

# 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

<u>Cans 4 Xmas</u> - Our Term 3 Social Justice fundraiser is Cans 4 Xmas. We hope all of our families can send in a canned grocery item. This enables the Mercy Hospice and St Vincent de Paul to replenish their food banks for those in need.



<u>Parish News</u> - Church renovation update: Just a few bits and pieces left to do, such as the external wooden stairs leading to the lower courts.

A number of people have asked for a list of tradies that worked on the Church, please refer below and feel free to contact them directly and support them as they supported us:

- Allpro Construction Jeremy Halpin, builder extraordinaire, on 021 273 7026
- Kali Painting on 021 022 28275
- Concreting Vuksich and Borich contact Matt on 027 289 9505
- Hines Electrical 0800 287 452
- Carpet Kiley from Flooring Studio on 021 530 444
- Floor sanding Tom at Goodwood Flooring Studio on 027 246 1004
- Vinyl wood plank flooring Gimmy on 021 628 873
- Gib Stopper and Plastering Mr. Dust on 021 864 698

The parish has managed to remain within budget with regards to what they had planned to do. Replacing the roof required an additional \$25,000 that partly remains unfunded - so a big call out to those who are able to contribute financially to please do so - the St. Francis Parish renovation bank account number is: 02-0108-0707331-003 and any queries, please contact Stuart King on 027 818 2403. And remember, all donations attract a 33% tax refund.

So, be part of history, forever be immortalised and get yourself and/or your kids a Brick - refer below. We will be going to print with the fourth batch of plaques early next week - so please get in touch quickly with Stuart and let him know what wording you want on it.

**Church Fundraising - BUY-A-BRICK** - Our Parish Buy-a-Brick campaign remains well underway, with a \$500+ contribution receiving a named plaque. We are very grateful for those who have kindly contributed both previously and as recently as yesterday. Payments can be made by bank transfer to the Parish Building Fund Bank Account number 02-0108-0707331-003. Please contact Stuart if you have any queries.

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 during the School Term in the Whanau room - so please come along and join our welcoming Parish community - it will be like a huge play date for the kids, plus there's the yummy morning teas. We are always looking for more parent helpers to run the Children Liturgy sessions (you only need to do once a term), so please contact Stuart on 027 818 2403 if you'd like to join the Team - full guidance and instructions

will be provided.

<u>Congratulations</u> - to Cooper (Room 6), Felicity (Room 9) and Summer Pedersen on their baptism last Sunday. We are very proud of you.

Lord, thank you for the precious gift of baptism, that we can publicly declare our love and passion for you. Lord, we ask for



your goodness and blessings to be poured out on these faithful servants. We pray that you would work deeply within their hearts and souls to renew and refresh them each day. Amen.

**TOUCH RUGBY – Term 4** – Any children interested in playing Touch Rugby in Term 4, please contact Annalies Donald at <u>annalies.donald@meshconsulting.co.nz</u> Games are Tuesday afternoons for 7 weeks at Cox's Bay Reserve. Open for all children from Year 0 – 6.

A message from the Garden Club - The Garden Club is raising money to buy more plants for the school. We will be selling our Flower Aid plant booster (great in the flower or vegetable gardens), and worm castings (rich in goodness for plants, especially pot plants), outside the Whanau Room from 2:50 pm to 3:10 pm on Thursdays until the end of term or until we run out of stock.

\$5 1 litre of Flower Aid, \$10 2 litres of Flower Aid, \$13 3 litres of Flower Aid, \$1 for 500 g worm castings.

# The Year 6 Whanau Leaders interview an Olympian!

# Please can you tell us a little about yourself and your olympic journey.

My Name is Justina Kitchen, my daughter's Florentina and Lucette are in Year 3 & 4 at St Francis. I competed at the 2024

Olympics in Kitefoiling, which is the fastest summer Olympic sport. We have a top speed of over 80km/h but most of the time we are racing at about 50km/h, which is pretty fast for something powered by the wind! Especially when the wind we use for power is only blowing 15km/h. Does anyone know how that is possible? I learned to kitefoil when I was 28 years old, when Florentina and Lucette were young babies. I train and compete as a kitesurfer as my full time job, I travel a lot to different parts of the world to compete

What was the most famous person that you met at the olympics? Andy Murray - the Tennis player

# How long have you been waiting to go to the Olympics?

My Dad, Florentina and Lucette's Grandad, went to the Olympics. He won a Gold and Silver medal. I have always been inspired by him, and have wanted to go to the Olympics for as long as I can remember. I tried to qualify for the Olympics in windsurfing when I was 20 years old, but had lots of shoulder injuries so didn't make it. All the experience from being a windsurfer helped a lot when I

learned to kite foil. I trained for 6 years in kitesurfing before I finally earned a place at the Olympics, by then I was 35 years old. So I had wanted to go to the Olympics for over 25 years. Never give up on your dreams!

# What was your favourite event that you got to watch at the Olympics?

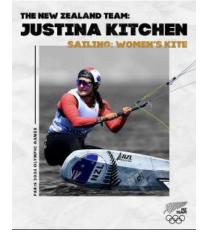
The only other event I got to watch while at the Olympics was the Gymnastics. Which was very impressive. The athletes are so strong.

# Did all the athletes support each other?

In the New Zealand sailing team all the athletes support each other, we are like a family.

It depends on the sport, but in sailing most of the athletes

are friends. You see each other at every event you compete at, for the years leading up to the Olympics. Some of my best friends are my international competitors.





**Basketball** - St Francis Blue Lightning won 8-4 against Westmere. POD Aishah.

**Tongan Language Week** - During Tongan Language Week, Room 3 learned about Tongan Ngatu (tapa cloth). We used this knowledge for our Explanation Writing and to create Ngatu inspired art.

Tongan Ngatu through the ages by Micah Fullerton Room 3 - \*Go to the bottom for the meanings of tongan words.

INTRODUCTION - Tongan Ngatu is a cloth made from bark that grows in tonga. Ngatu is only made by women.

THE MAKING OF NGATU - There are many steps in making Ngatu. When they make it they use the bark from the hiapo tree. It is called tutu. Then they hang the bark in the sun to dry. After that they put it in water to make it soft. Later on they beat it with an Ike to make it wider. Then they dry it in the sun again. Then in NZ they cover it with some glue like paste.

DECORATIONS - Ngatu is decorated with shapes such as squares, circles, triangles and diamonds. It also has symbols inspired by nature such as turtles, flowers, suns, moons and

A TREASURE IN TONGA - In Tonga, Ngatu is considered a treasure. The women in the group all speak lea faka tonga. The People in New Zealand make Ngatu too. The people in tonga import the material to them because the hiapo tree doesn't grow well in New Zealand.

water.

CONCLUSION - In Tonga Ngatu is used for special occasions such as birth, weddings and funerals. Now you can teach others about Tongan Ngatu.

\*MEANINGS HIAPO TREE=PAPER MULBERRY TREE IKE=A WOODEN TOOL USED FOR BEATING BARK TUTU =THE BARK OF THE HIAPO TREE LEA FAKA TONGA=THE TONGAN LANGUAGE









# <u>Foodie Friday – This Friday – Orders close 8pm tonight.</u>

Slices are \$2 per slice and order options are: Ham & Cheese, Cheese, Gluten Free Cheese, Gluten Free / Vegan Cheese, Juice Box.

Orders must be made and paid for using the 'My Kindo' App or My Kindo website.





# <u>Messages from the St Francis Board of Trustees</u>

Kia ora St Francis whānau, 2024 is racing by and the Board would like to update you on what's been happening at school.

# **Catholic Special Character Review**

Earlier this year, we had our Catholic Special Character review, which assessed our efforts to grow and strengthen our school's Catholic identity. The report was excellent! The evaluators were impressed with our staff, students and the close relationship we have with the Parish.

Here's a snippet from the summary:

"The St Francis Leadership team are cohesive and Christ-centric, evident throughout the evaluation process and in feedback from staff, whānau and tamariki. The team and teachers are dedicated professionals, many with strong, decades-long connections to St Francis."

## **Road Closures**

We would like to acknowledge the school community for its patience and adaptability in a very challenging situation.

The walking school bus has been a real highlight, a testament to the wider school community spirit in helping our children get safely to school. Thank you to all the community members who continue to give their time to this. We look forward to AT working on our Kiss and Go area soon!

# **Property Updates**

You may have noticed the church's beautiful renovation, which is now nearly complete. Earlier this year, we also painted the school's exterior, refreshed walkways, and added fun line markings for games. Some old picnic tables have been upgraded as well.

Regarding the toilet block, we know the ongoing concerns and are taking steps, including installing industrial air fresheners, conducting plumbing checks, and soon improving drainage to address flooding. The toilets are cleaned daily. We kindly ask that students take care when using the facilities, ensuring they flush properly and keep the area tidy for everyone. We also encourage parents to talk to their children about good toilet habits, such as taking the time to flush fully, using toilet paper appropriately and washing their hands. By working together, we can help maintain a clean and pleasant environment for all students.



## Student Achievement - Mid-Year Results

Our students' mid-year results are strong, with most at or above the expected levels in reading, writing, and maths. We continue to focus on achieving 90% of students meeting or exceeding expectations by year-end, with a special focus on writing.

Mid-year results: Percentage of students <u>already at or above the expected end of year</u> level:

Reading	Writing	Maths
92%	76%	100%
93%	75%	80%
83%	76%	79%
80%	60%	71%
82%	58%	71%
86%	69%	80%
	92% 93% 83% 80% 82%	92% 76% 93% 75% 83% 76% 80% 60% 82% 58%

# Comparison with our 2023 mid-year results:

	Reading	Writing	Maths
Y2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Y3 cohort, when in Y2	80%	76%	97%
Y4 cohort, when in Y3	70%	38%	50%
Y5 cohort, when in Y4	88%	70%	76%
Y6 cohort, when in Y5	82%	82%	60%

### **Staff Celebrations**

Congratulations to Miss Neary for completing her Masters in Educational Leadership with distinction! We applied her commitment to education, which continues to benefit both our students and our broader school community. And to our staff who all recently completed the Te Kupenga Certificate Programme in interpreting the New Testament, earning high praise for their assignments.

## **Strategic Objectives**

Rebranding: With the exterior painting complete, we're ready to install new outdoor art!

Student Agency: The Special Character Review team noted strong student agency in the school, particularly in leadership opportunities and a strong sense of identity.

Mental Health & Wellbeing: We've completed a teacher workplace survey and continue to implement the Mitey program, an evidence-based approach to mental health education, with positive feedback from staff and students.

# **School Canopy Project**

Progress continues on the lower court school canopy, with a separate announcement coming soon!

# Kainga Ora Housing Update

The Kainga Ora complex near the school is nearly complete and will serve as a residence for those aged 55+. The boundary with the school has been rebuilt. An open day is happening in the near future - more details to come soon.

# **Policy Reviews**

We regularly review our school policies at each Board meeting. You can access these on our 'School Docs' website (Username: stfrancis | Password: brave). Recent reviews include the Treaty of Waitangi, Catholic Character, and Concerns and Complaints policies.

# **Board Meetings**

Our next Board meeting is on Tuesday, 24th September at 6.30pm. The school community is welcome to attend, and meeting minutes are available in the office. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Co-Chairs Caroline Botting (carolinebotting@gmail.com) or Phil Jaggard (phil@mps.net.nz).



Ngā manaakitanga, St Francis Catholic School Board of Trustees

**Grandparent's Day** - A huge thank you to Angela Franich for organising our many home bakers and the hard working ladies who worked in the kitchen serving tea and coffee to the Grandparents - Kate Hanly, Chrissy Mcskimmons, Bridget Gallagher, Donna Harris and Vanessa King. Fun, exciting stuff is always happening at school, but Grandparent's Day is definitely one of the highlights!!!

# Grandparents Day in Room 11 -





















# **Congratulations** - to the winner of the 2024 Art Exhibition:

Room 1 - Bruno Gagna Quiroga, Lucie Courian

Room 2 - Kata Martin, Max Morrison

Room 3 - Veida Cranfield, Nathaniel Silva

Room 4 - Kristine Day, Lily Cranfield, Iris Robertson

Room 5 - Di Huang, Thomas Pope

Room 6 - Finn Connellan, Reann Luis

Room 7 - Clara Thieme, Brennan Burmester

Room 8 - Zoe Reid, Leonardo Palmiro King, Emily Miln-Harris

Room 9 - Joseph Tuitupou, Jayda-Rose Olamaleva Faatoese

Room 10 - Emily Joyce, Ashley Hoi

Room 11 - Thomas Murray, Julianna Purcell

Room 12 - Aidan Chia, Maximus Vito













St Francis School Colour Run 2024 -Save the Date! We are excited to announce that St Francis will be holding a School Colour Run on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Lots more information is being sent home today - on the app and a paper copy!



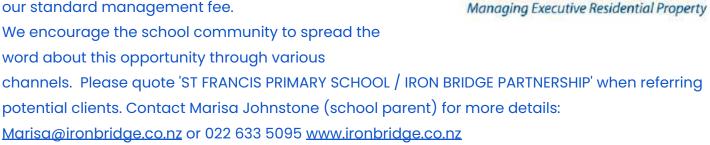
# <u>Heads up - Mufti Day next Friday</u>

**Thank you** - a huge thank you to Iron Bridge: Property Management for their donation of \$500 to our School Canopy project.

• 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



St. Francis School Dads Support Group aka Darts Night The next darts session will be on Thursday, **26 September**, from **8pm**, at the infamous Pt. Chev. Bowling Club. The quality of the darts playing maybe average, but it's awesome fun - 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 School Dads Support Group Pre-Xmas pub crawl

The highly anticipated pre-Christmas pub crawl is on Friday, 15 November, from 5pm at the Pt. Chev. Bowling Club, followed by stints at Ambler, Nomads, Cupid Bar and of course some fantastic karaoke and shenanigans at Wapiti Bar as in previous years. Please contact Stuart for details and to track where we are on the night.

St Francis School Mums Pre-Xmas get-together - Friday 29th November from 6pm @ the Auckland Irish Club, Rocky Nook Ave, Fowlds Park Morningside. RSVP to Renee Foster (Darcy's mum) on 021 176 5621 so she can reserve some tables.

# sKids After School Care and Holiday Programs - The in-house sKids

Holiday Programme will be on again these upcoming School holidays – please book early. The sKids Programme @ St Francis School is where the safety and care of your child is the number one priority. If you're looking for a safe, structured and fun environment for your children then sKids is the answer. Contact the sKids Office on 021 0251 4172, or Jackie on 021 975 642. Email:

sKids

<u>stfrancisptchev@skids.co.nz</u> Programme Hours: After School Care: 3:00-6:00pm; Holiday Programme Care: 8:00am-6:00pm.



# **Holiday HQ**

Holiday HQ the ultimate destination for kids looking for an unforgettable break from the school routine!

Holiday HQ is the ultimate destination for kids looking for an unforgettable break from the school routine. From exciting outdoor escapades to creative workshops, cooking classes and interactive learning sessions - our expert educators provide a dynamic blend of engaging activities and enriching experiences.

#### sKids St Francis Pt Chev

Phone: 021 975642 skids.co.nz

# Spring Holidays 2024

Send your child to a cosmos of creativity these school holidays!

Join us for a journey to imagination and beyond this spring. Whether you're testing your sports skills, learning magic tricks, or heading out on exciting excursions, every day is an adventure waiting to happen.

30th September - 11th October 2024





<u>School Canopy for lower courts - Ray White Point Chevalier</u> - 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.

## Dates for 2024:

- 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

# Dates for 2025:

- Term 1 Monday 3 February Friday 11 April
   Public Holidays School closed: Waitangi Day Thursday 6 February
   (Easter Holidays and ANZAC Day are in the school holidays)
- Term 2 Monday 28 April Friday 27 June
   Public Holidays School Closed: King's Birthday Monday 2 June, Matariki Friday 20
   June
- Term 3 Monday 14 July Friday 19 September (Note: there will be a Teacher Only Day on a Friday in the middle of Term 3 - Date coming soon)
- Term 4 Monday 6 October Wednesday 17 December
   Public Holidays School Closed: Labour Day Monday 27 October

<u>A message for Year 6 families - Save the Date</u> - Year 6 Graduation Mass and Dinner - Friday the 6th of December. End of Year Prizegiving at St Benedict's Church - Tuesday 17 December.

# **Coming up:**

Wednesday 11 September - Catholic Schools Cross Country @ Monte Cecilia Park
Thursday 12 September - ICS Boys Football Comp, Seddon Fields
Friday 13 September - Foodie Friday - Pizza, 2.15pm Assembly led by R1 and R2
Monday 16 September - Te Reo Maori Language Week
Thursday 19 September - Maori Mass @ Christ the King Church, ICS Girls Football Comp

Lisa Bateman <u>lisab@stfrancis.school.nz</u> or <u>principal@stfrancis.school.nz</u>







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After school care MSD Approved 3,00 - 6.00pm Mon to Fri Children safety -Holiday programme 8.00am - 6.00pm Mon to Fri

Jackie Arroyo

Children safety - Onsite care with qualified staff Venue - School half is comforting venue for the children. WINZ OSCAR Subsidy Available

For all enquiries contact: Fun - Interactive and stimulating activities, including afformoun tea and homowork assistance Sports - Kids keep fit playing soccer, rugby, cricket, basketball, badminton, and other sport activities. M 021 975 642 stfrancisptchev@skids.co.nz www.skids.co.nz/locations/st francis of chevaller

To Enrol: www.skids.co.nz & select Parent Login



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