



7th November
2023
Term 4, Week 5

NEWSLETTER

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

Kia ora whānau,

GALA



This is the week that many of our community, both the young and the young at heart, look forward to all year. Only three sleeps to go until the school gala. I would like to personally thank all those who have given so much of their time to preparing and organising this event. Behind the success of the Gala each year is a team of awesome hardworking parents and helpers making it happen.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

It's not too late to get involved. We are still collecting donations of goods to sell and prizes to win, and there is always space for willing hands on the day. I know that the PTFA organisers would love to see you at school during the day on Friday if you have a few hours to spare. It is a great atmosphere and, although we work hard, we also have a lot of fun. If you are a bit shy and don't know many people, this is a great way to make some new connections, and maybe even some new friends.

This is our major fundraiser and community building event of the year. Every family will now have been given a cake box and some flyers to advertise our Gala. We ask that you take a few moments with your children to put the flyers in neighbours' letterboxes so that the word of this fantastic event spreads. We appreciate those who can bake, filling the boxes with lovely goodies that are always well sought after on the day. If you cannot bake, or are short of time, any donations of 'sweet treats' are always welcome.

From the PTFA (also emailed directly to families)...

Only 3 sleeps until you know what!!!!!!

Thank you so much for all your generous donations and support of our Gala. We are getting super excited for what is such a happy and fun day. We now need your prayers for sunny weather, with no rain!

Just a few reminders for this week:

- We are still wanting your donations... any toys, books, garden plants or used clothing donations can be dropped off in the hall before or after school on Wednesday and Thursday.
- We are also still accepting donations for prizes including bars and boxes of chocolate, bottles of wine and anything else you think would make a good prize for the Quick Fire Raffle.
- If you need extra cake boxes these will also be available in the hall before school tomorrow (Wednesday) or from the school office.
- Please deliver your cakes and baking to the hall the morning of the Gala and remind your children to give their house points for each donation to the house captains before they leave the hall.

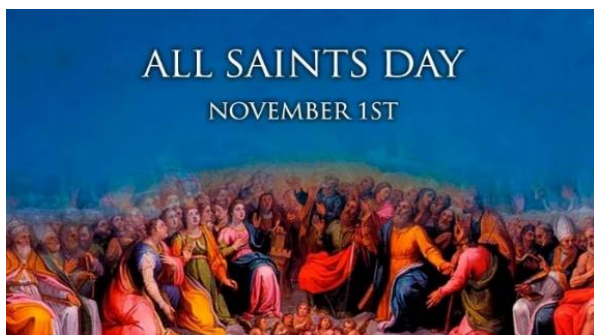
- The Turning Circle carpark will be closed from 9.00am on Friday to allow for Gala set up. If you normally use this for pick up, please make other arrangements for the afternoon.
- Those stallholders and helpers who are available for the day should arrive at the hall at 8.50am for a short briefing. Everyone is welcome and many hands make light work. Please remember to sign in using the electronic tablet in the office so we know who is on site. Lunch and morning tea is provided for helpers and pizza and a wine/beer will be provided for those who stay after the Gala to pack up. If you wanted to help on the day, it is not too late. Please contact your CLP or Rachael on 0278 757 095.
- Friday is a normal school day for the children. They are expected to wear full school uniform.
- School finishes at 2.50pm and all children must be collected at the end of the day following normal pick-up procedures (reminder that the turning circle is closed on that afternoon). Be aware that the courts and playgrounds will be far busier than normal, so your help in getting the children away from school quickly will also keep them safe.
- The Gala starts at 4pm. It will be opened by our Year 6 Kapa Haka group. Following this, stalls will start trading. We ask that the Year 6 Kapa Haka group meet their teachers in Room 1 at 3:45pm prompt.
- EFTPOS will be available to withdraw cash throughout the Gala in R14, just opposite the hall.

GALA BUSKING

We have a fantastic line up of artistic children with 48 varied acts on the programme. They will be performing on the stage in the hall and accepting donations in the bucket as recognition of their talent. If your child is performing, please take note of their scheduled time and arrive at the stage in plenty of time. If their act has a musical track, please ensure this is handed in to Mrs Jill Marsh on a USB stick or a link can be emailed to jillm@sjmb.school.nz. Please double check that the music is appropriate for our school Catholic values. If in doubt, please check with the classroom teacher. Once checked, the music cannot be changed.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS DAY

Last week we had two significant days on our liturgical calendar. We had All Saints Day on Wednesday and All Souls Day on Thursday. These days remind us that we are part of a faith and church that has always existed and is eternal, and that we need to pray for those who have gone before us.



The Feast of All Saints is the day on which we celebrate the lives of those who have given their lives to Christ, who have lived their lives for Our Lord, known and unknown. Those known, have been canonised by the Church. We pray for them all, known and unknown.

On the Feast of All Souls, Pope Francis asks people to pray for the world's forgotten dead, "those who no one remembers", the "victims of war and violence; the many little ones' of the world crushed by hunger and poverty" and "the anonymous who rest in common graves". We pray for all the souls of the dead, known and unknown.



Dear Lord, we pray for our own loved ones, family, our relatives, and friends who have died. Many of them are not famous, their statues are not in the church, but their pictures are in our homes and hearts. Their stories are alive in our families. We remember them with love. Amen.

NON UNIFORM DAY DIABETES



We will be hosting a Live Brave Mana Ora Do Blue Day next Tuesday, 14th November.

We invite the children to wear Blue non-uniform and bring a gold coin donation.

Blue Day raises awareness and supports young New Zealanders with type 1 diabetes.

There are nearly 278,000 people living with diabetes in New Zealand; more than 4,000 under 19yrs with type 1. Type 1 diabetes is an auto-immune health condition with no cure, requiring constant management and multiple daily injections or an insulin pump.

Donations collected from Do Blue Day will stay in our area and go directly towards supporting our young people living with type 1 diabetes and their families.

KINDO AND SCHOOL FEES



Before the end of the school year we need to reconcile all Kindo charges as the resources and activities have already been paid for by the school. Therefore, reminders were emailed to families last week regarding overdue payments.

There is a great deal of administration involved in reconciling all the school's accounts and we therefore greatly appreciate your early and prompt attention to paying for any items currently outstanding on your child/children's accounts. www.mykindo.co.nz

We do appreciate that we are still living in unprecedented times financially and we do not wish to add any further pressure onto family life. If you are having difficulty in meeting your payments or if we can be of any assistance, please feel free to personally contact Miss Marina Binns in confidence.

If you have any questions, please contact Kindo directly at Tel: 0508 454 636 or email: hello@mykindo.co.nz or Mrs Anneliese Bridges in the school office Tel: 09 478 7734, email: office@sjmb.school.nz

Termly School Fees continue to be dealt with separately by Mrs Michele Nash, MicheleN@sjmb.school.nz and should be paid either via bank transfer (12-3042-0320348-00) referenced with your child's name and 'Fees', or via EFTPOS at the school office. Any families paying in instalments should ensure that fees have been paid in full by the end of November to allow enough time for the school to reconcile accounts prior to the end of the school year.

PTFA CHRISTMAS TREE FUNDRAISER

Get ready to embrace the holiday season with a picture-perfect Christmas tree!

This Christmas, the PTFA is excited to offer pre-orders for exquisite Christmas trees. You can choose between regular trees (5ft - 6ft'6) for \$45 or large trees (7ft - 7ft'6) for \$75. We offer convenient delivery for an additional \$15, and don't forget to grab a Christmas tree stand for \$40.

Mark your calendar for collection or delivery on Sunday, December 3rd or 10th. To order please visit this [link](#) and complete the order form.

If you're interested in helping with deliveries or collections, please reach out to the PTFA at trees@sjmb.school.nz. Let's make this holiday season extra special!



ATHLETICS DAY

SCHOOL ATHLETICS DAY – Wednesday, 15th November

Our School Athletics Sports take place on Wednesday, 15th November at the AUT Millennium Stadium. The children will walk to the Stadium via Rangitoto College with their teachers. Children need to bring a good lunch and plenty to drink for the day.

We will be starting our programme at 9:15am prior to the whole school's arrival, with the 800m event for Year 4 - 6 runners. All 800m runners are to be at the track by 9.00am as the event will be run before the rest of the school arrives. This is an optional event which some children will select to enter.

Parents: if your child is in this event, please taken them directly to the stadium where they are to report to Mrs Karen Dorrington.

From 9:45am onwards the Waitemata Team (Year 4-6) will be involved in a variety of activities on and around the track. The Rangitoto Team (Year 1-3) will be joining us at the stadium at 10:30am. For ease of organisation the children will be grouped in their year levels. Each child will have a card pinned to their T-shirt which will record their achievements throughout the day. The programme is detailed below.

PARENT HELP IS REQUIRED... If you are able to assist, please contact Mrs Dorrington via email at sports@sjmb.school.nz with your contact details. We require up to 24 helpers between 9.00am & 2.00pm. No experience necessary.

UNIFORM...The children will need their full School PE uniform including sports shoes, which they may wear to school, their school sunhat, a good lunch and drink and two medium to large safety pins to attach their House Cards to their shirt. Please ensure all items are named.

SUN SAFETY...

- Slip... All children must wear their school PE uniform for the day.
- Slop... Please ensure that your children have sunscreen on before they come to school. Please also provide named sunscreen for your child to reapply at lunchtime.
- Slap... All children must wear their school hat during the day.
- and Drink... All children need to bring a named drink bottle which they will carry around with them for the day. Water is highly recommended to keep the children hydrated during sport.

AN INVITATION TO ALL PARENTS... All parents, families and friends are welcome to come along and share the occasion. The AUT Millennium Stadium is in Antares Place. Feel free to sit on the grass bank, behind the track and fenced area, or on the grassy area behind the roped area. Please do not come down inside the track area. Access is via Apollo Drive, off Constellation Drive or Rosedale Road. Lunch will be from approx. 12:00pm – 12:30pm and your children will be able to join you on the grass bank then. Children are not permitted to leave the stadium during the lunch break.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
9:15am	800m Event - Year 4 to 6 Girls & Boys					
9:45am				Sprints	Discus/ Shot Put	Long Jump
10:30am	High Jump	Sprints	Long Jump	High Jump	Sprints	Discus/ Shot Put
11:15am	Sprints	High Jump	Discus/ Shot Put	Long Jump	High Jump	Sprints
12:00pm	LUNCH					
12:30pm	Long Jump	Long Jump	High Jump	400m Event - Year 4 to 6 Girls & Boys		
12:50pm	Throwing	Throwing	Sprints	Discus/ Shot Put	Long Jump	High Jump
1:35pm	4x100m Y3/4 and Y5/6 House Relays					

END OF SPORTS DAY PROCEDURES... At the end of the sports day (approx. 2:10pm) the children will assemble on the field. Parents wishing to take their children home may do so but will need to collect them from the field as the classes are called out. It is important for the teachers to know which children have been taken by parents and which have not. Please help us in this and follow this procedure. You are reminded that if you wish your children to be collected by someone else, a note **MUST** be given to the class teacher in the morning. All other children will return to school and leave from there as normal.

OUR OWN PUBLISHED ARTIST



Since 2015, Toitōi has published a quarterly journal celebrating the curiosity, courage and creativity of young New Zealand writers and artists.

Congratulations Zach who has had his work professionally published in Toitōi Magazine. It is a great showcase of his talent and attention to detail.

DANCE WITH OMAR



We were fortunate enough to, once again, have Omar from Dance Curriculum to lead all of our children in a dance intensive. Classes had five sessions across the week, culminating in a sharing across the school on Friday afternoon.

We have created a video to share with our whānau. The link will be emailed to our school families.

It is great to see the progression of skills through the year levels.

YEAR 6 CONNECTION DAY

A new initiative this year, our Year 6 students spent the day, last Tuesday, with the Year 6 students from the other four Catholic Primary schools on the North Shore. The aim of the day was to mix and mingle, meeting new people, many of whom they will be at school with next year at Carmel and Rosmini. The students participated in shared liturgy, celebrating what unites us all, our faith. They also took part in a variety of activities and ate and played together.

FROM THE PARISH

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE MASS 2023

We have had an overwhelming response to our invitation for children to join this mass and we are now at capacity in terms of space, logistics and roles for the children. Registrations are therefore now closed.

Thank you for your support of this special mass.

Lindy Williams

lindy@willplan.co.nz

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Yesterday 'MusicAI' visited our school. His show had our students, from year 1-6, interacting with music, learning about some of the instruments of the orchestra and finding out how they can make instruments that sound just like them from materials they can recycle and reuse. Along with listening to 'MusicAI' play a variety of instruments, some students also got to have a go too. The instrument making show looked at aspects of the music, science and technology curriculums.

