

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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Coronavirus: Firstly, THANK YOU for being such a sensible and considerate community. Some schools in New Zealand are really struggling with parents acting inappropriately in these difficult times, but like usual St Francis Catholic School families have been measured and reasonable. Well done to us!!

As of this morning the advice from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education is still:

Please continue to focus on prevention of spread through -

- Washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and drying thoroughly - before and after eating as well as after attending the toilet
- Covering coughs and sneezes with clean tissues or with an elbow
- Putting used tissues in the bin

Protect yourself and others against COVID-19

Cover your coughs or sneezes with tissues or your elbow

Put your used tissue in the rubbish bin or in a plastic bag

Wash and dry your hands often, especially after coughing or sneezing - use soap or hand sanitiser

Stay away from others if you're unwell

COVID-19 HEALTH ADVICE
0800 358 5453

health.govt.nz/COVID-19
Protect your family/whānau from COVID-19 (coronavirus)

Physical Distancing - Yesterday schools were provided with advice about considerations and possible approaches to school assemblies. Some people have asked why assemblies are different to classroom situations. The simple answer is that assemblies are not always core to providing education, and could be reduced or rearranged without impacting on learning. Remember that personal hygiene, and reducing unnecessary physical contact (eg. hugs, handshakes, hongi) are still the most important things to do to stop the spread of any virus.

Please note that we are deliberately using the term “physical distancing” rather than “social distancing”.

Maintaining social connection is as important as ever to people’s wellbeing during this time, if not more so.

We know that some parents have concerns about their children attending school at the moment, some of which may be due to what they are seeing in the media about other countries. There’s a simple rule here – if students are unwell (whether or not their illness relates to COVID-19) they should stay at home. Students who are not unwell should continue to attend school.

SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19, FLU AND COLD

	DRY COUGH	FEVER	RUNNY NOSE	SORE THROAT	BREATH-LESSNESS	HEADACHE	BODY ACHE'S	SNEEZE	FATIGUE	DIARRHOEA
COVID -19	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	~	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✗	✓✓	~
FLU	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✗	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✗	✓✓✓	✓✓
COLD	✓	~	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✗	~	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓	✗

✓✓✓	FREQUENTLY	✓✓	SOMETIMES	✓	LITTLE	~	RARE	✗	NOT
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@SIOUXSIEW @XTOTL thespinoff.co.nz

SOURCE: WHO, CDC CC-BY-SA

While we are seeing large-scale school shutdowns elsewhere in the world, in New Zealand we still have no community transmission. Consequently any decisions about school closures will be made on a case by case basis. In the meantime, unless students are unwell themselves, then parents should keep sending them to schools as these environments continue to be safe and the best place for them to continue their learning.

Schools will continue to be provided with the latest information and guidance from the Ministries of Education and Health, so that Principals and Boards can make well-informed decisions based on their particular circumstances.

- The Year 6 Tawharanui overnight trip has been cancelled
- Term 1 Netball is cancelled, Term 2 Netball is currently going ahead but this could change
- Next Friday’s Welcome Assembly / Strand Assembly is postponed

Father John: Father John is currently in good health but is in self-isolation for 2 weeks as he didn’t make it back from Australia in time to avoid the restrictions. Father Ezio and Father Earl are going to cover his duties while he

is unavailable. The Parish Office and the Diocese are organising to get Preference Forms sorted out while Father John is away. Please be patient with the Parish Office at this time.

A message from Father John: Converted Catholic or just want a refresher?

An open invitation to join Father John as he gives a series of talks (for adults) on various aspects of Catholicism:

Tuesday nights 7.00pm - 8.30pm in our Church

14th of April - The Church

21st of April - The Sacraments

28th of April - The Eucharist Part 1*

5th of May - The Eucharist Part 2*

26th of May - Penance

*New Ministers of Holy Communion, please attend sessions 3 and 4 for formation.



Congratulations: to Max Skinner who received a gold medal at the Omaha Junior Surf Life Saving Nationals over the weekend. From the picture you can see that this is not the first gold medal Max has won!!

A Message from the Junior School: PMP: What is PMP? Perceptual Motor Programme (PMP) is a parent led programme at St Francis Catholic School. It develops Y0-2 children's perceptions and understandings of distance, height and space. PMP is a step-by-step programme based on physical and sensory activities that are repeated over and over. Under-developed perception can slow learning. Children with problems such as inattention and clumsiness often have poorly developed "perceptual world views" which can affect their learning. A consistent and varied "diet" of physical and sensory experience is the key to developing perception and coordination. The store of experiences when those perceptions and reactions become automatic leaves the brain free for higher thinking tasks. PMP prepares the brain for learning.

What do we need? A lead parent to run a roster of parents and check all equipment is in good order. Also a group of 5 to 8 parents to work on set up of equipment, monitoring and explanation of the activities to children then pack down. The commitment is from 8:30 to 11:15 on Thursdays and Fridays in Term 2 and 3. Training is given to helpers. **How are children taught?** Classes come to the Hall for 25 minutes and move through 4 parent supervised stations each week. Stations develop hand-eye coordination, fitness, balance, locomotion (moving the whole body). **But I'm not fit!** No worries! Your job with the children is to check they do the activities safely and completely. **So how do I sign up to help?** Email Ms Wishart meganw@stfrancis.school.nz

St Patrick's Day Walking School Bus:



Private Music Lessons at St Francis Catholic School: Enrolment Details -

<https://pw304-b54866.pages.infusionsoft.net/> Enrolments for Term 2 will be closing on Friday the 27th of March.

Garden to Table: Proof that our children know how to clean up after themselves, wash dishes and set the table!!!

Flipperball: If your child is keen to play flipperball, we are looking to put together a team to enter the Waitakere Flipper Ball Year 5/6 league in Term 2. Flipperball is basically beginners waterpolo. Heaps of fun, pool is waist/chest deep so kids can touch the bottom at all times. Great for water confidence and ball skills. Games are played at Peninsula Primary in Te Atatu Peninsula, every Sunday afternoon (between 3 -5pm). Games last 20 mins. We need a mixed team of 10. No previous experience of flipperball is necessary. Please register your interest with Mr Wright in Room 3 (the odd year 4 can also play if keen and numbers are short). Waitakere Waterpolo may give us an introductory training lesson, but otherwise its very easy to pick up.

Message from a St Francis family: Hi all, we are looking for after school care for our two children (6 and 8 years old). The work will involve pick-ups from school and walk and drive to extra school activities. Monday till Friday from 3:00pm to 6:30 pm. Ideally, we are looking for only one person but we are also open to considering a job share. Point Chevalier area. Please contact Almu 021 242 2019. Thank you very much.

SNOWPLANET SCHOOL PROGRAMS

REGISTER NOW!

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OR

**RACE LESSONS
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SNOWPLANET NON MEMBERS: \$560 PER PROGRAM
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LEARNING TO RACE
FOR MORE INFO AND TO BOOK FOLLOW THE LINK BELOW:
<https://365raceterm22020.eventdesq.com>
OR CONTACT SARAH AT: sarahjanelloyd86@gmail.com
*PLEASE NOTE IN ORDER TO RUN THESE PROGRAMS MINIMUM NUMBERS OF STUDENTS APPLY

Coming up this term:

Tuesday 24 March - Wednesday 25 March - Year 6 Overnight stay at Tawharanui Regional Park **CANCELLED**

Thursday 26 March: Inner City Sports Cluster Softball competition - Year 5 and 6 - Cox's Bay Reserve **We will find out tomorrow if this is still going ahead**

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

Sunday 5 April: Palm Sunday

Monday 6 April: Friends of St Francis Meeting 7.30pm in the Whanau Room - All welcome

Thursday 9 April: Holy Thursday - Last day of Term One - Assembly lead by Room 6 and Room 7 @ 2.15pm **TO BE REVIEWED CLOSER TO THE TIME**

Friday 10 April: Good Friday **EASTER SERVICES ARE STILL GOING AHEAD AS PLANNED - TO BE REVIEWED CLOSER TO THE TIME**

Sunday 12 April: Easter Sunday

Monday 27 April: ANZAC Day

Tuesday 28 April: Term Two begins

Lisa Bateman lisab@stfrancis.school.nz or

principal@stfrancis.school.nz





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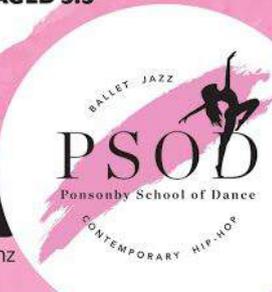
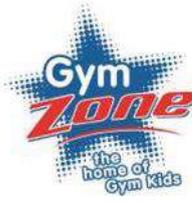
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