



29th April
2025

NEWSLETTER

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

Kia ora whānau,

I am delighted to welcome everyone back for Term 2. I hope you all enjoyed a restful and refreshing Easter and school break and are ready for another exciting term of learning. It has been wonderful to see the children return eager to learn and happy to reconnect with their friends. We have loved hearing their holiday stories, whether they stayed close to home or travelled away. A special welcome to our new whānau and ākonga in Rooms 11 and 12 — we are so pleased to have you join us.

There are many exciting events and opportunities planned for this term, so please keep an eye on the school calendar as further information is shared.



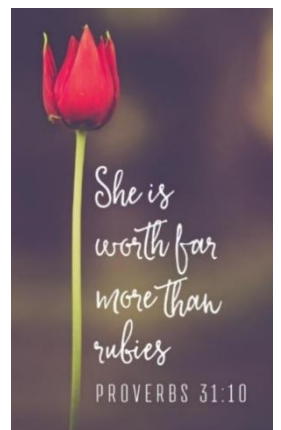
SECURE ACCESS UPGRADE TO SCHOOL WIFI

Next Monday and Tuesday (and possibly Wednesday) we will be undergoing a Ministry of Education upgrade to our school's Wi-Fi access to strengthen our data protection and network security. **This migration involves going 'offline' over a two-to-three-day period.** Please be aware that this affects our access to emails during the day and that there may be delays in staff responding to emails. **Contact can still be made through phoning the schools main office.**

MOTHER'S DAY

As Mother's Day approaches, we take this opportunity to celebrate and honour the wonderful mothers and special women in our school community. Motherhood is a sacred journey marked by deep love, selflessness, and unwavering support. Whether you are a mother, grandmother, aunt, or guardian, your influence in shaping and supporting our students is truly priceless.

In Proverbs 31, we are reminded that a woman's wisdom, kindness, and strength bless all those around her. This Mother's Day, we give heartfelt thanks for the remarkable women who nurture, guide, and inspire us, living examples of God's love in action. Your care and dedication are at the heart of our vibrant school community.



To all the mothers and mother figures, we wish you a day filled with love, joy, and special memories. May you feel celebrated not only on Mother's Day, but every day, for the extraordinary impact you have in the lives of your children and our wider school whānau. You are truly a gift and a blessing.

STAFF UPDATE



We are delighted to welcome Claire Coulam to our staff team. She will be opening Room 10 on the 26th May. Claire is already well known to many of our children and families as a past parent and as one of our awesome relievers, and we are thrilled to have her joining us in a fulltime role.

God bless,
Marina Binns, Principal - Tumuaki

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Our school community joins the world in mourning the passing of Pope Francis, a beloved leader and a powerful symbol of faith. We recognise the profound impact he has had on the lives of countless people, including our students and families. As we pray and reflect at this time, we look, as he did, to the teachings of the Gospel and are reminded of the example of faith that the Pope has exemplified.

As the Catholic Church navigates this transition, we will continue to uphold the values of faith, compassion, and service that Pope Francis so eloquently championed. We pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we reflect on his legacy and welcome the new leader of the Church.

Ngā mihi,
Cara Mountjoy
Director of Religious Studies

WINTER UNIFORM

This week and next week are a crossover period for uniform where the children can wear either the Summer or Winter uniform. We ask that, whichever you choose, it is worn completely, not mix and matched.

School hats are not needed for Terms 2 and 3. From Monday, 12th May we ask that all children are in full Winter uniform until the end of Term 3.

Winter Uniform

| | |
|------------|--|
| Tunic: | Navy monogrammed drop waist tunic |
| Culottes: | Navy with school name |
| Shorts: | Navy with school name |
| Shirt: | Freight blue long sleeve monogrammed polo (short sleeve can be worn if preferred) |
| Fleece: | Navy zip front monogrammed polar fleece |
| Hair ties: | Red, blue, brown, black or white |
| Shoes: | Black leather lace up, velcro, buckle or T-bar school shoes with a heel height of no greater than 2.5cm. Black trainers are not considered school shoes. If you are unsure, please discuss with the school. |
| Socks: | Plain black knee-high wool/elastane mix |

PE UNIFORM

The School has a PE uniform comprising of school PE polo shirt and dark blue shorts. Children are expected to wear their sports uniform for P.E. throughout the year. In winter children are able to add the school polar fleece to their sports uniform.

Sports/Physical Education clothes are to be brought to School on Mondays and remain there until taken home for washing on Friday. The sports uniform must not be worn to and from school.

ANZAC PARADE – LEST WE FORGET



Thank you to all the children and whānau that participated and represented our school or other community groups in the Browns Bay ANZAC parade and memorial service.

Participating in ANZAC day services provides an opportunity for children to understand the role they play in honouring those who have served for our country and to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedoms and way of life.



A special thanks to our wreath bearers, Alex M and Max B who proudly carried and laid a wreath made by a group of our students.



UPCOMING EVENTS



PINK DAY

On Friday 16th May our school will be taking part in a non-uniform day for Pink Shirt Day, an annual national initiative. As a Catholic school, we believe in nurturing our students to become compassionate and respectful individuals who embody the teachings of Jesus Christ. Pink Shirt Day is a perfect opportunity for us to come together as a community and reinforce these values.

We look forward to seeing all of our students and staff wearing pink on Pink Shirt Day as we stand together to promote kindness, respect, and inclusivity. This is to raise awareness and no donation is required.

SJMB BOOK BATTLE

Term two marks the start of the Year 5 & 6's Book Battle. This is optional for all students in Years 5 and 6.

There are 7 required books (2 copies of each will be in the school library).

The children may need adult assistance to find alternative copies (perhaps at local libraries or borrowing from friends) as these books will be in high demand this term. The children also need a broad knowledge of nursery rhymes and traditional stories.

All children will have access to the Google Classroom which is filled with digital escape rooms, Kahoots and quizzes that you might like to do as a family.

There will be small prizes for the children who make up the top 20 as decided by a quiz in the final week of term 2.

From this challenge, the top 10 will form two teams (two teams of four plus two reserves) who will represent St John's School at the North Shore Book Battle which takes place at Northcross Intermediate in August.

If you have any questions, please email the teacher-in-charge,
Mrs Blind janetb@sjmb.school.nz

PROJECT JONAH

We are very excited that Project Jonah is coming to St John's and they will be bringing their inflatable life size, 12 metre humpback whale for the children to explore.



"We believe the more children who know about the amazing marine mammals that are right here by our coastlines, the more they will want to help protect both them and the ocean they call home."

Our 'Walkthrough Whale' education session will be all about the majestic humpback whale and why they are so unique. The unforgettable highlight will no doubt be getting to explore inside a life-sized whale, learning about whale biology and being in awe of how large these marine mammals really are."

To support their work, a \$2 charge for this visit will be added to Kindo. This money will be passed directly on to Project Jonah. For more information, please feel free to visit their [website](#).



SCHOOL CALENDAR

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

[Link to download calendar](#)

PTFA

St John's



PTFA MEETING

Date; 6th of May

Time: 7:00pm

Location: St John's School Staffroom

Virtual link: Found on school calendar

Come join us in sharing ideas and building a vibrant community within our school! Let's come together to support one another and make new connections. Whether it's virtually or in person, let's collaborate and create positive change together!

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

sale



WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY

2:30 PM SCHOOL HALL

ABSENTEES

As we head towards the colder months of the year, it is not uncommon for children to get sick and need to stay home. This is a friendly reminder to inform the school if your child is away from school. We ask that you phone or email the school office (Ph 09 478 7734, email office@sjmb.school.nz) or submit an absentee form via the [website](#) **for each day they are away**. For safety reasons, we do not assume that because they were away yesterday, they are away for the same reason today.

FROM THE PARISH

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](#).