



St Francis Catholic School

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



P 09 846 4696 | office@stfrancis.school.nz | www.stfrancis.school.nz | 2 Montrose St, Pt Chevalier, Auckland | PO Box 44177

Welcome back for another wonderful year at St Francis Catholic School. We are looking forward to a year filled with fun, happiness and learning opportunities. Changes in the government are starting to be implemented across education, with a current focus on Phones Away for the Day, 'One hour a Day' teaching requirement, a new Ministerial Advisory Group, Attendance and Engagement programmes and new NCEA Level 1 supports.

Parish News – Great news!! We have finally received Building Consent for our long awaited Church renovations. The parish are now in discussions with the builder to work out an estimated start date but we are hoping for ASAP. Already 8 windows have been donated and with the End of Tax Year coming up, now is a good time to make a donation before 31 March and get a tax refund. Some families have asked if they can join together to donate a window, which is fine.

Also, the Women's Refuge next door (land and house owned by the parish, leased to the Mother of Divine Mercy group) is finally getting a new driveway out on to Pt Chev Road. Thank you to Kainga Ora for working with us on this.



ST. FRANCIS & ST. THERESE PARISH FUNDRAISER

Personalised Engraved Church Windows

There is a unique and limited opportunity to participate in the upcoming transformative renovation of St. Francis & St. Therese Church.

For a minimum **\$5,000** investment, you can have a memorable customised engraved plaque under one on the new 11 spectacular arched windows.

Either go alone, combine as a family, or get a group of families together to seal your legacy and ensure the longevity of your Church. Demand is high so please get in early.

This fundraiser is in conjunction with the "Buy-a-Brick" campaign.

All donations are **tax deductible**.

We thank you and appreciate your continued support.

**11 BESPOKE
600 X 1,600MM
CUSTOMISED
CHURCH ARCHED
WINDOWS**

CONTACTS
Stuart King
Parish Finance Committee
Chairman
027 818 2403
stuart_patrick_king@hotmail.com

Paula Betham
Parish Secretary
(09) 846 7612
stfrancis-ptchev@stfrnz.org.nz

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT
Bank Name:
RC Bishop of Auckland (Pt Chev)
Bank:
BNZ Auckland
Bank Account #:
02-0108-0707331-000

Staffing contact details for 2024 -

Principal - Lisa Bateman lisab@stfrancis.school.nz or principal@stfrancis.school.nz

Deputy Principal - Olivia Neary olivian@stfrancis.school.nz

Assistant Principal - Dan Wright danielw@stfrancis.school.nz

- **Junior School - Year 1 and Year 2**

Room 1 - Year 1 - Nisha Nadarajah nishan@stfrancis.school.nz

Room 9 - Year 1 - Pip Smith pips@stfrancis.school.nz

Room 10 - Year 2 - Adele Ryan adeler@stfrancis.school.nz

Room 11 - Year 2 - Megan Wishart meganw@stfrancis.school.nz (Team Leader)

- **Middle School - Year 3 and Year 4**

Room 6 - Year 3 - Katrina Albrecht katrinaa@stfrancis.school.nz

Room 7 - Year 3 - Monica Berg monicab@stfrancis.school.nz

Room 3 - Year 4 - Charlotte Hart charlotteh@stfrancis.school.nz

Room 8 - Year 4 - Dan Wright danielw@stfrancis.school.nz (Team Leader)

- **Senior School - Year 5 and Year 6**

Room 2 - Year 5/6 - Olivia Neary olivian@stfrancis.school.nz (Team Leader)

Room 4 - Year 5/6 - Veronica Jones veronicaj@stfrancis.school.nz (Director of Religious Studies)

Room 5 - Year 5/6 - Jimin Kang jimink@stfrancis.school.nz

Special Needs Coordinator - Sarah Simpson sarahs@stfrancis.school.nz (currently away)

Library Teacher - Cathy Mahoney cathym@stfrancis.school.nz

Release Teacher - Susan Milne susanm@stfrancis.school.nz

Release Teacher - Monique Vuksich moniquev@stfrancis.school.nz

Te Reo / Garden to Table Teacher - Kate Hanly kateh@stfrancis.school.nz

Receptionist - Anne Lengauer annel@stfrancis.school.nz or office@stfrancis.school.nz

Accounts - Janet Skinner janets@stfrancis.school.nz

Teacher Aides - Myra Srhoj, Tema Tuifua, Haedie Brake, Adriana Vuksich, Kelly Rasch, Rachael Courian

Kapa Haka Tutor - Liv Mallon

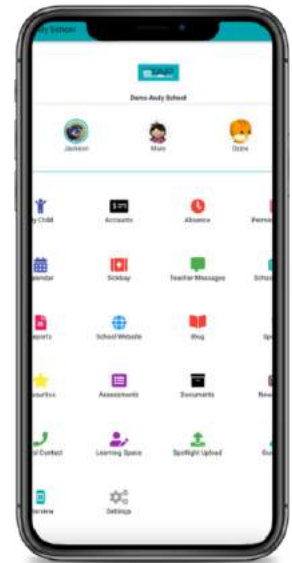
Caretaker - Andy Wilkie

School Hours -

- School grounds open from 8.00am (strictly no unsupervised children before 8.00am), Classrooms open from 8.30am, School starts at 9.00am
- Morning Tea 11.00am - 11.30am
- Lunch 1.00pm - 1.50pm
- School ends at 3.00pm, Unsupervised children need to be offsite by 3.30pm, After School Care open until 6.00pm

New School App - This year we are introducing a parent app to streamline comms and cut down on admin time for parents. This will be a one stop location for parents / caregivers to access:

- Messages from teachers, coaches, the school office etc
- Weekly Newsletters
- Mid Year and End of Year Reports
- Permission Slips
- The School Calendar
- Accounts - Statements and Tax Receipts
- Reporting Absences
- Access to Kindo (for Foodie Fridays etc)
- Access to School Docs (School Policies), school facebook page, school website, school contact details, school documents (BOT minutes etc), your child's personal information etc.



We fully expect that it might take some time for everyone to get on board with the app, so we will continue to use all forms of communication for a while but eventually we will send all / most comms through the app.

This app is part of our 'Student Management System' (Etap), the platform we use for enrolment, attendance, assessment and tracking and reporting etc so it is MOE certified and very safe and secure with personal information.

Tomorrow we will send out an email to all families with details about downloading the app and logging in etc. You will receive one email per child that you have on the system, but once you are logged into the app you should be able to easily switch from child to child without a separate log in.

Thank you to the families who have already trialled the app for us, hopefully we have ironed out all the bugs but with all new innovations there will always be a learning period.

Learning in Year 2 – Below is a photo of Room 11 making a “human graph” to show eye colours in their classroom.



Friends of St Francis beginning of the year messages –

- **Meeting** – Rather than having one person in charge of the Friends of St Francis (the workload puts people off!) we have decided to give interested people one responsibility each throughout the year. This workload is much more manageable and means that many people can contribute to the St Francis community. Jobs include the disco, individual fundraising events, pastoral care opportunities, Foodie Friday, 2nd hand uniforms etc.

Meeting to allocate individual roles – **Tuesday 20 February 6.00pm in the Whanau Room**

- **Class Reps** – Class reps worked really well last year so thank you to everyone who volunteered! We're looking to do the same this year. One parent per class will set up a WhatsApp group to share info, reminders etc and it's really great for connecting with other parents and setting up play dates and birthday parties etc. If you would like to be the class rep for your child's class please let Lisa Dixon know by Friday 9 February – lisa.dixon01@gmail.com or 022 121 9537. If you would like to opt out of any WhatsApp group please also let Lisa know via DM and she will exclude you from the contact list.
- **Meal Train** – If you are keen to support your school community then please join the amazing St. Francis Meal Train Group, the pastoral care meal train group is for those in need.

– Why does St Francis Catholic School have a Meal Train? There are times in our lives when friends and family ask, "What can I do to help out?" The answer is usually to help them with a meal or baking. When many friends give a meal, this is a Meal Train.

– How does it work? This group uses mealtrain.com which is a free meal calendar tool that makes planning meals among a wide group easy and less stressful.

– As a member of the group you can help as and when it suits.

– A Meal Train is created for a family or person in need (maybe as a result of a birth, a bereavement, an illness in the home, a parent travelling extensively for work, family separations/divorces, etc.). An email is then sent to the group with a link to the Train included. The name of the family/children in need can be kept strictly confidential.

– When a Meal Train is created you can help with providing a meal or baking, then you can select a date and note the details of what you can supply via the email link. Pre-prepared and frozen meals are also fine, just select a date to bring them in and note them as such.

- Further details are included in the Train regarding family size; sometimes with dietary requirements and when to drop the meals off at the office, etc.
- For those in need, please reach out to Lisa Bateman directly as you have an awesome St. Francis School Community here ready and willing to help and support you and your child/children during whatever challenging times you may encounter.
- If you wish to join this amazing, supportive group of parents or have any queries, please feel free to get in contact with Donna Harris (parent of Emily - Year 4) via email at dharris123@xtra.co.nz
 - **Foodie Friday** - Helpers Needed. We are looking for parent helpers who can offer up one hour of their time one Friday at some stage during 2024 to help with handing out Pizzas for our Foodie Friday. We aim to have one Foodie Friday a month, and require 6 helpers from 12.30pm for approx. 1 hour. If you are able to please help out at one of our Foodie Fridays during 2024 we would love to hear from you. Please contact Annalies Donald on annalies.donald@meshconsulting.co.nz or 027 467 7170. Our First Foodie Friday is Friday 23th Feb, and we are still looking for three helpers for this date! Pizza orders will open next Wednesday 14th Feb.



Message from Auckland Transport - Important safety message re Meola Road and adjacent streets. If your children are walking, cycling and scooting to school, they'll see some differences along the way. A major street upgrade is under way in our neighbourhood. Meola Road is currently closed to through-traffic, but access remains open for people walking, cycling and scooting. Traffic control staff in hi-viz will be there to help people cross Meola Road safely. It is a busy work site, so please take care and follow their guidance. Also, please note that the existing zebra crossing is closed for reconstruction at the moment. Thank you for your patience as this work progresses. Once the project is complete, there will be new footpaths, more and safer crossings, a two-way separated bike path, and more trees, as well as lots of improvements to underground services. There's a lot to look forward to!

After School Extra-Curricular Opportunities:

- Monday - Art Lessons <https://www.creativematters.co.nz/>
- Tuesday - ****NEW****- Spanish Lessons - Spanish lessons at St Francis by the Spanish Institute. Mixed ability Spanish lessons Tuesdays, 3.00pm-4.30pm in the Whanau Room, Starting 13th February. Our tutor will provide Spanish snacks for the first lesson. \$180 for a 9 week term, message Justina 0273670500 for a link to sign up on their website: <https://www.spanishinstitute.co.nz/spanish/spanish-children-classes.html>
- Thursday - Playball <https://www.playballkids.com/index>
- Friday - Bricks4Kids <https://www.bricks4kidz.co.nz/>

Private Instrument lessons in school time - Year 3 up -



MUSIC LESSONS AT SCHOOL!



The Music Education Centre offers specialist music tuition for a range of instruments including **Piano, Guitar, Drums and more!**

IT'S CONVENIENT!

Have your child's music lesson right at their school and give them the opportunity to develop their skills through our **individualised lessons that're both fun and educational!** Learning **music supports all areas of learning** through developing **confidence, creativity, concentration and so much more!**

To enrol, please visit:

www.bit.ly/MECPRIARY

Year 5 & 6 Basketball – Term 1 – We are looking for children keen to play basketball for St Francis this term. No experience needed, just those keen to learn & have fun. Games are Friday evenings at Ponsonby Intermediate. Spaces in teams are filling quick and registrations close soon, so if you are keen or have any questions please get in touch with Annalies asap at annalies.donald@meshconsulting.co.nz

Touch Rugby – Term 1 2024 – We have a couple of spots available for Touch Rugby players for Year 1 & 2's and for Year 4 / Year 5 players to join a team! No experience needed! This is a great summer team sport to be involved in! Fantastic for fitness, developing balls skills / coordination and teamwork! Games are Tuesday afternoons at Cox's Bay, Westmere starting Tuesday 13th February – competition runs for 7 weeks. \$65 / per player. Children wear school PE gear and running shoes. Please contact Annalies Donald on annalies.donald@meshconsulting.co.nz or 027 467 7170

Weetbix Kids Tryathlon – Sunday 24th March 2024

It's time to Swim, Bike, Run & Have FUN!! Want to keep the kids active & motivated over the summer holidays? Enter them into our St Francis School

Group to be part of the fantastic Weetbix Kids Tryathlon! 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 For further event information, for times & distances etc please visit - <https://tryathlon.co.nz/>

St Francis features at Waka Ama National Sprint Championships - We are very proud of two of our St Francis students; Keanu Funaki and Tobias Ng Lam who both competed for Ocean Blue Sports Club at the recent Waka Ama National Sprint Championships at Lake Karapiro on the 15th and 16th January. There were some very strong teams and our boys, with their teams, put up very strong performances. A huge congratulations to Keanu who came home with two bronze medals for the 6-man 250m sprint and 12-man 250m sprint. Both boys trained hard daily over the summer holidays, and we are very proud of their achievements! Well Done!



Book Week - coming up 11 March - 15 March - Dress up parade on Friday 15 March, Book Swap throughout the week (children bring one preloved book to swap for a new preloved book).

Supporting our school:

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.

The logo for Ray White Point Chevalier features a circular photo of three people (two men and one woman) standing together. To the right of the photo, the text reads "Ray White Point Chevalier" in a serif font, with "Your local professionals" in a smaller, italicized font below it. The Ray White logo is in the top right corner. At the bottom, contact information is listed: Lawrence von Sturmer - 027 227 9294 | Jo de Beer - 027 469 4148 | Jackson Tarlau - 021 163 2342. Below this is a small line of text: "350 Poin Chevalier Road, Auckland City 1022 | www.pointchevalier.raywhite.com | www.raywhite.co.nz | Your Great Life | Licensed REA 37026".



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 or 022 633 5095 www.ironbridge.co.nz

Dates for 2024:

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

Teacher Only Days – School Closed: Friday 22 March

Public Holidays – School Closed: 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 9 February – Y6 Beach Education – Piha Beach

Tuesday 13 February – Kapa Haka Groups start

Wednesday 14 February – Ash Wednesday / St Valentine's Day

Friday 23 February – Foodie Friday

Thursday 29 February – Inner City Cricket Comp Y5/6

Monday 11 March - Book Week

Thursday 14 March - Netsafe Parent Meeting - Gaming

Friday 15 March - Book Week Dress Up Parade

Thursday 21 March - Odd Socks Day, Inner City Softball Comp Y5/6

Friday 22 March - Teacher Only Day - School closed, Skids open

Sunday 24 March - Palm Sunday

Monday 25 March - Holy Week begins

Friday 29 March - Good Friday - School closed

Saturday 30 March - Holy Saturday

Sunday 31 March - Easter Sunday

Monday 1 April - Easter Monday - School closed

Tuesday 2 April - Easter Tuesday - School closed

Friday 12 April - Foodie Friday, Last day of Term 1

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

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 Jo de Beer 027 469 4148
 Jackson Tariiau 021 163 2342

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For all enquiries contact:
Jackie Arroyo
M 021 975 642
stfrancisptchev@skids.co.nz
www.skids.co.nz/locations/st_francis_pt_chevalier

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