



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

Advent – What is Advent? Advent is a joyous season of preparation! The word itself actually derives from the Latin word meaning “coming.” During these four weeks, we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus, with prayer, meditation, and more. Celebrating Advent is a meaningful way to prepare our hearts for Christmas.



Parish News – Christmas Timetable:

- Advent Reconciliation – Tuesday 10 December 7.30pm
- Christmas Eve – Selwyn Village 3.30pm
- **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.
- Christmas Morning 9.00am

Gift Sponsorship for children at MDM Women’s Refuge (our nextdoor neighbours)– If you would like to donate a Christmas gift for the children who will be spending Christmas in a Women’s Refuge shelter, please have your gift into the Parish Office or at the back of the Church by Wednesday 18 December. Alternatively you can drop them off at the school office before the end of the school year. Please label your gifts with gender and age it is suitable for. Thank you for your ongoing generosity.

Colour Run - A huge thank you to Annalies Donald (Eddie's Mum), Claire Evans (Jack's Mum, Room 12 teacher) and their team of volunteers for the most amazing event! Everyone had a wonderful day and we raised over \$15,000 for our School Canopy Project.



As this was the first time that we have held a Colour Run we would love to have your feedback on the event / the method of fundraising / the comms etc. Link below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScuv_epjshH_v7ahbu_IIIbIINlyThd6o6wZzK025GjsyHXQ/viewform?usp=sharing

Offline Colour Run Donations – Any parents who have pledged an “offline” donation but haven’t paid yet, please do so ASAP so that we can finalise our total money raised.

Disco Fever / Colour Run by Georgia Reid from Room 3

It was Friday 8.30am and our Dojo Reward Disco was first on the schedule. Van was setting up the lights. Joy was in the air, but I was not feeling it. Why? You might ask. It is because dancing is not my thing! No one could change my mood. My friends tried and tried but I kept strong. Eventually they persuaded me. The music was loud, but not too loud to annoy me. Taylor Swift was mostly all the girls favorite, but when APT by Bruno Mars played, the whole class went crazy like a zoo! There was popcorn and marshmallows to snack on.

Now, moving forward a few hours to the Colour Run. I was excited for this event! The inflatable slide was my favourite. The seniors went first, then it was our turn. Alice got to go first because she raised the most funds. The inflatable slide was first, then there was another inflatable to get over. After that we went under a net. The net was tough! I jumped on the wood in the playground. Next we climbed up the wall in the junior playground and then went down the slide. My second favourite was the slippery slide. There were so many obstacles, but I can’t mention them all because I can’t remember them all. Lastly, we got ice-blocks. I was lucky to get McDonalds for dinner (probably because my parents were shattered from helping all day!). I wanted the grimace shake.

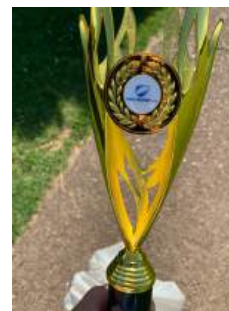


Meeting Samantha Hayes and Mike McRoberts

My Name is Alice Peterson and my Mum is Juliet Peterson. She is one of the big bosses at Warner Bros Discovery NZ and Australia. Yesterday outside her work there was an interview with Mike McRoberts as part of a gifting ceremony. He did a karakia (prayer), it was beautiful! After that there was some kai (food) and I got a christmas pie. Then I got a photo with Samantha Hayes and Mike McRoberts! It was so cool!!!



Touch Rugby – Yesterday afternoon our Year 1–2 St Francis Silver Blaster’s team took to the field for the final of the Cox’s Bay 2024 Touch Championship. Winning 6–5



against the Ponsonby Lightning bolts. A Massive Congratulations to our Champs Kayleigh, Kiki, Honor, Matea, Mila, Harper, Harrison, Tevita and Viliami.

Next Foodie Friday 13th December – Ice blocks – Orders Open Today! Our next, and last Foodie Friday for 2024 will be Ice blocks on Friday 13th December. Orders open today and close 8pm Wednesday 11th December. \$2.50 per ice block with the opportunity to also donate an ice block for another child – our aim is to get enough orders and donations so every child at St Francis can enjoy an ice block as we come close to the end of term! Junior school ice blocks will be delivered to their class trip location. Order through Kindo app or website. 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



2024 Medals – These people have handed in their Term 1 Reading Challenge Booklet, their Term 2 Maths Challenge Booklet and their Term 3 Writing Challenge Booklet. After they have handed in their Term 4 Spelling Challenge Booklet they will be on track to receive a medal at the end of the year.

- Room 2 – Jax, Gus, Natalija, Isla, Emily, Lewis, Max, Lachlan, Georgia, Oscar, Indie, Anthea, Kennedy, Louis, Khaleesi, Stella, Kata
- Room 3 – Mia, Taavi, Elspeth, Georgia, Sam, Lucy, Alice
- Room 4 – Otto, Maxwell, Xavier, Mila, Kristine, Mariann, Iris, Ciana, Georgia, Nico, Alex, Pele, Samuel, Theo, Josh, Isla, Lily, Tom, Marco, Lyla, Harrison, Leith, Cameron, Addison, Mason
- Room 5 – Gien, Keanu, Gino, Thomas, Ketan, Nina, Victoria, Frances, Dante, Declan, Edlynn, Fletcher, Jeenie, Sienna
- Room 6 – Vincent, Auri, Connie, Eden, Asger, Eddie, Eva M, Poppy, Eva P, Miles, Reann, Finn
- Room 7 – Ayden, Lochlan, Henricho, Thomas, Eliana, Bhuvanesh, Lucette, Clara, Edward, Anthea, Molly, Ranveer
- Room 8 – Emilia, Dominic, Levi, Leona, Emily, Eddie, Stella, Maeva, Flossy, Florentina, Harry
- Room 9 – Lucy, Felicity, Jack, Angelo
- Room 10 – George, Jacob, Harper, Effie, Ryley, Emily, Jeeanna, Archie, Austin, Clementine, Emilia, Rylee
- Room 11 – Sebastien, Liana, Thomas, Emma, Georgia-Rose, Jack, Mac, Katina, Evan, Finley
- Room 12 – Josh

More thank yous - A big thank you to Sergeant Johann Carolson-Lilley and Andrea Linton, parent's of Baz in Room 11, who organised the Police Helicopter and Dog Unit to visit our school. On a day that has been described as "the greatest surprise ever in history" we got to pat a retired Police Dog, watch the Police dogs do tricks and explore the Police "Eagle" Helicopter, after it landed on our school field.



Link to videos:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Ljw-IGeOHZ8UhWdINVcopOTWDVHDDeiD?usp=sharing>

A message from Auckland Transport - Late Night Road Closures in Pt Chev - We are pleased to advise that the final layer of asphalt for the following two locations is scheduled to be delivered as follows: Thursday 5th December-Tui Street to Gt North Road, and Sunday 8th December-Walker Rd to Meola Rd roundabout.

School Canopy update – it's happening!

After many years of successful fundraising, grant applications, and securing of a loan from the Diocese for the remaining shortfall (and a load of prayers), the Board of Trustees are happy to announce that we have finally managed to secure the necessary funds to enable construction of the long-awaited canopy over the 2 lower courts. There is some final documentation requiring sign-off which will be completed in the coming weeks and then construction will happen in early March.



The canopy will be a much-needed game-changer for years to come – it's so exciting that teachers and students will have a space where they can enjoy outdoor learning and activities, rain or shine.

Buddy Reading – Room 5 and Room 11 enjoy buddy reading time. The chance to read to each other is relished by us all.



Coding Robots in the Middle School –

As part of the Digital Technologies curriculum, the Year 3 and 4 students have been learning basic coding skills with robots from MOTAT. Check out this link if you are interested in finding out more about how our children work through the Digital Tech Curriculum:



<https://elearning.tki.org.nz/Teaching/Curriculum-learning-areas/Digital-technologies-and-the-technology-learning-area>

Skills of Soccer with Billy Harris - Billy is running a soccer camp just before Christmas, 18-20 Dec, 9am-midday at Okahu Bay. His classes in the school will resume Tuesday 4 Feb for the young ones, and Wednesday 5 Feb for the older kids. Text him on 0272799042 if you'd like to join either of the above.

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 - This is a friendly reminder for parents and caregivers who will be leaving St Francis Catholic School at the end of the year. Attendance Dues must be paid in full by 15 December 2024. Families who are paying by installments are exempt from paying in full by the given date, but must commit to continuing payments until the account is paid in full. Please confirm your arrangement with the school office prior to the end of the school year. Failure to pay the account in full by 15 December 2024 may result in the Attendance Dues being sent to a Debt Collection Agency (unless you contact the Principal or the Attendance Dues Office at the Diocese - 09 3603040).

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

St Francis Dads Support Group aka Darts Night - last Thursday of the month - The last darts session for the year was very well attended and won by hat-trick man Matt Brown, with the ultimate money round winner Jeremy Halpin claiming the other coveted price. The next darts session will be on 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.



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

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 021 765 223 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. 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. 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. T&Cs and late fees apply.

Zip Co NZ Finance Limited FSP 598969.

*T&Cs apply, see 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 before the end of the year:

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, Foodie Friday

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 or principal@stfrancis.school.nz



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- IMAGINATION & SELF-EXPRESSION

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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 artifacts 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
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www.bricks4kidz.co.nz | 0800 LEGO 4 K | info@bricks4kidz.co.nz

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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
www.skids.co.nz/locations/st_francis_pt_chevalier

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