



23rd July  
2024

# NEWSLETTER

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

Kia ora whānau,

Welcome back to Term 3. We were delighted to welcome 20 new students and 8 new families with our St John's pōwhiri yesterday. Five students started yesterday with Mrs McGregor in Room 10 and the others will be joining us over the next two terms. We welcome Mrs McGregor back to our fulltime staff and look forward to getting to know the students better in the weeks ahead.

We certainly ended last term on a high note with Opposite Day, our Matariki celebration and Winter Warmer Pyjama Day for the whole school as well as a trip to Stardome for our Year 4 classes, the Kahui Ako Speech finals and the Mini Olympic winning fundraising classes enjoying their prizes on the last day of Term. Thank you to all the students for the spirit with which you embraced these days and to the staff and parents for their work and support, without which these exciting events would not be possible.

We now are looking forward to the exciting events of Term 3. Coming up in August we will be gathering together for the Feast of Mary of the Cross (Mary MacKillop) to remember the Sisters of St Joseph who founded our school in 1961, the Feast of the Assumption to honour Mary as the Mother of Christ, the Mother of the Church and as the Patron Saint of New Zealand. Although the Feast Days are actually Thursdays, we will be celebrating together as a community on the previous Wednesdays to enable Father Carlo to say Mass for us. We also have our Nearest and Dearest Day at the end of August.

More details will follow, but please diary these dates if you are able to attend.

- *Mass for the Feast of Mary of the Cross – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August at 9:15am at St John's Church.*
- *Mass for the Feast of the Assumption – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August at 9:15am at St John's Church.*
- *Nearest and Dearest – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August at 9:00am at school.*

God bless,  
Marina Binns  
Principal/Tumuaki

## MATARIKI CELEBRATION

Thank you to all those who joined us in our inaugural whānau Matariki celebration. It was an early morning for many (luckily we could come to school in our pyjamas), but we could not have had better weather. Coming together for prayer is always special, but being in the moment, staring out to the sunrise over Rangitoto was a fantastic reminder of how truly blessed we are to be part of our wonderful Catholic community in Aotearoa. Whether it was cooking marshmallows, planting harakeke, remembering those we have loved and lost, playing string games in the library or sipping soup and looking at the Art in the Hall, I hope you had a joyful time together.

I would like to thank Mrs Mercer and Mrs Mountjoy for their facilitation and leadership of this event. I would also like to acknowledge and thank the staff for their preparation and work during the event. Thanks to the members of the Auckland Astronomical Society for coming along and sharing their equipment and technical expertise to view the stars and Jupiter through telescopes.

## WINTER WARM UP - SOCIAL OUTREACH

It was a lovely treat to be able to wear our pyjamas to school last term, especially with the early start.

In thinking of those who do not have as much as we do, I thank you for your generous support of this social outreach. We collected boxes of bedding and warm clothes, as well as \$359.10, which have been donated to Give a Kid a Blanket.



Thank you to Mrs Mountjoy for facilitating this opportunity and for Mrs Bridges and Mr Ritson for their support in sorting, packing and delivering the donations.

## KAHUI AKO SPEECH COMPETITION



Congratulations to Isabella and Martina who represented St John's at the North Shore Catholic Schools Kahui Ako Speech Competition at the end of last term.

The calibre of speeches and delivery across all the primary schools was extremely high and all participants received great feedback from the judges; Mrs Letting from Rosmini, Mrs Body from Carmel and Mrs Trainor, from the Catholic Diocese of Auckland.

A special congratulations to Isabella for placing third in the whole competition.

## THE NED SHOW

Next week on Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> August the NED Show is coming to St John's.

The NED Show, is a character education program that centres around three important messages that have lifelong relevance: Never Give Up, Encourage Others and Do Your Best. During the assembly, students will learn about the importance of these three life skills while also enjoying storytelling, magic, humour and yo-yo tricks.



There is no charge to the students to attend this show. NED operate a Pay-It-Forward model. For a week following the show the students will have the opportunity to purchase yo-yos from the school office (Cash or EFTPOS **only**). The yo-yos that are available for purchase are a fun way for kids to literally put NED's message in motion! **This is completely optional.** Money raised goes to the NED Show to enable them to put on a show at another school. If your child is coming to the office by themselves, please indicate on the envelope or a slip of paper which yo-yo you wish them to purchase.

### CLASSIC YOS NZ\$16

Learn the basics of yo-yoing with assorted fixed axel yo-yos.



### SUPER SPINNERS NZ\$20

Great for basic and intermediate tricks. With a strong throw, these auto-return yo-yos 'sleep' at the end of the string & then come back to you automatically.



### SPECIALTY SELECTION NZ\$25

Assorted professional long spin yo-yos for next level tricks!



### REPLACEMENT STRING PACK

Ten assorted strings to change color or replace a worn out yo-yo string.



NZ\$6

### YO-YO HOLSTER

Keep track of your yo and have it ready to go. Attach it to your belt loop or backpack (yo-yo not included).



NZ\$12





**TE TAHI TONU: GROWING TOGETHER:** At the end of Term 2 the Year 6 St. John's students created some beautiful kites using lovely kowhaiwhai patterns. Every year the Mairangi Arts Centre holds a Matariki exhibition, this year it was called: Te Tahī Tōnu: Growing Together. The exhibition was held from 1 - 21 July 2024. In week 10, the Year 6 students were invited to walk down to the MAC Centre to see the beautiful kites they made. They saw all the kites at the MAC exhibition including theirs. They were all super excited to see the kites, and proud to be part of the exhibition!

Madeleine M – Room 6







## SOLAR SYSTEM PROJECT – YEAR 4

*At the start of Term 2 we started to learn about the Solar System. One of our learning experiences was a group project to investigate a part of the Solar System that we were interested in.*

*We chose to focus on the inner and outer planets. First, we found a box, and planned out what we were going to do.*

*Next, we painted the box with black paint and painted the Earth. Then we put some glue on the box and we put glitter on the box. We also hot glued some fluffy material on the back and bottom of the box to show clouds in our atmosphere.*



*When we did our first planet, Mercury we used black ribbon and for the Sun we used gold paper. The paper was really shiny! We added a little head onto a green car as a minion on Jupiter. For Saturn, we used a pipe cleaner and sparkling tape, and Arlo painted Saturn.*

*We worked really well as a team and both contributed.*

*Arlo and Gabby - Room 2*





## TRIP TO STARDOME OBSERVATORY & PLANETARIUM – YEAR 4



*During the last week of term, Rooms 2 and 3 had a trip to Stardome. Before we went to Stardome, we did a hikoi up to One Tree Hill.*

*First we went on the bus. It was loud but it wasn't too loud. When we reached the bottom of One Tree Hill (which was the hill we were going to walk up) we walked to the bathroom for a quick stop. Then, once we'd had a little bite to eat, we started walking. Some of us were fast but others slower. Eventually everyone reached the top. We could see the busy city and the Waitemata Harbour. It was beautiful. When we were all at the top we ate morning tea and had a couple photos.*

*After that we started heading back down the hill. Some of us reached the bottom so quickly that they had to wait a while for the others. Next, we walked to a playground to have lunch and a little play. While we were eating it started to pour down with rain. When the rain cleared up we started heading over to Stardome (which was right across the grass). When we got there we sat down and waited for the Stardome leader to come and say what to do. When he came, we followed him into a room and he talked about Matariki. We had a chance to explore around the galleries and my favourite thing in the gallery to explore was an area that showed the birth, life and death of a star.*



*Our final activity (which was my favourite) was the Planetarium show. The Planetarium was globe shaped and was like a movie theatre. Our show was all about space networks and technology. What an awesome trip we had to celebrate all our Solar System learning!*





## SPORTS UPDATE

### BASKETBALL

Congratulations to the St John's Blazers basketball team who came first in their competition last semester. The boys played exceptionally well and were undefeated.





## NNH MID-SEASON TOURNAMENT – Years 4 to 6

On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July our Yr4 Orchids, Yr4 Violets, Yr5/1 and our Yr6 Ferns netball teams participated in the Netball North Harbour Yr4-6 Mid-season Winter Tournament. The teams, with their coaches and appointed umpires, all played 4 games except for the Ferns who had 5 games. Despite the conditions being less than favourable, each of our teams enjoyed their time on the court and produced a mix of wins, losses, close losses and draws, throughout the day. The shorter and frequent games gave our players and teams an opportunity to sharpen up their skills and put them into practice as they head into the competition round of their games starting this week.



Yr4 Orchids with their umpire, Ruby Lockwood (Carmel Student)



Yr5/1 with their coach, Taegon Tucker (Carmel Student)





Yr6 Ferns team

### TERM 3 SPORTS DATES

- 01/08 - Kiwi Kick Stars – 8 week lunchtime programme starts (parents must pre-enrol their child directly with Kiwi Kick Stars to participate)
- 06/08 – Supercluster Netball Tournament - Selected Yr5 & Yr6 Netball Teams
- 08/08 – Rippa Tournament #2 - Teams have already been formed
- 12/08 – Save-a-day Supercluster Netball Tournament
- 13/08 – Save-a-day Rippa Tournament
- 14/08 – NNH St John's Duty Day at the courts 4pm - 7pm  
(Parent help is required and Mrs Dorrington will be in contact via coaches)
- 22/08 – Supercluster Hockey Tournament - selected team(s)
- 26/08 – NH Hockey League - final games of winter season
- 28/08 – NNH League - final games of winter season
- 29/08 – Save-a-day Supercluster Hockey Tournament
- 04/09 – Sports Photos at School (Coaches & Managers can participate)
- 07/09 – Kidzplay Netball League - final games of winter season
- 08/09 – NNH End of Season Tournament
- 19/09 – Supercluster Football Tournament - Selected Senior Team
- 19/09 – Kiwi Kick Stars – 8 week lunchtime programme finishes
- 24/09 – Save-a-day Supercluster Football Tournament





**FOOTBALL LUNCH TIME PROGRAMME**

# KIWI KICK STARS

**St John's school**

## FUN FOOTBALL SESSIONS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS!!

### TERM 3

Our awesome programme gets kids exercising through super fun activities based around football and storytelling. Kids build confidence while improving their motor skills and coordination, learning how to play with others, focus on problem solving.

Our friendly, experienced coaches have a hands-on, relatable approach and a passion for fun!  
Everyone's a winner at Kiwi Kick Stars!

**Where:** St John's Astroturf/fields  
**When:** Thursdays (starts on Thursday 1st August)  
**Time:** Lunchtime  
**Cost:** \$ 108 per term (8 weeks)  
 Second child discount of 10% applies!

**TO REGISTER GO TO [WWW.KIWICKICKSTARS.COM](http://WWW.KIWICKICKSTARS.COM)**

## KIWI KICK STARS

This is an opt in programme run by an external company. It does, however, run during the school lunch break.

It starts next week on Thursday 1st August and runs for 8 weeks, finishing on Thursday 19th September.

**Children must be pre-enrolled directly with Kiwi Kick Stars to take part.**

For more information and to enrol please visit the website [www.kiwickickstars.com](http://www.kiwickickstars.com).

## CONGRATULATIONS



Last term, one of our Year 3 students, Annabelle Z participated in the World Choir Games as part of the Cloud Singers Choir.

The World Choir Games, the biggest choral competition and festival on the globe, came to Aotearoa for the first time ever from 10 to 20 July. It was the largest choral event to be held in this country.

More than 11,000 singers from over 30 countries arrived in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland to compete, to enjoy workshops, ceremonies and perform concerts.

This involved a lot of preparation and hard work. On the competition day they performed four songs in their 10 minute time allotment on the stage at the Auckland Town Hall. They achieved a third place in their category.



## FROM THE PTFA



**This Friday your child will be bringing home a pack of raffle tickets.**

This pack contains:

- 12 calendar raffle tickets (for your family to sell in support of the PTFA and our fundraising goals)
- A return envelope (for the return of the white portion of the raffle tickets and the money raised)

Each calendar raffle ticket costs \$5 and provides the opportunity to win 30 prizes, one for every day in September.

All St John's families are asked to try and sell all 12 calendar raffle tickets, returning all sold ticket stubs and unsold tickets by Friday 16th August. The prize draws start on 1st September, with winners contacted by phone and results posted daily at [www.sjmb.school.nz](http://www.sjmb.school.nz).

More information will be included in the pack and also via email on Friday.

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

Keep up to date with school events through downloading and linking the SJMB Community Calendar.

[Link to download calendar](#)

## FROM THE PARISH

### CATHOLIC SCHOOL PREFERENCE FORMS

Fr Carlo will be available to sign the forms on Wednesdays, 10am – 12 noon & 1 – 3pm for a 15-minute slot. Please make an appointment through: [office@ecbcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@ecbcatholic.org.nz)

### MONTHLY CHILDREN'S MASS

3rd Sunday: 9.00 am Mass St. John's Church. Contact Lindy [lindy@willplan.co.nz](mailto:lindy@willplan.co.nz)

### NEWSLETTER

For more information from the Parish, please see [their regular newsletter](#).

## FROM THE DIOCESE

This Wednesday, 24th July the final report from the Royal Commission on Abuse in Care called *Whanaketia – through pain and trauma, from darkness to light* will be presented to Parliament.

The Commission has heard from witnesses who have described abuse in the care of many institutions. The experience of people, and the abuse that occurred in situations where we all had an expectation of people being safe, is heartbreaking. Anyone who hears of the experiences of abuse from victims and survivors – in person or through the Inquiry – knows the long-term impacts it has.

The response of the Catholic bishops and congregational leaders has been coordinated by Te Rōpū Tautoko. Visit their website - <https://tautoko.catholic.org.nz/>

Church leaders have been supportive of the Inquiry and the need for it. The Church is ready to review the Commission's Final Report and consider the recommendations that arise from it. Church leaders are already implementing several initiatives and made public their position in response to themes that have arisen during the Inquiry – see [tautoko.catholic.org.nz/roadmap](http://tautoko.catholic.org.nz/roadmap).

*We continue to pray for victims and survivors of abuse in Church institutions and for all those who will work to effect change. May the information outlined in the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care bring about robust and lasting change to the way church organisations protect those they minister to.*