



St Francis Catholic School

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



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Changes to the Religious Education Programme - After a year of Professional Development our Junior School teachers are now implementing the wonderful new RE curriculum. While the content is similar to the previous curriculum, the way the programme is structured is now more engaging, dynamic and creative.

The Middle School teachers are now working through their year of Professional Development, with implementation beginning in 2025.

- RE lesson in Room 11 (Year 2) - Achievement Objective: Identify some names and images of God and use these in our prayers - Father, Gentle Friend, Holy One, Creator, Lifegiver, Jesus, Holy Spirit, Shepherd, Prince of Peace, Bread of Life, Yaweh, Forgiving Father etc.



Link to the new RE curriculum - <https://www.totatouwhakapono.nz/>



Parish News - Church Fundraising - BUY-A-BRICK - We are stoked to announce that we have had ALL of the new windows for the Church donated - a huge thank you to all of our generous donors. Our Buy-a-Brick campaign remains well underway, with a \$500+ contribution receiving a guaranteed name plaque. \$200-\$500 contributions will go into a draw for a name plaque. Payments can be made by bank transfer to the Parish Building Fund Bank Account 02-0108-0707331-003.



Church renovation parking and H&S - Various tradies and suppliers will require parking in front of the Church during the renovation. Accordingly, an area will be reserved for them and coned off in front of the Church as well as at the Presbytery. We thank you for your understanding and patience. Temporary fencing has been placed around the Church and we ask you to adhere to the H&S notices placed there.

Sacramental Programme - Registration cut off is Sunday the 28th of April. Forms are available at the school office or at the back of the Church.

School/Parish Working-bee on Saturday, 6 April - We will be having a working-bee on Saturday, 6 April, from 10am at the Church to move the pews and other items to storage containers that has been placed on the Presbytery lawns just up the road. A dozen awesome helpers have already signed up - thank you so much. This will be a great opportunity to get the College kid's Service Hours signed off. The more the merrier - refreshments will be provided at the Pt. Chev. Bowling Club afterwards. Kindly contact Stuart on 027 818 2403 for more information.

Parish Easter Egg hunt from 10am in the School grounds after Mass on Sunday, 31 March. Kindly place any donated eggs in the basket at the back of the Church.

Our School Values - Room 6 (Year 3) are working together to brainstorm examples of what our school values look like in real life:

- *I can show excellence when I help someone. I can show respect when I help someone with their work. I can show service when I tidy up without being asked. I can show kindness when I give them a nice compliment. I can show resilience when something is hard but I don't give up. I can show faith by encouraging someone.* - Vincent
- *I can show excellence when I concentrate. I can show respect when I listen to someone. I can show service when I am helpful. I can show kindness when I help someone up. I can show resilience when I don't give up.* - Finn
- *I can show excellence by being curious. I can show respect by caring for the environment. I can show service when I put things away after the bell rings. I can show kindness when I help someone. I can show resilience when I try my best. I can show faith when I pray.* - Cooper



A fantastic start to Book Week -



Coming Up for the rest of the week:

Book fair visits in the library, book swap in the hall, parent readers in classrooms, Junior and Middle School book quiz in the library and of course, what we have all been waiting for.....

Book Character Dress up Parade - Friday at 9.30am (weather depending) Please also join to celebrate our great week of total literacy engagement. Students are all encouraged (but it's not compulsory) to come to school dressed up as their favourite book character. Parents are welcome to dress up and we will have a best costume prize for one lucky parent.

Another big week next week -



Monday - St Patrick's Day Walking School Bus - if possible, please join us dressing up in your St Patrick's Day gear and walk with us from school to Walker Park and back. Leaving school at 8.00am, arriving at Walker Park at 8.15am and getting back to school at 8.30am.

Wednesday - The Choir are performing at St Michael's Church at 1.00pm

Thursday - Tika (Justice) Thursday - mufti day. Bring a gold coin to donate to Caritas. Year 5 and 6 Softball Competition at Cox's Bay.

Friday - Teacher Only Day - no school. All of the teachers will be at St Paul's College, attending a conference with all of the other teachers from our local Catholic Primary Schools and Colleges.

Using every opportunity as a writing prompt – Writing by Room 10 (Year 2) –

- *We have a new mat, it has a lot of colours on it. Blue and yellow and red and green and orange and purple and white and also dark blue. We worked like a team at carrying the new mat. – George*
- *The new mat has squares. We all have a spot and I like the mat. We carried the mat as a team. We were pulling the rapping off. – Rylee*
- *We got a new mat. I have my spot, it was purple. We worked like ants. – Emily*
- *When we got rid of the mat we had to fold the mat and carry it with our team. The next mat we rolled it out. The mat is comfy. I like the new mat. – Archie*
- *We got a mat. We ripped the tape! We chose some spots to sit. Now we sit on them, they are rainbow. It looks cool. We worked like ants as a team. – Jacob*



Garden to Table – last week our Year 5 and 6 students made sushi and muffins for lunch



St Francis Netball teams – Calling all Future ferns! New players and Returning

The season is nearly upon us and if you are keen to be part of one of our Awesome St Francis teams, now is the time to let me know. The season will start in Term 2 and goes through to the end of August. All games are played at the Windmill courts in Mt Eden, under the future ferns module.

Year 3 & 4 teams play Thursdays and Year 5 & 6 teams play Wednesdays

If you would like any further information or would like to register to play, please contact Kelly.rasch@gmail.com Please note – We are always in need of volunteers for coaches, Managers and umpires.... WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!! So if you are able to help with any of these roles, please let Kelly know ASAP.

Round the Bays – Tom Barton ran Round the Bays last weekend with his Dad and it's the fourth one they've done together!

Parent Meeting – This Thursday at 7.30pm we have Andrew Cowie returning for another internet safety and education session, this time focused on gaming which is likely to be a big focus in many households. This session is open to kids as well, primarily Year 5 and 6. Andrew is bringing with him a co-presenter, a Year 6 boy who will be able to speak to this topic from a kids perspective. Please come along for an interesting and informative evening! Any questions please see Olivia Neary or Lisa Dixon.



Foodie Friday – Friday 15th March – Book Parade Day

Orders close TODAY at 8pm Wednesday 13th March.

Slices are \$2 per slice and order options are:

- Ham & Cheese
- Cheese
- Gluten Free Cheese
- Gluten Free / Vegan Cheese



There is the option to also order a Just Juice box for \$2.50. This Foodie Friday there will be the additional option to order a Mini Jelly Tip / Mini Choc Bar Ice Cream or Lemonade Ice Block for \$2.50. Thanks to Dallas for the Tip Top Treats!

Orders must be made and paid for using the 'My Kindo' App or My Kindo website, which you will need to register for and load each child individually – connected with their new 2024 classroom classroom. Then complete and pay for their orders.

For any questions or queries, or to be involved in helping with this exciting initiative please contact Annalies Donald at annalies.donald@meshconsulting.co.nz

Please make sure your child is allocated to their new 2024 classroom in the app for their order to go to the right place. Orders close Wednesday 13th March.

PMP helpers needed – Parents and grandparents we are starting our popular and highly valuable PMP programme on Thursday and Friday mornings in Terms 2 and 3. We need YOU! Commit to a weekly or less frequent casual slot. 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 as well as memory. PMP is a step-by-step programme based on physical and sensory activities that are repeated over two sessions. Teachers observe the children and note areas for development through the parallel classroom programme. 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 free for higher thinking tasks.

We need a roster of 8 to 12 parents or grandparents to monitor and explain the activities to children and help with equipment pack up. The commitment is 8:30 to 11:10 Thursdays and Fridays in Terms 2 and 3. Training is given to the helpers at the end of Term 1.

Classes come to the Hall for 25 minutes and move through the 4 stations for the day. Stations develop fitness, locomotion (moving the whole body), hand-eye and balance. You don't need to be fit, just check the children do the activities correctly and safely while the teachers assess the children and support you.

Please email the coordinator (Angela Franich) at angelajshand@gmail.com or leave your details at the school office if you can help in any way.

New School App - We have 174 parents successfully logged in and using the school app!! For those of you who haven't used the app yet, please let us know if you need a new login link (the initial email would have timed out by now!)

Use the app for:

- Daily absences
- Fill in the annual overall consent form for trips and activities
- A quick link to Kindo for Foodie Friday, ordering lunches etc
- Reading newsletters
- Coming up soon: messages from the office / teachers, booking in for parents interviews next term, receiving Mid Year Reports next term etc.

Walking School Bus - Two awesome Mum's from the Friends of St Francis, Caitlin Earl (Harley's mum) and Bridget Marshall (Oscar and Eddie's mum) are keen to get the Walking School Bus up and running again, possibly starting with Friday mornings. If you are interested please check out the post about it on the Friends of St Francis FaceBook page -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/162830310827978>

St Francis Dads Support Group aka Darts Night - last Thursday of the month

The next phenomenal darts session catch up is on Thursday, 28 March, from 8pm, at the infamous Pt Chev Bowling Club - Lock it in! The following day is Good Friday and the potential to sleep in/recover.....just saying. The quality of the darts playing maybe average, but it's awesome fun. This is a great venue for new Dads to the School to mingle with other Dads - the more the merrier. Please contact Stuart King on 027 818 2403 for more details and to join the Darts WhatsApp group. No darts experience required.

I'm taking the House to House challenge this March for RMHC NZ!

Join me or donate, to help keep families together.







Our parent community, making a difference - This March, Natalie Hachache, Dante's mum, is getting active to help fundraise for Ronald McDonald House NZ, where families with children in hospital receive accommodation and support. If you can help by donating please click the link below or scan the QR code <https://housetohouse.org.nz/natalie-hachache>

Save the date - School Cross Country Friday 3 May from midday (weather permitting).

A message for Year 6 parents - if

you are interested in being part of the organisation committee for the Year 6 End of Year Graduation Dinner / Celebrations etc please email the school office.



sKids Holiday Programme
15th - 26th April
MSD-Approved, Work & Income OSCAR Subsidy available!





Full Day \$50.00 (8am to 6pm)
Short Day \$40.00 (8am to 3pm)
Trip Day \$25.00 Additional

Scan here to join us this April!



sKids St Francis Pt Chev
Pt Chevalier School
2 Montrose St
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Jackie Arroyo
021 975642

April				
Monday 15 th	Tuesday 16 th	Wednesday 17 th	Thursday 18 th	Friday 19 th
LET'S FIESTA	LITTLES COOKS	ART ATTACK	LUAU PARTY	MOVIES
Today we are going to celebrate the first day of School Holidays the Mexican way!	Bring your cooking skills and get excited because today is cooking day.	Roll your sleeves up and get your paint brushes ready and show us your creativity!	Traditional Limbo, Hula Hoop contest and much more. Join us to be entertained with a traditional Luau Party.	Today we are heading to the cinemas to watch a movie. Bring money for popcorn and drink.
				
TRIP DAY				
April				
Monday 22 nd	Tuesday 23 rd	Wednesday 24 th	Thursday 25 th	Friday 26 th
FUN WITH COLOURS	MAD SCIENCE	BEST OUT OF WASTE	CLOSED	JUMP
Have fun mixing and playing with colours by engaging in many fun activities.	Let's make fun experiments on Mad science day. Get ready to have your mind blown out.	Today we re learning how to recycle and upcycle waste materials into fun and creative projects.	Closed for ANZAC Public Holiday. We'll see you tomorrow.	We are going to Jump in Avondale. Do not forget to bring socks.
				

School Canopy for lower courts – Ray White Point Chevalier – are supporting us to raise funds for our St Francis School Canopy project. 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 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

Thursday 14 March – Netsafe Parent Meeting – Gaming

Friday 15 March – Book Week Dress Up Character Parade – All welcome!

Monday 18 March – 🍀🍀 St Patrick's Day Dress Up Walking School Bus 8.00am, Y3–6 Caritas visitor

Wednesday 20 March – St Francis choir performance at St Michael's 1.00pm

Thursday 21 March - Inner City Softball Comp Y5/6 - 'Tika Thursday' MUFTI DAY!!!!

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

Sunday 24 March - Palm Sunday

Monday 25 March - Holy Week begins

Tuesday 26 March - BOT meeting

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 5 April - Easter Mass, All welcome

Saturday 6 April - Parish Working Bee from 10.00am

Friday 12 April - Foodie Friday, 🐰 Easter Dress Up Walking School Bus, Last day of Term 1

Coming up next term

Monday 29 April - Term 2 begins

Tuesday 30 April - Year 5 and 6 visit to the Guang Shan temple

Thursday 2 May - Inner City Swimming comp

Friday 3 May - School Cross Country from midday

Tuesday 7 May - Year 1 and 2 Jesus Meal

Wednesday 8 May - Thursday 9 May - Special Character Review visitors from the Diocese

Thursday 16 May - Inner City Cross Country comp @ Grey Lynn Park

Friday 17 May - Foodie Friday

Sunday 19 May - Pentecost

Monday 20 May - Year 1 and 2 'Stepping Out' (road safety) all week with the NZ Police

Tuesday 28 May - BOT meeting

Monday 3 June - King's Birthday weekend

Thursday 6 June - Inner City Rugby League comp @ Cornwall Park

Monday 10 June - School Photos Day

Tuesday 11 June and Wednesday 12 June - Year 1 and 2 Art trip

Friday 14 June - Foodie Friday

Tuesday 18 June - Friends of St Francis fundraiser - Oxford Pies - pick up day

Tuesday 25 June - BOT meeting

Friday 28 June - Matariki Public Holiday

Friday 5 July - Foodie Friday, Last day of Term 2



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For all enquiries contact:
Jackie Arroyo
M 021 975 642

MSD Approved
Children safety - Onsite care with qualified staff
Venue - School hall is comforting venue for the children
WINZ OSCAR Subsidy Available
Fun - Interactive and stimulating activities, including afternoon tea and homework assistance
Sports - Kids keep fit playing soccer, rugby, cricket, basketball, badminton, and other sport activities.
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