

NEWSLETTER

# St Francis Catholic Primary School

Mission Statement

“Providing a catholic education  
that develops the whole person”

Vision Statement

“To provide challenges for all students  
enabling them to develop as well rounded  
individuals and socially responsible  
catholics”



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[stfrancis.school.nz](http://stfrancis.school.nz)

## **Welcome Back to School!!!!**

I hope that you and your family had a joyous Christmas, a Happy New Year and a well deserved rest over the school holidays. Our teachers have also had a fantastic holiday and are now rearing to go for a new school year. No new faces in our staff this year, just a few room changes:

### **Junior Team - Nga Teretere**

Room 1 - Year 0/1 - Miss Nisha Nadarajah  
Room 9 - Year 1 - Mrs Bernadette Stoddard  
Room 10 - Year 1 - Ms Adele Ryan  
Room 11 - Year 2 - Mrs Megan Wishart (Team Leader)  
Room 12 - Year 2 - Mrs Monica Bergh / Mrs Pip Smith

### **Middle Team - Whaikaha**

Room 2 - Year 3/4 - Mrs Melanie Pereira  
Room 3 - Year 3/4 - Mr Dan Wright (Team Leader)  
Room 6 - Year 3/4 - Miss Katrina Albrecht

### **Senior Team - Te Arataki**

Room 4 - Year 5/6 - Miss Lelei Bergin

### **Contact details:**

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[leleib@stfrancis.school.nz](mailto:leleib@stfrancis.school.nz)

Room 5 - Year 5/6 - Mrs Rebecca Keating Room 7 - Year 5/6 - Mrs Veronica Jones Room 8 - Year 5/6 - Mrs Susan Milne (Team Leader)	<a href="mailto:rebeccak@stfrancis.school.nz">rebeccak@stfrancis.school.nz</a> <a href="mailto:veronicaj@stfrancis.school.nz">veronicaj@stfrancis.school.nz</a> <a href="mailto:susanm@stfrancis.school.nz">susanm@stfrancis.school.nz</a>
<b><u>Additional Teaching Staff</u></b> SENCO, Reading Recovery - Mrs Sarah Simpson Library - Mrs Cathy Mahoney Garden to Table - Mrs Nicola Lamont Release Teacher for Room 7 and 8 - Mrs Kate Hanly	<a href="mailto:sarahs@stfrancis.school.nz">sarahs@stfrancis.school.nz</a> <a href="mailto:cathym@stfrancis.school.nz">cathym@stfrancis.school.nz</a>

**Coronavirus:** As you will have seen in the media, the situation is rapidly evolving internationally concerning the Coronavirus. We have received the following information from the Ministry of Education.

Coronavirus is a new virus, and its specific nature is currently unclear, however, it appears that you can have the virus at an early stage and not be showing any symptoms. This incubation period is currently considered to be up to 14 days. If you have travelled to China over the holiday period, please contact the school immediately.

As always anyone who is unwell should not be at school. If you have a particular concern about your child or children, please contact Healthline at 0800 611 116 or your GP for medical advice.



The World Health Organisation (WHO) advises the following basic principles to reduce the general risk of acute respiratory infections:

- Avoid close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infections;
- Frequently wash hands, especially after contact with ill people or their environment;
- Avoid close contact with sick live farm animals or wild animals;
- People with symptoms of acute respiratory infection should practice cough etiquette (maintain distance, cover coughs/sneezes with disposable tissues or clothing, and wash hands).

**Vandalism:** Over the school holidays we had some vandalism - our church had the front glass doors smashed and a side window smashed, and our school had 2 outdoor seats broken, a picnic table burnt and the senior playground matting burnt. While it could have been much worse, and everything is covered by our insurance I am asking our community to keep a close eye on our church and school. If you are going for a walk after dinner or headed to Pt Chev Beach on the weekend or driving past in the holidays please consider popping down Montrose Street for a quick check. If you see anyone hanging around or looking 'suspicious' please ring the police non-emergency number: 105.

**Overall Consent Form:** Today we are sending home a paper copy of our new 'Overall Consent Form'. This is a permission slip that will cover most outings, activities and events throughout 2020. Hopefully this will cut down on paperwork and teacher admin time, and I am sure parents will be pleased about not being bugged about permission slips all the time!!! This 'Overall Consent Form' covers most things except trips and activities that involve children being in / close to the water, and overnight trips. Parents will still be well informed about trips and activities, and we will still be asking for parent volunteers just as we always have, you just won't need to return a permission slip for each trip or outing. Please let me know if you have any feedback regarding this change in procedure.

**Housing NZ development update:** as you have probably noticed the old pensioner flats have been cleared of asbestos (safely and correctly) and pulled down. As of my most recent conversation with Housing NZ there is no official time frame for the build to start. For now the section is just going to remain empty.

**Teacher Only Days in 2020:** Friday 6 March, Tuesday 2 June (Queen's Birthday Weekend) and Friday 23 October. No school on these days.

Over the holidays:

Maths Workshops run by the DMIC (Developing Mathematical Inquiry Communities) facilitators from Massey University. A fantastic week of learning, fun and games. Thank you to all the DMIC teachers who spent time with our children over the 5 days. Not only did our children increase their number knowledge and learned new mathematical strategies, they learnt fundamental coding and computation skills.

**Parish News:** Here are the dates for the Sacramental Programme 2020. Please contact the Parish Office for an enrolment form and details: 09 846 7612 or [stfrancis-ptchev@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stfrancis-ptchev@xtra.co.nz)

Baptism Preparation Class: 9th February

Reconciliation Classes: 3rd, 10th, 17th of May. Ceremony: 19th of May @ 6pm.

First Eucharist Classes: 2nd, 9th, 16th of August. Ceremony: 20th of September @ 11am.

Confirmation Classes: 23rd, 30th of August. Ceremony: 18th of October @ 11am.

**Beginning of the Year reminders / Admin stuff:**

- Absences - phone or email the office before 9am. Follow up with a written note to the teacher.
- After School Care - Jackie 021 975642 or [stfrancisptchev@skids.co.nz](mailto:stfrancisptchev@skids.co.nz)
- Board Meetings - every 4th Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm in the staffroom
- Dental Clinic - 828 8829 @ Avondale Intermediate School
- Library - open Monday - Wednesday from 8.00am
- Lost Property - everything should be named. Unclaimed items can be located at the office
- Lunches - [www.ezlunch.co.nz](http://www.ezlunch.co.nz)
- Friends of St Francis (PTA) - meetings held on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7.30pm. Facebook page: 'Friends of St Francis Catholic School'
- Uniforms - purchased from [www.elizabethmichael.co.nz](http://www.elizabethmichael.co.nz) or the Friends of St Francis 2nd hand store
- Walking School Bus - everyday @ 3.10am outside the Whanau Room - STARTS NEXT WEEK

**Coming up this term:**

Thursday 6 February: Waitangi Day - no school

Monday 10 February: Walking School Bus starts

Friday 14 February: Assembly lead by the Liturgy Team @ 2.15pm

Wednesday 26 February: Ash Wednesday

Thursday 27 February: Inner City Sports Cluster Cricket competition - Year 5 and 6 - Vic Park

Friday 28 February: Assembly lead by Room 5 and Room 12 @ 2.15pm

Friday 6 March: Teacher Only Day - no school - Teacher are on a Professional Development course

Friday 13 March: Assembly lead by Room 4 and Room 11 @ 2.15pm

Tuesday 17 March: St Patrick's Day Walking School Bus Dress Up

Thursday 26 March: Inner City Sports Cluster Softball competition - Year 5 and 6 - Cox's Bay Reserve

Friday 27 March: Jesus Strand Assembly to Welcome New Children lead by the Middle School @ 2.15pm

Sunday 5 April: Palm Sunday

Thursday 9 April: Holy Thursday - Last day of Term One - Assembly lead by Room 6 and Room 7 @ 2.15pm

Friday 10 April: Good Friday

Sunday 12 April: Easter Sunday

Monday 27 April: ANZAC Day

Tuesday 28 April: Term Two begins

Lisa Bateman [lisab@stfrancis.school.nz](mailto:lisab@stfrancis.school.nz) or [principal@stfrancis.school.nz](mailto:principal@stfrancis.school.nz)





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