

The voice of St John's School

Kia ora whānau



The St John's School Board warmly invites all parents and caregivers to join in sharing the End of Year Mass, our Year 6 Graduation and Mrs Trainor's Farewell at 11am, Wednesday 7th December in the Church and for light refreshments after in the Hall.

For catering and accommodating guests in the Church and Hall, you are asked to...

...please RSVP to Michele Nash, Principal's PA before 3.00pm THIS Friday, 2nd December.

Email: MicheleN@sjmb.school.nz

STAFF & CLASSROOM NEWS 2023

The table below indicates the year level and teacher for each classroom in 2023. Once again, I thank those of you who responded to the class placement email earlier this term. It has been a very lengthy process, and we have done our very best to meet your requests. These placements are now finalised.

We are very pleased to report that we will be running at maximum roll next year.

Class Name	Class Year	Class No.	Teacher
	Level		
Ti Kouka	Year 1	Room 11	Mrs Ashley Shearer
Mahoe	Year 1	Room 12	Mrs Grace Atmadji
Pohutukawa	Year 2	Room 9	Mrs Anne Howard (3 days) Mrs Wendy Whiteman (2 days)
Ponga	Year 2	Room 13	Mrs Beverley Harper
Harakeke	Year 3	Room 7	Mrs Katrina Little (4 days) TBC (1 day)
Karo	Year 3	Room 8	Mrs Allison Miller (3 days) Mrs Wendy Whiteman (2 days)
Mapou	Year 4	Room 2	Mrs Laura Baddeley (DRS)
Tarata	Year 4	Room 3	Mrs Carrie Mercer
Kauri	Year 5	Room 4	Mrs Imelda Moss
Whau	Year 5	Room 5	Mrs Janet Blind
Houpara	Year 6	Room 1	Mrs Cara Mountjoy
Manuka	Year 6	Room 6	Mrs Claire Taylor

Next year Mrs Vivienne Fuaaletoelau, Mrs Helen Perry, Mrs Jill Marsh and Mrs Elizabeth Hames will not have classroom responsibilities. Mrs Fuaaletoelau is our Team Leader with responsibility for the Rangitoto Team (Years 1-3) in addition to being our school SENCo. Mrs Helen Perry is our Team leader with responsibility for the Waitemata team (Years 4-6) in addition to being our school Computer Systems Administrator. Both of these wonderful leaders will also have whole school responsibilities as part of the Senior Leadership team.

Mrs Marsh will be continuing to provide literacy support to some of our learners. Mrs Hames will be undertaking the role of CRT (Classroom Release Teacher), going into all classes to release teachers to undertake planning, assessment, evaluation, and reporting. The children will experience a range of activities from across the curriculum.

God bless, Viki Trainor – Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The first week of Advent

On Sunday, we began the first week of Advent, a time for preparing for the coming of the Christmas celebration. Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for the birth of Jesus, who came to show us God's love. We wait for him to be born again in our hearts, our classrooms, our homes, our parish community, and in the whole world.



This week, we light the first Advent candle. The first candle is purple and represents hope.

Te Atua, you are the hope in our messy world.

Help us slow down, to listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important.

We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth on Christmas. Amen.

Advent Wreath Blessing

On Friday, we gathered in our Church for an Advent wreath blessing led by Fr. Alejandro. Meesol proclaimed that the Advent wreath is in the shape of a circle because, just like a circle, God's love has no beginning and no end. We used evergreen leaves to make our wreath because, just like these leaves that stay green all through the year, God's love for us is everlasting.

An Aotearoa Advent Circle - By Annette Osborne - 10/23/2020

The Aotearoa Advent Circle is an arrangement made of shell necklaces and paua shells with five candles, four around the circle and one in the centre. It's inspired by the traditional Advent Wreath, which was invented in Germany by a village pastor helping his flock to count down the days to Christmas. In Europe the Forest was the place of adventure, quest and danger. The evergreen branches of pine trees symbolised the faithfulness of God's love and the candles showed the light of Christ. But we live in Aotearoa, it's summertime, everything is green, and using traditional pine branches in an Advent wreath seems a little odd. So, here is an Advent circle instead, with symbols drawn from the Ocean instead of the Forest. This is how you can interpret it:



The circle reminds us of God. A circle has no beginning or end, neither has God. God is forever.

The shells remind us of the oceans. The water goes right around our globe touching every continent. God's love is as wide as the ocean, high as the sky, deep as the deepest sea and nobody is ever left out.

Candles remind us that Jesus is the light. As with the traditional wreath, lighting one more candle each week heightens the sense of expectation. The candle in the middle is like a birthday candle for Baby Jesus.

Paua shells gleam and shine like the stars of the Anchor – the Southern Cross – ngā whetu o te Punga. The constellations guided the Māori navigators across te Moana nui a Kiwa, as the promises of God guide us through the darkness of our lives.

Tūmanako. We light one candle on the first Sunday of Advent, and this is called the candle of Hope or sometimes the candle of prophecy.

Rangimarie. We light two candles on the second Sunday of Advent, and this is called the candle of Peace. The angels sang about peace on earth.

Harikoa. We light three candles on the third Sunday of Advent, and this is called the candle of Joy. The angels told the shepherds that Jesus birth was joyful news for everybody.

Aroha. We light four candles on the fourth Sunday of Advent, and this is called the candle of Love. Christmas shows us how much God loves us all.



Aria's Baptism

Last Wednesday, Rooms 2 and 9 felt very privileged to witness the Baptism of Aria. It was such a special moment to be a part of. When walking out of the Church, Aria said to her whānau, "This is the best day of my life."

Lord, thank you for the precious gift of Baptism, that we can publicly declare our love and passion for You. We ask for Your goodness and blessings to be poured out on Aria. We pray that you would work deeply within her heart and soul to renew and refresh her each day.Amen

ATTENDANCE DUES 2022

The School will make the final payment of Attendance Dues to the Auckland Common Fund Limited on Monday, 5th December. Please note this is the only compulsory item on your account that needs to be paid to the Office by 30th November or into the St. John's School Board bank account 12 3042 0320348 00. The termly fee is \$117 per child. The school collects this amount and passes it on, in full, to the Auckland Catholic Diocese. For families paying fees in equal instalments throughout the term, you will have noticed that Attendance Dues is always receipted off your account first. As notified to you at the beginning of Term 4, Attendance Dues in 2023 increase .50cents per week, \$5 per term to \$122.00. Please contact the Principal's PA, Michele Nash, Email: MicheleN@sjmb.school.nz if you have any queries regarding School Dues.

School Fees for 2023

A letter has been sent to all parents from the Board Presiding Member, Anne-Marie Percy. The fees have also been updated on the school website.



This is a reminder that we are looking forward to seeing you all at our School Christmas Nativity Show that takes place

THIS Thursday 1st December at 12.00 Noon

The angels are polishing their wings, donkeys tapping their hooves in time with the music and the children are practising singing some wonderful Christmas songs. Please make your way to the field ready for the show to start at 12 Noon prompt.

You will be called to watch your child's class when they perform so, please listen out carefully as we would hate for you to miss all the hard work and effort that has gone into preparing for the show.

Following the performance, the children will come and join you on the field for a shared class picnic. Please refer to communication from your class CLPS. Absolutely no alcohol is allowed. The picnic will finish at 2.30pm in time for home time. We hope that the weather improves so we can have some festive fun and fellowship next Thursday.

PARKING – There will be a funeral being held at St John's Church at 10.30am so please be mindful of this when parking.

LOST PROPERTY

Following the move of the office to Room 14 there is a significant reduction in space for storing items. It is therefore even more important that children and caregivers check lost property regularly. I endeavour to return named items as quickly as possible and cannot stress enough how important it is to name EVERY item that comes to school (lunch boxes, water bottles, towels, goggles, shoes etc.)

At the end of the term any items that are unnamed and not claimed will either be donated for sale in our second Hand Uniform sale or to a suitable charity.



LIBRARY NEWS



Not long to go now whānau! December is fast approaching.

The library is now closed for stocktaking much to the disappointment of many students, although the school seems positively brimming with activity.

The children and teachers this year checked out 13,893 books. This is absolutely incredible, for comparison in 2019 (when everything was a little more normal) we issued 6,273. This year's issuing is a 121.5% increase from the 2019 total. The children have shown incredible self - management with remembering to return so many books this year.

Congratulations to all the children who remembered to bring their books back during our book returns drive and received their ticket to our annual poster draw. The nine winners were drawn on Wednesday by Mrs Trainor, Miss Binns and Mrs Marsh. Congratulations children!



Currently we have 48 books outstanding from 20 children, please look out for the overdue slips coming home. If the book is lost, please don't worry, it does happen from time to time.

All I ask is that an adult from the family sends me an email to let me know that the book has been lost so that this can be recorded.

Email to Library@sjmb.school.nz



Last Wednesday we held our first **Garden to Table** produce sale. We harvested onions, herbs, silverbeet, sprouts and bagged up kale and lettuce to sell. We also sold jars of worm tea. We managed to raise \$55.00 for our programme.





SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL AND KEYS FOR SUMMER USE

The pool is now open for swimming – Thank you Mr Dixon!

You are offered a family key to take advantage of the pool for family swimming. The cost is \$80 for the entire season plus a \$20 key bond [refundable]. The season end is flexible, around 31st March 2023.



Keys are numbered and must be returned within four weeks of the end of the season when a bond refund will be given. If the key is not returned within this time the refund is forfeited as these keys need to be refigured and replaced each year. Keys can be purchased at the school office up until noon, Wednesday, 14th December when the office closes for the year.



SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

The last second-hand uniform sale for 2022 will be THIS Thursday, 1st December at 2.30pm in the school hall. Cash preferred.

For specific needs please contact our parent co-ordinator, Mrs Fran Gilchrist on Tel: 021 488 279

UNIFORM REMINDER OF THE WEEK

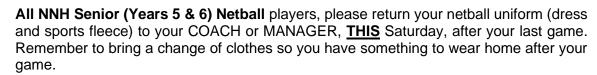


Children should still bring their full PE uniform (including shoes & socks) to school each week on a Monday, returning home on Friday for washing if necessary.

Although this is now the season for swimming, occasionally this is not possible, and it is important that children have suitable clothing for PE lessons instead.

SPORTS UNIFORM RETURNS

All inventory belonging to the school needs to be accounted for before the end of the school year. All uniforms will be checked back in against the 'issued list' we have, so please ensure that you return them otherwise charges may be incurred.





All Kidzplay Junior (Years 1-4) Netball players should have already returned their skirts and fleeces at the end of the winter season. If you still have any of these netball uniform items, please return them to school immediately in a bag labelled with your child's name and their team's name.

All netball Team Managers / Coaches please return your kit bags with bibs, balls, first aid box, all Player of the Day Trophies, and all uniforms for your team to the school office or Karen Dorrington on or before Friday, 9th December 2022.

All basketball singlets, school fleeces, and any other equipment and uniforms that were issued must be returned to your COACH / MANAGER on the last day of play, and children must bring alternative tops/tee-shirts to wear home.

Basketball, Hockey & Touch Coaches & Managers, you have until Tuesday 13th December at the latest to return your gear as your games finish on Friday 9th Dec (Basketball) and Monday, 12th December (Hockey & Touch).

Thursday night Touch team Coaches or Managers are to make a separate arrangement with Mrs Karen Dorrington regarding your gear bag drop off at school, as your last game is on Thursday 15th of December. This can still be done before Christmas.

Karen can be reached via email at sports@sjmb.school.nz

SPORTS NEWS

Interschoool Tennis Tournament – Monday, 28th November 2022

Yesterday our team of eight enthusiastic year 5 & 6 girls and boys headed off to the Campbells Bay Tennis Club with Mrs Dorrington to compete in the Super Cluster Interschool Tennis Tournament. This event had been postponed from Term 1. The team comprised of 3 boys and 5 girls being: Joseph Howard & Phoenix Mountjoy (Boys Singles), Julia Bai & Thomas Cheong (Mixed Doubles), Elena Rotaeche & Tiwonge (Girls Singles), and Ruby Lockwood with Annabel Ko (Girls Doubles).

Our doubles results, both the mixed and the girls' teams, produced some well-played games where the competition was played in a "round robin" format. We are still waiting for the final results of the girls doubles team to see whether they ended up 3rd or 4th in their competition. Our singles results were well fought out and both our boys and girls had good games. Tiwonge Shoniwa did extremely well reaching the semi-finals of her singles after coming through the draw with 3 wins and a loss. A small loss in her semi-final saw her playing off for 3rd and 4th position. The game produced some great rally's and after a 3-point loss Tiwonge was placed 4th. Each singles player or doubles combinations played a minimum of 3 games during the day, with some having 4 or 5 games. The energy, attitude, and wonderful team spirit with which our team took on their opponents, was commendable.



The organising schools' object of the day was for all teams to have fun, and that was clearly visible by our team and those of the other schools there. The weather conditions were more than acceptable given the weather we've had lately, however the strong wind was a bit cool when not in the sun. The facilities at the tennis club were great and provided plenty of shelter if required, along with adequate outdoor and indoor seating. We will continue to attend this tournament in the future and in 2023 it will be back in its usual spot; in Term 1. Many thanks to Mrs Rotaeche and Mrs Howard who assisted with the transportation, and to the other parents who came along and supported the team. An enjoyable day for all involved.

Our 2022 Interschool Tennis team (below): Julia Bai, Thomas Cheong, Joseph Howard, Annabel Ko, Phoenix Mountjoy, Ruby Lockwood, Elena Rotaeche.



CONGRATULATIONS

Lucy McQueen – Netball Coaches Award (great defence) **Lucy McQueen** – 1st in 2km Kids Dash, Run the Point

Congratulations to our Year 4 girls 4 x 100m relay team, (Andrea Kubes, Isla McQueen, Eloisa Duff, Molly-Kate Smith) who won their event at the Interschool Athletics competition that took place last Friday at the AUT Millennium Stadium



Yr4 Netball – Daffodils: Another convincing win for the ladies, this time 12-nil against the Westminster Pearls. This is a team we played against during the Winter comp and lost too. It's great to see consistency in the coaching, mentoring and team members leading to the team becoming stronger together over time.

Player of the Day was Meesol Tak who stood up at centre to take control of the game and ensure territory dominance during the match was owned by the Daffodils – well done Meesol.

Report from Clifton Madgwick

2023 BACK TO SCHOOL STATIONERY



Back to school stationery - order now!

We've teamed up with OfficeMax to make your back to school shop super easy. And if you order in December, you'll go in the draw to WIN 1 of 5 \$1000 cash prizes — plus, you'll get a FREE A4 Magnetic Whiteboard Family Organiser*.

Your child's class list is already loaded. Just go to myschool.co.nz. Simply add your details, check that you want everything on the list, then click and confirm — and OfficeMax will get your delivery underway with free delivery on orders over \$60*.

You can pay by internet banking, credit card or debit card. Laybuy* is also available, so you can pay in 6 weekly, interest-free payments and still get your order right away. Plus you'll be helping our school earn school rewards* that we use to purchase much needed extra resources for our school.

We encourage you to order early to ensure your child has all their stationery requirements ready to go in plenty of time for the start of Term 1.

So go ahead and beat the back to school rush, order today and give them the best start possible.

* Terms & Conditions apply, see myschool.co.nz for details.

If you have any questions about OfficeMax MySchool please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Anneliese Bridges in the office, email: office@sjmb.school.nz (this email address will also be checked sporadically over the summer holidays) or speak directly to the helpful team at Officemax.

For New Entrant children joining St John's between Term 2 and 4 and for additional stationery items needed throughout the year for all year levels, these will still be available to purchase from the school office.

SCHOOL LEAVERS 2022

School Leavers

If your family is leaving our school and moving to another school that does not use Kindo for school payments, you need to close your account. If you're not sure about the new school, log in, go to My Details and click on the list of schools, scrolling to find your new school.



If your new school is NOT on the list, use the 'close account' button on that screen. You can choose to donate your balance to St John's or have it paid out to your nominated bank account.

BEGINNING OF 2023

Please ensure you login to your Kindo account (www.mykindo.co.nz) regularly to give permission, volunteer to help and make payments for Trip permission forms, Sports Registrations, Back to School expenses etc.

Termly School Fees will continue to be dealt with separately by Mrs Michele Nash, michelen@sjmb.school.nz

We endeavour to load all additional yearly charges, for example for Maths, Literacy and R.E. Online learning for the beginning of the year. If possible, we also post permissions and costs for our EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) trips and appreciate your early addition to these items. An explanation of each charge is in the description of the item on Kindo.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Bridges in the school office (office@simb.school.nz) or if you have difficulties with the Kindo website their helpdesk is but a phonecall away (Freephone 0508 454 636).

EZ COVERS FOR CHILDREN'S 2023 STATIONERY

Once again we are welcoming the opportunity to use EZ Covers. EZ Covers are a simple and unique way to cover school exercise books. They are reusable, non toxic, PVC free and made right here in NZ. You can order your covers in a few easy steps

- Go to https://nz.ezcovers.com/
- 2. Select the cover types and sizes you need
- 3. At checkout, select St John's school (Mairangi Bay) from the drop down box and use the code EZ15 to earn our PTFA a 15 cent rebate for every cover purchased.





PARISH NEWS

Tuesday Morning CATCH-UP: Join us at the White Flower Café, Browns Bay on Tuesday between 9.30 & 11.00am. If anyone would like to join us. This is an opportunity just to meet socially & chat.





ECB St. Vincent De Paul FOODBANK Our stocks are very low; we especially need **INSTANT NOODLES AND BREAKFAST SPREADS**. We very much appreciate all the donations we receive. Please leave your donations in the basket in the church foyer.

VACANCY: De Paul House: Experienced Social Worker or Community Worker. De Paul House have provided housing and family support services for those most vulnerable in our community for over 36 years. We are looking for a caring & experienced social worker or community support worker with a passion for people. Bachelor or Master's degree in social work or psychotherapy, occupational therapy or other related mental health field with at least 3 years social work experience and/or appropriate community worker experience. Registered social worker with SWRB NZ or registered health professional under the HPCA Act Full details on https://www.depaulhouse.org.nz/work-with-us Please submit your CV and cover letter to admin@depaulhouse.org.nz Applications close 11 December 2022. De Paul House, 92 Onewa Road, Northcote.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE:

PARENTS WANTING THEIR FIRST CHILD BAPTISED. held at St John's Church:

Tuesday December 6th; 7:15pm.

Attendance is a pre-requisite for parents wanting their 1st child baptised. Email liz@ecbcatholic.org.nz

ECB CHRISTMAS MASSES 2022

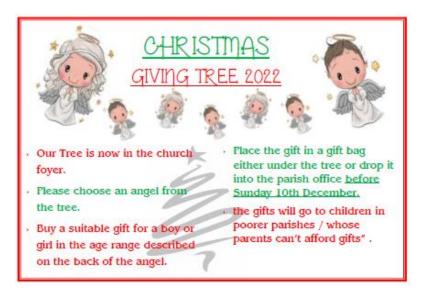
Dec. 24: 5.30pm Children's Mass; St. Francis

Dec.24: 8.15pm Carols & Mass; St. John's

NO MIDNIGHT MASS this year

Dec. 25: 7.30am Mass; St. Francis

Dec. 25: 9.00am Mass; St. John's



For information regarding the ECB Parish Sacramental Programme for 2023 please refer to the Parish website.

https://eastcoastbayscatholic.org.nz/

This will be my last newsletter as editor for 2022 as I will be having shoulder surgery next Tuesday.

I wish you all a wonderful, happy, and blessed festive season, with much joy during the holidays.

I look forward to seeing all of you again in 2023.

To our Year 6 children I wish you much success and happiness in wherever your future adventures carry you.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

Mrs Anneliese Bridges – Newsletter Editor

WE EXTEND OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL.





St John's School

With thanks to the below businesses for sponsoring our school app:



If you would like to advertise on the St John's School Skool Loop App please email Content@skoolloop.com

To download our app: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose St John's School once installed.

COMMUNITY NOTICES













Jazz School, Christmas Big Band workshop

This will be an exciting two day school holiday workshop where year 6, 7 and 8 students will learn to play in a Jazz Big Band and then perform a concert for family and friends on the final afternoon. The Big Band is for Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone and Clarinet players plus Electric Guitar, Piano, Bass and Drums. The music we play will range from jazz versions of Christmas favourites to modern pop classics with an emphasis on having fun while producing music at a high standard. This workshop will be run by Drew Hutchinson. Students must be playing at grade 2 level or higher, or have had two years of lessons. The workshop is on December the 15th and 16th from 9am - 3pm at King's School, 258 Remuera Road, Remuera. To register for the workshop please visit jazzschool.co.nz or email jnrjazzschool@gmail.com for more information.

