachers.co.nz)

Julius Solia

Acting Principal

*Education within the Catholic faith*