



21st October
2025

NEWSLETTER

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

Kia ora whānau,

Welcome to Week 3. Last Thursday we participated in the nationwide Shakeout Day. ShakeOut is a self-run earthquake drill held across the country to remind people of the right action to take during an earthquake. The children were led in a drill to Drop, Cover and Hold. We were very proud of how the children responded.



SCHOOL PHOTOS



Photolife were at school today taking our Sport team photos. Class, individual and sibling photos will be taken tomorrow, **Wednesday 22nd October**.

All children will be photographed for a class photo and an individual photo. We ask that children are in tidy and correct [full Summer uniform](#) for class and individual photos.

SIBLING PHOTOS: If you wish for your children to have a sibling photograph where they are photographed together Photolife require a completed request form, copies were sent home with the children earlier this term. No family will be photographed without this form. Extra or replacement copies are available in the school office. Sibling photograph packs can be ordered and paid for, in due course, in the same way as the individual and class photos.

ORDERING PHOTOS: The ordering of Class, Individual and Sports Team photographs is online. This system works on a specific link to your child's name. After we have approved the proofs Photolife will email caregivers directly with a 'shoot key' code which you use to view and order your children's photographs online. They will also detail the order deadline date for free delivery to school. The shoot key is unique to your child and gives a high level of security; students cannot access other student's photographs, and the system ensures images cannot be 'grabbed' off the internet and printed or posted to social media sites.

2026 CLASS PLACEMENTS

As teachers and Senior Leadership begin planning for next year's class placements, we invite parents to share any information they believe is important for us to consider regarding their child's needs. If you wish to share information about any learning or social/emotional needs that may impact your child's learning, please feel free to complete [the form](#) by the end of Tuesday 28th October.



Please note that while we make every effort to consider all requests, we cannot guarantee that all requests will be met due to the complex balancing of factors that goes into creating our class lists. In addition to considerations for individual students, the criteria we consider when making class placements are:

- A balance of boys and girls
- A balance of academic diversity in learning styles and capabilities
- A balance of ethnic diversity and cultural backgrounds
- Socially balanced groups to minimise peer conflicts and promote positive interactions, and,
- a balance between current classes, so new friendships can be formed.

While we value your input, please understand that as professionals, we will make final decisions based on a holistic view of each child's academic, social, and emotional well-being. Our goal is to create the best possible learning environment for all students, and we appreciate your trust in this process.

Confirmed placements for 2026 will be included in your child's end of year school report which will be given to your child(ren) on the last day of Term 4.

CRAZE OF THE WEEK

Our Peer Mediators will be introducing some new activities at lunchtimes for the children to try. The first 'Craze of the Week' was an old favourite – elastics. While familiar to many of us adults, it was new to a number of children and they enjoyed giving it a go on the top court.



God bless,
Marina Binns - Principal/Tumuaki

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – SOCIAL OUTREACH FOR CARITAS HOLY LAND APPEAL

What a fantastic day we had at our Annual School Mission Fair! Thanks to the incredible efforts and generosity of our whole school community, we are thrilled to announce that we raised over \$2,500 for the Caritas Holy Land Appeal.

The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement as our students enjoyed a wonderful morning. The games designed and run by our senior students were a huge hit, giving everyone a chance to play and contribute to a great cause. There was a fantastic selection of raffle prizes, made from donations from Antics and our senior class whānau, which saw many happy winners. And of course, no fair would be complete without a delicious treat – the yummy sausage sizzle was a perfect complement to the day!

This wonderful achievement wouldn't have been possible without key contributions from across our community:

- A huge thank you to Cara Mountjoy, our DRS (Director of Religious Studies), for her outstanding organisation and enthusiasm in leading this event.
- Thank you to all the teachers for their invaluable support and supervision on the day.
- Thank you to our amazing senior classes for not only designing and running the games but also for putting together such great raffle prizes.
- We are incredibly grateful to the PTFA for supplying and preparing the fantastic sausage sizzle.
- Finally, a massive thank you to all the children for their enthusiastic participation and to all the families for your exceptional generosity in supporting our fundraising efforts.

Your support will make a real difference to the Caritas Holy Land Appeal. Thank you once again for making our Mission Fair such a remarkable success!

Mission Fair 2025

By Lani H

On Friday the 17th of October our school (St. John's School) had our annual Mission Fair. At the Mission Fair we tried to raise as much money as we can for an organisation called Caritas. Caritas helps families that have nothing, and they also support the people who are affected by the conflict in Gaza. For Caritas we raised... over \$2,500!!!

At the Mission Fair all the Year 5 and 6s created games and stalls that the rest of the school could play at and win counters which they put into their house coloured jars. Angie and I made a game called 'Guess It Quick!' It was really fun, we held up a picture and they had to guess what was on it. My friend Emma did a face painting booth and I also got some face paint. There was also karaoke in the hall for everyone to join in.

After the games, but before lunch, every class went up to get a sausage sizzle. The sausage sizzles were sooo delicious! At the end of the day we had a special assembly where Miss Binns (the principal of the school) announced which house had the most counters and that winning house got a juicie. I think this was one of the BEST Mission Fairs we have ever had!



GARDEN TO TABLE



School Garden Produce Sale – Wednesday, 22 October

Time: 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Location: Outside the School Hall

Come and support our senior students at our **Garden Produce Sale!** Grown with care in our school garden, there will be a variety of fresh, seasonal goodies available, including:

- Kale • Silverbeet • Beetroot • Lettuce • Cabbage
- Herbs • Seedlings • other garden-fresh vegetables!

Everything is just **\$1 or \$2**, and all proceeds go directly to support our **Garden to Table Programme**.

Don't miss this chance to grab healthy produce and support a great cause!

SCHOOL UNIFORM

CHANGEOVER TO THE SUMMER UNIFORM

All children should now be wearing the Summer uniform. For more information on the uniform, please see the uniform page on the [school website](#).

SUN SMART

We have noticed a number of children do not have a hat at school. As we move into the warmer months, it is important for all students to wear hats during outdoor activities to protect against the strong UV rays in New Zealand. Sun safety is a priority, and wearing hats helps ensure we stay safe and healthy while enjoying time outdoors.

Summer	
Dress:	Blue check dress with white collar and red tie
Culottes:	Navy with school name
Shorts:	Navy with school name
Shirt:	Freight blue monogrammed short sleeve polo
Fleece:	Navy zip front monogrammed polar fleece
Ribbons:	Red, navy, blue or white
Shoes:	Leather sandals plain, flat black Roman sandal style
Hat:	Navy monogrammed bucket hat – Term 1 & 4

All children are required to wear the school hat when playing outside in Term 4. If they do not have their hat, they will need to play in the shade. Hats can be purchased from [NZ Uniform](#).

Please ensure that ALL items that your child/ren bring to school are clearly named.

We also ask that they bring their full P.E. uniform to school on Monday morning and that it is left at school then returned home on Friday if it needs washing.

ATHLETICS DAYS

YEAR 4 – 6 ATHLETICS DAY– Wednesday, 29th October



Our Year 4 – 6 Athletics Sports take place on Wednesday, 29th October at the **AUT Millennium Stadium**.

This day has a dual purpose of showcasing the skill development from the PE athletics focus this term as well as being part of the selection process for the Interschool Athletics event.

PARENT HELP IS REQUIRED... Throughout the day students will rotate around different athletics activities; sprints, long jump, high jump, shotput and discus throwing. To cater for all of these events, we require up to 24 helpers. No experience necessary. If you are able to help please contact Mrs Karen Dorrington sports@sjmb.school.nz

We will be starting our programme at 8:30am with the 800m event. This is an optional event which some children will select to enter. All 800m runners are to be at the track by 8:20am as the event will be run before the other children arrive.

PARENTS: if your child is in the 800m event, please take them directly to the stadium where they are to report to Mrs Karen Dorrington.

The rest of the children will walk to the Stadium via Rangitoto College with their teachers. Children need to bring a good lunch and plenty to drink for the day.

From 9:20am onwards the children will be involved in a variety of activities on and around the track. For ease of organisation the children will be grouped in their year levels. The programme is detailed below.

	Year 4B	Year 4G	Year 5B	Year 5G	Year 6B	Year 6G
8:30am	800m Event - Year 4 to 6 Girls & Boys					
9:20am	100m Sprints	100m Sprints	Shot Put	Shot Put	High Jump	High Jump
10:00am	Discus	Discus	100m Sprints	100m Sprints	Shot Put	Shot Put
10:40am	Long Jump	Long Jump	Discus	Discus	100m Sprints	100m Sprints
11:20am	70/200m Sprints	70/200m Sprints	Long Jump	Long Jump	Discus	Discus
12:00pm	LUNCH					
12:20pm	400m Event - Year 4 to 6 Girls & Boys					
12:50pm	High Jump	High Jump	70/200m Sprints	70/200m Sprints	Long Jump	Long Jump
1:30pm	Shot Put	Shot Put	High Jump	High Jump	70/200m Sprints	70/200m Sprints
2:10pm	4x100m House Relays – Fastest 4 Boys/Girls (2 Races, 4 House teams)					
2:25pm	DEPART VENUE					

SUN SAFETY...

- Slip... All children must wear their school PE uniform for the day.
- Slop... Please ensure that your children have sunscreen on before they come to school.
Please also provide named sunscreen for your child to reapply at lunchtime.
- Slap... All children must wear their school hat during the day.
- and Drink... All children need to bring a named drink bottle which they will carry around with them for the day. Water is highly recommended to keep the children hydrated during sport.

UNIFORM...The children will need their full School PE uniform including sports shoes, which they may wear to school, and their school sunhat. Please ensure all items are named. We have changed the way we record results this year. Children no longer need to bring safety pins as we are moving to recording sheets and will no longer have cards.

AN INVITATION TO ALL PARENTS... All parents, families and friends are welcome to come along and share the occasion. The AUT Millennium Stadium is in Antares Place. Feel free to sit on the grass bank, behind the track and fenced area, or on the grassy area behind the roped area. Please do not come down inside the track area. Access is via Apollo Drive, off Constellation Drive or Rosedale Road. Lunch will be from approx. 12:00pm – 12:30pm and your children will be able to join you on the grass bank then. Children are not permitted to leave the stadium during the lunch break.

END OF SPORTS DAY PROCEDURES... At the end of the sports day (approx. 2:25pm) the children will assemble on the field. Parents wishing to take their children home may do so but will need to collect them from the field as the classes are called out. It is important for the teachers to know which children have been taken by parents and which have not. Please help us in this and follow this procedure.

You are reminded that if you wish your children to be collected by someone else, a note **MUST** be given to the class teacher in the morning. All other children will return to school and leave from there as normal.

YEARS 1 – 3 RUN, JUMP, THROW

Our Rangitoto team will be showcasing their athletics skills with a **Run, Jump, Thow Day at school on Wednesday 19th November**. From 12:30 - 2:30pm the students will rotate around their athletics activities as a culmination of the PE athletics focus this term. Parents are welcome to come and watch, and there will be designated spectator areas around the grounds. To support us in the logistical organisation of the day, we ask you to remain in these areas, and not come into the areas where the children are participating.



CONGRATULATIONS



YEAR 3 FLIPPABALL

Congratulations to the St John's Eels, a Year 3 Flippaball team. They had a great season over Terms 2 and 3 and placed first in their grade.

Special thanks to Orlaith and Ava, two past students who helped coach the team to victory.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Week 3; Wednesday 22 nd October	Photolife Class, Individual and Sibling Photos
Week 3; Thursday 23 rd October	School closed due to Strike
Week 4; Monday 27 th October	Labour Day (school closed for public holiday)
Week 4; Wednesday 29 th October	Waitemata Athletics Day (Year 4-6)
Week 5; Tuesday 4 th November	PTFA monthly meeting
Week 5; Friday 7 th November	Staff Only Day (school closed)
Week 7; Wednesday 19 th November	Rangitoto Run, Jump, Throw Day (Year 0-3)
Week 7; Friday 21 st November	PTFA Twilight Fun Fair
Week 9; Friday 5 th December	End of Year Mass and Year 6 celebration
Week 10; Friday 12 th December	Rangitoto Christmas Show
Week 11; Tuesday 16 th December	School finishes for the year (12:00pm)

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

We look forward to sharing time with you through many events over the next eight weeks. We understand that family life is busy and full of commitments, and we want to assure you, while you are always welcome, there is absolutely no expectation that you attend every school event; please simply choose the activities that work best for your whānau.



**ST JOHN'S
TWILIGHT**

FUN FAIR

BRING	DO
WEEK 4 – Tuesday 28 October	
A bag of individually-wrapped lollies – no open bags please (for lolly necklaces)	Join the Fair FB and Insta pages and share on social media with friends and family: www.facebook.com/SJMBFunFair https://www.instagram.com/stjohnstwilightfunfair?igsh=Z3R2bXVvNXRtN2to
A block of chocolate for the chocolate trailer	
	Put aside childrens/teens books in good, saleable condition (no adult books please) to bring to the hall later (Sunday 9 November – Friday 14 November)
WEEK 5 – Monday 3 November	
A bag of mini, individually-wrapped chocolate bars, lollipops or similar (for games' prizes)	Register for 32auctions (https://www.32auctions.com/SJMBFunFair2025) and look at what is available at the Silent auction. Make a bid if you like ;)
An item for the class hamper to match your class theme	You can bring your childrens/teens books to the school hall on Sunday 9th November between 11am and 12pm
WEEK 6 – Monday 10 November	
An item for the class hamper to match your class theme	Pre-purchase your game zone bands and book your VR experience
Bring your good, saleable condition children/teens books to the hall	
WEEK 7 – Friday 21 November	
Make and bring in your home-made slice, cupcakes or sweet treats (eg. fudge, rocky road) for the "Sweet Treats stall"	Have fun!
Your friends and family to the Fair	

At any time we also gratefully accept:

- Any items or vouchers suitable for our silent auction, please contact PTFA@sjmb.school.nz
- Small packaged toys, stickers, stationery, new children's books or similar items suitable for lucky dips and prizes.
- Fruit and/or vegetables suitable for use in the food stalls or could be sold at the Garden stall, please contact PTFA@sjmb.school.nz



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ATTENDANCE DUES



Providing for **Catholic Schools**
in the Auckland Diocese



Attendance Dues are used to pay for building related costs at Catholic Schools in the Auckland Diocese. Paying Attendance Dues is a condition of enrolment for all students attending New Zealand Catholic Schools. Attendance Dues are compulsory – there is a legal requirement for parents and caregivers to pay Attendance Dues under the Education and Training Act 2020.

ATTENDANCE DUES ARE:

2025	PRIMARY STUDENTS	SECONDARY STUDENTS
per year (incl. GST)	\$532	\$1,080
per term (incl. GST)	\$133	\$270

For more information:

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/>

Phone: (09) 360 3040

Email: acfi@cda.org.nz

Mā tātou, ā, mō ngā uri ā muri ake | For us, and our children after us.

Catholic Special Character Contribution
SUPPORTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN OUR SCHOOLS

The Catholic Special Character contribution is used to fund the staff and services provided by the Catholic Education Services Board who are responsible, on behalf of the Proprietor, for safeguarding and strengthening the Catholic Special Character of our schools.

The contribution is \$15 per term per student or \$60 per student per year.

The contribution is tax deductible and a 33% refund can be claimed from the IRD.

For more information:

www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-education-services/

Phone: (09) 3603091 Email: ces@cda.org.nz



Catholic Diocese of Auckland
Te Taumata o te Hāhi Katorika

A Night at the Conclave

WITH CARDINAL JOHN DEW

Friday, 21 November 2025 | 7.30pm

St Mary's College, St Mary's Bay



TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE

<https://events.humanitix.com/conclave>

Tickets \$35 Adults | \$19 Students | \$150 for a group of 10

By joining us, you'll be supporting the Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph, with all funds raised going towards our Mother Church.



Discover the mystery of the Papal Conclave through Cardinal John's unique insights. All proceeds support the Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph.

Details & tickets: <https://events.humanitix.com/conclave>

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](#).

PARISH CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE MASS 2025!



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 3:00-4:30pm at St Francis Church, Torbay beginning Sunday 2nd November.

You will need to be able to commit to all of these practices during the months of November and December.

Boys and girls both welcome.

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



FROM THE COMMUNITY



LEARN TO DIVE!

Try out the sport of diving for free at one of our free trial classes!

- No experience required.
- Helps develop agility, strength, coordination and deep water confidence.
- Professional coaching in a supportive environment.



Visit our website to book your free trial!
(holiday and term time classes available)

www.aucklanddiving.co.nz

