



10th June
2025

Kia ora whānau,

The last few weeks have been a busy few weeks, and there are still many exciting things coming up in the next three weeks before we head into the Winter school holidays.



I was privileged to spend some time last week with many other Catholic Primary School Principal's from around New Zealand. It was a great joy to share the awesome things that are happening in our schools and be reminded that our schools are part of a larger shared mission.

The theme of the conference was **Te Ao Mārama – Embracing Hope through Aroha and Whakapono** and we spent time reflecting on the importance of making and sustaining strong connections with those around us.

STRUCTURED LITERACY: LEARNING FOR ALL – Teachers Included!

You may have seen recent media coverage about the Ministry of Education's refreshed approach to teaching Reading and Writing, alongside the rollout of the new English Curriculum. As part of this, our teachers are undertaking professional development in structured literacy – a research-based approach designed to support all learners, particularly in the foundational years of literacy.

While we've used a structured approach in our junior classes for many years, there's always more to learn. Last week, our Year 0 – 3 teachers attended a three-day course to deepen their practice, and this week our Year 4 – 6 teachers are doing the same. We're proud of our staff's commitment to continually growing their knowledge to support every learner.



CONFIRMATION AND HOLY COMMUNION

Along with Baptism, the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation complete the three Sacraments of Initiation, a figurative doorway into the fullness of Church life. Confirmation is the Sacrament that graces you with the Holy Spirit, sealing the covenant made at Baptism. The rite of Confirmation is anointing the forehead with chrism oil, together with the laying on of the minister's hands and the words, "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit."



Congratulations to all the St John's students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday 6th June.

Please keep them in your prayers as many of them continue their initiation into the Church with the celebration of their first Holy Communion on 15th June at St Francis Church.

UPCOMING SCHOOL FEAST DAY MASS AND MORNING TEA

You are warmly invited to join with us as we celebrate the Feast Day of St John the Baptist.

Mass will be held on **Tuesday 24th June in St John's Church at 9:15am**. Following Mass, you are invited down to the school hall for morning tea; a time for fellowship and a cup of tea or coffee. We hope that you can join us.



ADVENTURE RUN

A huge thank you to all the families who have already signed up and started fundraising for our Adventure Run! Your support is helping us get closer to our COLA goal – and making a real difference for our school.

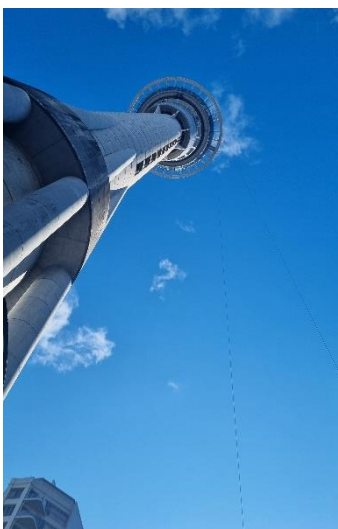
Last week's assembly was full of excitement (and a lot of slime!) as FIVE of our brave staff members took one for the team. It was a hit with the kids and a great celebration of the effort so far.



Congratulations to the winners of the prize draws for the second and third week of fundraising.



Thank you to all those who came out on Saturday to support Mrs McGregor as she jumped off the Sky Tower. All your fundraising paid off as she challenged herself to do something that she was nervous about. Well done Mrs McGregor, we are very proud of you!



It's the final week of fundraising!
If we make it to...

\$22000

Miss Binns will dye her hair the colour of the winning House!

\$25000

Everyone gets a Crazy Hair Day!

All will be revealed at the Adventure Run this Friday

But the fun isn't over yet!

We might have finished sliming the staff, but, if we reach \$22,000 I will dye my hair the colour of the house that raises the most money by 2:00pm Thursday... if we reach \$25,000 EVERYONE at school can have a Crazy Hair Day.

If you haven't signed up yet, it's not too late. Every dollar counts, and every student can make a difference. Let's work together and finish strong!

CLICK HERE FOR UPDATED
EVENT INFORMATION

CLICK HERE
TO SIGN UP

SCHOOL SPEECH COMPETITION

Last Thursday, the Waitematā team gathered for the school speech finals. Well done to all the class finalists who presented their speeches to the Waitematā Team and the judges; Mrs Nash, Mrs Dunn and Ms Allen.



A special congratulations to Irene R and Serena S, winners of the Nash Speech Cup and Daniel S who was highly commended by our judges.

Irene and Serena will be going forward to represent our school at the North Shore Catholic Primary Interschool speech competition being held next week.

INTERSCHOOL BASKETBALL



On Thursday, 29th May, the St John's Lakers represented our school in the Interschool Basketball Tournament.

Congratulations to the team; Carter G, Michael H, Elijah M, George M, Daniel S, Hugo S, and Cody T.

I would like to thank our Sport Co-ordinator, Mrs Dorrington, and all the parents who supported the team on the day. We appreciate your ongoing support.

ATTENDANCE DUES

We kindly remind those with outstanding attendance fees that they are now overdue. If you haven't had a chance to make payment yet, we'd greatly appreciate it if you could do so this week as we need to send the payment through to the Diocese.



God bless,
Marina Binns, Principal – Tumuaki

ENROLMENTS FOR 2026



Just a little reminder that enrolments are coming in for 2026 (and further). If you have not lodged an enrolment for next year, we encourage you to do so to ensure that you get a place.

Enrolment applications close on August 31st of the year prior to school starts but can be received at any time. Please contact michelen@sjmb.school.nz for any enrolment queries.

WRITTEN REPORTS

Statement from the Ministry of Education to Support Schools with Reporting to Parents

As part of our focus on lifting student achievement we have introduced new, knowledge-rich and internationally-comparable curriculum this year for Maths in Years 0–8 and English in Years 0–6, and Te Reo Rangatira Years 0-6 and Pāngarau Years 0-8 wāhanga ako.

This means we are currently changing from the old to the new curriculum. We want to acknowledge that schools and kura will only have been using the new curricula from the start of 2025, which includes new teaching and assessment methods and content.

Because of this you could see a change in your child's progress or achievement compared to previous years which may be the result of changes in the curriculum expectations for your child's year level. If you have concerns or questions about your child's achievement, we strongly suggest you talk with your child's teacher or kaiako. They will also have used their own observations, classroom tasks and other tests to report on the progress your child is making.



temahau.govt.nz

The Mid-Year Reports will read a little differently this year. You will be receiving your child's progress report at the end of the week. It will share with you what your child has achieved and their next steps, in relation to the new curriculums. Instead of reporting against a Curriculum Level (which generally covered two years at school), the reports will indicate how your child is progressing against the learning expectations for their year level.

Included in the report envelope will be an explanation of the descriptors being used at this time, whilst the Ministry of Education descriptors are being finalised.

The Ministry of Education has also shared a link to a [Parent Portal](#). This website contains general information as to the programme of learning for each year level and activities that you can do at home to support your child's learning.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Following on from the written reports, Parent Teacher Conferences are being held next week on Wednesday 18th June between 1:00pm – 7:30pm. To provide the opportunity for all parents who wish to attend a conference to do so, **school will be finishing at 12:00pm on Wednesday 18th June**. You are asked to make arrangements to pick your child(ren) up promptly at this time. School buses will not be available.

Kids Choice After School Care will be available from 12.00 noon in the School Hall. If you wish to book your child into Kids Choice, please contact Barbara on Tel: 027 440 6363

TO BOOK A CONFERENCE TIME Use the QR code, use the [LINK](#), or visit the website www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter the code **zwdye** (it is case sensitive)

Bookings will close on Tuesday 17th June at 3:00pm



MATARIKI CELEBRATION



We are looking forward to you joining us at our Matariki Morning celebration at St. John's School if you are able! Below are a few more details about the event.

This is an event for you to enjoy **with** your tamariki (all students must be supervised by an adult during this time).

Date: Friday, 27th June.

Time: 7.00 - 8.30am
(If you are a KEEN stargazer, you are welcome to come in at 6:00am to try and catch a glimpse through a telescope before sunrise).

Location: Top court/ Hall/ Library/ Garden/ Church.

Matariki, the Māori New Year, is a time of reflection, celebration, and connection with our whānau and community. Join us as we honour this special occasion with a morning filled with activities, performances, and shared kai.

To help us with catering, please RSVP using this [link](#) for approximate numbers.

We will be starting with karakia-prayer on the top court at 7:00am. Following this there will be activities that you can wander between and enjoy at your own pace.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

- Star gazing
- Activities: Planting, string games, sending our intentions, and waiata
- Remembrance: Candle lighting in St John's Church for loved ones who have died
- Kai: A shared soup breakfast to enjoy together (please bring a travel mug if you have one)
- Hot Drinks: Tea and coffee will be available in the hall

At 8:15am we will gather together in the hall for waiata-singing. If you cannot commit to the whole time, please do not worry. We would love to see you, even if it is only for a short while. We look forward to celebrating Matariki with you and your tamariki.

Your presence will make this occasion even more special.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Families who would like to remember a special person who has died (traditionally within the last year) can make a Google slide for our memorial slide show in the Church during our Matariki Morning. This can include the person's name, image and details of their life. You are welcome to create a slide for more than one person. Please note, this is **one slide per person**, not a slide show!

Alternatively, students are invited to bring in a copy of a photo, or email the image and information, to their classroom teacher.

Click on the [link](#) to see an example.

WINTER WARM UP - SOCIAL OUTREACH



Friday 27th June, our Matariki Celebration Day, will also be an opportunity for social outreach. Students are encouraged to wear their pyjamas to school in exchange for a donation of a gold coin or new / used winter warm up items to donate to those in need. Funds raised and items collected will be distributed through the charitable organisation, Give a Kid a Blanket.

They welcome donations of excellent quality pre-loved (not stained/damaged and freshly washed please) or new items; blankets, duvet inners and covers, sleeping bags, infant sleep sacks, NEW pillows, NEW hot water bottles, warm infant, child, teen and adult clothing, pyjamas, robes, socks, beanies, jumpers, track pants, hoodies.

They also love receiving donations of hand-crafted items such as crocheted blankets, and knitted infant and children's jumpers and cardigans, and beanies in all sizes.

Items for donation can be brought in anytime from next Monday (16th June) until Friday, 27th June.

There are collection boxes in the school office. If you wish to make a cash donation, this can be completed using the donation option in [Kindo](#).

FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD

STRATEGIC PLAN

Two years ago, our school community reviewed and redeveloped our School Strategic Plan.

Strategic plans are developed by School Boards to guide the school over a three year period, setting a consistent direction and focus. The current Strategic Plan is being reviewed after only two years to bring it in line with the triennial School Board elections being held in September 2025.

The Board wants to take this opportunity to "check in" on how well the current Plan is holding up and whether any adjustments are required.

As part of this check-in, we are also taking a moment to reflect on our Vision and Values, which were thoughtfully revised during the last strategic planning process. While these usually remain stable over time, we want to ensure they still resonate with our school community and reflect who we are and what we believe.

Your feedback is valuable and will help us stay aligned, purposeful, and responsive.

**CLICK TO SUBMIT
FEEDBACK**

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS



The St John's School Board invites you to consider nominating yourself or another parent/caregiver to join the 2025 St John's School Board.

The St John's School Board elections will take place on Wednesday 10th September 2025. Nominations for Election to the Board will be called for by Friday 18th July 2025.

If you are interested, you are welcome to come along to a Board Meeting and see for yourself the type of work we undertake. The next meeting dates are 26 June, 31 July and 28 August at 6.30pm.

PROJECT JONAH VISIT

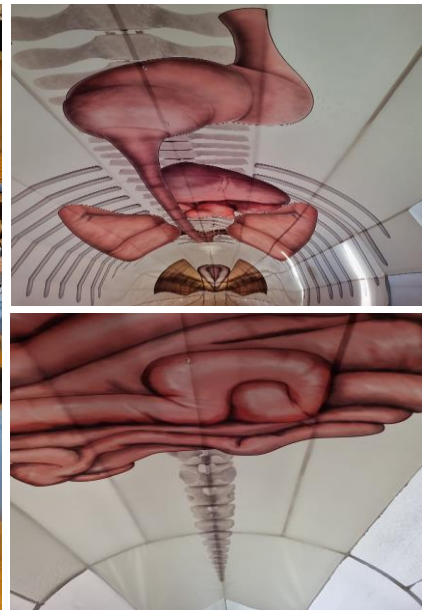
On Tuesday, 20th May, Michael from Project Jonah came to St John's School with a giant inflatable Humpback whale, which had a length of 13m and a width of 8m. It was called Jonah. First, we were instructed to sit behind a red and blue rope that was tied to two chairs. Then, Michael told us about what Project Jonah is, facts about Humpback whales, Humpback whales' behavior, and lastly, what impact human activity has on humpback whales.

Next, we were arranged into 2 different groups to go inside the whale. 15 at a time. We didn't know what to expect, but when we entered the Humpback whale, Michael told us we were going to see the organs of the whale. Michael went from the front to the back, going through all the organs in the whale's body.

When we sat down inside the whale, the sides of the whale blew up, and became like a wall coming out of the ground. Inside the humpback whale, there are 161 bones! The tail is made out of ears, and the teeth are made out of fingernails.

When we were not inside the whale, we did a whale activity booklet where we had to copy the organs of the Humpback whale into the body with a pencil. This activity was easy as we had just learnt about the different organs of the whale's body. On the next page of the booklet, there was a word search. The word search was where you had to find specific words.

By Chris, Freddie, and Army - Kaitiaki Guardians



GARDEN TO TABLE BAKE SALE

On Thursday, the 29th of May, at morning tea, the Kaitiaki Guardians held the Great Bake Sale in the school hall. Everything cost \$1, except for the Anzac Biscuits, you got two for \$1!

The Year 4 and 5 students helped us make all the yummy baking during our Garden to Table time with Mrs Mountjoy, Mrs Mercer, and Mrs Moore. On the day of the sale, about 15 Kaitiaki Guardians helped run it. We had different jobs like welcoming people, selling the food, handing out tissues, collecting the money, making signs, showing the food on plates, and helping clean up at the end.

The Year 4s came first, then the Year 5s, and finally the Year 6s got to come and buy something. Some of the food we sold was: Lemon Muffins, Lemon Slices, Banana Bread, Chocolate Cake, Hazelnut Slice with chocolate on top, Anzac Biscuits, Rum Balls, Chocolate Chip Cookies, Jam Biscuits, and Ginger Slice. The Chocolate Chip Cookies were one of the most popular treats. Lots of people liked the Lemon Muffins too. The Hazelnut Slices didn't sell as much as the others, but everything tasted really good! We raised \$215.00 from the 200+ items that we sold. Wow, what an amazing bake sale!

Caoimhe: I especially liked the lemon slice. It tasted lemony and sour. Delicious!
Dom: I loved the chocolate chip cookie because it was crunchy. It had small bits of chocolate that made it even yummier.
Luca: I also liked the chocolate chip cookie, because it wasn't too crunchy and not too sweet.

We all agreed that the chocolate chip cookies and the chocolate cake sold the fastest, followed by the lemon slice, and then the lemon muffins.

By Caoimhe, Luca, Dom - Room 4 - Kaitiaki Guardians



PTFA

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

sale



WEDNESDAY 11TH JUNE
2:30 PM SCHOOL HALL



Donations Welcome

FOR THE UPCOMING SALE ON 11TH JUNE

drop all donatins ro the school office!

SCHOOL CALENDAR

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

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS



Just a friendly, midterm reminder to check your Kindo account www.mykindo.co.nz. If you need any assistance or have any questions regarding your school account, please do not hesitate to reach out to Mrs Bridges in the school office or the Kindo Helpdesk on Tel: 09 869 5200. They will be able to provide you with the necessary information and guidance.

If you are having technical difficulties with Kindo please feel free to call into the school office to make payment via EFTPOS or Credit Card (minimal paywave & credit card surcharges apply).

FROM THE PARISH

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PREFERENCE FORMS

Fr Carlo and Fr Danko will be available to sign the forms on Wednesdays, 10am – 12.00 noon & 1.00 – 3.00pm 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](#).

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES



Kids Choice Winter Holiday Programme

30th June to 11th July 2025
 Open 7am til 6pm Monday to Friday



\$ 65 Full day

\$ 65 Full day

\$ 65 Full day

\$ 65 Full day

\$ 60 Full day

<p>Mon 30th</p> <p>Origami</p>  <p>Wheels day</p> 	<p>Tue 1st</p> <p>Adventure Alley</p> <p>Grip Socks</p> 	<p>Wed 2nd</p> <p>Beadazzle party</p> 	<p>Thurs 3rd</p> <p>Zoo Dinosaurs</p> 	<p>Friday 4th</p> <p>Dressup day</p> 
<p>Mon 7th</p> <p>Face painting & balloon twisting</p> 	<p>Tue 8th</p> <p>Weta workshop</p> 	<p>Wed 9th</p> <p>Magic Loft</p> <p>Grip Socks</p> 	<p>Thurs 10th</p> <p>Baking Pizza</p> 	<p>Fri 11th</p> <p>Pyjama Party</p> 

NØUGHTY WASTERS

M A K E R S P A C E



play and
create



learn
how to
use tools



School Holiday Programme

July 1-3, 8-10

9am - 3pm, Ages 4-12

27 Lake Road Devonport

Book on Humanitix

hi@annlangisplay.com



KIWI
KICK STARS



JULY HOLIDAY PROGRAMME



BOOK NOW

LOOKING FOR SCHOOL HOLIDAY MAGIC?

🏆 OUR SESSIONS ARE PACKED WITH ACTION, FUN GAMES, AND EXCITING STORYTELLING THAT BRING THE BEAUTIFUL GAME TO LIFE WHILE BUILDING FOOTBALL SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE. 🎉

🎁 WE'VE GOT AMAZING PRIZES, AND EVERY CHILD WILL TAKE HOME UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES! 🏆

📅 **WEEK ONE:** JULY TUESDAY 1ST, WEDNESDAY 2ND, THURSDAY 3RD

WEEK TWO: APRIL TUESDAY 8TH, WEDNESDAY 9TH, THURSDAY 10TH

WHERE: HOBSONVILLE SCHOOL

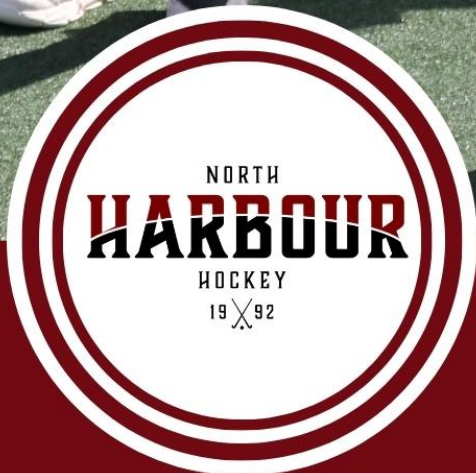
DON'T MISS THE CHANCE TO SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS AND HAVE A BALL! 🏆!!! FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER GO TO!

www.kiwikickstars.com

**REGISTER
NOW!**

**Book your
Spot**

School Holiday Programme



SCAN ME



Hit Em Up - Year 1-4
8 & 9th July

Hooked on Hockey - Year 5-8
8, 9, & 10th July
9am - 3pm

For more details email: carey@harbourhockey.org.nz



Westlake Girls High School

Te Kura Tuarua o ngā Taitamawāhine o Ururoto

ALERT

BASKETBALL

ALERT

HOLIDAY CAMP

**WITH THE 2022, 2023 AND 2024 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS &
3RD PLACE AT 2024 WORLD SECONDARY SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS
WESTLAKE GIRLS PREMIER TEAM
SKILLS COACHING AND 3X3 SERIES**

When:

Monday 30th June – Thursday 3rd July
Monday 7th July – Thursday 10th July

Age Groups:

School years 1 – 6 (Primary School):

9:00am–3:00pm

We have two gyms available to cater for
all levels and ages

(limited numbers so book in quickly)

Please bring snacks, lunch and a water
bottle.

Cost:

\$50 all day / \$30 half day
\$180 for four full days / \$100 for four
half days

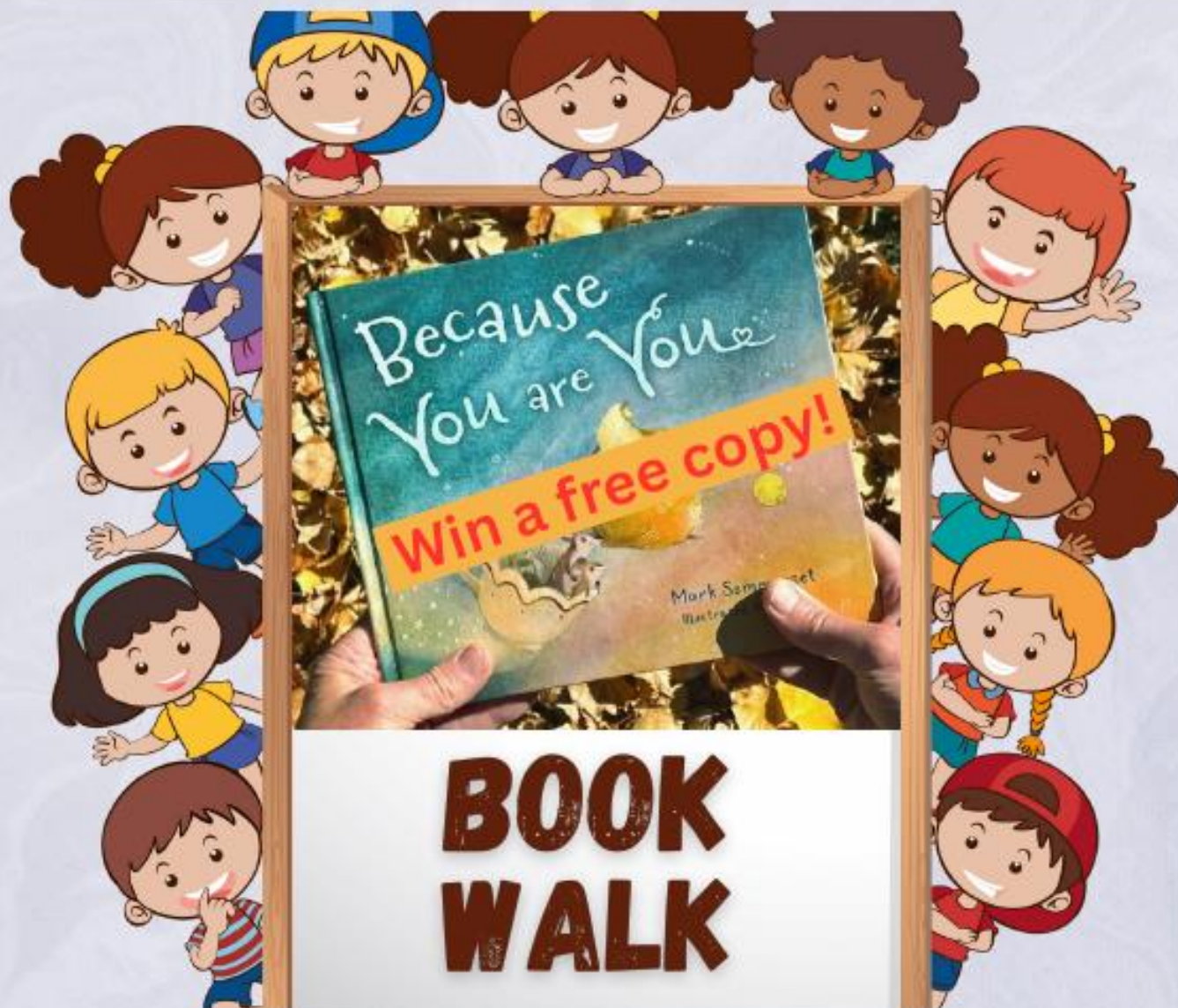
Where:

Westlake Girls High School Gym 1 and 3
(entrance from Smales Farm)

Adults will be on site to supervise the
young coaches.

Contact dionne_moors@hotmail.com for more information or

To register click here



Come to
MAIRANGI BAY VILLAGE
during the school holidays

and be among the first to read Mark Sommerset's new book:

"Because You Are You" - released June 2025

Join in the book walk and go in the draw to win a free, signed copy.

Pages of the book will be displayed in shop windows from June 28 - July 13

Collect a map from Sole Sisters then follow it to read the whole book.

Winner of the signed copy will be announced on Monday 14th.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Pack a picnic and enjoy a winter beach lunch, or enjoy one of our many fabulous cafes.

Bring your friends!



Only 3 more sleeps to go!!!

Thank you for your support of our Adventure Run...here is a bit more information about Friday.

What do the children need to wear?

- Children need to come to school in **old clothes** that can get MUDDY, SLIMY and WET.
- Please leave all school **uniforms at home** on Friday.
- Children need to wear trainers on the course. Please provide shoes that can get dirty and wet.

What do the children need to bring in their bags?

- Children will be getting wet and muddy, so will need to bring a **change of clothes** (including underwear) in their bags to get changed into after the run. We recommend that they have warm clothes.
- Children will also need to bring an **old towel** to dry themselves after the run. This towel may get a bit muddy too.
- Please pack a **plastic bag** for the children to put their clothes and towel in after they get changed.
- Please ensure everything that comes to school is named.

Does my child need lunch and morning tea?

- There will be a break for morning tea in the classrooms before the run.
- Sausages and juices are available for purchase before the day through Kindo.
- Subway is still available as normal, and the children can eat these after their runs.
- The children may be a bit hungrier than normal, so you may wish to pack a little extra.
- Please ensure they have a named water bottle at school.

What time will they be running?

- The Rangitoto Team (Year 0-3, Rooms 7-13) is starting their run at 11:00am and finishing at 12:00pm.
- The Waitematā Team (Year 4-6, Rooms 1-6) is starting their run at 12:00pm and finishing at 1:00pm.
- While we reserve the right to change the times if needed, we are planning to stick as close to these times as possible.

What if my child is a bit nervous?

- Children will be encouraged to embrace the adventure.
- If they don't want to attempt one of the obstacles, there will always be the option to bypass, and move on to the next one. It is all about them challenging themselves and having FUN!

What happens if it is raining?

- If it rains lightly, we will continue as planned. If the weather will impact health and safety, we will email to let you know that we will postpone by 10:00am.
- In the event of a postponement, the children will still receive their sausages and juices.

Can I come and watch?

- We would love you to come and watch.
- Because of the number of people on the course, we ask that you stay in the designated spectator areas (there will be maps available on the day).
- We are hoping that there will be a few minutes at the end of each run if you want to have a turn on the course WITH YOUR CHILD.
- While we welcome preschoolers to watch from the spectator area with their parents, the course is not suitable for under 5's.
- Please leave all dogs at home on this occasion.
- If you wish to talk to your child after the race, for privacy reasons, please wait outside of the classroom while the children are getting changed. The class teachers will let you know when you can enter the classroom.

Do we need helpers?

- If you are able to help on the day, please contact ptfa@sjmb.school.nz. Please include what times you are able to help.

When are the prizes announced?

- We will be coming together in the hall at 2:00pm to announce the top individual and class fundraisers and give out the last spot prizes.
- You are most welcome to join us for this assembly.

Where can we park?

- The school car park will be open as normal, accessed off East Coast Rd.
- There is a Mass on Friday morning, so please be considerate of the parishioners attending Mass. Mass will be finished at 10:30am.
- Street parking is available in the surrounding streets. Please be considerate of access to driveways.

What about toilet facilities for adults?

- Toilet facilities for adults are in the hall. The school toilet block is for children only.
- A wheelchair accessible toilet is available in the school office.
- Pool changing rooms will be available for adults who may wish to get changed.

What if I need to collect my child early?

- Please sign your child out at the office as normal, and then take the slip to the class teacher when collecting your child.