



July
2023

NEWSLETTER

Te Reo ō te Kura ō Hato Hoāni
The voice of St John's School

Kia ora whānau.

Welcome back to Term 3. I hope that you have had a wonderful time over the school holidays and were able to take some time yourselves to relax and refresh. I was fortunate enough to spend some time away with my family in the first week. At the end of the second week, I unfortunately tested positive for Covid, having been lucky enough to avoid it for three years, so am currently at home. Not the start to the term that I was expecting.

Today we welcomed our newest students to the St John's whānau with the opening of Room 10 with Mrs McGregor. I wish them and their families the best start to school possible, and look forward to getting to know our new students over the next few weeks as they settle in.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION COMMUNITY CONSULTATION



As you will have read in an email last term, the School Board is in the process of reviewing the Strategic Direction for the school. The current Strategic Plan can be viewed [here](#).

“What do you desire for your child's journey through St John's School?”

Your input is a valuable part of this process. We would like to invite you to a community consultation meeting on Tuesday July 25th, 2023. The meeting will be held in the school hall, beginning at 6:30pm.

For those parents unable to attend the meeting, there will be an opportunity to submit your thoughts through a digital platform. A link will be provided closer to the time.

NEAREST AND DEAREST DAY

Friday 18th August, 2023
8:50am – 11:00am

It takes a
village to
raise a child....



A first for St John's School, Friday 18th August will be our Nearest and Dearest Day. Each student is invited to bring a special person in their life - this might be a parent, a grandparent, an auntie, an uncle, an older sibling or a family friend.

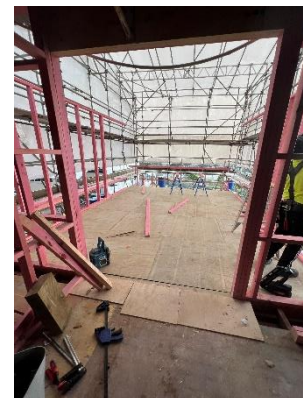
The day will begin in the classrooms at 8:50am, where they will share in the class prayer time. Our students will share some of their learning with them and also give them an idea of some of the things they do during a school day. There will then be an opportunity for students to show their guests around their classes and the school, having fun together, with a light morning tea to finish. We anticipate we will finish at approximately 11:00am.

PROPERTY



During the holidays work continued on the administration block, with a new roof being installed over Rooms 4 - 6 and the office area. All the sheets are installed and finishing touches are now being completed.

Most foundation work and subflooring is near completion and reports say that we are still on track for the mid-November completion schedule.



DATES TO DIARY

We have a full and busy term ahead, kicking off with the PTFA Children's Disco this Friday and the PTFA Parent's Casino Evening this Saturday. Below are some key dates for this term. For further dates, please check the calendar on the school website which is regularly updated. If we need to change these dates for any reason the calendar will be updated and if needed, communication will come via email.

God bless, Marina Binns.

Tumuaki – Principal

Date	Event
Tuesday 18 th July	PTFA Monthly Meeting, 7:00pm
Wednesday 19 th July	Parish Mass attendance Rooms 4 and 8, 9.15am
Friday 21 st July	PTFA Children's Disco
Friday 21 st July	Volcano Van Year 4
Saturday 22 nd July	PTFA Parent Casino Night, 7.00pm
Tuesday 25 th July	School Community Consultation Meeting, 6.30pm
Thursday 27 th July	Supercluster Netball Tournament (Y6)
Tuesday 1 st August	PTFA Monthly Meeting, 7:00pm
Wednesday 2 nd August	Parish Mass attendance Rooms 2 and 9, 9.15am
Thursday 3 rd August	Rippa Tournament Day 2
Thursday 3 rd August	Second Hand Uniform Sale, 2.50pm in the hall, cash preferred
Friday 4th August	Year 4 Mangere Mountain visit
Monday 7 th August	Y5 and 6 Positive Puberty Parent information evening, 6:30pm
Tuesday 8 th August	Whole School Liturgy Feast of St Mary of the Cross (McKillop), 11.00am
Thursday 10 th August	Year 5 and 6 Positive Puberty Sessions
Friday 11 th August	Year 5 and 6 North Shore Book Battle
Monday 14th August	Year 1 Museum Trip
Tuesday 15 th August	Whole School Mass Feast of the Assumption, 11.00am
Thursday 17 th August	Supercluster Hockey
Friday 18 th August	Nearest and Dearest Day
Tuesday 22 nd August	Supercluster Basketball
Wednesday 23 rd August	Student led Conferences (School closes at 12:00pm)
Friday 25 th August	Daffodil Day coin trail
Wednesday 30 th August	Parish Mass attendance Rooms 1, 11 and 10
Friday 1 st September	PTFA Frozen Friday
Friday 1 st September	Social Outreach Afternoon (Y5)
Monday 4 th – Friday 8 th September	Social Justice Week and Cans for Christmas Collection
Tuesday 5 th September	PTFA Monthly Meeting 7:00pm
Thursday 14 th September	Year 6 Retreat
Friday 22 nd September	Non-uniform day – gold coin donation for Gala lucky envelopes

WELCOME TO FR. CARLO CRUZ



We are pleased to welcome Fr. Carlo Cruz to our Parish and School community. Some of our classes have been lucky enough to already have a visit from him. Last term during Week 8, Room 2 enjoyed a visit from Father. He shared with us that we should try to show joy in our lives. When we show joy in our lives then we think of **Jesus Others Yourself**.

We look forward to getting to know Father and pray that he feels strength from God in his Ministry.



CARITAS 'STOP IT' CHALLENGE



Many people live without items that we take for granted, such as television, Internet access, mobile phones, and even enough nutritious food, warm clothing or adequate shelter.

At the end of last term, we participated in the **'Stop It'** rice challenge for Caritas. We gave up something that we normally take for granted and tried to develop empathy for those who are less privileged than us. We all gave up our lunches and ate plain white rice instead. Thank you to the CLPs who support me in coordinating this day. We really appreciate those parents who gave up their time and rice cookers for our tamariki.

Justine from Caritas visited St John's to talk with the children and to reinforce how grateful we should feel to have food, shelter, clothing and a beautiful school to learn.

CARITAS YCC DAY (YOUTH CREATING CHANGE)

On the last day of term we had a non-uniform day in return for a gold coin donation to Oecusse School in Timor-Leste. The money we raised will go towards repairing and replacing all the broken toilet bowls and will support the repairs of the handwashing/flushing stations located in each toilet cubicle.

Thank you, St. John's, for your generosity! We raised **\$499.30**.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

On Wednesday 14th June many of our senior students received the Sacrament of Confirmation celebrated by Bishop Steve, Fr. Carlo and Fr. Emile. I was honoured to be there to witness the children receiving this special Sacrament and wish them God's blessings as they continue in their faith journey.

Congratulations to the following children on making the Sacrament of Confirmation: Rafael, Andre, Louvel, Noel, Joshua, Matthew, Thomas, Matteo, Holly, Bronson, Zack, Michael, Nina, Sophie, Mark, Sean, Hara, Aiden, Lydia, Silvia, Angelina, Alex, Emma, Avisha, Mira, Dominic, Trinity, Coralee, Wonai, Helena, Andre and Evelyn.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday 30 July 2023 at 10:30am Mass at St Francis de Sales Church in Torbay (8 Finchley Road).

FEAST OF MARY MACKILLOP AND FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION - TERM THREE

We invite you to join our Liturgy to celebrate the Feast of Mary Mackillop on Tuesday 8th August at 11am in St John's Church.

We also invite you to join our Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption on Tuesday 15th August at 11am in St John's Church.

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES CONFERENCE

During Week 8, I attended the annual DRS conference with the Primary and Secondary schools' Directors of Religious Studies at Waipuna. The theme was '*Be the Light of Christ*'. We heard a variety of inspiring speakers and Bishop Steve Lowe celebrated Mass for us all.

Dr. Rocio Figuera who is a lecturer in Theology spoke of the mystery of God and how our Trinitarian faith is expressed through metaphors. God is a friend, a mother, a father, creator yet none of these metaphors are enough to explain the reality of who God really is.

Ngā mihi,
Laura Baddeley
Director of Religious Studies

Three folds of the cloth
yet only one napkin is
there,
Three joints in the finger,
but still only one finger
fair,
Three leaves of the
shamrock,
yet no more than one
shamrock to wear,
Frost, snow-flakes and ice,
all in water their origin
share
Three persons in God,
to one God alone we make
prayer

Author unknown



TERM 3 AND 4 STUDENT LEADERS

There are many opportunities for all our Year 6 students to become actively involved in our school and I look forward to seeing the next group of Year 6 leaders take up this leadership. In such roles the students are invited to lead their peers and demonstrate and develop responsibility for both themselves and others. Leadership begins with identifying and understanding our values; Faith, Community, Respect, Excellence and Wellbeing. As leaders they are in a position to, through their own words and actions, influence, motivate and guide others to become the best they can be and grow closer to God.

I would like to congratulate our Term 3 and 4 House Leaders; elected by their peers to lead our four houses. This is a long-held tradition. They will hold office over the next two terms and provide a valuable student voice to the Senior Leadership, their mandate is to KNOW what is right, to STAND for what is right and to LEAD others in that direction.

For Keegan House;	Thomas Cheong and Scarlett Hill
For Liston House;	Clara Kim and Zachary Zhao
For Pierce House;	Maggy Cundell and Conrad Grayson
For Quinlan House;	Isaac Fuaaletoelau and Carter Gilchrist

I also congratulate our Young MacKillops for Terms 3 and 4. These children were selected by Mrs Baddeley and their teachers. They provide a student voice around social justice and work with Mrs Baddeley as our Director of Religious Studies to support and promote the Special Character of our school, particularly through leadership in liturgy.

The Young MacKillops for Terms 3 and 4 are: Crystal Auger, Abigail Augenstein, Orlaith Burns, Yasmeena Falla, Lauren Graham, Blake Jewson, Thomas Moore, Willow Shearer, Parker Simpson and Brooke Thornton.

HEALTH AND SAFETY IN THE SCHOOL CARPARKS

A couple of reminders to make sure our tamariki remain safe... We ask that **all drivers keep speed down to 5km/hr** when entering and exiting the school carparks as there are many children around and cars entering and exiting parking spots.

I also stress the importance of **using the pathways provided** rather than walking through the middle of the turning circle. We ask that you **do not call your children to you across the carpark**, but rather collect them using the paths as we try to reinforce safe practices around vehicles. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

KEEPING OURSELVES SAFE

This term the school will be taking part in the Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme. This is a personal safety programme, designed by New Zealand Police- Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa which aims to:

- teach students a range of safe practices that they can use when interacting with other people, both online and face to face.
- teach students how to recognise the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships, and encourage students who have been or are being abused to seek help.
- prevent abuse by making parents and teachers more aware of their responsibilities to help students avoid abuse.

More information about the programme can also be found on the [NZ Police website](#).



SCHOOL DUES

Following recent changes to the Operations Manual from the Diocese, and for St. John's School to be compliant, you will see on your Term 3 statement that both Term 3 and Term 4 Attendance Dues have been added to your accounts.

PLEASE NOTE THAT FEES HAVE NOT INCREASED AND ONLY THE FEES MARKED IN THE TERM THAT IS CURRENT ARE DUE FOR PAYMENT BY THE DUE DATE SHOWN ON THE INVOICE/STATEMENT

\$355 per term broken down as:

Attendance Dues	\$122.00
Parent Contribution Donation	\$178.50
Special Character Contribution Donation	\$12.50
School Development Contribution Donation	\$10.50
Local Schools Fixtures and Fittings Contribution Donation	\$31.50

Totalling \$355.00 per term. For families that have prepaid Term 3 and 4 and it is fully paid, you will not receive a statement. For families that have in part pre-paid Term 3, Attendance Dues are already showing and Term 4 will show but it is not due until Term 4. If you have any queries, please email my PA, michelen@sjmb.school.nz.

OUT AND ABOUT AROUND THE SCHOOL

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST FEAST DAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE



YEAR 6 GO TO CATS



YEAR 4 LAKERS



Congratulations to the Year 4 Lakers (Noel, Sean, Hugo, Eli, Josh, George and Louie), winners of the Year 3 and 4 A Grade Basketball for Semester One.

They took out the win with a convincing 36 - 4 score in the final game.

CARITAS RICE CHALLENGE

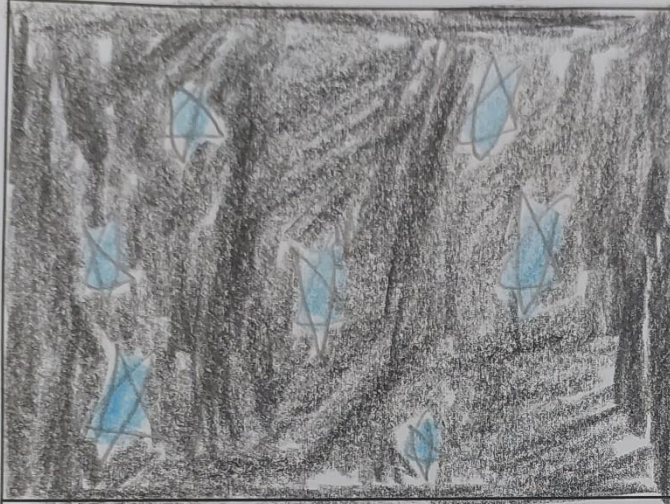






Fortnite's Newspaper

MATARIKI



star it means good luck for you and your crops. The seven sisters names are Matariki, Tupu ā nuku, Tupu ā rangi, Waipuna ā rangi, Waiti, Waitā and Ururangi. There are many legends and myths about Matariki, for example Māui and

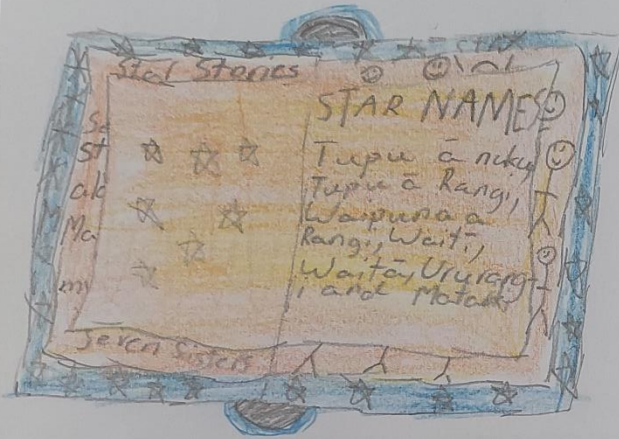
his brothers slowed Tama nui-te-rā, the sun, eventually the seven stars sang a song that made Tama-nui-te-rā the sun come out of his hiding spot. Matariki is important to celebrate for everyone in New Zealand.

This holiday Matariki is coming it is a time of celebrating and telling stories of your parents in there past. Matariki is also called the seven sisters. Did you know that Matariki is the Māori new year. If you can't see the cluster of stars it means bad luck but if you see the

by Evelyn ☺

STAR NEWS

MATARIKI



shine brightly, it means good luck and it means that you're going to have a bright year and your crops are going to grow?! Matariki is a time to prepare for the future and reflect on the past, and it is a time to

This weekend has a special public holiday...

gather with your family and tell each other stories.

It is the māori new year! It is also called

Family come together to learn about their ancestors. Hope you get to see the Matariki! Bye!!!

Matariki. Matariki is a cluster of seven stars

and you can only see them in late May

or early June in New Zealand. Did you know

that if you can't see the Matariki then it

means bad luck, but if you can see it

THE NEW ZEALAND NEWS

Matariki stars



By: Silvia Kim

This weekend is the public holiday because we celebrate the Matariki stars. The names of the Matariki stars are Matariki, Tupu ā nuku, Tupu ā rangi, Waipuna ā rangi, Waiti, Waitā, and Ururangi. It is a great time to celebrate with our Whānau and friends. Most of the people share Kai. Especially Kumara, and soup

and Kaimama. If you look for them and can't see them, you need to look for them again in late May or early June. If you can't see them in late May or early June, it's bad luck for your crops and for the year ahead. However, if you can see them shining brightly, it is good luck for your crops and the year ahead. There are heaps and HEAPS of legends about Matariki. Matariki is one of the most important things in New Zealand.