



# St Francis Catholic School

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## **Year 5/6 students - 'TE ARATAKI TEAM' - TAKE OVER THE NEWSLETTER!**

*You will notice a slight change in the newsletter's content over the next three weeks. Rooms 2, 4, and 5 are giving Mrs Bateman some time off from completing the newsletter, and we will be adding to it ourselves!! This week, Room 5 will be sharing some bits in the parish news. Room 4 has shared their own work on Psalms, as well as interviewing some of our Year 6 leaders. Room 2 will be giving you an update on what's coming up over the next week, alongside some St Francis 'Sports news' and puzzles and a fun page!*

**Selwyn Village Mass** - By Veida Cranfield, Room 5 - On Monday the 10th of November Room 5 went to Selwyn Retirement Village. I think the elderly people really liked us visiting them! They were so lovely and kind. I loved the songs we had to sing, they sounded really nice and also the chairs they had there were really comfortable. It was really cool walking there because there was so much fun stuff to look at. Also, there were so many beautiful flowers to smell. My buddy on the walk there and back was Emilia. The lady Emilia and I were sitting next to was called Rosheed. She had a big bucket of joy inside of her. It was so nice sitting next to her.



**Father John's visit to Room 5** – By Lillian Day – On Tuesday 11th of November Father John visited Room 5 to join our morning prayers and tell us what the 'Liturgy of the Hours' was. For the people who don't know what the 'Liturgy of the Hours' is, it's a chunk of prayers made mainly out of psalms. Usually, they are commonly used by monks, nuns and priests for them to pray every few hours in a day, but Father John said anyone can do it nowadays. We loved how he shared all his knowledge about the liturgy of the hours with us. Thank you Father John!

### **Calendar Art**

The students have been busy creating art work that can be made into affordable Calendars, Cards, Diaries, Mouse Mats and Sketch Pads. Each product is made from your own child's art. These make unique Christmas gifts for family and friends and are perfect for posting overseas. All funds raised go towards paying off our small canopy loan.



### **Follow these instructions to place your order online:**

1. Go to [www.kidsartworks.com](http://www.kidsartworks.com)
  2. Use the Entrance Code: KZ1034
  3. Enter your child's room & name when prompted
- Payment can be made over the website via credit card or account2account.

### **Term 4 - Hats and sandals time**

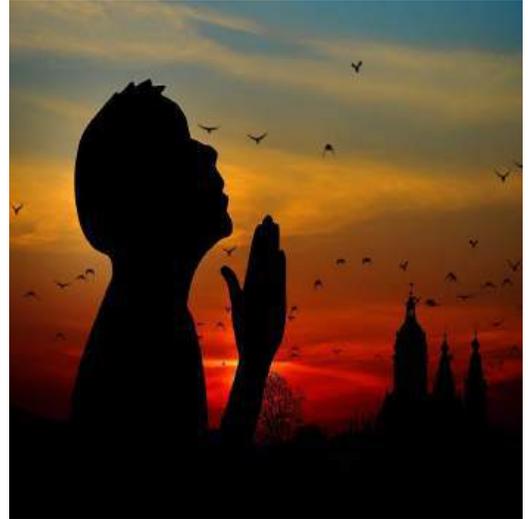
No hat, no play

Black school sandals, no more school shoes and socks.



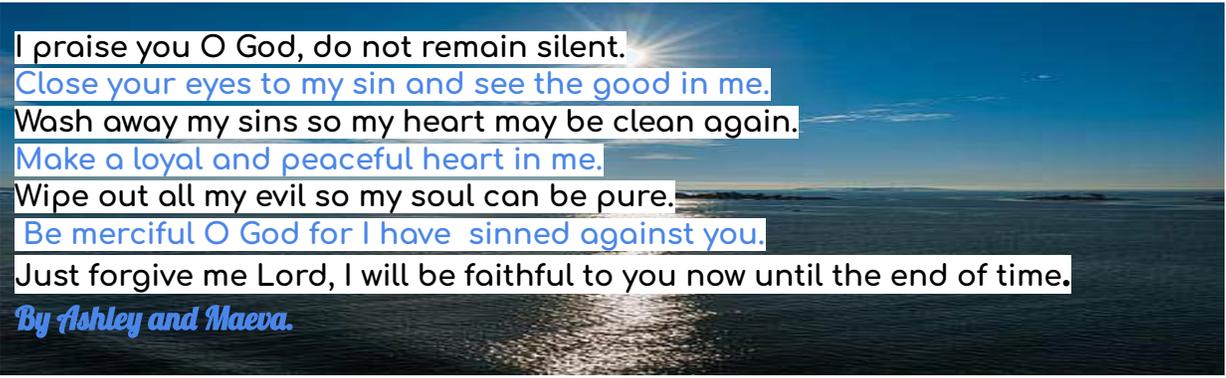
**Room 4 Psalms** – Psalm 151 Lament - by Dominic and Ryder

1 Lord don't be angry, how long will I sin, how much longer will you forget me?  
2 I have cried deeply for help .  
3 How long will you wait to help me?  
4 Come rescue me lord save me from my death.  
5 In the world of death you are not remembered no one can praise you down there.  
6 I am worn out with grief every night.  
My bed is damp from my weeping and my pillow is soaked with tears.



**Psalm 108** is a **Psalm of Trust, praise, and confident appeal to God for victory.** It is actually a combination of passages from two earlier psalms—**Psalm 57:7–11** and **Psalm 60:5–12**—woven together.

Our Psalm of Lament



I praise you O God, do not remain silent.  
Close your eyes to my sin and see the good in me.  
Wash away my sins so my heart may be clean again.  
Make a loyal and peaceful heart in me.  
Wipe out all my evil so my soul can be pure.  
Be merciful O God for I have sinned against you.  
Just forgive me Lord, I will be faithful to you now until the end of time.  
*By Ashley and Maeva.*

Our psalm is a Psalm of Lament, lament means sadness. When the holy temple stood in Jerusalem, the Levites would sing and play music, psalms to be exact. There was a special chapter for each day of the week.

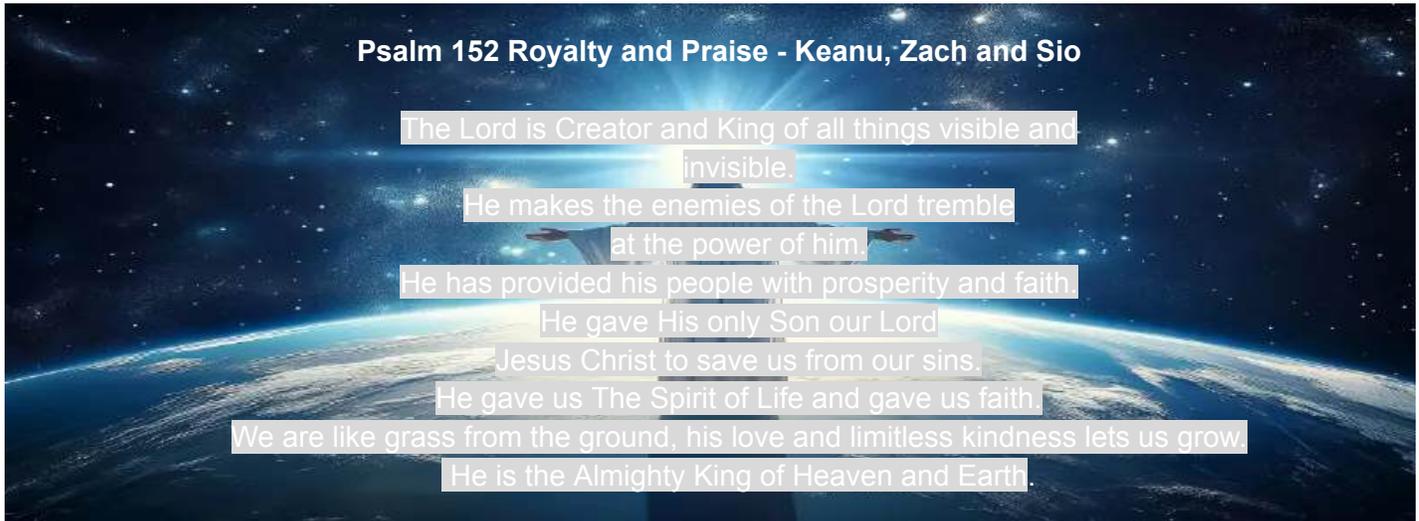
A Psalm of Thanksgiving

Thank you Lord for giving me love, hope and peace.  
Thank you for giving me life.  
Thank you Father for all of my family and friends.  
We thank you that we have a home to live in.  
We thank you Lord for giving us strength when we need it.  
Thank you Lord for helping me when I'm struggling.  
Please continue to help me everyday  
We thank you and we love you O Lord.

AMEN

By Georgia and Aishah

Our psalm is a psalm of thanksgiving. Did you know that some priests and religious pray a prayer called this Liturgy of the Hours every day in the morning?



Most of the psalms in the Old Testament are written by King David, the rest are written by unknown poets.

### **An interview with...**

Some of Room 4 interviewed Year 4's about how they feel about joining Te Arataki, the Senior School.

### **We asked Tobias, Poppy, Riley & Elegra some questions.**

Riley 1:What are you looking forward to next year? Genius Hour the most.

2:What was your favourite thing in year 4? We like Maths.

3:Are you going to sign up for any inner city sport, if so which one? Definitely netball.

4:Why are you looking forward to being in year 5 next year? Because of all the new activities they do.

### **Georgia Room 4 with Eliana Room 8**

1. Q: What activities are you looking forward to the most in Te Arataki? A: Going to Camp Adair and running the Market Fair!
2. Q: Are you nervous to be a school leader? Why or why not? A: No it's like middle school but at a higher level.
3. Q:What inner city sports do you want to take part in? A: Running, Netball and Athletics!
4. Q: What year 5+6 extracurricular activities are you excited for? A: I really like cooking so I'm looking forward to trying all the lovely food we'll make at Garden to Table.

## **Year 6 Leaders interview by Tom, Leonardo and Lachlan Room 4**

What are your names? Declan. Max M.Sam.

What are your leadership jobs and what do you like about them?

- I'm an Office Saint, I like talking to interesting people on the phone.
- Sports, I like it because the jobs are fun.
- Mediator as I get to help kids.

What do you like most about St Francis Catholic School, and why?

- Mr Wright because he's fun.
- The homework is easy.
- Camp and Garden to Table have been my favourite activities.

How do you feel about going to a different school next year and what do you think you will enjoy the most?

- I'm feeling good because I'm going to be with my brother.
- Nervous because it's a big school.
- Happy and sad. Sad because I will leave my friends but happy, as I can try something new.

## **St Francis Sport News - Athletics Intercity trials By Jackson and Zamirah (Room 2)**

On Thursday all of the year five and year six children went to Walker Park to try out for Athletic's day intercity. There were lots of sports that we had to do and we're going to rate the sports for you.

*Shotput 6/10*

I rate shot put a 6/10 because when you throw it, the shot put does not go that far. Even if you try to throw it it won't go that far. *Highjump 2/10*

I rate the high jump a 2/10 because it gave me a big bruise. *100m sprints 1/10*

I rate the 100 m sprint 1/10 because it was so hard that I didn't make it to the end. *200 metre sprints 4/10*

I rate the 200 m sprint 4/10 because I came second to last and I only came second to last because Keanu was running so silly. *Long jump 5/10*

I rate the long jump a 5/10 because my feet did not slide as far as the judges thought it did because they do not rake the sandpit after each person has jumped.

## **Te Arataki Class Competitions by Declan, Gino & Marco**

My hands shaking, heart pounding, feet trembling. As the whistle blows..... Start! The ball gets thrown up its a fair matchup 2 of the tallest players on both teams fight for the ball, quickly our teams tall player snatches the ball as soon as it is head height above them, they pass the ball to the person on the left hand side, then the moment I have been hoping for, the ball is softly passed into my hands I juke one of there players im at the 3 point line I shoot.. the ball hits the backboard and starts rolling circles on the rim the crowd goes silent..Then I heard a silent noise, "swish."

The crowd goes abominable; the game is tied. The opposition huddles and makes a scheme to win the game and be crowned champions of the basketball class competition. But we also have our tricks, we send a player straight by the hoop we block a shot and instantly yank it up to the enemy's hoop area, but there is a problem the tallest player on the enemy team is in the way, our player does a fake shot, sending the enemy flying to the moon and comes back crashing into the floor. I shout out 15 seconds left till the game ends. Our player shoots from the 3-pointer zone, but it luckily misses. Our tallest player comes in with 3 seconds left on the clock and miraculously dunks to claim the basketball class championship game. The crowd goes untamedly wild. I can feel the sweat dripping down from my forehead to my toes. I wiped the sweat off, but it's still pouring off. Finally, we achieved the win over room 5. My friend comes up to me after the game. He says, 'Amazing, you did so well.' This is the class competition. Years 5 and 6 participate in these events during lunchtimes because, as the year comes to an end and everyone is getting tired of schoolwork, the class competitions help save everyone from boredom. The sports are football, netball, and basketball. Maybe this will be you in a few years' time!

### Te Ako Māori Word of the week:

*Parakuirī (breakfast)*

#### **Puzzles & Fun** Slang words quiz

Are your kids always saying words like "slay" or "67" well Do you know what they mean? Take the quiz to find out!

1. What does slay mean?
2. What does 67 mean?
3. What does rizz mean?
4. What does pookie mean?
5. What does skibidi mean?
6. What is brainrot?
7. What does preppy mean?

Answers to slang words quiz:

1. Amazing.
2. It does not mean anything , you just say it.
3. You are cool.
4. Best friend.
5. It does not mean anything , you just say it.
6. Things have taken your brain!
7. Amazing, slay.



## Jokes by Mia, Caio & Alex Room 2

- Q : Santa asked Mrs Clause, who makes the best Christmas jokes?

A : The Reindeers because they slay!

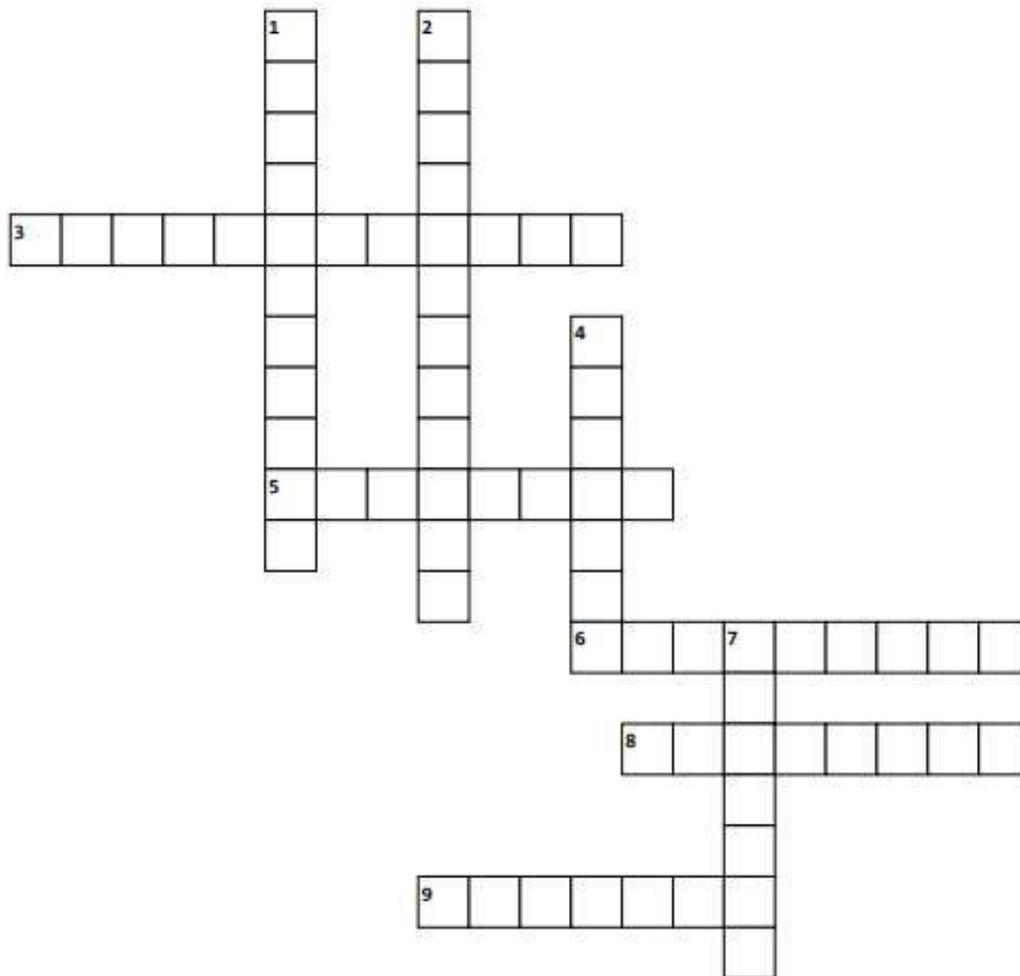
- Q : What did the O say to the other O?

A : "Oh hi O!"

- Q:What do ginger men need when they break their legs?

A:Candy canes!

## Events Crossword - By Finn & Eddie Room 8



### Across

3. What is happening on Friday 5th December?
5. Where we see Jesus born?
6. What is happening on Friday 5th December?
8. What are we doing on Friday 28th November?

### Down

1. What is happening on Tuesday 16th December?
2. What is an event on Sunday?
4. What is the best day at school?
7. What goes home on Monday?

**St Francis Dads' Support Group aka Darts Night** - last Thursday of the month. A reminder that the next and FINAL stupendous darts session for the year is on Thursday, 27 November, from 8pm, at the Pt. Chev. Bowling Club. The more the merrier. The winner gets to hold the trophy for a staggering 3 months given we don't start back at darts till February - you can imagine the gloating rights. It's all to play for! 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.

**Yet another Dad's session** - Golf this time! As a result of an unscientific poll taken last week at Darts, it was decided the St. Francis Dads deserve to have a golf session (accompanied by drinks). The shambolic affair will be held at 2pm on 20 February at Chamberlain public Golf course. It's a while away, but best to put it in the diary now so the fun won't be trumped by work or family. It's got "working from home" that afternoon written all over it.

The plan is to play 9 holes Ambrose, which for those not in the know, means it will be a golf team format where all players on a team tee-off, and the best shot is selected for the team to play their next shot from. In short, it means muppets can play and no golf experience is required. Green fees for 9-holes is \$20 per person. Please RSVP to Stuart on 027 818 2403 so we can track numbers and in order for him to give the Golf Course a heads-up. The more the merrier.

**St Francis Dads' Support Group infamous early Christmas Pub Crawl** Friday, 21 November -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.

**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.

**What's on this Week?** By Elspeth, Gien and Victoria (Room 2) and pictures by Alice, Georgia, Emily & Riley (Room 2)

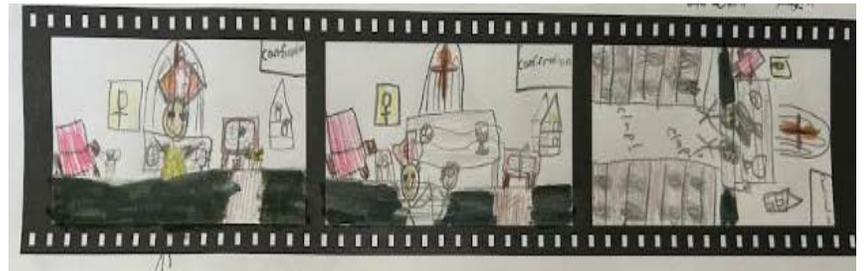
### Friday- Assembly

Come to the assembly as your child/children perform and shine. This Assembly is run by Room 7 and 12 as they are cooking up a good show to perform to the whole school! Good luck room 7 and 12!



### Sunday- Confirmation

Some children from our school are being confirmed this Sunday. Congrats to all the kids who are doing confirmation. The bishop is also coming, so we all hope he likes our school updates! Next year the sacramental programme is also on, so if you want your child or children to participate, they are welcome.



### Monday- End of year reports

Do you want to know if your child has been good this year? Well, that is what end-of-year reports are for, your child/childrens teacher has been watching them like a hawk, so it's time to find out if your child/children are on the naughty or nice list. Lets see if your child/children has been lying to you.

Another thing on Monday is the ukulele players performing at Selwyn Village, a retirement home. The ukulele players have been practicing hard using their blood sweat and tears for some weeks now, it's time for them to show what their real skills are. Good luck ukulele players!

### Tuesday - Last board meeting for 2025

Big shout out to all the parents who have been on the board this year, thanks a lot! Our school couldn't survive without you guys. Another big thank you! This is the last board meeting, so make sure you're there.



### Coming up this term -

Friday 21 November - 2.15pm Assembly

Sunday 23 November - 9.00am Confirmation Mass

Monday 24 November - End of Year Reports go home this week, via the school app, Ukulele players visiting Selwyn for Mass

Tuesday 25 November - Last BOT meeting for 2025

Thursday 27 November - Inner City Sports Cluster Athletics

Friday 28 November - After school performances at Selwyn for the Kapa Haka group, the choir and the ukulele players

Sunday 30 November - First week of Advent

Tuesday 2 December - Music Show 9.30am (Franciscan College for Australia touring schools)

Wednesday 3 December - Junior School trip to Eric Armishaw Park

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

Sunday 7 December - Second week of Advent

Friday 12 December - Christmas Walking School Bus, Assembly 2.15pm, Nativity Play

Sunday 14 December - Third week of Advent

Monday 15 December - Children visiting 2026 classes

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

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**Jackie Arroyo**  
**M 021 975 642**

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**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.  
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