



# St Francis Catholic School

We are a vibrant & empowering  
Catholic school, creating **pathways**  
**of excellence** for our tamariki.



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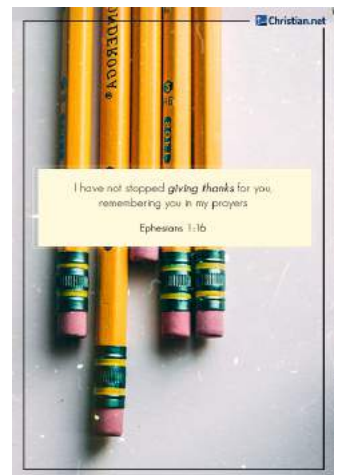
**Congratulations** - to Charlie Gowen (Room 2), Rylee Gowen (Room 9), and their big brother Max, who were all baptised by Father John in the school holidays. Well done, we are very proud of you!!!

**World Teachers Appreciation Day** - This Friday, the 27th of October, is an international celebration of teachers. Along with our families, our teachers are working hard to make sure that our children always use their manners and show appreciation for people who help them, so this Friday is a good opportunity for children to show how much they value and acknowledge their hard working teachers. Maybe a thank you note or a hand drawn picture?



**A Prayer of thanks for our teachers** - *We offer a thanksgiving prayer to express our gratitude towards our teachers, as well as the gratitude we feel towards God for blessing us with such capable and intelligent people to lead our school community.*

*Almighty Father, thank You for all the blessings You grant us, one of them being the teachers around us. They truly are a great blessing in our lives. With this prayer of thanks, We humbly ask that our appreciation for them reaches their hearts. We pray that they know just how much we, their students, love and appreciate them for all that they do. May they be honoured with the gratitude they so rightly deserve as Your disciples. In Your most holy name, We pray. Amen.*



## **Athletic Day – this Friday, the 27th of October, at Walker Park Pt Chevalier**

Rough timetable (depending on weather and length of events):

- 9.00am – 11.00am: Year 5 and 6 students who wish to trial for the St Francis Inner City Sports Cluster Athletic team – walk to Walker Park with Mr Wright and compete in events (competitive).
- 11.00am – 2.30pm: The rest of the school walk to Walker Park with teachers, to participate in fun Athletics events (non competitive).

**A message from the Garden Club** – We are again selling our new product – worm castings. These super-charged castings help any plant grow well. Only \$1 per 500 gram bag. These can be used on indoor or outdoor plants. The Garden Club is also selling 5 kowhai seeds in a packet for \$1. Locally sourced from our school. These trees attract birds and are native to Aotearoa New Zealand and now is the time to plant them. We are also selling Flower Aid, our own, school produced worm wee. It is very beneficial to plant growth. Buy castings, seeds and Flower Aid from outside the **Whanau Room Thursdays** after school Weeks 3 to 8. Money raised will be used to buy plants for the school.

**Uniform** – Our school office has School Hats available for purchase (\$17.00) in small, medium and large, as well as PE t shirts (\$29.00) and PE black shorts (\$22.50).

## **Friends of St Francis Disco**



**Date:** Friday the 3rd of November

**Times:** Year 1 – 3: 5.30pm – 6.15pm, Year 4 – 6: 6.30pm – 7.30pm.

**Dress up theme** (voted by the children): NEON!!!!!!

Kindo ordering is NOW OPEN for Domino's Pizzas, Drinks, Disco Entry Fee; Glow Sticks. We are doing whole pizzas, with both large and mini sizes – Cheese / Ham; Cheese / dietary options available. When ordering you can choose to have your Pizza at either 5.15pm or 6.15pm.

- Disco Entry \$2
- Glow Sticks \$1
- Large Pizza \$10
- Mini Pizza \$6
- Dietary Options Pizza \$10
- Drinks \$3

Please make sure you pay your Disco Entry on Kindo. All ordering closes 8pm Monday 30th October.

Ice Creams are also available via cash sales on the night. Thanks to Tip Top and Dallas.

**A message from the school office** - The office desperately needs more girls underwear for the sickbay. If you have some that you would like to donate, we would be very grateful.

**Weetbix Kids Tryathlon 2023-2024 Season** - It's time to Swim, Bike, Run & Have FUN!! This season there are two Auckland Events for the Kids Tryathlon - Wednesday 22nd November 2023 and Sunday 24th March 2024. This is a great iconic NZ kids event (ages 6 - 15 years old) with the focus on participation and completion - every finisher gets a medal! There is also the option for children to enter as teams if they would prefer to do it with friends, or don't feel comfortable doing all three disciplines. If you would like more info or to join our school team, please contact Annalies Donald at [annalies.donald@meshconsulting.co.nz](mailto:annalies.donald@meshconsulting.co.nz) For further event information, for times & distances etc please visit - <https://tryathlon.co.nz/>

**Board of Trustees Uniform Survey - Open for 1 more week**

Please click on the link below to access the survey: <https://forms.gle/gDPkguHtVmvbnbRs8>

**Upcoming Friends of St Francis Fundraiser -**

We have an exciting fundraiser this term. Oxford pies are supplying us with a delicious range of family size pies, savoury and sweet and also 5 x packs of lunch pies. Orders will be open on Kindo on Monday 30 October and close on Tuesday 14 November. All proceeds to go to the Canopy! **Family pies are \$15.00 each and 5x pack of lunch pies are \$20.00 each.**

Family pies:

- Mince and Cheese
- Steak
- Bacon and Egg
- Creamy Veg (V)
- Apple
- Apricot
- Blackberry and Apple



5x pack of lunch pies:

- Mince
- Bacon and Egg
- Steak and cheese

Pies will be collected from the Whanau Room on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November after school. It would be very much appreciated if there were a few people available from 2-4pm on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> to help handout the pies. If you can help with this or if there are any questions please see Lisa Dixon [lisa.dixon01@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.dixon01@gmail.com) or 022 121 9527.

**St Francis Dads Support Group aka Darts Night** – last Thursday of the month.

This month's darts session catch up is tomorrow night, Thursday, **26 October**, from **8pm**, at the infamous Pt Chev Bowling Club – Lock it in! The more the merrier. Please contact Stuart on 027 818 2403 for more details and to join the Darts WhatsApp group. No darts experience required.

**St Francis Dad's Christmas pub crawl** – The ridiculously fun end-of-year Dad's Pub Crawl Christmas Edition will be held on Friday, **24 November**, with proceedings commencing **from 5pm** at the Pt Chev Bowling Club, where cheap food and drinks are plentiful. This year we've booked 5 pool tables at the **Ponsonby Pool Hall** from 8–10pm – so it will be game on as the competitive gentry embarrass themselves with a pool cue. A string of pubs along Ponsonby Road will see in the remainder of the evening. Contact Stuart King on 027 818 2403 for more details and to join the WhatsApp group.

**Supporting our school:**

Chicken 'n' Things School Fundraiser – We are super excited to have the wonderful support of Saj Philips (Alice from Room 11's Dad) and Chicken 'n' Things for our continuing School fundraising efforts. St. Francis School families and their friends can unlock a 5% discount when purchasing from the Chicken 'n' Things website (<http://www.chickenthings.co.nz>), including fresh poultry, lamb, beef and pork products, by using the Specific Voucher Code at Checkout: **stf5**

Feel free to spread the discount code around to other parents/ family/ friends and the wider community. Every time someone makes a purchase online and uses the code at checkout, not only will the customer receive a 5% discount, but the School will receive an additional 5% of the purchase price by way of a donation from Chicken 'n' Things.



**School Canopy for lower courts – Ray White Point Chevalier** – are supporting us to raise funds for our St Francis School Canopy project. They have been market leaders for years in Pt Chev for 26 years with almost 2000 local sales and are a family business run by Ross Brader and Lawrence von Sturmer. If you're looking at selling, please contact the Ray White Point Chev. Team directly on (09) 846 8996 and let them know that you are from St. Francis. Please also let Stuart King know (027 818 2403) so we can keep track of the approaches.



**Year 6 Camp** - A huge thank you to the teachers on camp: Miss Neary, Mrs Milne and Mrs Jones; the parent helpers who went on camp: Mrs Snedden, Mr Tagillima, Mr Halpin, Mrs Si'itia, Mrs Brown, Mr Milina and Mr King; and the parents who helped with transport there and back. Another extremely successful camp!!!! Well done to all involved.





## Sponsorship Through Referral Programme: Property Management Services

St Francis Catholic School is excited to share a unique 'Sponsorship Through Referral Programme' offered by Iron Bridge Property Management. Through this special initiative, Iron Bridge – a family owned company – are offering discounted residential property management services to friends and family of the school community, while at the same time helping St Francis School. How It Works:

- Refer someone who becomes a client for Iron Bridge Property Management services. The school will receive a \$500 cash contribution.
- Plus, the new client gets a generous 20% discount on our standard management fee.

We encourage the school community to spread the word about this opportunity through various channels. Please quote 'ST FRANCIS PRIMARY SCHOOL / IRON BRIDGE PARTNERSHIP' when referring potential clients. Contact Marisa Johnstone (school parent) for more details:

[Marisa@ironbridge.co.nz](mailto:Marisa@ironbridge.co.nz) or 022 633 5095 [www.ironbridge.co.nz](http://www.ironbridge.co.nz)

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**FRIDAYS**  
**JUNIOR ROBOTICS Level 1**  
Start date: 20th October  
Session Time: 3:15pm – 4:15pm  
Location: Garden to Table Room  
Cost: \$28/lesson

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### **Dates for 2024:**

- **Term 1** – Wednesday 31 January – 12 April

Teacher Only Days – School Closed: Monday 5 February and Friday 22 March

Public Holidays – School Closed: Waitangi Day: Tuesday 6 February, Good Friday: Friday 29 March, Easter Monday: Monday 1 April and Easter Tuesday: Tuesday 2 April

- **Term 2** – Monday 29 April – Friday 5 July

Public Holidays – School Closed: King’s Birthday: Monday 3 June, Friday 28 June: Matariki

- **Term 3** – Monday 22 July – Friday 27 September

- **Term 4** – Monday 14 October – Wednesday 18 December

Public Holidays – School Closed: Labour Day: Monday 28 October

### **Upcoming events this term**

Friday 27 October – Whole School Athletics Day at Walker Park, Pt Chev; World Teacher’s Appreciation Day

Monday 30 October – Friends of St Francis Pie Fundraiser – Kindo orders open

Monday 30 October, Tuesday 31 October, Thursday 2 November – Bike Skills Y5/6

Wednesday 1 November – All Saints Day Mass

Thursday 2 November – Year 5 and 6 Basketball Competition

Friday 3 November – School Disco

Tuesday 14 November – Friends of St Francis Pie Fundraiser – Kindo orders close

Thursday 16 November – Year 5 and 6 Athletics Competition

**Friday 17 November – Teacher Only Day – School closed (Skids open all day)**

Monday 20 November – End of Year Progress and Achievement Reports go home this week

Wednesday 22 November – Weetbix tryathlon

Thursday 23 November – Year 6 Beach Education Day at Piha Beach, Friends of St Francis Pie Fundraiser – orders to be picked up from the Whanau Room

Sunday 26 November – Confirmation Mass for candidates and their families

Friday 1 December – Year 6 Leavers Mass and Dinner

Friday 8 December – Junior School trip to Eric Armishaw Park 10am – 2pm

Tuesday 12 December – Prizegiving Mass @ St Benedict’s Church, Middle School trip to the Pumphouse, Y6 visiting St Ben’s / St Pat’s during the day

Wednesday 13 December, Thursday 14 December – Visiting new classes for 2024

**Friday 15 December – Last day of the term – School finishes @ 1.00pm**



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