



**10th October
2023
Term 4, Week 1**

NEWSLETTER

Te Reo o te Kura o Hato Hoani
The voice of St John's School

Kia ora whānau,

Welcome back to Term 4. I hope you were able to take some time over the last two weeks to relax and enjoy the break from the school routines. We look forward to the many school events happening this term, a chance for us to gather as a school and faith community.

This begins next week on Friday as we hold our annual Mission Fair for the children. The staff and children love this day as it is full of fun and giving. The recipient of our fundraising this year is St Vincent de Paul House in Northcote.

Make sure that you take note of the calendar of events happening this term.

DATES TO DIARY

Looking ahead, please take note of the following dates. We ask that you also keep an eye on the School Calendar for any new events and updates.

Tuesday 10 th October	PTFA Meeting
Friday 20 th October	Mission Fair Day for the children
Monday 23 rd October	Labour Day (School closed due to public holiday)
Tuesday 24 th October	Year 4 Trip to Corban Art Centre
Wednesday 25 th October	School Photo Day – Class, Individual and Sibling
Thursday 26 th October	School Photo Day – Sport Teams
Thursday 26 th October	School Board meeting
Friday 27 th October	Frozen Friday (\$2 Juicies to support the PTFA fundraising goals)
Mon 30 th Oct – Fri 3 rd Nov	Dance Curriculum Sessions
Tuesday 31 st Oct	Year 6 Kahui Ako Mass
Wednesday 1 st Nov	Year 5 Overnight at Kelly Tarlton's
Friday 3 rd November	Year 6 Carmel and Rosmini Orientation visits
Monday 6 th November	Technology - Instrument Making Show
Tuesday 7 th November	Interschool Touch Tournament
Tuesday 7 th November	PTFA Meeting
Thursday 9 th November	Year 2 Trip to Auckland Art Gallery
Friday 10 th November	School Gala
Tuesday 14 th November	Non-uniform day supporting Live Brave - Mana Ora, supporting children and young people with diabetes
Wednesday 15 th November	Athletics Day
Friday 17 th November	Teacher Only Day (school closed for instruction)
Wednesday 22 nd November	WDHB Vision & Hearing Technician visit
Monday 27 th November	Blessing of our Advent Wreaths
Wednesday 29 th November	Interschool Athletics
Thursday 30 th November	School Board meeting
Friday 1 st December	Rangitoto Team Christmas Show
Sunday 3 rd December	PTFA Christmas Tree Order pick up

Tuesday 5 th December	End of Year and Graduation Mass
Sunday 10 th December	PTFA Christmas Tree Order pick up
Thursday 14 th December	School closes for the year at 12:00pm

2024 TERM DATES AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Thursday 1 st February	School open for Interview Day (see below for more information)
Friday 2 nd February	School open for Classes
Tuesday 6 th February	Waitangi Day (School closed due to public holiday)
Friday 29 th March	Good Friday (School closed due to public holiday)
Monday 1 st April	Easter Monday (School closed due to public holiday)
Tuesday 2 nd April	Easter Tuesday (School closed due to public holiday for schools)
Friday 12 th April	Last Day of school for Term 1
Sat 13th - Sun 28th April	School Holidays (includes ANZAC Day 25 April)
Monday 29 th April	Term 2 begins
Monday 3 rd June	King's Birthday (School closed due to public holiday)
Friday 28 th June	Matariki (School closed due to public holiday)
Friday 5 th July	Last Day of school for Term 2
Sat 6th July - Sun 21st July	School Holidays
Monday 22 nd July	Term 3 begins
Friday 27 th September	Last Day of school for Term 3
Sat 28th Sept - Sun 13th Oct	School Holidays
Monday 14 th October	Term 4 begins
Monday 28 th October	Labour Day (School closed due to public holiday)
Tuesday 17 th December TBC	School closes for the year at 12:00pm To be confirmed following confirmation of Teacher Only Days for next year.

BEGINNING OF YEAR SCHOOL INTERVIEWS

Traditionally we have held 'Meet the Teacher' meetings between the class teachers and parents in about Week 3 of the school year. For 2024, instead of these meetings, we will be doing this a bit differently.

A new initiative for next year is that the first day of school, Thursday 1st February, will be our school interview day and not a full day of classes. It is an opportunity for you and your child to meet the class teacher and share your aspirations for your child for 2024 and any valuable information with them. It is also a chance to bring in stationery and have a look around the classroom. Students are expected to attend this interview with a parent(s) or caregiver(s). Students are required to attend their interview in school uniform.

Further information will be sent in December. Interview times will be booked through the School Interview website, as per normal, following the confirmation of class placement on the End of Year Report.

Friday 2nd February is our first full day of school classes.

2024 CLASS PLACEMENT

Teachers and Senior Leadership are now in the process of placing children into classes. Our teachers spend a lot of time getting to know your children as both people and learners. Therefore, their professional judgment is critical when placing the children in classes. If you wish to share any information about your child that you think we need to know when finalising placement please email classes@sjmb.school.nz by next Friday, 20th October. Confirmed placements for 2024 will be included in your child's end of year school report.

SCHOOL SHOW

I would like to congratulate the Year 6 students and teaching team. I am sure those that were able to attend the school production in the last week of last term would agree that it was a fantastic success, and I am so proud of the students for their effort and achievement. It is no small undertaking to produce a show and the students and their teaching team were involved from the very inception of the story to the final applause.

I would also like to thank all the staff and parents who gave of their time and effort to support the school production. These things do not happen without the fantastic level of support we are lucky to receive from home and school.

UNIFORM AND SUN SAFETY

Due to the fluctuating weather at this time of the year, Weeks 1 and 2 are changeover periods from the Winter Uniform to the Summer Uniform. We ask that whichever uniform you chose for your child to wear, that they wear the complete and correct uniform, not mixing Summer and Winter.



The exception to this is the school hat. This is compulsory when playing outside in Term 4 irrespective of which uniform is worn. We encourage these to stay at school for the term so that they are always available. If a child does not have a hat, they will need to stay under one of the sheltered areas of the school. Hats can be purchased from [NZ Uniforms](#) via the website or from their shop located at 19A Douglas Alexander Parade, Rosedale, Albany.

You may wish to apply sunscreen before school and you are welcome to provide sunscreen in your child's bag for them to apply themselves at lunchtime.

All children will be in the Summer uniform following Labour Day, Tuesday 24th October.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND SOCIAL OUTREACH

MISSION FAIR Friday 20th October

Our Mission Fair is a highlight of the St. John's School Calendar. Community outreach combined with fun and fellowship!

In true Mary MacKillop fashion, 'Never see a need without doing something about it', the money raised this year will go to families at De Paul House in Northcote.



De Paul House provides housing and support services for those most vulnerable in our community, focusing on families with dependent children. Children will be able to wear non-uniform clothes on the day at the cost of a gold coin donation.

We begin our Mission Day Fair after morning tea – this includes games, activities and raffles prepared by the children for the children. They pay to participate in the games and for this they will need 10¢ and 20¢ coins. Please prepare for this as change is not available from the school office. There will also be raffle prizes with tickets costing \$0.50 per ticket. Prizes include soft toys, stationery, arts, crafts, and sweet treats. Raffle tickets will be on sale next week at lunchtime and on the day of the Mission Fair.

The spirit of the day is one of giving to children who are not as well off as we are. We encourage the children to do little jobs at home to earn money to bring, spend and donate. Children are invited at the end of the fair to contribute 'left-over' money to the fundraising effort. Please speak to your children about the spirit of the day as being one of giving to others.

There will also be a sausage sizzle at lunchtime kindly sponsored by the PTFA – sausages \$1.00 each.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

October is the month of the Rosary. The beauty of the Rosary is that it can be prayed on so many levels, in so many places, individually or communally. Because the prayers of the Rosary are memorized, we can pray it while doing other tasks. Some people pray the Rosary while driving or walking.

Pope Francis invites all Catholics to pray the Rosary for peace in Ukraine, all war-torn regions and for the Synod of Bishops on Synodality. At the time he said these words the conflict in the Israeli/Palestinian conflict had not started.

The conflict in Ukraine had a direct effect on our Year Six students. One of their classmates and their family left their very happy life in Mairangi Bay and returned to England to provide a secure haven for family members escaping the conflict.

We pledged to them that we would say the Rosary every week as Pope Francis had asked. The children continue to take great comfort in this gesture.

"I urge everyone to experience the beauty of praying the Rosary, contemplating with Mary the Mysteries of Christ, and invoking her intercession for the needs of the Church and the world."

Pope Francis

Rosary beads make a wonderful gift for Catholic children. Here is a [link](#) that may help those who are a bit rusty!

Mā Atua koe e manaaki,
Cara Mountjoy – Director of Religious Studies.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Photolife are coming once again to take our school photos. Class, individual and sibling photos are scheduled for **Wednesday 25th October**, with sports photos being taken the following day, **Thursday 26th October**.

All children will be photographed for a class photo and an individual photo. We ask that children are in tidy and correct full Summer uniform for class and individual photos.



SPORTS PHOTOS: All teams will be photographed in their PE gear, with the exception of Netball and Basketball, which will be photographed in the uniform they play in.

Coaches and Managers are very welcome to join their teams for their photographs, however, we are unable to provide a specific running order or indication of what time of day specific teams will have their photograph taken. If you would like to attend and have some flexibility, please email Karen Dorrington at sports@simb.school.nz who maybe able to give more guidance on timing closer to the date.

SIBLING PHOTOS: If you wish your children to have a sibling photograph where they are photographed together **we require the completed request form to be returned to the school office as soon as possible before 25th October**. No family is able to be photographed without this form. These will be coming home with your eldest child this week. Extra copies are available in the school office. Sibling photograph packs can be ordered and paid for, in due course, in the same way as the individual and class photos.

ORDERING PHOTOS: The ordering of Class, Individual & Sports Team photographs is online. This system works on a link to your child's name. After we have approved the proofs Photolife will email caregivers directly with a 'shoot key' code which you use to view and order your children's photographs online. The shoot key is unique to your child and gives a high level of security; students cannot access other student's photographs, and the system ensures images cannot be 'grabbed' off the internet and printed or posted to social media sites.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

The next scheduled second hand uniform sale will be on Thursday 2nd November at 3.00pm in the school hall. Please bring cash.



In the meantime if you should have any specific urgent requirements please contact our parent co-ordinator, Mrs Fran Gilchrist at tel: 021488279 or email: fkgilchrist@gmail.com

SPORTS UPDATE

Congratulations to our Year 6 boys Flippaball players who were invited to play Waterpolo for Rosmini this term. It was a bumper year, so they have created 2 teams for Rosmini recruits. They had their first training this morning.

LOST PROPERTY

An unnamed ECB RFC top found in Lost Property at the end of Term 3. Possibly lost on non-uniform day. Available for collection from school office.

FROM THE PARISH



PARISH CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE MASS 2023 !!!!- Yes we're back!

Are you aged 7 or older, **love to sing** (this is very important) and would like to have a special role in our **Parish Children's Christmas Eve Mass at St Francis Church on December 24th?**

Come along and learn the songs to lead this special celebration and be part of the dramatization of the Nativity story during the mass.

Practices will take place on **Saturday afternoons from 3:00 - 4:30pm at St Francis Church, Torbay beginning November 11th.**

You will need to **commit to approximately 6 - 7 Saturday afternoon practices during the months of November and December.**

Boys and girls both welcome. For enquiries and **to register your child email – lindy@willplan.co.nz**

Thank you,

**Lindy Williams
Mob 027 271 5577**

