



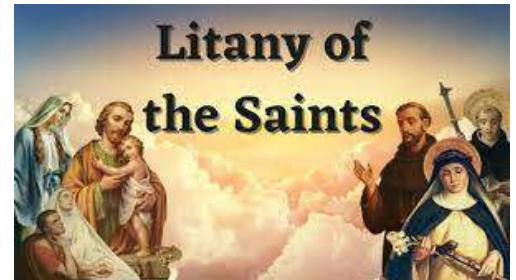
# St Francis Catholic School

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



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**All Saints Day** - today, the 1st of November, we celebrate All Saints Day, also known as All Hallows Day (the day after All Hallows Eve aka Halloween). On this day we remember our Heavenly family – those men and women of virtue and faith who lead lives of holiness, courage and generosity and are now saints in heaven. Their heroic lives inspire us and provide excellent role models for our children. Some families like to pray the 'Litany of the Saints', calling on favourite saints to "pray for us".



**All Souls Day** - This follows All Saints Day on the 2nd of November. It is a time in which we pray for all the dead, especially our own special friends and family. It is important that we remember them, talk about them and celebrate them. The Feast of All Souls reminds us of our obligations to live holy lives and it is a time to pray for the souls of those we have lost, that may be received into heaven.

**Athletic Day** - Unfortunately we had to postpone last week's whole school athletics day at Walker Park due to the weather. Our new date is **Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of November**.

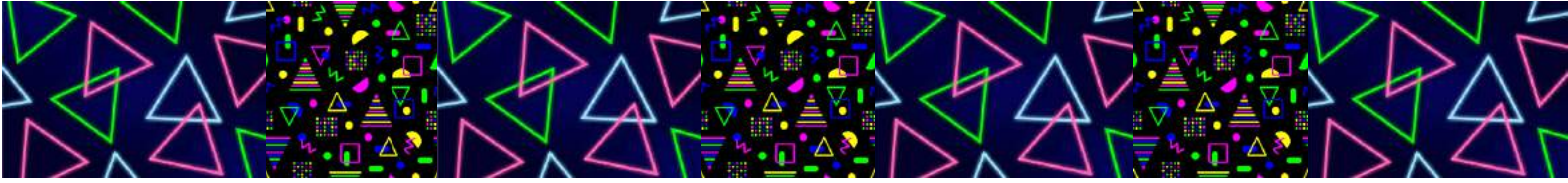
Parent Helpers: Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help on the day. We really appreciate that you were willing to take time out of your busy lives to help. If you are still available to help on our new date please email Annalies - [annalies.donald@meshconsulting.co.nz](mailto:annalies.donald@meshconsulting.co.nz). We understand that this change in date may not suit everyone, so please let Annalies know either way so that we can ensure we have enough helpers! Let's get those prayers going for some fine weather!

**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.

**Touch Rugby** - Last week in the pouring rain was the first week of Summer Touch Rugby for our nine St Francis School Teams! What a way to kick off the summer sport season! Well done to everyone who braved the elements. There was some excellent playing, lots of smiles and a lot of learning by our students new to the game & St Francis came away with a few great wins to start the season. A huge thank you to all the parents who are helping our St Francis teams this year in either a coaching or managing role - we couldn't do it without you!



**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 – This Friday**

**Times:** Year 1 – 3: 5.30pm – 6.15pm

Year 4 – 6: 6.30pm – 7.30pm

**Dress up theme:** NEON!



Kindo ordering for pizzas, drinks etc are now closed, but Ice Creams / Ice Blocks are also available via cash sales on the night - Tip Top Choc Bar, Tip Top Jellytip, Popsicle mini: lemonade, raspberry, orange and lime. Thanks to Tip Top and Dallas.



**St Francis Year 6 Leavers Dinner Bake Sale Fundraiser** – Join us on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023, for the final St Francis Leavers Dinner Committee's bake sale fundraiser. All proceeds will go towards covering the expenses for the dinner and event. We warmly welcome your support, whether by contributing homemade baked goods or making purchases on the day.

Event Details:

- Date: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023
- Location: Outside Whanau Room
- Time: Bake stand opens at 2:45 PM
- Payment: Cash sales or bank transfer

If you can provide homemade baking items to be sold, please get in touch with Marisa Johnstone at [marisagovorko@gmail.com](mailto:marisagovorko@gmail.com). Cupcakes, slices and biscuits that can be sold individually work best. We appreciate your support! From the St Francis Leavers Dinner Committee

**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/>

### **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 are open on Kindo now 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 – Red hot repeat champion Richard Wager scorched the limited field to lift the converted trophy last Thursday evening.

The last darts night for 2023 will be held on Thursday, 30 November, from 8pm, at the Pt Chev Bowla. With Richard Wager unavailable, we all have a good chance to take home the trophy, remembering that the first darts session for 2024 won't be until 29 February, so the winner gets to gloat and have the illustrious trophy on the mantelpiece for a whopping 3 months. 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.chickenntings.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.





## 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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### **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**

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**

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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