

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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MĀTARIKI

Te Tau Hou Māori
Māori New Year

Matariki Greetings -

The new light of Matariki has risen!

May it be to you a sign of resurrection and new life.

May it be to you a sign of hope in times of darkness.

May it be to you a sign of the wondrous mystery of Atua who loves you.

*May it be to you a sign that the eyes of the Eternal One are ever
upon you and that the presence of the Holy One is ever with you.*

And may this be the cause of your rejoicing.

Go in peace over the long weekend.

Through Christ and in the perfect unity of the Holy Spirit, we pray.

Amen

Matariki is the Māori name for the star cluster known as Pleiades. The full name is “Ngā mata a te Ariki Tawhirimātea – the eyes of the God Tawhirimātea”. It is also the name for the Māori New Year celebration.



Parish News - St Francis Church Sacramental Programme for 2022 - Your child must be baptised Catholic and have had their 9th birthday by the 7th August 2022. Registration cut-off is Friday 8th July 2022. Forms can be collected from the parish office or the school office. Limited spaces are available.

Good luck - to our lovely children who are finally completing their Confirmation Sacrament this weekend. Bishop Steve will be here to celebrate the Confirmation masses and will be visiting our school / parish for the first time. Our Confirmation candidates are: Rosa Bailey, Dominic Brown, Vinnie Perera, Ashton Robertson, Sebastien Limsico, Nina Limsico, Katija Tarawa, Edward Pickering, Luka Milina, Dean Milina, Margaux Malone, Siendra Lawrence, Sofia Donnianni, Farrah Schaumkell, Soane Funaki, Olivia Halpin, and Lorenzo Chuo. Please keep these children in your prayers this weekend.

Academic Success during COVID - As we finalise the Mid Year Assessment Data and Reports, we are definitely seeing the strain that COVID has put on the learning of our Junior School. While most of our older, more independent and resilient students have continued to progress through the expected academic standards, we are not seeing the same thing for our little people. Our Year 1's and Year 2's have had a very disrupted start to their schooling, so parents please be understanding and supportive of them during the reports / parent interviews process. Please remember that they have 6 years+ in primary school, so there is plenty of time to fill any gaps that COVID has caused. Positive talk about their successes is the most important thing you can do to help in their learning journey right now!

Garden to Table - This week the children made home-made baked beans and scones. Mrs Hanly made sure they spoke in Te Reo when working in the kitchen



Proclaiming the Word - for weeks our Senior Students have been practising their oral language and verbal presentation skills by participating in their class Proclaiming the Word competitions. The classroom finalists who completed in the school final yesterday were: Liam Joyce, Jesse Wright, Phoebe Peterson, Eden Uhila, Isla Uhila, Sam Atkinson-Burns, Soane Funaki, Luka Milina, Millie Harford and Lorenzo Chuo.

The winner of the competition and the St Francis Catholic School Proclaiming the Word champ for 2022 is.... Isla Uhila. Well Done Isla!!!!

Thank you to our judges; Father John and Mrs Lyn Smith. Mrs Smith is the Secondary School RE advisor from the Catholic Diocese, and she was very impressed with the high standard of the children speaking.



Year 5 Swimming - Our Year 5 student ended their two weeks of swimming lessons with a Water Safety Session.



The swimming instructors, the bus drivers and a couple of members of the public all mentioned to the teachers that our children were well behaved and polite. Well Done Year 5's!!!!!!

Well Done to our Rugby League players - who came second in the Inner City Sports Cluster competition. They lost their first game against Westmere, but won against Freemans Bay and Newton Central. Feedback from parents was that our team had great attitudes and represented our school well.



Thank you to Mr Wright for all the early morning coaching sessions, and thank you to the parents who transported the team back and forth.

Thank you - to 'Vuksich and Borich' for organising a training session for our Year 4 and 6 Netballers with Maia Wilson from Northern Stars and Silver Ferns. We look forward to Maia coming back to work with our other Netball teams soon.



Netball Results -

Year 4 Apostles won 16-0 POD - Lyla B, Year 5 Angels won 9-6 POD - Emma, Year 5 Disciples won 7-2 POD - Sofia D, Year 6 Saints won 6-4 POD - Millie, The Interceptors won 7-2 POD Sienna

Wāwāhi Tahā - Time for Tamariki - Once again our fantastic teachers are working with their Union to negotiate their next Collective Agreement. Last week teachers from around NZ came together to discuss understaffing and excessive work demands. They are asking for the following issues to be addressed:

- reduced teacher/student ratios
- more time to teach
- increasing the access to better funded and more complete learning support
- a greater focus on improving maori and pacific education

Our teachers would love to keep you up to date with the current issues they are facing and ask for your ongoing support.

A community message - A number of our parents have recommended the Avondale Food Co Op. Check it out at <https://www.foodtogether.co.nz/> They are currently doing boxes of high quality Fruit and Veges for a reasonable price.

PMP - PMP will be running again in term 3 and we are looking for new parent helpers. PMP is a physical skills programme for junior school students. It aims to develop fitness, locomotion (moving the whole body), hand-eye coordination and balance. Parent helpers are needed on Thursdays and Fridays during term 3, from 8:30am-11:10am. You will run an activity station, helping children in small groups from each class. No experience necessary! If you are keen to help, or would like some more information, please contact Pip Wright at pipwright21@gmail.com or 0278055292

Friends of St Francis - The Friends of St Francis is our school's PTA group. While they have been very active in the past, COVID has really disrupted their plans. As a bit of a reset, they are looking for feedback about the best times / dates for meetings, how to attract more members, small events and fundraising ideas they could implement etc. Please email me with any ideas to pass on to the group - lisab@stfrancis.school.nz

2nd hand uniform - We are running low on 2nd hand uniforms. If you have any uniforms at home that no longer fits your child / children we would love to take them off your hands. Just send it to the school office with your child.

Parent Interviews -

Wednesday 6 July 3.30pm - 6.30pm

Thursday 7 July 3.30pm - 6.30pm

Book in @ <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/>

Click on Make a Booking - use the code jyhzc

St Francis Dads Support Group aka Darts Night - All School Dad's (past and present) are invited to the next sensational monthly darts session on Thursday, 30 June, from 8pm, at the Pt Chev Bowling Club - Lock it in! Contact Stuart King on 027 818 2403 for more details and to join the Darts WhatsApp group. No darts experience required.

St Francis Dad's pub crawl - 5 August - A mid-winter St Francis Dad's pub crawl to boot those COVID and Winter blues will be held on Friday, 5 August, from 5pm, with proceedings getting underway at the Pt Chev Bowla - the home of quality food, cheap drinks and good times. This WILL be a Super-Spreader Event - not of COVID, just of wholesome fun with a touch of karaoke. Contact Stuart King on 027 818 2403 for more details and to join the WhatsApp group.

St. Francis Mum's Drinks and Nibbles - Not to be outdone by the Dads, all St. Francis Mum's (past and present) are cordially invited to join other Mum's for a night of fun, nibbles and drinks (without the kids) at the exquisite Pt Chev Bowling Club on Thursday, 7 July, from 7pm. Text Vanessa King on 027 818 1570 for more details and to join this awesome Event's WhatsApp group.

Canopy magnificent Quiz Night - We are in the process of organising a wickedly fun quiz night/canopy fundraiser in the Hall later in the year - watch this space.

Canopy Fundraising - Canopy Fundraising Posters with scannable QR codes for easy donating have been placed at the front of the School gate and around the School. Please donate generously as we are keen to get the Canopy project underway by the end of 2022. Signing up to **TaxGift** (*refer below*) will also help fast-track our fundraising efforts.



TaxGift - We're a TaxGift School! You can grow your donations to St Francis Catholic School by signing up to TaxGift and gifting the tax credits on your donations to the School from this year forward. Here's how: As a NZ taxpayer you can claim a tax credit of 33% on the School donations you make, but if you choose to gift that tax credit to St. Francis School, TaxGift will turn it into even more for our School – all as a gift in your name. It takes less than a minute for you to sign up, costs you nothing (*the School pays TaxGift a small fee for this service*) and you won't need to do anything further. TaxGift will make your donation grow, for the benefit of the School for such things as the Canopy. Visit TaxGift's website (www.taxgift.co.nz) for more information.



School Canopy for lower courts - Ray White We are happy to announce that Ray White Pt Chevalier - Von Group Ltd. (previously known as "the Professionals Real Estate Point Chevalier") have agreed to be a major contributor towards our St Francis School Canopy project should at least one person in our St. Francis network that is looking at selling their property approach Derek von Sturmer of Ray White Pt. Chevalier - Von Group Ltd. directly on 027 533 7357 or Derek.vs@raywhite.com. Accordingly, if you're looking at selling, please contact Derek directly and let him know that you are from St. Francis. Please also let Stuart King know (027 818 2403) so we can keep track of the approaches.



Dates for 2022:

Term 2 – Monday 2 May – Friday 8 July
 Term 3 – Monday 25 July – Friday 30 September
 Term 4 – Monday 17 October – Friday 16 December

Dates for 2023:

Term 1 - Wednesday 1 February - Thursday 6 April
 Term 2 - Monday 24 April - Friday 30 June
 Term 3 - Monday 17 July - Friday 22 September
 Term 4 - Monday 9 October - Friday 15 December

Year 5 and 6 showing leadership through service -



Coming Up:

Thursday 23 June -

Year 5 and 6 assembly 2.30pm in the hall

Friday 24 June - Matariki public holiday, no school

Saturday 25 June - Confirmation Mass 5.30pm

Sunday 26 June -

Confirmation Masses 9.00am and 11.00am

Tuesday 28 June - Board of Trustees Meeting 6.30pm

Wednesday 29 June -

Year 5 and 6 Syria Aid speaker visiting

Friday 1 July - Year 3 and 4 assembly 2.30pm in the hall

Monday 4 July - Mid Year Reports sent home via email - If you want a printed copy please let us know

Wednesday 6 July - Parent Teacher Interviews - 3.30 - 6.30pm - bookings available now

Thursday 7 July - Parent Teacher Interviews - 3.30 - 6.30pm - bookings available now

Friday 8 July - Year 1 and 2 assembly 2.30pm in the hall, End of Term 2, Mufti Day (details to come)

Monday 25 July - Start of Term 3



Lisa Bateman

lisab@stfrancis.school.nz or principal@stfrancis.school.nz



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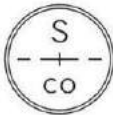


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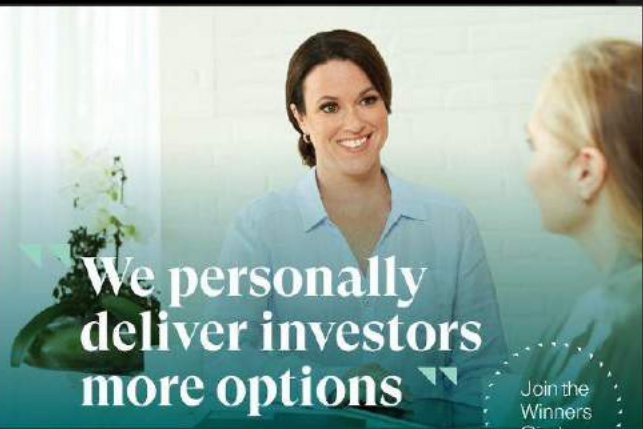


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