



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

The Lenten Season - During Lent, Catholics often pray the Stations of the Cross, a devotional practice that commemorates the final journey of Jesus to Calvary, offering opportunities for reflection and spiritual growth. These 14 stations, typically depicted through images or art, guide us through the events of Jesus' Passion, from his condemnation to his burial.

While some of the 'stations' are sombre and sorrowful, the story of Jesus' Passion (the final events of Jesus' life) teaches our children an important lesson about dark times being followed by hope, love and celebration. The resurrection of Jesus helps us understand that faith and trust in God will bring us through the dark and difficult times in our lives too.



Stations of the Cross Stained Glass windows from The Chapel of Our Lady of Compassion in Wellington.

LENT & HOLY WEEK PARISH TIMETABLE:

- Stations of the Cross: Fridays 6:30pm 21st, 28th March & 4th April
- Lenten Reconciliation: Tuesday 7pm 1st April Rite II
- Passover Supper: Friday 11th April in the Parish Hall
- Holy Thursday: Thursday 17th April 7:30 pm followed by procession for Adoration in the Whanau Room until 9:30pm
- Good Friday: Friday 18th April 3pm
- Holy Saturday: Saturday 19th April 7:30pm
- Easter Sunday: Sunday 20th April 9am



Congratulations to the children who celebrated their First Reconciliation last week with Father John and Father Johnathan – Emilia, Ashley, Eddie, Dominic, Stella, Elspeth, Alice, Florentina, Jackson, Emily, Lucy, Leonardo, Georgia, Zoe, Finn and Florence.

Drama – The Good Samaritan Story retold by Room 11



Parish News - Donation Tax Refund Time is fast approaching - get your charitable Donations in before the end of March to recover 1/3 in the form of a Donation Tax Refund.

The **“Buy the Brick”** campaign continues in order to replenish the Parish’s building repairs & maintenance fund, as well as to fund the proposed new deck and built-in surround seating. So, be part of history, forever be immortalised and get yourself and/or your loved ones a Brick. We will be going to print with the next batch of plaques shortly (for donations of \$500+) - so please get in touch quickly with Stuart King and let him know what wording you want on it. The St. Francis Parish bank account number is: 02-0108-0707331-003 and any queries, please contact Stuart on 027 818 2403. And remember, all donations attract a 33% tax refund.

Church electric piano - After a lifetime, the Church electric piano has finally given up. We are seeking anyone who may have one lying around who’d kindly like to donate it to the Church. Please contact Stuart on 027 818 2403 if you can help.

Next Project - Decking and Seating next to the School upper court and Church. In conjunction with the Church, we are planning on decking the currently unused no-man’s land between the School upper turfed court and the Church. The plan is to have built-in bench seating around the perimeter of the deck and around the existing Kauri tree. This will utilise this great space for the School Community parents and kids as well as the Church parishioners for socialising. Accordingly, we are seeking much needed donations to fund this exciting new project, which again are tax deductible, and can take the form of a “Brick(s)” (refer above). The rudimentary picture above is a “non-artists” impression from Stuart.



Canopy Update -



Getting children to complete their learning tasks while an exciting crane is moving massive posts through the air is as difficult as it sounds!!! 😊

Garden to Table News – Our new ovens are installed! A huge thank you to the 2024 Year 6 whanau for donating two brand new ovens for future year groups to enjoy. Mrs Hanly has also started buying much needed new equipment for our Garden to Table Kitchen. Ngā mihi to those that helped with the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser. Also a huge thankyou to Archie and Finn Connellan's Grandmother Liz who donated a huge amount of equipment that was needed such as food processors, peelers, bowls, knives, whisks and sieves.



'Foodie Fridays' are back for 2025! – Foodie Fridays are back and we will be offering the ability to order slices of Domino's Pizza for lunch! An exciting lunch time treat for the children, a bonus for parents to reduce the number of lunch boxes made in a month & as a spin off that all proceeds will go towards the school's fundraising! Winning all round!

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 juice box for \$2.50, and to also 'Donate a Slice' which is an additional donation towards the school fundraising.

Pizzas will be delivered to school just before lunchtime on the Fridays, and orders will be handed out in Junior / Middle / Senior school groups by our parent helpers and Year 6 students.

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 2025 classroom. Then complete & pay for their orders. Please make sure your orders are in your children's name and not the parent/caregiver.

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

Our next 'Foodie Friday' will be on the last day of term Friday 11th April. Orders open today (Wednesday 2th April – Wednesday 9th April) via 'My Kindo'. Please make sure your child is allocated to their 2025 classroom in the app for their order to go to the right place. Orders close 8pm Wednesday 9th April. No late orders will be included.

St Francis Triathlete Superstars! – On Sunday morning before the sun had risen, our St Francis triathlon team of 30 children were organising bikes, helmets, togs, goggles and running shoes into a transition area with over 3,500 other children all excited and ready for the Weetbix Kids Tryathlon – East Auckland event. This amazing sporting event was at full capacity, and is the largest children's triathlon event in the world – what a special thing to be part of!

Our St Francis children all did exceptionally well, and represented our school with pride and showed great sportsmanship as they made their way strongly around the course. All the children crossed the finish line with massive smiles, feeling very proud of their achievement! Our families involved enjoyed connecting & celebrating at the school marquee with a fantastic BBQ very kindly arranged by Chris & Angela Franich. A huge congratulations to our fantastic St Francis Triathletes – Eddie, Dominic, Elspeth, Emily, Charlie, Isla M, Auri, Lochlan, Lily, George, Jack E, Jack M, Aine, Otto, Evan, Ethan, Jackson, Riley, Eva, Thomas P, Harper, Luca, Isla T, Finnian, Thomas JS, Jacob, Darcy and Angelo. Next event is in November – so watch this space if you want to be involved!



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.

We need a Parent Co-ordinator as well. This role just requires someone to set up the roster and to remind the parents each week. Last year we had a WhatsApp PMP group which could be a way this could work again. Please email Ms Wishart or leave your details at the school office if you can help in any way. meganw@stfrancis.school.nz

Cross Country - The annual School Cross Country is coming up early next term, on the afternoon of Thursday the 1st of May. As always, we are going to have the 'Friends of St Francis cafe' for parents. If you are interested in helping with the stall or providing home-made baking please email me - lisab@stfrancis.school.nz



Y5/6 Duathlon - The event will take place on Thursday 10th April 2025 at Walker Park. It will begin at approximately 10.00am and should be finished around 1.00pm. This will be a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their biking and running skills in a fun and supportive environment. The purpose of this event is to incorporate the recent bike skills that we have learnt through Bigfoot Adventure and to utilise this alongside some distance running, which should put us in good stead for our school cross country which will be undertaken in early Term 2.

Duathlon Parent Volunteer Assistance - We greatly appreciate any help from parents on the day to assist with marshalling, timekeeping, and general supervision. If you are available, please email olivian@stfrancis.schoo.nz by Wednesday 2nd April 2025, the more help the merrier!

[Baby chicks visit Room 3 -](#)



[Playball after school](#) - For our younger students, Playball is on every Wednesday from 3.00pm - 4.00pm. Enrolment details - <https://www.playballkids.com/index>

[Spanish lessons](#) - The Foreign Language School are wanting to continue coming to St Francis for after school classes which will be based loosely around covering the NCEA Level 1 Spanish and activities, play and games focus. Whilst the day is not confirmed yet (as they gauge interest) if you or anyone you know at the school is interested please contact José Figueira (father of Sienna and Theo) via email: josecoaching@gmail.com with your son and/or daughters names, class and age.

[Skills of Soccer with Billy Harris](#) - Lunchtime Soccer lessons with former All White, Billy Harris - Text him on 0272799042 for info and prices.

[Holiday Soccer with Billy Harris](#): 14-17 April, 9am- midday, Okahu Bay. All welcome. \$20 a day. Text Billy to enrol for some or all the days.

[Private Music / Instrument Lessons](#) - Ignite your child's creativity next 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 2025, 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/> Leaflets went home this week and are in your child's school bag.



St Francis Dads' Support Group Endless Summer pub crawl – Back by popular demand and before the end of daylight savings, the St. Francis Dads will have a pub crawl on Friday, 4 April – for all new, existing and past St. Francis Dads – everyone is invited. The fun and shenanigans will commence at the Pt. Chev. Bowling Club from 5pm, where it will be onwards and upwards to Amblers, Nomads, Cupid Bar and of course Wapiti. To find out where we are on the night and for any queries, please contact Stuart on 027 818 2403.

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 Wow those holidays whizzed past! Or did they drag on?? Either way, you've hopefully got a little more free time now to focus on life admin and getting the year off to a good start. This is the perfect time to check in on your financial goals and make sure that everything is in order. Life can be unpredictable, but having the right insurance in place can bring peace of mind knowing you're prepared for whatever comes your way. At Solace we specialise in helping families like yours find the best life cover and health insurance options to fit your needs and budget. If you're not sure where to start, or just want to review your current coverage, we're here to help! And as previously promoted, if you (or anybody you refer) ends up taking out a protection plan following our guidance, Solace will make a contribution to our St Francis School Canopy project for the covered courts which is still looking for further support. 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 our 5 star reviews here: <https://tinyurl.com/Solacefinancial>



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

- Term 1 - Monday 3 February - Friday 11 April
(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 this term -

Thursday 3 April - Year 5/6 Interschool Softball Comp - Cox's Bay

Monday 7 April - Holy Week Liturgies begin (Holy Week is actually in the school holidays this year)

Tuesday 8 April - BOT meeting

Thursday 10 April - Y5/6 Duathlon at Walker Park

Friday 11 April - 2.15pm Assembly, Foodie Friday, last day of Term 1

Coming up next term -

Monday 28 April - Start of Term 2

Wednesday 30 April - Easter Liturgy

Thursday 1 May - School Cross Country Day

Thursday 8 May - Y5/6 Interschool Cross Country Comp, Internet Safety Parent Meeting

Friday 9 May - Easter Mass

Friday 16 May - Foodie Friday

Friday 23 May - Welcome Assembly, led by R5 and R6

Thursday 29 May - Y5/6 InnerCity Swimming Comp

Monday 2 June - King's Birthday Weekend

Monday 9 June - School Photos day

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



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
www.skids.co.nz/locations/st_francis_pt_chevalier

To Enrol: 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

"Your Friendly" Electrician

PANCH ELECTRICAL

PO Box 44 117, Pt Chevalier
Web: www.panch.co.nz
Email: 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

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

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

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

Grey Lynn Ph 360 0816
numberworksnowords.com/nz

NumberWorks 'nWords

TUITION
CONFIDENCE
RESULTS

ENGLISH & MATHS
Free assessment
Book now!