



# 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](mailto:office@stfrancis.school.nz) | [www.stfrancis.school.nz](http://www.stfrancis.school.nz) | 2 Montrose St, Pt Chevalier, Auckland | PO Box 44177

## Confirmation Mass

Come to Jesus

Onions (a funny gift from Bishop Steve)

Now confirmed

Faith

Information about God

Respect

Moving closer to Jesus

An adult in the church

The holy spirit

Information about god

Only fun

Never give up on god

By Declan Robertson, Fletcher Talaic and Maxwell Lane



**The first week of Advent** - This Sunday is the first day of the advent season, Sunday the 1st of December. The first week of advent is all about hope, and is represented on the advent wreath by a purple candle. Hope is the foundation for our belief that Jesus comes into our hearts and the world. This first week of advent prepares us to be people of hope and believe that darkness will not prevail, but the light of the world will overcome it.



### **Selwyn Village Mass with the St Francis Ukulele and Liturgy Groups -**

What a wonderful community Mass celebration with our neighbours at Selwyn Village on Monday this week. It was well received by the Selwyn residents, who in turn loved their individual hand written Christmas Cards by our children. The gleaming smiles on the resident's faces and some with a glint of a joyful tear in their eyes, is testament to the wonderful relationship between the School and the Village. The School children were fantastic role models, practicing our school motto of "In Giving, We Receive".



### **Parish News -**

**Christmas Eve Family Mass** - The fun family Christmas Eve Mass will be at 6pm on Tuesday, 24 December, and will be presided by Father Jonathan Hurrell and children-led as in previous years. All speaking positions have now been filled, but please see Stuart on the night before Mass if your child would like to borrow a nativity costume for the Mass.



**St Francis' Superb Triathlete Team!** - Last Wednesday a group of our children from Year 1 to Year 4 headed to Mountford Park in Manurewa to represent St Francis in the South Auckland Weet-Bix Kiwi Kids Tryathlon. Many of the children had done previous events, but for three of our youngest it was their first time! The weather was four seasons in one day, which for the indoor pool swim was fine but lead to a rather slippery bike course with unfortunately lots of crashes. Thankfully all our St Francis children rode well with good control and safely made it through the 4km bike course and out onto the run.

Everyone ran strongly around the 1.5km run course and enjoyed the cheering and support to get them to the finish line to collect their well-deserved medal. What Champions they are!

Well Done to Eddie D, Finn R, Harrison S, Dominic F, Jackson M, George F, Jack M, Riley M, Lilly D, Emma S, Rose R & Jack E. Thank you to all the parents who supported our children in this great event!



The next event is Sunday 30th March 2025, and we would love for more children to join our team! Please contact Annalies at [annalies.donald@meshcosnulting.co.nz](mailto:annalies.donald@meshcosnulting.co.nz) for more info.

# Colour Run this Friday



- Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered to help.
- Children (and any adult who wants to join in as well!!!!) need to wear light, white or bright coloured clothing, no school uniforms on Friday. There will be climbing, crawling, sliding, going through water etc, so sensible clothes is a must!
- No shoes during the colour run.
- Children need to bring a sun hat, sunscreen and some children may even want to wear sunglasses or goggles (if they are worried about getting the coloured powder in their eyes).
- If you don't want very wet and colourful children to get into your car after school, we suggest a towel, little people may even want a change of clothes.
- Timeline - Year 5/6 are starting at 1.00pm, followed by the Year 3/4 classes and then the Year 1/2 classes. Teachers and parents can have a go from approximately 2.30pm, followed by an optional 'hose off dance party' with Miss Neary DJing.
- Fundraising - all money raised is going towards our "soon to be constructed" canopy over our bottom courts. If you haven't yet created a fundraising account, go to <https://schoolfundraising.co.nz/> - fundraising closes on Friday
- Prizes - any children who raises over \$10 can choose a prize - **THIS MUST BE DONE BEFORE THE COLOUR RUN** - click on the 'claim your prize' button on the fundraising website. Prizes are delivered to school before the end of the year.
- If you don't want to use the website or have family who would like to donate in a different way please see the ladies in the school office, or if you have pledged "offline funds" as well.
- While we would love everyone to help with our fundraising efforts for our canopy project, this is definitely not the purpose of the event. You do not need to contribute any money to join in on the fun.
- At the end of the day there will be ice blocks available to purchase for a gold coin. It's probably best that our little people are not running the colour run obstacle course with coins in their pocket, so parents should hold on to these until the end of the day.
- Everyone is welcome!! Parents coming to watch -the viewing area is outside Room 11 and Room 12. Please don't stand anywhere else, as you will be in the way of the course! Please stay behind to help with the pack up if you can.

**Garden to Table** - A huge thankyou to all those whanau who volunteered their time this year to help the Year 5 and 6's in Garden to Table. We couldn't run this programme without your support! We hope you enjoyed the delicious baking that came home as a thankyou last week. A special shout out to Granny Smith (Summer Lougheed's Grandmother) who helps almost every week, offering her time and expertise to all classes. Ngā mihi nui!



Well done Summer for recreating a Garden to Table scrolls recipe at home. Are there any other Year 5 or 6 students with photos of GTT at home?

### **Year 6 Writing - By Nina Brown and Georgia Lamontanaro**

Chapter Three - Into the battle - The trainer stomped into Athena and Apollo's dorm shouting "the high elf wants to see you for some reason." Apollo answered "Are you sure you're at the right dorm?" "Yes, I'm always right," snapped back the trainer. Athena walks in asking "what's going on here?" "Are you sure you want to talk to us?" Athena asks "of course, I have something very important to say to you." The high elf said "what is it?" Apollo asks "the war has started mean eons ago so I need to start sending my best troops into battle now, counting you two!" The high elf said in a worried tone. "Okay let's do this." Athena yells!!! Apollo looked like he was about to faint. Athena cries "I will call the best warriors to fight." "Take a chill pill Athena, when have you gotten so bloodthirsty?" Athena snapped back "THE DAY THEY BURNED DOWN MY VILLAGE!" Apollo steps back saying "well that's true, you have a right to be angry." "Now it is time to fight for our land! CHARGE!" Generale cries so loudly it cuts through the cool summer air and rings through the Warriors skulls. Both armies ran at each other and a bloodthirst battle was born! Athena said in a small voice "oh you're so cute I can't possibly kill you, but I can and I have to" cutting the tiny gnome in half, then a GIANT gnome stomped in front of her asking "What have you done with little buddy?" Athena pointed down to the gnome and cried "what did you do?" The gnome asked Athena, Athena said back "Kill him, like what I'm about to do to you!" slitting his throat. Meanwhile Apollo was circled by humans, in the distance he could see Athena was cutting down her opponents but then stomped in an old friend... to be continued next week with Chapter 4 - INTERNAL ENEMIES!



**Farewell** - Sadly, we will be saying goodbye this week to our much loved Year 3 teacher, Mrs Monica Bergh. After 7 years of driving all the way to St Francis and fighting the traffic, Monica has decided to work closer to home - A very sensible decision. Our loss is Oratia Primary School's gain! We wish Monica, Ira and their family all the best for the future. They will be very missed in our community. The Bergh family are off to South Africa at the end of this week, to spend Christmas with family. Mrs Pereira will be teaching in Room 7 until the end of the year.



**A message from the Garden Club** - If any St Francis whanau would like worm castings and worm wee please let the office know and the Garden Club will arrange for delivery to your child's class or for pick up from the office - \$5 for one litre, \$10 for 2 litres, \$13 for 3 litres, \$1 for a 500 gm bag of castings.

**School Fees** - Attendance Dues for Term 4 are now due. These need to be paid in full by the first week of December. You can access your statement on the School App or contact the school office for more information.

**Private Music / Instrument Lessons** - Ignite your child's creativity this school term with our in-school music lessons! In collaboration with Auckland's leading music education provider, the Music Education Centre, we have professional music lessons right at our school. Each lesson is designed to inspire and nurture your child's unique musical interests while making learning both fun and rewarding. With lessons held conveniently at school, it's an ideal option for busy families. Limited spots are available for Term 4, so don't wait!

For more information on instruments and availability, contact the Music Education Centre at 0800 89 39 39. <https://musiceducation.co.nz/>



**Parent Helpers** wanted for the School Disco early next year - 7 March 2025 TBC  
Please contact Caroline Botting if you would like to help - [carolinebotting@gmail.com](mailto:carolinebotting@gmail.com)

**St Francis Dads Support Group aka Darts Night - last Thursday of the month** - The next and FINAL darts session for 2024 will be on **THIS Thursday, 28 November**, from 8pm, at the infamous Pt. Chev. Bowling Club. The lucky winner gets to retain the trophy for a staggering 3 months given the first darts session in 2025 isn't until 27 February. 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 Mum's Pre-Xmas get-together - 29 NOVEMBER**

Not to be outdone by the Dads, St. Francis Mum's will have their pre-Christmas drinks from 6pm on Friday, 29 November, at the Auckland Irish Club, Rocky Nook Ave, Fowlds Park, Morningside. Please RSVP to Renee Foster on 021 176 5621 so she can reserve some tables.

## **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.



## **Iron Bridge - 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 022 633 5095 [www.ironbridge.co.nz](http://www.ironbridge.co.nz)



**Solace - Your Local Life Insurance Experts** - Have you still got 'Sort Life Insurance' on your To Do List for 2024? Or do you already have protection, but have been meaning to review it for a few years? It's always something that just doesn't quite make it to the top of the priority list.

Well, St Francis Catholic School is excited to share a new referral partnership programme with Solace. This is a local, family owned advisory practice run by Mike & Mareesa Connellan. The team at Solace can help advise you on policies like Life Cover, Income Protection, Health Insurance and Critical Illness cover. This is a no-obligation service that Mike will provide and there are no fees for this service.

If you (or anybody you refer) ends up taking out a protection plan following Mike's guidance, Solace will make a contribution to our St Francis School Canopy project for the covered courts.



Please spread the word on this opportunity, as we would love to ensure that our St Francis whanau are well protected from unexpected health events, as well as helping us to reach our targets for the covered courts. Contact Mike or Mareesa (parents of Finn and Archie) for more details: [mike@solacefinancial.co.nz](mailto:mike@solacefinancial.co.nz) 021 765 223 [www.solacefinancial.co.nz](http://www.solacefinancial.co.nz)  
Check out their 5 star reviews here: <https://tinyurl.com/Solacefinancial>

**Getting ready for 2025 - Back to school stationery – order now!** We've teamed up with OfficeMax to make your back to school shop super easy. And if you order in December, you'll go in the draw to WIN 1 of 5 \$1000 cash prizes\*. Your child's class list is already loaded. Just go to [myschool.co.nz](http://myschool.co.nz). Simply add your details, check that you want everything on the list, then click and confirm – and OfficeMax will get your delivery underway with free delivery on orders over \$70\*. You can pay by internet banking, credit card or debit card. Zip# is also available, so you can pay in 4 interest free payments over 6 weeks and still get your order right away. Plus, you'll be helping our school earn school rewards\* that we use to purchase much needed extra resources for our school. Quotes for WINZ are available by contacting 0800 724 440 or via email [enquiry@myschool.co.nz](mailto:enquiry@myschool.co.nz). We encourage you to order early to ensure your child has all their stationery requirements ready to go in plenty of time for the start of Term 1. So go ahead and beat the back to school rush, order today and give them the best start possible.

#Zip Pay in 4 is available to approved applicants only and subject to completion of satisfactory credit checks. For more information visit [myschool.co.nz/zip](http://myschool.co.nz/zip). T&Cs and late fees apply. Zip Co NZ Finance Limited FSP 598969.

\*T&Cs apply, see [myschool.co.nz](http://myschool.co.nz) for details.



**Dates for 2025:** (2 more government mandated Teacher Only Days to include soon)

- 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
- Term 4 – Monday 6 October – Wednesday 17 December  
Public Holidays – School Closed: Labour Day – Monday 27 October

## Coming up:

Thursday 28 November – Inner City Sports Cluster Athletics comp

Friday 29 November – Colour Fun Run from 1.00pm

Sunday 1 December – First Sunday of Advent

Friday 6 December – Year 6 Graduation Mass 5.00pm and Dinner 6.00pm

Sunday 8 December – Second Sunday of Advent

Friday 13 December – Junior Picnic at Eric Armishaw Park, Choir / Kapa Haka / Ukulele players performing at Selwyn Village from 9.30am

Sunday 15 December – Third Sunday of Advent

Monday 16 December – Visiting new classes / teachers

Tuesday 17 December – Prizegiving Mass at St Benedict's 6.00pm

**Wednesday 18 December – Last day of Term 4, School finishes at 1.00pm**

Lisa Bateman [lisab@stfrancis.school.nz](mailto:lisab@stfrancis.school.nz) or [principal@stfrancis.school.nz](mailto:principal@stfrancis.school.nz)



**Creative Matters**

# After School Art Classes

St Francis School  
Mondays and Thursdays 3-5pm

visit our website for more info and to book  
[creativematters.co.nz](http://creativematters.co.nz)



**bricks 4 kidz** ST FRANCIS SCHOOL

**AFTER SCHOOL LEGO® STEAM CLASSES**

Bricks 4 Kidz After School STEAM programmes are essential in equipping students with future-ready skills and a strong educational foundation which empowers them to excel academically and thrive in an AI-driven, technology-focused world.

**GAIN FUTURE READY SKILLS**

- STEAM EDUCATION: HANDS-ON STEAM LEARNING
- PROBLEM SOLVING
- TECHNOLOGY & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
- CREATIVITY & INNOVATION
- EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE & SOCIAL SKILLS
- IMAGINATION & SELF-EXPRESSION

**EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF INNOVATORS & PROBLEM SOLVERS**

**JUNIOR ENGINEER**  
Term 4 Topic: Prehistoric Perspectives  
History | Science | Problem Solving | Engineering skills

In Term 4, our Junior Engineers will explore Prehistoric Perspectives, transforming into historians and paleontologists while mastering hands-on engineering. Students will dive into STEAM concepts and bring history to life by building motorized models of prehistoric creatures and artists with robotic LEGO®.

**FRIDAYS**  
Junior Engineer Year 0-6  
Start date: 25 October  
Class time: 3:15pm – 4:15pm  
Location: Garden to Table  
Lesson Cost: \$28

[www.bricks4kidz.co.nz](http://www.bricks4kidz.co.nz) | 0800 LEGO 4 K | [info@bricks4kidz.co.nz](mailto:info@bricks4kidz.co.nz)

**EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF INNOVATORS & PROBLEMS SOLVERS**

RoyWhite

## RAY WHITE PT CHEVALIER

Premium service is our priority. Your locally based team bringing unmatched knowledge and a stellar track record, ensuring seamless property solutions tailored to you. Trust us for the best outcome in renting, buying & selling.



338 Pt Chevalier Road  
team.ptchevalier@raywhite.com  
www.rwptchevalier.co.nz

Lawrence von Sturmer | 027 227 9294  
Jo de Beer | 027 469 4148  
Semanie Cato | 021 803 137



**After school care** 3.00 - 6.00pm Mon to Fri  
**Holiday programme** 8.00am - 6.00pm Mon to Fri  
**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.  
[stfrancispchev@skids.co.nz](mailto:stfrancispchev@skids.co.nz)  
[www.skids.co.nz/locations/st\\_francis\\_pt\\_chevalier](http://www.skids.co.nz/locations/st_francis_pt_chevalier)

To Enrol: [www.skids.co.nz](http://www.skids.co.nz) & Select Find your local Skids



Point Chevalier Veterinary Care  
67 Pt Chevalier Road  
Pt Chevalier Auckland 1022

**Phone: 815 0696**

[www.veterinarycare.co.nz](http://www.veterinarycare.co.nz)

## "Your Friendly" Electrician

### PANCH ELECTRICAL

PO Box 44 117, Pt Chevalier  
**Web:** [www.panch.co.nz](http://www.panch.co.nz)  
**Email:** [panchelectrical@gmail.com](mailto:panchelectrical@gmail.com)

**Call Michael 021 654 999**



Help give the  
Miracle of Sight  
to children living in the  
world's poorest places.

To send a gift call  
0800 77 22 64  
or go to  
[www.cbmnz.org.nz/kyle](http://www.cbmnz.org.nz/kyle)

## GOODWINS

Getting the best price  
for your property.

That's a good win for you.

Join the  
Winners  
Circle

- Executive rentals, residential & commercial property management & residential sales.
- Trusted advisors: rent, buy sell, invest.
- 50 years in real estate, family owned & independent.

**Real Estate**  
Sales ▾ Rentals

0800 GOODWINS  
[goodwins.co.nz](http://goodwins.co.nz)

## Creative Matters

### AFTER SCHOOL ART CLASS

AT ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

MONDAYS 3-5pm  
Starting in week 2 every term



for more information and to book:  
[creativematters.co.nz](http://creativematters.co.nz)

**Your children are amazing  
already. We just help  
them prove it.**

Grey Lynn Ph 360 0816  
[numberworksnowords.com/nz](http://numberworksnowords.com/nz)

**NumberWorks  
'nWords**

TUITION  
CONFIDENCE  
RESULTS

**ENGLISH  
& MATHS**  
Free assessment  
Book now!