

5th September 2025

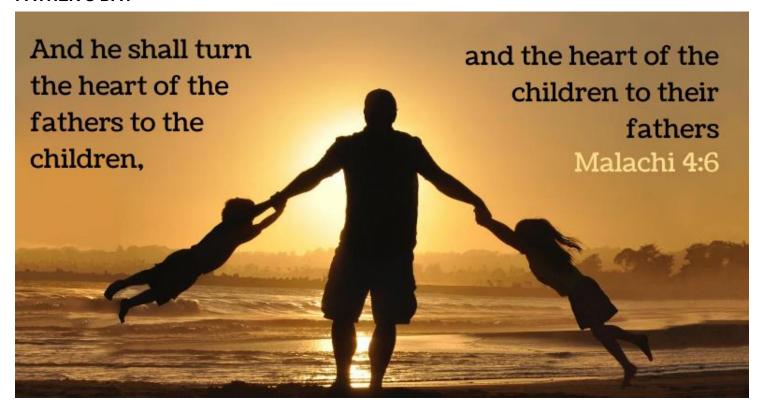
NEWSLETTER

Te Reo ō te Kura ō Hato Hoāni

The voice of St John's School

Kia ora whānau,

FATHER'S DAY



This weekend we celebrate Father's Day, and I wanted to take a moment to wish all the fathers, grandfathers and father figures in our community a blessed Father's Day. We hope you are able to take some time to do something special as a whānau and that you feel honoured and appreciated. We also hold in our hearts and prayers those for whom this day can be difficult, especially those who no longer have their fathers with them.

God, our Heavenly Father,

We thank you for our fathers, grandfathers, and all father figures in our lives.

Bless them with your love and give them the strength and wisdom they need to guide us.

May they be filled with aroha and joy.

We also hold in our hearts and prayers the memory and legacy of those who are no longer with us. May their spirits live on in our hearts, and may they rest in your eternal peace.

We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE



Next week, Mrs Fuaaletoelau, Mrs Perry and I will be out of the office attending the Principal's Conference in Wellington. The conference theme, Tākina Te Hau, references the unique and changing winds of Wellington. It is a wonderful metaphor for the way we as leaders need to navigate the ever-changing educational landscape.

The focus of the conference is on developing leadership strategies for uncertain times and how we can use the "winds of change" to continue to create a positive and nurturing environment for our school. We look forward to sharing some of our new learning and key takeaways when we return. We will be back onsite on next Friday and Mrs Mountjoy will be looking after the school in our absence.

DAFFODIL DAY

Thank you for your generosity in supporting Daffodil Day.

Together as a community we raised **\$641.56** which will be going to cancer care for patients and their whānau, education and awareness programmes, and life-saving cancer research.





We are starting our collection of canned and dry goods in support of St Vincent de Paul and The Mercy Hospice.

Goods can be donated up until our collection day,

12th September.

You may send cans to school anytime and there will be a collection box in your child's classroom.

'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

Matthew 25:35-37

ONCE UPON A TIME DAY



As a fun way to end the term we invite the children to come to school dressed as their favourite storybook character on Friday 19th September.

The main idea is to have simple fun, so please, there is no need to go to any expense or stress about a costume. We encourage you to be creative and use things you already have at home.

We ask that costumes be school (and play) appropriate and not include any weapons.

TE WIKI O TE REO MĀORI (MĀORI LANGUAGE WEEK) CELEBRATES 50 YEARS



50 Wero Reo Māori - Challenge Yourself, Uplift the Reo!

In the lead up to Te Wiki, the challenge (wero) has been laid down calling on Aotearoa to take up the 50 Wero Reo Māori. Choose from a range of 50 reo-based challenges to complete over the week. There is a challenge for everyone; whether you're fluent, just starting out, or somewhere in between, for all levels, for all New Zealanders. Do it solo or with your workmates, kura, gym buddies, club or whānau.

Take on one wero or 50, every wero counts! Each wero may be small — a kupu shared, a waiata sung, a reo moment captured — but together, they add up to a powerful statement of commitment. They are acts of aroha for te reo Māori and reminders that every word and every speaker counts. We will be taking up some of these challenges at school and we invite you to do the same.

For more information and to sign up please click this LINK.

TIME TO SHARE – TIME TO SHINE FEEDBACK

Thank you to all those who were able to make the sharing time with your children last week and those who have arranged another time. There were a few changes made this year to the timing, structure and focus and we would appreciate any feedback you have.



If you would like to submit feedback, please use this <u>LINK</u> to complete the 2-5 minute survey. Most of the questions are simply a 'click' response. There is the opportunity to add comments at the end.

For every response submitted we are giving 1000 housepoints per student (two children= 2000 housepoints).

GROWING UP WITH CONFIDENCE

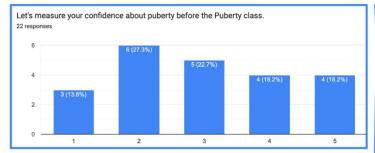
Following a parent information evening, our Year 5 and 6 students participated in the **Positive Puberty** (Year 6) and Cycle Smarter (Year 5) programmes from Nest Consulting. These programmes are designed to empower our tamariki with a positive and informed understanding of the physical and emotional changes that come with growing up.

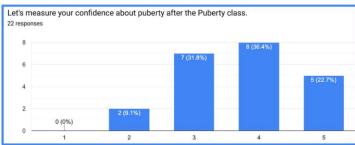
The **Positive Puberty Plus** programme focuses on health and wellbeing, covering topics like self-esteem, body image, and how to manage changing emotions. It is all about building confidence and celebrating who we are. The **Cycle Smarter** programme helps our tamariki understand their bodies better and manage the changes that come with puberty with confidence.

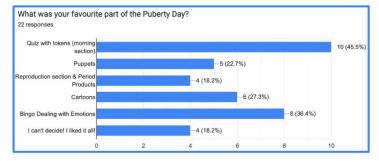
The students were very engaged, and we've been so impressed by their maturity and thoughtful questions. We wanted to share some of their feedback with you, which really shows the impact of these sessions. As always, we believe these conversations are most effective when they're supported by open communication at home. Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's learning journey.



St John's Cycle Smarter®

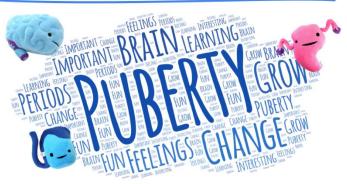






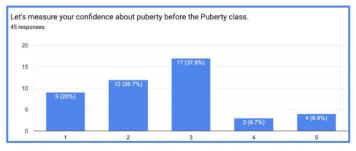
What was the most helpful thing you learnt from the Positive Puberty Day?

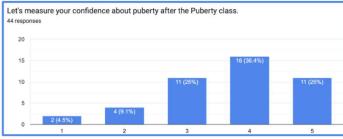
- How to deal with it
- Not to worry too much
- Learning about the period products
- What will happen when you have puberty
- That you can change
- I don't know but a lot
- I now know what is puberty
- How you express your feelings
- Puberty starts in your brain
- That you grow
- To not worry about getting puberty
- I learnt why it is important for us

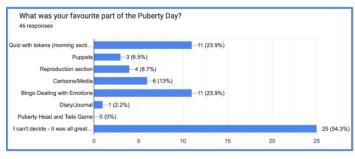




St John's Positive Puberty®







What was the most helpful thing you learnt from the Positive Puberty Day?

- Everything!
- That everyone grows at their own pace
- Change is fine
- Knowing about the body
- That it's not just me that thinks certain things
- Not to be embarrassed about it and that I'm not alone I can talk to others and it's not awkward
- That everyone goes through the same thing
- Emotions and body image
- Growth spurts
- Facial hair
- Human anatomy



NEXT PTFA MEETING: Tuesday 9th September, 7:00pm in the school staff room.

EASY LUNCHES WITH EZLUNCH

Just a friendly reminder that the PTFA in partnership with <u>Kindo</u>, offers a convenient and easy lunch-ordering service through ezlunch. This is a great option for those busy mornings!

You can order delicious and healthy lunches for your children from a variety of local providers. Ezlunch is available Monday to Thursday, and we also have our Subway day every Friday.

Ordering is simple through the myKindo app, and all orders are delivered directly to the school.





DISCOVER DEALS



The PTFA is pleased to offer the purchase of these wonderful books from <u>Local Treasures</u>. They are perfect for keeping the children entertained and engaged and are packed with great ideas and discounts that are just right for the upcoming school holidays.

You can get \$20 off the 'Family Memory Maker' book. When you buy using our code: STJOHN, you'll only pay \$59 instead of \$79. In addition, the company will give \$20 to the school.

Please feel free to share this code with your friends and family too – it's a great way for everyone to benefit while supporting a local business.

www.localtreasures.co.nz Coupon Code: STJOHN

AROUND THE SCHOOL

RECYCLING TRIP 7

By Rocio, Irene, and Allegra.

On August 21st, the Year 5 classes visited Waitākere Refuse Station to learn more about worms, composting, and how we can improve our recycling practices.

The first thing we did when we arrived was go out onto the deck to talk about the rules and the activities we were going to do. After the explanation, we had morning tea. We played in the garden and ate some kai.

Next, we separated into groups for different activities. One group went into the indoor classroom to learn about the different bins we have in New Zealand, while the other group learnt about worms. Rooms 3 and 4 had lots of fun learning about the bins and what items could go in each one. A highlight for many students was the rubbish relay race, which showed the life cycle of recycling and how it benefits us.

At lunchtime, everyone had the chance to play with the Loose Parts Play Box. The box included old clothes, crutches, walking sticks, toys, bags, sports equipment, and more!

The Year 5 students especially enjoyed seeing the worm farm and learning what goes inside it. We even had the chance to touch the worms and look at them up close with a magnifying glass.

At the end of the day, we hopped on the bus with Laura, the centre coordinator, for a tour around the recycling centre. It was a great way to finish the trip! When the tour ended, we said our goodbyes to Laura before heading back to school.

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL FACES THE MUSIC

Text and photos by Poppy C (Room 2)

This week a group of two dance teachers, Omar and Manny, have been teaching a different dance to each year class at St John's. Omar and Manny travel through Australia and New Zealand to different schools.

They come to St John's so they can teach students how to be strong and how to become professional dancers and perform on Friday.

At the start of the week children were feeling a bit scared and nervous but over time they enjoyed being seen and performing for the parents.

St John's teachers also did a dance, but it was a secret and only for the children.

At the end of the show Omar and Manny promised to the children that they would do a hip hop dance to make the parents and the children happy.

Lots of the parents were very proud and happy that they could see their children dance. Everyone was excited for Omar and Manny to come next year and be astonished with everyone's dance!







SCHOOL CALENDAR

Reminder that school closes for the holidays on Friday 19th September at the usual time of 2.50pm. Term 4 starts on Monday 6th October and finishes on Tuesday 16th December at 12.00 noon.

Looking ahead to Term 4, please note that school will be closed on Friday 7th November for a Teacher Only Day.

We are in the process of confirming events for Term 4 and these will be added to the SJMB Community Calendar over the next few weeks.

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

KINDO

As we near the end of the term it would be greatly appreciated if all families could review their Kindo accounts (www.mykindo.co.nz) to check for any outstanding payments.





In particular, we are reaching the time of year when children have done so much work, they have filled all their exercise books and are being supplied with new ones from the school office.

These items are charged for via <u>Kindo</u> so please keep a close eye on your account as payment as soon as possible is always appreciated.

We pride ourselves on offering our students a wide and varied curriculum and providing access to a number of valuable resources such as our Maths & Literacy online learning. Your ongoing support for these items is essential and we gratefully acknowledge your contribution. Thank you.

LOST PROPERTY

We always endeavour to return items that are **clearly labelled**. If you are looking for a specific item, please contact the school office via email (office@simb.school.nz) with a description of the item, name and room of the child concerned and we will do all we can, in the time we, have to trace the item.

There are currently both uniform and non-uniform items in the Lost Property box, all of which we are unable to return to their owners as they are unnamed. **All** unclaimed items of uniform at the end of term will be donated to the PTFA second hand uniform sale and non-uniform items will be donated to charity.



FROM THE PARISH

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PREFERENCE FORMS

Fr Carlo will be available to sign the forms on Wednesdays, 10:30am – 12.00 noon for a 10-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.







Sep 23, 25, 30, Oct 1,2 9am - 3pm, Ages 4-12 27 Lake Road Devonport Book on Humanitix hi@annlangisplay.com









HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT BAKES?

- Learn to bake 3 delicious recipes these school holidays.
- FREE fun from the comfort of your own home.
- \$200 worth of prizes to give away!
- Suitable for all ages and skill levels.





REGISTER NOW:

www.bakewithme.co.nz/schoolholidaybaking

