



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 - Congratulations on your recent Baptism Veida and Axel.



Holy Week and Easter Timetable:

- Friday 27 March - Passover Supper, led by Father John, in the Hall @ 6.00pm
- Sunday 29 March - Palm Sunday Mass @ 9.00am in the Church
- Monday 30 March - Holy Week Liturgy: Palm Sunday @ 2.00pm in the hall, led by Room 1 and Room 6
- Tuesday 31 March - Holy Week Liturgy: The Last Supper @ 2.00pm in the hall, led by Room 7, Room 9 and Room 2
- Wednesday 1 April - Holy Week Liturgy: The Garden of Gethsemane @ 2.00pm in the hall, led by Room 3 and Room 11

- Thursday 2 April - Holy Week Liturgy: Stations of the Cross/Crucifixion @ 11.30am in the hall, led by Room 8 and Room 10
Holy Thursday Mass @ 7.00pm in the Church, followed by the procession for Adoration in the Whanau Room until 9.30pm
- Friday 3 April - Good Friday Service in the Church @ 3.00pm
- Saturday 4 April - Easter Saturday Vigil in the Church @ 7.00pm
- Sunday 5 April - Easter Sunday Mass in the Church @ 9.00am
- (After the school holidays) Wednesday 22 April - Easter Mass in the Church @ midday, led by Father John
- Thursday 23 April - Easter Liturgy: The Empty Tomb @ 2.00pm, led by Room 12 and Room 5

Teacher Professional Development -



On Monday afternoon, staff spent their staff meeting at the Catholic Diocese of Auckland offices, taking part in a special session focused on the rich history of our diocese. We had the opportunity to view a number of significant artefacts, spanning from the time of Jean-Baptiste Pompallier, the first Catholic Bishop in Aotearoa New Zealand, through to the era of Henry Cleary. Following this, we were given a guided tour around the diocesan building, where we learned more about the unique history connected to the space and its place within the Church in Auckland. We finished the visit with the most incredible view overlooking the city—if we do say so ourselves! It was a wonderful experience, and staff look forward to continuing to embed this learning as part of our diocese's local history within the life of our school.

An interview with Father John, by Eva and Connie from Room 6

Why did you become a priest? *There was a series of priests who were a big influence for me when I was little. This included Father Francis and Father Simone, they all ran the parish where I lived.*

Do you have siblings? If so, how many? *Yes, I had three siblings; unfortunately, two have passed away. I had an older brother and two older sisters.*



What is your favorite bible story? *The good Samaritan. The reason I like this bible story is that Jesus makes the Jews the heroes of the story, as the only ones to stop. It showed that the Jews were not mean to the Samaritans.*

What's your favourite Mass to attend? *I like to attend the weekend Masses on Saturday and Sunday because that's when there's a big congregation, and I like meeting the community.*

What's your goal in church life? *To be kind and helpful to people.*

Is being a priest a big job? *It is not a big job in the sense that you handle a lot of money, but rather that you are leading many people and influencing how they think and behave.*

What's your favourite place to go on holiday? *I like to visit lots of places. My favourite place abroad is Ireland, but if you want something more local, it's the Bay of Islands!*

What's your favourite ice-cream flavour? *Chocolate! Undoubtedly.*

What is your favourite takeout order? *My favourite takeaway order is sweet and sour fish or pork - Chinese is my absolute favourite!*

Congratulations - to Florentina and Lucette Kitchen who competed in the NZ girls sailing champs over the weekend at Kohi yacht club, in the optimist green fleet (beginner division). It was their first big regatta with kids from all over the country travelling to compete, even from the South Island. Florentina placed 2nd and Lucette 4th overall.



Taven's (Room 1) fundraiser - Chop Champ

Taven (Room 1) is fundraising with 'shave for a cure' for Blood Cancer New Zealand by having his first ever haircut in April! After his cut, Taven is donating his hair to Freedom Hair, who make wigs for people affected by hair loss, for such reasons as cancer treatments. Leukaemia is very close to his family's hearts, and Blood Cancer NZ are an incredible charity. Taven's cousin and Aunty Sam were both diagnosed with leukaemia in 2022. In 2024, Taven's cousin went into remission, but Aunty Sam gained her angel wings. It's a big deal for Taven to be receiving his first haircut, but his family are so proud of his generous heart ❤️ If you want to donate to this amazing cause, please click the link [here](#)



Touch Rugby - As the Touch Rugby season draws to a close, we're excited to head into Finals Day next Tue **31st March** - a fantastic way to celebrate a fun and action-packed season. If you are free, come down and cheer our awesome teams on! A huge thank you to our dedicated coaches and managers for the time, energy and encouragement you've given our teams each week, and to our wonderful parents and whānau for your support on the sidelines and behind the scenes. Most importantly, we are incredibly proud of our amazing children, who have represented St Francis with enthusiasm, teamwork and great sportsmanship all season long. You've truly done your school proud - well done!



School Tea Towel Fundraiser Presale Now Open!

We will be running a school fundraiser creating school tea towels, one each for the Junior (Yr0-2), Middle(Yr3-4), and Senior(Yr5-6) schools. (We can't fit the whole school on one tea towel – it's a numbers thing, sorry!) These will make amazing gifts for Mother's Day, perfect for mums, aunties, nanas, and other special people we celebrate.

 Presale Dates: Wednesday 25th March – Wednesday 1st April.

Prices will increase after this date.

Presale Pricing: 1 Tea Towel – \$18

Choose one: Year 1 and 2 / Year 3 and 4 / Year 5 and 6

2 Tea Towels – \$30

Choose any combination: e.g. 2 x Year 1/2 or 1 x Year 3 and 4 and 1 x Year 5 and 6 etc

3 Tea Towels – \$40

Choose any combination: e.g. 3 x Year 5 and 6 or a mix of all 3

Ordering Details:

- Payment is via the Kindo app.
- Presale orders close Wednesday 1st April.



Example tea towel from 2010

Recent school fundraising – all money goes to pay off our \$14,000 canopy loan –

Nov 2025 Foodie Friday – \$608, 2025 Calendar Art – \$1,311, Feb 2025 Foodie Friday – \$521, March 2025 Foodie Friday – \$700, along with all donations from the 'Building Contribution Voluntary Donations' from your School fees / Attendance Dues. We should have this small loan paid off in no time!!! And then..... on to the next exciting project!!!

St Francis School Library -

- Library Parent Helpers Needed - We are looking for parent helpers who are willing to assist with fixing well-loved library books or covering new books from the comfort of home. All materials will be provided. If you're able to lend a hand and support the smooth running of our school library, please email Kate at kateh@stfrancis.school.nz. Your help would make a wonderful difference!
- Library Donations - We are gratefully accepting donations of popular chapter book series for our school library. If you have any books that are still in very good condition that your children no longer need, we would be delighted to give them a new life with our readers. We are especially seeking the later titles from popular series such as Wolf Girl, Phoebe and Unicorn, Bunny vs Monkey (any title), Ella and Olivia (or any associated series), Dogman, Nina Peanut, Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, Diary of a Netball Star, Cat Kid, Bad Guys, The Academy, Wings of Fire, Amulet, Keeper of the Lost Cities, E-Boy, Lottie Brooks, Ninja Girl, Smarty Pup (Any), Dork Diaries (Any), Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Big Nate, I Survived, Murder Most Unladylike (Any), Treehouse series and The Baby-Sitters Club (or any associated series). All donations are hugely appreciated and will help keep our library shelves exciting and engaging for every student. Please bring to the office. Thank you for your support!

Hold on to your hats, the secret is out, next term we begin our ST FRANCIS HAS TALENT!

St Francis has talent is a fun opportunity for our students to share their gifts and talents with the school community. This will take place weekly on Friday lunchtimes and will be organised across our Junior, Middle, and Senior school groups so that everyone has a chance to participate.

Students will be able to enter one of three categories: Singing, Dancing, or Musical/Other Talents. Whether it's performing a song, showing off some dance moves, playing an instrument, or sharing another special talent, we encourage students to give it a go and have some fun! During the first week of Term 2, we will be visiting classrooms to collect the names of students who would like to take part in our first category, singing. More information about performance dates will follow once we have our list of participants. We look forward to seeing the amazing talents of our students and celebrating the gifts within our St Francis community!



Cross Country - Wednesday 6th May. To help the day run smoothly and safely, we are looking for parent volunteers to assist along the course and with supervision. If you are available to help on the day, we would greatly appreciate your support. Please email Dan Wright danielw@stfrancis.school.nz if you can volunteer.

Internet Safety messages – At St Francis, we take internet safety and digital citizenship very seriously. In recent years, we’ve welcomed Andrew Cowie (former Netsafe educator, teacher, and parent) to lead our parent evenings on this topic. While Andrew is unavailable for part of this year, several inner-city schools are planning to come together later in the year to hear from the likes of Jo Robertson, a leading voice in online safety and wellbeing. We strongly encourage parents to attend—more details and ticket information will be shared when available. We also hope to welcome Andrew back again in the future.

In the classroom, teachers will continue to cover internet safety with students throughout the year. We also have strong filtering systems in place at school. These block and flag inappropriate content, allowing staff to monitor and respond to any concerns. This includes YouTube, which is covered by a Ministry of Education filter for both students and staff.

Mothers Day Breakfast - A message for the Year 5 and 6 Mums – you are cordially invited to the St Francis Mum’s Mother’s Day breakfast on Friday, 8 May – please mark in the diary. Stuart will need a few Dads to help out on the day to assemble the yummy bacon/egg muffins from 7:30am – please contact him directly on 027 818 2403. We are very grateful to New World Point Chevalier for providing the food.



PMP helpers needed -

Parents and grandparents, we are continuing 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 their memory. PMP is a step-by-step programme based on physical and sensory activities, repeated over two sessions. Teachers observe the children and note areas for development through the parallel classroom programme. Please contact Bridget – bridget.gallagher@hotmail.com

Mums Catch Up – We can’t be letting all the dad’s have the fun so the mums are arranging



St Francis Dads' Support Group aka Darts Night - Last Thursday of the month - The next stupendous darts session for 2026 is on Thursday, 26 March, 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.

Dad's Golf session - If there is enough interest, the Dads new golf date/venue is 27 March at 4pm at Huapai Golf Course (1261 Coatesville Riverhead Highway - around 20mins from School), 9 holes Ambrose, \$43 Green Fees. Please RSVP to Stuart on 027 818 2403 or advise via the Dad's WhatsApp Group so we can track numbers and in order for him to give the Golf Course a heads-up. The more the merrier.

Extra Curricular Activities -

- Skills of Soccer with Billy Harris - Lunctime Soccer lessons with former All White, Billy Harris - Text him on 0272799042 for info and prices.
- After School Art Classes - 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>

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

- 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 -

Thursday 26 March - Year 5/6 Inner City Softball comp

Friday 27 March - Assembly 2.15pm

Sunday 29 March - Palm Sunday

Monday 30 March - Thursday 2 April - Holy Week
Celebrations

Wednesday 1 April - Room 11 visiting the Pt Chev library

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

Friday 3 April - Good Friday

Coming up next term -

St Francis has talent begins... More info to follow!

Monday 20 April - First day of Term 2

Wednesday 22 April - Easter Mass 12.00pm

Friday 24 April - Easter Walking School Bus (dress up)

Monday 27 April - ANZAC weekend - School closed

Wednesday 6 May - School Cross Country

Thursday 7 May - Year 5/6 Inner City Swimming comp

Friday 8 May - Year 5/6 Mother's Day Breakfast, Assembly 2.15pm



Lisa Bateman - Principal - lisab@stfrancis.school.nz or principal@stfrancis.school.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!

skids

**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

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

RayWhite

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 buying & selling.

**Mention this advert at the time of selling and you'll receive a 10% fee discount, plus we'll donate \$1,000 to St Francis School upon a successful sale. *T&Cs apply.*



338 Pt Chevalier Road
team.ptchevalier@raywhite.com
www.rwptchevalier.co.nz

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



ST FRANCIS SCHOOL
Ages 6-13
3-5 p.m. Mondays
STARTS WEEK 2 OF EVERY TERM
3pm supervised afternoon tea
3.30pm art starts

Creative Matters
Creative Art
WORKSHOPS
AFTER-SCHOOL

FREE TRIAL
for NEW STUDENTS

BOOK NOW
13 SLOTS ONLY



cbm
children's best friend

Help give the **Miracle of Sight** to children, like Krind, living in the world's poorest places.

To send a gift, call
0800 77 22 64
or go to
www.cbmnz.org.nz/krind

"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



Veterinary Care™
Point Chevalier

Point Chevalier Veterinary Care
67 Pt Chevalier Road
Pt Chevalier Auckland 1022

Phone: 815 0696
www.veterinarycare.co.nz

GOODWINS

Getting the best price
for your property.

That's a good win for you.

Join the
Winners
Circle

- G Executive rentals, residential & commercial property management & residential sales.
- G Trusted advisors: rent, buy sell, invest.
- G 50 years in real estate, family owned & independent.

Real Estate
Sales ▾ Rentals

0800 GOODWINS
goodwins.co.nz