



St Francis Catholic School

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



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The end of the Easter Season – the Easter Season ends this week with the celebration of Pentecost on Sunday. Pentecost is the day that the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples and Mary, just as Jesus reassured them it would. The liturgical colour for the day is red. You may see people wearing red on Sunday, including the priest. We consider Pentecost as being the Church's birthday because this is the day the Holy Spirit came down and filled the Apostles with the gifts they need to lead the Church into the future.

🎂🎉🎂🎉🎂🎉 Happy 75th birthday Father John 🎂🎉🎂🎉🎂🎉



If you have any photos from last Sunday's Mass where we celebrated Father John's 75th birthday could you please touch base with Paula in the parish office – a huge turnout and a beautiful cake to boot!!

Parish News – School/Church working-bee this Saturday: Following the immensely popular and successful School/Parish community working-bee the other week, back by popular demand, we will be having another working-bee this Saturday, **18 May**, from **1pm**, to instal the insulation in the Church for a few hours. Experts will be on-site to instruct and direct and all material/tools will be provided, including single-use protective gear. This will be one of the **last chances** to help out and be part of this incredible journey in renovating our beautiful Church. Please let Stuart King know on 027 818 2403 to confirm your participation so he can track numbers (mainly for the beersies order).

Church Services in the Parish/School Hall: A reminder that our Church is currently closed for renovations. Consequently, future Saturday night Vigil Masses at 5:30pm and Sunday Masses at 9am will be held in the Hall over the next few months. The Church renovation is progressing well with all 11 new arched windows installed last week thanks to Jeremy at Allpro Construction Limited and his band of merry men. We remain equally grateful to Julieta Gagna Mariadas of PDL who generously supplied a lot of electrical products for the Church reno. gratis.

Planting: Further to last week's School Newsletter, the Parish Finance Committee managed to convince Auckland Council to buy the plants that are required to be planted under the billboards on the School field, saving \$'000s. We will look at planting the 95 plants (being small grasses and flaxes) at the end of June and will be in touch nearer the time to organise a working-bee to effect this.

Children's Liturgies: (a break-out session for kids involving a wee bit of gospel and heaps of colouring in and fun discussion) during Sunday Masses is back on for the School Term 2 - so please come along and join our welcoming Parish community - it will be like a huge play date for the kids, plus we have a morning tea in the Hall after both Saturday and Sunday Masses.

Our Parish **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: A reminder that 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.



The Mitey Programme – Our Mental Health Education programme is making a huge difference in the lives of our children. Below are photos from Room 6's current Mitey lessons.



Private Spanish classes – after school on Tuesdays, in the Whanau Room. Contact José Figueira (Sienna's Dad) @ josecoaching@gmail.com for more information on costs etc.

A message from Mrs Mahoney about the Auckland Writers Festival – this weekend!!!! – Come and enjoy a FREE family weekend at the Auckland Writers Festival

Pukapuka Adventures on 18 May and 19 May 2024, which will take over the top floor of the Aotea Centre. Expect book readings, dancing, singing, drawing, zine-making, crafting activities and more. Their interactive line-up has been inspired by all the wonderful words and illustrations from newly released children's books and it is designed to appeal to a variety of ages so the whole family can attend (from babies to tweens).

Children and their adults are invited to bring the secret ingredients of curiosity and play to transform and be transformed by these wonderful stories.

Bring your whole heart and your whole whānau to this literature party as we giggle, dance, learn and create.



<p>Saturday FREE Activities:</p> <p>10:00am: My First Words About Tikanga Maori</p> <p>10:45am: Bursting with the Razzle: A Dazzlehands Disco</p> <p>11:30am: Dreaming of Africa</p> <p>12:15pm: Take the Mic</p> <p>1:30pm: Illustrator Showdown</p> <p>2:15pm: Dance like the Atua</p> <p>3:00pm: Tapa Navigators</p> <p>10:00am to 4:00pm: Make a Mean Zine and Action Stations</p>	<p>Sunday FREE Activities</p> <p>10:00am to 10:30am: Bursting with the Razzle: A Dazzlehands Disco</p> <p>10:00am to 12:00pm: Found Poem Badges</p> <p>10:45am to 11:15am: Unleash Your Inner Superhero</p> <p>11:30am to 12:00pm: Don't Scare the Dentist</p> <p>12:15pm to 1:00pm: Kia Piki te Ora!</p>
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For more information go to www.aucklandforkids.co.nz/events/pukapuka-adventures-2024/ or check the programme in the school library.



ENTRIES NOW OPEN!!! 2024 Junior Tough Guy & Gal Challenge – Tuesday 6th August. Come along and join us for an epic event full of physical challenges, mud, sweat, and most importantly smiles and a great time.

Think Cross Country with obstacles and LOTS of Mud! Event is Tuesday 6th August in Kumeu for Year 3 and above students. Cost is \$30 per student. Entries are now open and the event sells out, so please contact Annalies Donald at annalies.donald@meshconsulting.co.nz or 027 467 7170 if you would like to be involved.

Foodie Friday – Friday 17th May – Foodie Friday orders close tonight at 8pm for Pizza’s on Friday.

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

Congratulations – to Eliana Zhou from Room 7 who attended the 365 GS race last week at Snowplanet. It was her first racing competition and she got 3rd place in U8 girls group. Well done Eliana!



Netball – A very close game for the Wolves today, with a 5:4 win. POD Emily Hanley

Parent Groups – We have had many new families join the school which is wonderful!!

Welcome to the St Francis Community. We’re not sure if everyone is aware but we have a St Francis Mum’s WhatsApp group and a St Francis Dad’s WhatsApp group.



You will get most of this info via your class WhatsApp groups but this is for wider bits of information or discussions... ranging from inner city sporting events to traffic woes to missing uniform notices.

- For the Dads Support Group, click on the link below:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/FVrjblOyEEa00xJOPr4FIC>

- For the St Francis Mums Group, click on the link below:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/FfTeell189zDKJyYzx4jHh>

Year 5 and 6 Mother's Day Breakfast -



Year 5 and 6 Inner City Sports Cluster Swimming Competition – Congratulations to Gus From Room 2 who came first in the 10 year old freestyle final and Sam from Room 4 who came third in the 25m backstroke final. Thank you to Mr Wright and all the parent helpers. Thank you to Ryan Anderson, Isla from Room 6’s Dad, from Aqualine Swim for the awesome St Francis coloured goggles and swim caps.



Special Character Review – Last we completed a VERY SUCCESSFUL Special Character Review. Thank you to all the teachers, children and parents who took the time to meet with the review team to share their ideas and opinions about St Francis Catholic School. A special thanks to the Year 5 and 6 children who welcomed our visitors with a very moving powhiri. Photos below.



St. Francis Dads Support Group aka Darts Night –The next stupendous darts session will be on Thursday, 30 May, from 8pm, at the infamous Pt. Chev. Bowling Club – Lock it in! 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.

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

Friday 17 May - Foodie Friday, 2.15pm Assembly led by Rooms 5 and 11

Sunday 19 May - Pentecost

Tuesday 28 May - BOT meeting

Friday 31 May - 2.15pm Assembly led by Room 6 and 8

Monday 3 June - King's Birthday weekend

Thursday 6 June - Inner City Rugby League comp @ Cornwall Park. 6pm Pasifika Mass @ St Joseph's Church Grey Lynn - All welcome!

Monday 10 June - School Photos Day

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

Friday 14 June - Foodie Friday

Sunday 16 June - 9.00am School / Parish Children's Mass - All welcome!

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

Tuesday 25 June - BOT meeting

Thursday 27 June - Mid Year Reports sent home via the school app

Friday 28 June - Matariki Public Holiday

Tuesday 2 July and Wednesday 3 July - Parent Interviews

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

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



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