



29th October
2024

Kia ora whānau,

I hope you were able to take a breath yesterday and make the most of the long weekend. With two weeks to go, excitement is building for the Gala. This is one of the biggest fundraising and community events for the school and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the extended community for all the work they have done in preparation.

MISSION FAIR

Thank you to the school community for their contributions which made our Mission Fair such a wonderful success in support of our social outreach. We are thrilled to have raised more than \$3,000 for the Hearing House and I Am Hope Foundation. The day was filled with joy as our students engaged in various games, earning tokens for their efforts, with **Pierce** House taking home the victory (and the Juicies). In addition to the fun and friendly competition, we held exciting raffles and enjoyed a delicious sausage sizzle together. Your generosity and support truly embody the spirit of our school community!



DANCE CURRICULUM

Last week the children all participated in an intensive Dance Curriculum programme. The children were engaged all week and many told me that they wished Omar could come back next week. A heartfelt thank you to all the parents and whānau who attended our recent dance performance. It was a joy to see our students showcase the skills they have learned in their lessons. Your support and enthusiasm created a wonderful atmosphere, encouraging our children to shine, and celebrate their achievements.

If you have a few minutes feel free to check out this 2024 video to see what it's all about.



PE UNIFORM CHANGE

We would like to inform you that, due to a change from our supplier, there will be a slight update to the design of our PE tops (see images below). The new design will have the monogram and school name similar to the current shirt. Rest assured, the current PE shirt will remain acceptable for use, so there is no need to purchase new ones.



HAPPY TEACHER'S DAY

This Friday we celebrate Teachers' Day, a wonderful opportunity to recognise and appreciate the dedication and hard work of our teaching staff.

Teachers play a vital role in nurturing the minds and hearts of students, and we are truly blessed by a wonderful talented and passionate teaching team.

SCHOOL LUNCH ORDERS

Lunch orders are now available every Monday and Wednesday through EZLunch. Orders are placed through Kindo and need to be completed by 9:00am on the day of delivery. Subway is still available every Friday through the Subway website as normal. Thank you to the PTFA for this initiative.



GALA BUSKING

It's that time of year again when the teachers ask for talented children (in groups or individually) to sign up for the busking stage at the Gala. The Busking stage is a great opportunity for children to take an active role in their School Gala. Children in the past have done musical items, singing, dancing, drama and played instruments. Please note that there is a 2 ½ minute time limit for each act. Disney songs are always popular and lyrics are suitable for the audience.

Please take note of the guidelines below to ensure that we all have a happy and successful event:

- It is a fun event, not the X-Factor
- All acts must be auditioned by the class teacher
- Appropriate music to be used
- The song that is used at the audition must be the song that is used at the performance.
- Participants must be at the busking stage in plenty of time for their slot.
- Parents, please help the staff by checking the appropriateness of the music
- 2 ½ minute limit per act

Any questions, please see your child's class teacher.



God bless,
Marina Binns - Principal/Tumuaki



2024 ST JOHN'S SCHOOL GALA

We're dusting off the raffle wheel, hiring the bouncy castle and counting out the cake boxes. Gala preparation has begun!

A highlight of the St John's School social calendar and a fantastic fundraiser for our school is the Twilight Gala. The Gala is a really fun event that brings our whole school community together. It takes planning, donations and hard work to make it a success but when the load is shared not only is it much more enjoyable, but it means that we can all play a role in its success.

This is where we need you!



If you've never been to a Gala before, check out this video to see what it's all about.

HOW YOU CAN HELP AT THE GALA

Every donation and every minute of help that you provide makes a huge difference to the success of our biggest fundraiser of the year! Thank you in advance for your generosity.

We still need more:

- Volunteers for set up – a wonderful way to get to know other parents in our school community
- Volunteers for a session at your class stall - this is actually a lot of fun to do!
- First Aiders for the Gala - we need you!

If you are able to help, please let us know by following this [LINK](#).

Each week will have a donation focus. Children should bring these items to their classroom (unless we specify a different place) and these will be collated by the PTFA and stored in preparation for the main event.



Items for the Quick Fire Raffle

Boxes of chocolates, vouchers etc

Books, Toys, Children's Preloved Clothing, Uniform Donations and Ceramic Pots

Please drop off in the designated area located on the right hand side of the stage in the school hall.

Silent Auction

The Silent Auction has gone live... let the bidding begin.
Check out the auction for a wide range of products and services [LINK](#)



We are looking for items for the Cakes and Sweets stall...

A cake box (and further instructions) will be coming home with the children.

SCHOOL CALENDAR AND DATES TO NOTE

Keep up to date with school events through downloading and linking the SJMB Community Calendar.
[Link to download calendar](#)

SCHOOL CLOSED

This is a friendly reminder that the **school will be closed on Friday, 15th November** for a Teacher Only Day, where our staff will be engaged in professional development.

School closes for the year on Tuesday 17th December at 12:00pm.
Please mark these dates on your calendars.

FROM THE PARISH

PARISH CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE MASS 2024



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 Sunday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:30pm at St Francis Church, Torbay beginning on Sunday, November 10th.

You will need to commit to approximately 6 - 7 Sunday afternoon practices during the months of November and December. All children are welcome.

For Enquiries and to register your child please email – lindy@willplan.co.nz
Thank you.

Lindy Williams - Mob 027 271 5577

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PREFERENCE FORMS: Fr Carlo and Fr Danko 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

MONTHLY CHILDREN'S MASS: 3rd Sunday: 9.00 am Mass St. John's Church. Contact Lindy lindy@willplan.co.nz

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

AUCKLAND KIDS HANDBALL

REGISTER NOW

Saturdays 10:15 - 11:15am
@ Murrays Bay Intermediate School
Come and join us for just \$25
for 5 sessions

Boys and Girls
Ages 8 - 10 years
From 2nd to 30th
of November

info@aucklandhandball.com
+64 22 163 8031 - Pepe