



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

Parish News - Father John's Tree Planting Ceremony

- There was a great turnout at the tree planting last Sunday to celebrate both the St Francis of Assisi Feast Day and 50 years of ordination of



Father John. Father John said a lovely prayer prior to placing a few spadefuls of soil under the new Flowering cherry tree, which symbolises renewal and hope. We are happy to report the tree has survived and continues to thrive.

Social get together after Saturday night vigil Mass - A fun night and catch-up was had by all last Saturday following Mass at the Point Chevalier Bowling Club. The next session will be held on **22 November** from 6:30pm. People can carpool to the Club from the Church. This invite is open to all Parishioners and not just those attending Mass on Saturdays. Please contact Stuart on 027 818 2403 should you be interested in attending in order for him to book tables.



Welcome Mass (with chocolates) for new New Entrant St Francis children: With Father John's triumphant return from his galavanting overseas trip, we will resume the Welcoming Mass for all new New Entrants at 9am Mass on Sunday, 2 November. Personalised invitations will be sent home to New Entrant families next week.

Update on the Decking and Seating Project next to the School upper court and Church – The deck project is progressing well – there will be built-in bench seating around the perimeter of the deck and around the existing Kauri tree. We expect construction to conclude in the coming months – watch this space.



NZEI Teacher's Strike Day - Thursday 23 October

As you would have heard recently in the media, the Primary School Teachers Union (NZEI), along with health and trade sector union members, have voted to strike on Thursday the 23rd of October due to unsatisfactory Collective Agreement bargaining.

A majority of our teachers will not be at school on this date and will instead attend protests. If you are able to keep your child / children home on this day it would be very appreciated. If not, there will be a small number of teachers and support staff at school to supervise the children for the day (similar to what we did during COVID).

While this is a disruption to learning, St Francis Catholic School completely supports our colleagues with their industrial action. Increasing work conditions for teachers (and other sectors) isn't just warranted, it's a strategic investment in the future of our communities.

As advertised in previous school newsletter:

- Thursday the 23rd of October – Strike Day – School open for limited supervision only, with significantly reduced staffing.
- Friday the 24th of October – Teacher Only Day (School Closed)
- Monday the 27th of October – Public Holiday – Labour Day (School Closed)

If you are going to be sending your child / children to school on the strike day could you please fill out this form so that we can ensure there is enough staff for safe supervision ratios:

<https://forms.gle/nCSUELhjS3yzCrwU6>

Thank you for your support in this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to pop in for a chat or alternatively you can email - lisab@stfrancis.school.nz or principal@stfrancis.school.nz

Market Fair Raffle Winners -

- Food Raffle - Sebastian from Room 1
- Food Raffle - Emily from Room 4
- Sports Raffle - Vinnie from Room 2
- Arts Raffle - Eliana from Room 8

St Francis Dads' Support Group aka Darts Night - St Francis Dads'

Support Group aka Darts Night - last Thursday of the month The next stupendous darts session will be on Thursday, **30 October**, at the Pt. Chev. Bowla from 8pm. All Dads are very Welcome - no darts experience is necessary given the majority of us are woeful. Contact Stuart on 027 818 2403 to join the Dad's WhatsApp group.



St Francis Dads' Support Group infamous early Christmas Pub Crawl - Back by popular

demand, the St. Francis Dads will have a pub crawl on Friday, 21 November - 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 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.



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

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>

Sponsorship Partnership Opportunity

We have recently been approached by a non-St. Francis builder offering to give the School 1% of the job value of any projects signed-up by anyone associated with St. Francis School. This would be a great fundraiser for the School to enable us to fund new sports/playground equipment, uniforms, etc. Before we accept this offer of collaboration, we wanted to see if any builder/other supplier within our St. Francis community wanted to offer something similar. Should you be interested, please contact Lisa Bateman.

Sponsors on the last page of the newsletter – We are looking for support – We will shortly be renewing the adverts for our newsletter sponsors page. Should you, or anyone you know, like to place an advertisement in the school emailed newsletter please contact Craig or Jeanette Neeve of Newsletters Unlimited, ph 021 535308, or (09) 817 3867, or email newsletters@xtra.co.nz. This is a great way to keep your business in front of the local community and also help our school.

Dates for 2025:

- Term 4 – Monday 6 October – Wednesday 17 December **Teacher Only Day – Friday 24 October**. Public Holidays – School Closed: Labour Day – Monday 27 October

Dates for 2026: (a couple of Teacher Only Days sometime in Term 3 and 4)

- Term 1 – Tuesday 3 February – Thursday 2 April. Public Holidays – Waitangi Day: Friday 6 February, Good Friday: Friday 3 April.
- Term 2 – Monday 20 April – Friday 3 July. Public Holiday – ANZAC Day: Monday 27 April, King's Birthday: Monday 1 June.
- Term 3 – Monday 20 July – Friday 25 September.
- Term 4 – Monday 12 October – Wednesday 16 December. Public Holiday – Labour Day: Monday 26 October.

Coming up this term -

Friday 10 October – Foodie Friday

Wednesday 15 October – Friday 17 October – Year 6 Camp

Thursday 16 October – Y5 Basket Competition, National ShakeOut Day

Monday 20 October – Y6 St Peter's Boys orientation day

Thursday 23 October – NZEI Primary Teacher's Strike Day

Friday 24 October – Teacher Only Day – School closed

Monday 27 October – Labour Day – School closed

Tuesday 28 October – BOT meeting

Wednesday 29 October – St Mary's girls orientation day

Friday 31 October – Welcome Assembly 2.15pm

Friday 7 November – Year 6 Bake Sale

Friday 21 November – Assembly 2.15pm

Sunday 23 November – Confirmation Mass 9.00am

Tuesday 25 November – BOT meeting

Sunday 30 November – First week of Advent

Tuesday 2 December – Music Show 9.30am

Friday 5 December – Foodie Friday, Year 6 Grad Mass and Dinner

Sunday 7 December – Second week of Advent

Friday 12 December – Assembly 2.15pm

Sunday 14 December – Third week of Advent

Tuesday 16 December – Prizegiving Mass at St Benedict's Church, Y6 visit the Auckland Cathedral and St Ben's Church

Wednesday 17 December – Last day of school – school finishes at 1.00pm

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

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMME
Creative Art Workshops

led by experienced educators and artists from our award-winning organization, we deliver hands-on educational and experiential programs that grow creativity, confidence, and a love for learning.

St Francis School - Garden to Table Room
Mondays - Term 4 2025 (4W 2)

FOR YOUNG ARTISTS CREATIVES
ages 6-13 | From 3-5 PM

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IT'S CONVENIENT!

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RoyWhite

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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



We Care When You Can't Be There

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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Veterinary Care™ Point Chevalier

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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

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Grey Lynn Ph 360 0816
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