

St Francis Catholic School

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



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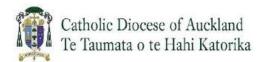
Pope Leo XIV - Last week Cardinal Robert Prevost OSA was elected the new Pope, and took the name Leo. He becomes the first North American Pope, but has spent much of his ministerial life overseas, predominantly in Peru. He is a member of a religious order - the Augustinians - and becomes the second consecutive Pope to have such a background, following the Jesuit Pope Francis.

Bless our Pope, Leo XIV. Grant him wisdom, courage, and love to



guide your Church. May he remain steadfast in your word, and may you be his strength at all times.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES - FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE





A co-operative company representing the Proprietors of Catholic Integrated Schools in the Catholic Diocese of Auckland.

Financial assistance is available to assist families who may need financial support with the payment of Attendance Dues for preference students attending both primary and secondary Catholic schools in Auckland Diocese.

Families facing financial difficulties can contact their school office, their Parish Priest, or Auckland Common Fund Ltd at the Catholic Diocese of Auckland on 09-360-3040 for further information. Application forms for this assistance are available from school and parish offices, or can be downloaded from the Catholic Diocese of Auckland Website:

https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/

Pink Shirt Day - Friday 16 May: doing our part to eliminate bullying by celebrating diversity and promoting kindness and inclusion. Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora - Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!

<u>A message from Mrs Mahoney in the library</u> - Scholastic Book Orders are due today.

<u>Parent Meeting about Internet Safety</u> - <u>A message from Andrew Cowie</u>

- Thank you again for having me at St Francis. I hope your community found it useful and informative. The students in attendance were certainly full of gusto! The parents, as per usual, were thoughtful and engaged.

Below is the PDF of slides as well as a doc of quick links and resources:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/lpGXOxR4WeDjRFZy 7D-0TVu8AgxW0rY2/view?usp=sharing

https://drive.google.com/file/d/lw5us6zC6xQ-APCnMG9keVo6XfvZLWrpL/view?usp=sharing

<u>Foodie Friday</u> -Orders close today – 8pm Wednesday 14th May for Pizzas this Friday. Please get your orders in on time.





ENTRIES NOW OPEN!!! 2025 Junior Tough Guy & Gal Challenge – Tuesday 29th July

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 29th July in in Kumeu for Year 3 and above students. Cost is \$32.50 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. (*Parents need to transport and supervise to / from and at the event in its entirety*).









<u>Inner City Auckland Sports Cluster Cross Country at Grey Lynn Park</u> - Congratulations to Posey Sullivan who came 3rd in the 9yr old Girls, and our 9yr old Boys team who also came 3rd.













Mother's Day Breakfast Shopping - Last Thursday was the day before Mothers Day Breakfast (MDB). Two year 6 students from each senior class got to go to Woolworth's across the road with Miss Neary to get the essentials for MDB. It was great to choose the items and learn about the pricing of things. Guess what? On our way out we saw Mrs Srhoj! When we came back







we delivered it all to the Whanau Room where the cold stuff went in the fridge and the cans etc. got left out and named for each class. By Alice Peterson Room 2













At Meola Creek - On Tuesday 6th of May, Room 2 went to Meola Creek near Western Springs College. The purpose of the visit was to learn about the freshwater life living in the creek. Meola creek starts at Mount Albert near the historic house called Alberten. Most people think of Meola creek as a very dirty creek. Surprisingly, it is quite clear. Lots of life lives in the creek. These are the creatures Room 2 saw: Shortfin Eels, Ancipods, Freshwater Shrimps and some kind of worm. We also did some planting for the Inanga (Whitebait) to lay their eggs on for when the full moon makes a high tide. We learnt a lot about freshwater life, what helps it, how we pollute it, but also what we can do too. By Elspeth Joyce and Zamirah Tu'ua Room 2







Cultural Week - We are in the planning stages for our yearly 'Cultural Week' celebration which we will be celebrating in Week 6 (Tuesday 3rd June - Friday 6th June). We have made the decision going forward that even years, e.g. 2026, will include a larger celebration with food afterwards and odd years, e.g. 2025, will include the Pentecost mass and a performance to finish off.

Lunchtime Cultural Workshops - Every year, we will continue to open it up to anyone from the community to share a workshop or 20-minute demonstration on an aspect of their culture e.g. singing some songs, sharing a story or showing an object important to that culture. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, for this year's cultural week please sign up on the document here. We really would appreciate if people can try and keep a relatively even split across days and please list your email and any resources you require on the sign up sheet so I can follow up with the room you will be in and make sure this is equipped with what you need.

Cultural Day Mass and Performance - As I am sure you have all heard, children are extremely busy practising at Morning Teas and Lunchtimes for the performance on Friday 6th June and we look forward to hosting this for the first time under the canopy. Throughout the cultural week, we encourage and welcome children to wear cultural dress, but in particular on Friday 6th June. The Pentecost Mass will begin at 9.15am followed by a long morning tea to get children dressed into costume if needed.

We will aim to begin the performance at around 11am to give us enough time to get children changed. We would really appreciate it if parents would help us with getting children changed during the extended break as we are aware this may be time-consuming.

As always this is an event in the calendar that the whole community looks forward to and we are looking forward to yet another exciting year. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on olivian@stfrancis.school.nz Ngā mihi, Olivia Neary





Safety Concerns

- Please don't turn into driveways on Montrose Street. We have had many near misses with cars swinging into driveways to turn away and almost hitting children walking to / from school. Turn at the bottom of Montrose Street.
- Please don't block our neighbours' driveways. I often get phone calls or emails
 from our neighbours when a car blocks their driveway and they can't get in / out.
 They often send me photos of the offending cars and then I have to go and speak
 to those parents very embarrassing!
- Please sign your children out at the office if they are leaving school early. We
 need to know that our children are safe and cared for at all times, so they must be
 officially signed out. This even needs to happen on special occasions e.g. if your
 child goes home early after Cross Country.

St Francis Dads' Support Group aka Darts Night - last Thursday of the month -

Due to School Holidays, the next stupendous darts session will be on Thursday, **29 May**, at the Pt. Chev. Bowla from 8pm. Contact Stuart on 027 818 2403 to join the Dad's Whatsapp group.

<u>Playball after school</u> - For our younger students, Playball is on every Thursday from 3.00pm - 4.00pm. Enrolment details - https://www.playballkids.com/index

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

Free Cafe Vouchers for Secondary School young women – Not that our young women need any encouragement, but we are offering a \$25 cafe voucher per term to all secondary school young women that complete a minimum of 10 Service Hours for our Parish per School Term. This can take the form of altar serving, being a Reader at Mass or running the Children's Liturgy on Sundays (with oversight by an adult(s) and full instruction and access to materials provided). Running Children's Liturgies earns a whopping DOUBLE service hours. Parents can reach out to Stuart on 027 818 2403 for those interested.

Private Music / Instrument Lessons – 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.



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 Whilst our area of specialty is insurance, we can also assist any families who need advice on mortgages. We work alongside a number of fantastic local Mortgage Advisers who can provide free, no-obligation advice to our St Francis whānau. For anyone working hard to buy their first home, there are a number of tips that we can provide, as well as potential



pitfalls to avoid. And for any of you who are already home owners, if your mortgage is approaching the end of its fixed term, it's a great time to look at your options, as a number of the banks are offering great incentives for new customers.

And as previously promoted on the insurance side, if you (or anybody you refer) ends up taking out a new mortgage following our guidance, we will make a contribution to the school for any new projects, now that the covered courts have been completed. Please spread the word on this opportunity, as we would love to ensure that our St Francis whānau continue to be well protected and are getting the best financial advice possible. 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

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

- 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 next term -

Friday 16 May - Foodie Friday, Pink Shirt Day

Tuesday 20 May and Wednesday 21 May - Junior School Art Trip

Friday 23 May - 2.15pm Welcome Assembly, led by R5 and R6, Canopy Opening 3pm

Monday 26 May - Wednesday 28 May - Y1/2 Stepping Out NZ Police safety

programme

Tuesday 27 May - Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday 29 May - Y5/6 InnerCity Swimming Comp, Ascension Thursday

Monday 2 June - King's Birthday Weekend - No School

Tuesday 3 June - Friday 6 June - Cultural Week

Thursday 5 June - Y5/6 Inner City Rugby League Comp

Friday 6 June - Pentecost Mass, Cultural Performance

Monday 9 June - School Photos day, Y5/6 Proclaiming the Word Comp

Friday 13 June - 2.15pm Assembly, led by R3 and R9, Foodie Friday

Wednesday 18 June - 6.00pm Pasifika Mass @ Grey Lynn, Y3/4 trip to the Zoo

Thursday 19 June - Mid Year Reports sent home

Friday 20 June - Matariki Public Holiday - No School

Tuesday 24 June - Parent Interviews, Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday 25 June - Parent Interviews

Friday 27 June - Last day of Term 2, 2.15pm Assembly, led by R1 and R8







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We Care When You Can't Be There

After school care | MSD Approved 3.00 - 6.00pm Mon to Fri Holiday programme 8.00am - 6.00pm Mon to Fri

Jackie Arroyo Sports - Kids keep fit playing soccer, rugby, cricket, basketball, badminton, and other sport activities.

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

M 021 975 642 stfrancisptchev@skids.co.nz www.skids.co.nz/locations/st_francis_pt_chevalier

To Enrol: www.skids.co.nz & Select Find your local Skids



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