



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 - The Term 1 Welcome Mass is this Sunday at 9.00am, to welcome our new students into the Parish of St Francis and St Therese. Thank you to those families who have RSVP'ed.

Lenten Talks with Fr Gerhard Hattingh begin tonight - Fr Gerhard will be with us again from South Africa in the coming weeks and is an expert on Scripture. He will be holding Lenten Talks for anyone interested. Every Wednesday from 25th Feb, 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th March. 7-8pm in the Church.

The Friends of St Francis - This is our PTA group, the group of parents and community members that run fundraisers and community events for our school. They are also involved in helping with pastoral care, 2nd hand uniforms and welcoming/supporting new families. In the past, this group had a leader, a budget and regular meetings, nowadays with pressures on parents working full time, this isn't a sustainable model. Instead members of the Friends of St Francis volunteer for one or two jobs throughout the year via the google doc below. Any one can join the Friends of St Francis, and any one can put their names down for a role. There is no pressure, but we would love your involvement.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1noNRKdBFWsDdjC8fDgKaNLzZD0yMQQBeRrGJAr23UcQ/edit?usp=sharing>

Please add your name to any volunteer roles that you would like to participate in. If you are interested in running an event or a fundraiser please add it to the google doc, and we will look into whether that will work for our community. We are open to your ideas!

Meal Train – If you would like to support our school community, please consider joining the St. Francis Meal Train Group.



At different moments in life – welcoming a new baby, facing illness, grieving a loss, managing work travel, or going through family changes – even small acts of kindness can mean so much. Providing a simple meal can ease the pressure on a family and remind them they are not alone. How it works:

- We use a free website (mealtrain.com) to organise meals.
- When a family needs support, a link is emailed to the group.
- You can choose a date that suits you and note what meal or baking you'd like to provide.
- Home-cooked, store-bought, fresh, or frozen meals are all gratefully received.
- Details such as dietary needs and drop-off information are included.
- Families can remain completely confidential.

There is no pressure to help every time – you can contribute whenever it suits you. If you need support, please contact Lisa Bateman directly. Our St. Francis community is here to help you and your children during challenging times. If you would like to join the group or have any questions, please contact Donna Harris (Emily, Year 6) at dharris123@xtra.co.nz.

Yummy Fruit Stickers – Dear families, this year St Francis will participate in the Yummy Fruit Stickers Promotion. This is a great way for the school to access a share of free sports equipment given away by Yummy. You can learn more about it on their website. The intent is to have all of you as part of the promotion by collecting as many Yummy Fruit stickers as possible. The more you collect, the more sports gear the school will get, so get going and start collecting your Yummy cut-out labels and stickers now! Ask your friends and families to collect the stickers for you too. Yummy Apples are available from New World, PAK'nSAVE and participating Four Square stores. In addition to Yummy Apples, the sticker collection includes Yummy stone fruit such as Nectarines, Peaches & Plums.



How to Collect : Purchase Yummy fruit, either bags with cut-out labels or individual fruit with Yummy stickers. One cut-out label is worth 10 fruit stickers. Place the Yummy stickers on Sticker Collection Sheets and the cut-out labels on Cut-Out Label Collection Sheets. There are two options for Yummy Fruit sticker collection. If you're collecting individual stickers, print out this collection sheet.

https://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Sticker-Collection-Sheet-2024_NE_W_upload.pdf

If you're collecting the Yummy apple bag labels, print out this collection sheet.

https://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/SSP-pdf_Cut_Out_Label_Collection_Sheet_compressed.pdf

If you cannot print the Sticker Collection Sheets, no problem, just place the stickers neatly on a A4 sheet and we will sort them out later. Once completed, please return them to the school office.

We'll collect the sheets in Term 3. Ade Dallimore is the co-ordinator for this year. Please contact Ade on 021 027 40815 or email adenisel@live.com if you have any questions.

How great to see so many kids wheeling to school on Monday. Keep it up St Francis School! →→→→→→→→



Room 8 visit the Marae – Yesterday Room 8 visited the Mangere Mountain Education Center. Here are some photos of their fabulous day.



Upcoming visits – R3: Monday 2 March, Room 5 and 7: Tuesday 3 March, Room 1, 9 and 10: Tuesday 10 March, Room 11 and 12: Wednesday 11 March

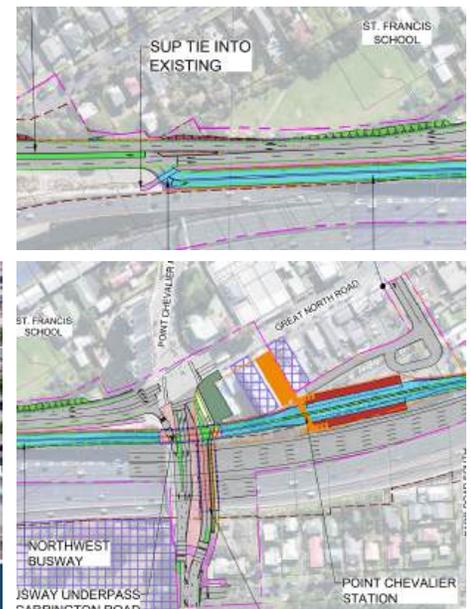
Congratulations – to Felicity Pederson, Milana Aumua, Ruby-Leigh Lotima, Zoe Hamilton and Alice Williams who are performing in Disney's The Little Mermaid, with the National Youth Theatre, at the Kiri Te Kanawa Theatre, Aotea Centre this June, 2026.



Borrowing wetsuits for Beach Education – The Year 6 students will soon be heading on their annual Beach Education trip. On Wednesday 11th of March we plan to learn lots about water safety at Muriwai Beach. For this students are expected to wear a wetsuit to prepare them for the ever-changing conditions on the west coast.

If any parents or anyone in the wider community are willing to lend any wetsuits that they won't be using during the week of the trip could you please contact Olivia Neary if you think you can help out with this. olivian@stfrancis.school.nz Your help with this is greatly appreciated!

Clarification of public information – you may have seen that NZTA have applied for approval for the Northwest Busway which will provide a busway down the NorthWestern Motorway from Brigham Creek to the city center. The timeframe for this project is 2025 – 2035. This project will have some impact on our school, likely in 5 – 7 years, with part of our school field being used temporarily during construction as a staging area for machinery. In addition,



a very small part of our property boundary will be purchased by NZTA. This land belongs to the Auckland Catholic Diocese and will have very limited impact on our school grounds.

<https://www.greaterauckland.org.nz/2026/02/25/nw-busway-fast-track-application/>

Extra Curricular Activities –

- Skills of Soccer with Billy Harris – Lunchtime Soccer lessons with former All White, Billy Harris – Text him on 0272799042 for info and prices.
- Term 1 After School Art Classes – We're excited to kick off Term 1 from the 2nd Week of Term with our new theme: Abstracted. Inspired by abstract art, children will explore how artists use shape, colour, form and expressive mark-making to communicate ideas and feelings – without needing to create a "perfect" picture. It's all about experimentation, confidence, and creative freedom. Our after school sessions are screen-free, hands-on, and designed to

nurture creativity, problem-solving, and self-expression – while building confidence week by week. New to Creative Matters? We offer a single FREE trial class for new after-school students. Love it? Sign up for the term. To book a free trial: admin@creativematters.co.nz
<https://www.creativematters.co.nz/after-school-art-classes>

- Music lessons right at school – Personalised lessons designed to support your child’s confidence, focus, and learning – with no extra travel for families. Enrol here: <https://musiceducation.co.nz/pages/mis-enrolment>



St. Francis Dads’ Support Group aka Darts Night – last Thursday of the month

to recommence in February 2026. The next and FIRST stupendous darts session for 2026 is on Thursday, 26 February, from 8pm, at the Pt. Chev. Bowling Club. The more the merrier – 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.

Community message – From the Pt Chev Sports Clubs / Bowling Club – There was an amazing turn out to the community meeting on the weekend. A few calls to action so far for our community:

- * Join as a member (eg: of the Tennis Club, Bowls Club, Croquet Club and/or Community Garden) to show the numbers of people that are involved
- * Go to the Givealittle page to make a donation towards the legal fees & share this link far & wide (<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/save-our-sport-clubs-support-our-legal-fight>)
- * Possible activity to do at home with the kids – Put some (respectful) pressure on the Anglican Trust to discontinue their claim – write a letter saying why you love the Pt Chev clubs so much or do a drawing / paint a picture. It could simply say: “Please don’t try to take away our Tennis, Bowls and Croquet Clubs and our Community Garden, we love & need them.” These will be collected from the school.

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 – 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 27 February - Welcome Assembly 2.15pm

Sunday 1 March - Welcome Mass for new families 9.00am

Monday 2 March - R3 Marae trip

Tuesday 3 March - R7/5 Marae trip

Wednesday 4 March - Room 8 visiting the Pt Chev library

Thursday 5 March - Cricket Innerscity Competition

Tuesday 10 March - R1/9/10 Marae trip

Wednesday 11 March - R11/12 Marae trip, Year 6 Beach Education trip

Friday 13 March - Assembly 2.15pm

Wednesday 18 March - Room 3 visiting the Pt Chev library

Wednesday 25 March - Room 3 visiting the Pt Chev library

Friday 27 March - Assembly 2.15pm

Sunday 29 March - Palm Sunday

Monday 30 March - Thursday 2 April - Holy Week Celebrations

Thursday 2 April - Holy Thursday, Last day of Term 1

Olivia Neary - Deputy Principal - olivian@stfrancis.school.nz

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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.
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Jo de Beer | 027 469 4148
 Linda Tomokino | 027 520 8062
 Lawrence von Sturmer | 027 227 9294



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 3-5 p.m. Mondays
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 3pm supervised afternoon tea
 3.30pm art starts

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