

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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**A message from the St Francis Parish** - Dear fellow Parishioners,

Father John, your Parish Councillors, Health & Safety and Finance Committee Members held a Special Meeting last week to discuss the Prime Minister's announcement to increase public gatherings, including Masses, to 100 people subject to physical distancing of 1 metre.

As you will be aware, our Church building is small and although a lot of planning was done to prepare for the remaining restrictions, we felt that we would not be able to appropriately implement and manage the restrictions sufficiently enough to ensure your health and safety. We acknowledge how challenging it has been for some of you and that a return to "normal" has been long awaited and anticipated, however, maintaining social distancing, cleaning and contact tracing (including the new requirements to record where people sit/stand) has proven too difficult to manage. It was considered that waiting for another few weeks until we receive further instructions would be worth it to better protect everyone's health and safety.

Consequently, our Church will remain closed with Masses suspended until further notice. We plan to review our decision in line with future announcements by our Prime Minister. Paula will continue with weekly newsletters and forwarding liturgical resources, the Diocese continues to publish online resources and Masses continue to be available on Shine TV. We are available to talk to you more about the above and your well being in general, so please contact the Parish Office in order for Paula to arrange for one of your fellow Parishioners to give you a call.

Kind regards, Fr John and your Parish Council



### COVID19 Level 2 update -

**We are asking parents to remain off school grounds until Level 1, which hopefully is not far away!!!!**

**A message from Mrs Mahoney in the library-** There was so much fabulous writing done during Lock Down.

Congratulations to these children who have had work published in the Upstart magazine, which we subscribe to in the library:

- Edie Room 2, Isla, Renita, Hunter, Jimi, Daisy, Mia, Daniel all from Rm 5.
- Indie, Delai, Rosa, Tiger Lily, Ebenezer and Harper for fabulous illustrated work.
- Also congrats to Millie. Marcelo, Joseph, Sebastien and Frankie for creative writing.
- Well done to Eliza and Esther who reviewed their favourite Lock Down reads on video and entered The Dorothy Butler Children's Bookshop competition.
- Well done to Eddie, Rosa, Jean, Charlie, Sebastien, Olivia and Katija for their poems published on Paula Green's Poetry Blog as well as in Upstart.
- Evelyn Room 5 for being chosen to be a Penguin Ambassador to read and review The Unadoptables. We look forward to Evelyn sharing her review.
- Big congratulations to Conor who has had his cat poem chosen to be included in Paula Green's next published Poetry Anthology - very exciting news. Highly recommended for any child who wants to be inspired by their writing is to have a look at Paula's blog: [nzpoetrybox.wordpress.com](http://nzpoetrybox.wordpress.com)

### **Rugby Cat**

Rugby cat, rugby cat  
 Rugby cat purring for a try  
 Rugby cat hissing for a conversion  
 Rugby cat meowing for a scrum  
 Rugby cat spitting for a drop kick  
 Rugby cat screeching at a red card  
 Rugby cat howling at fulltime  
 HE WINS!!!!!!  
 By Conor



**PMP helpers needed** - Perceptual Motor Programme (PMP) is a parent led programme at St Francis 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. PMP prepares the brain for learning. A consistent and varied "diet" of physical and sensory experience is the key to developing perception and co-ordination. The store of experiences when those perceptions and reactions become automatic leaves the brain is free for higher thinking tasks.

What do we need?

- a lead parent to roster helpers and check equipment is in good order
- a group of 5 to 8 parents to set up equipment, monitor and explain the activities to children and pack down.
- the commitment is 8:30 to 11:15 Thursdays and Fridays in Term 3 and 4.

How are children taught? Training is given to helpers. Classes come to the Hall for 25 minutes and move through 4 parent supervised stations each week. Stations develop hand-eye co-ordination, 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? Call the school office on 846 4696 or email Ms Wishart [meganw@stfrancis.school.nz](mailto:meganw@stfrancis.school.nz)

**Friends of St Francis** - Our next meeting will be on **this coming Monday, the 8th of June at 7.30pm** in the school Whanau Room. At this meeting we will nominate and vote for a new Chairperson, after the retirement of our fantastic leader Kelly Brown. Please consider coming to this meeting. It would be nice to have as many people as possible there to vote / support.

Class Parent Representatives - The Friends of St Francis are looking for 1 parent rep from each classroom to:

- Communicate from the FoSF to the class if needed, via email
- Arrange / promote any out of school social events or activities
- As a general point of contact

Please email the school office - [office@stfrancis.school.nz](mailto:office@stfrancis.school.nz) with your child's name and room number, if you are interested. Any further questions email Adriana Vuksich [adrianaVuksich@gmail.com](mailto:adrianaVuksich@gmail.com) or ring Sue Galmuzina on 021 632 520.



**A message from the Dental Clinic** - Kia ora, During COVID-19 Alert Level 2, the Children's Community Dental Service has reopened some of its clinics for children with urgent dental care needs. We will be in contact with you if your child requires an urgent appointment. Alternatively, if your child is in pain, or you have immediate concerns about their teeth, please phone 0800 TALK TEETH to speak with one of our therapists. We are not able to offer routine appointments just yet, but we will let you know as soon as this changes. This means that your child's routine appointment may be delayed. For more information, search for 'ARDS' on the Waitemātā DHB website. Thank you for your understanding and support during this time. Thank you, from the Children's Community Dental Service.



**Winter Uniform** - Just a reminder that this is a 'Winter Term' so the children should be dressed in Winter Uniform. Please name your child's uniform, as our ever increasing pile of Lost Property is out of control! Anything with names on has been returned to the owner, but we still have many unclaimed jumpers, fleeces, hats, PE shirts etc.

**2nd hand Uniform** - We are in desperate need for more good quality 2nd hand uniforms. Please send anything you have to donate to school. For more info please contact Emma: 021 525 214 [theuhilacollective@gmail.com](mailto:theuhilacollective@gmail.com)

**Coming up this term:** (Please Note: Most events have been cancelled or postponed until later in the year)

Monday 8 June - Friends of St Francis meeting 7.30pm in the Whanau Room

Wednesday 10 June - New Parents Meeting 5.30pm in Room 1

Tuesday 23 June - Board of Trustees Meeting 6.30pm

Friday 3 July - Last day of Term 2 - School Holidays (as previously scheduled)

Monday 20 July - First day of Term 3 (as previously scheduled)

Friday 24 July - Mid Year Reports sent home

Wednesday 29 July and Thursday 30 July - Parent Interviews (bookings open closer to the date) and Art Exhibition

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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