



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

Francis Fridays – This is the jubilee year of St Francis. 800 years after his death and centuries later we are still trying to follow his teachings. Last week we began our celebrations at St Francis Catholic School. The children have started in every class with being kind and earning a kindness heart for our 800 acts of kindness. We had a liturgy on Friday based on St Francis' love of the environment, as well as a story read by our librarians in the library at morning tea. This week we have a play in the library on Friday, and a learn scripture dice challenge in our middle and senior school.



Parish News – **Church Morning Tea Supplies** – The biscuit supplies for our Sunday Morning Teas are still running low and need topping up regularly, so please bring along any biscuits, home baking, or pre-cooked sausage rolls (always a favourite) for sharing if you can.

Matariki Soup Day – by Nixon Opuariki (Room 6) – On Friday 10th of July, the St Francis school students wanted to celebrate the most celebrated event in New Zealand, Matariki. So we decided to celebrate it by making a delicious matariki soup. I was jealous because the “special people” got to have a nice warm piece of bread with it; these were the people who made it and the teachers! The ingredients are from our garden. We used onion, celery, carrots, and pumpkin. One thing I like about the matariki soup is that when we were going to get the soup, we could walk through the 24k gold tassels along with a nice warm greeting from our te reo teacher Mrs Hanly.



A message from Mrs Hanly – the te reo unit I will be teaching this term across all teams is **ākomanga (classroom)**.

This unit will focus on:

- Learning and naming common classroom objects in te reo Māori
- Understanding and using classroom instructions
- For our middle and senior students, learning and practising simple classroom phrases that can be used in everyday situations

The aim is to build students' confidence with kupu they can use regularly in the classroom.

PMP helpers Term 3 – 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

ASB GetWise -



Last week, our whole school took part in the ASB GetWise financial literacy program! Learning about money is a crucial life skill, and these lessons will feed directly into our upcoming Senior Fun Friday, where students will get to put their new knowledge into real-life practice.

Our youngest students kicked off their money journey with Captain Cash. They learned about what different money actually is, discovering how to recognize different coins and notes and understanding how currency works. Our Year 3 and 4 students joined Coach Cash to explore the basics of money. They learned the difference between physical cash and "invisible" money like EFTPOS, how people earn money, and how to create a shopping list and compare prices. Our Year 5 and 6 students took part in SaveWise, discovering that saving money is a financial superpower. They learned how to set savings goals and stick to them using the 'CASH' method to help set them up for long-term success. We are so proud of how engaged our students were throughout the week—which leads us right into Senior Fun Friday...

Senior Fun Friday is Coming!

Our Te Arataki Senior School classes have already been working hard this week in preparation for our Senior Fun Friday on **Friday 16th August (Week 4)** This is our unique twist on a traditional Market Fair. It gives our senior students the chance to put all the financial literacy skills they learned during the ASB GetWise visit right into



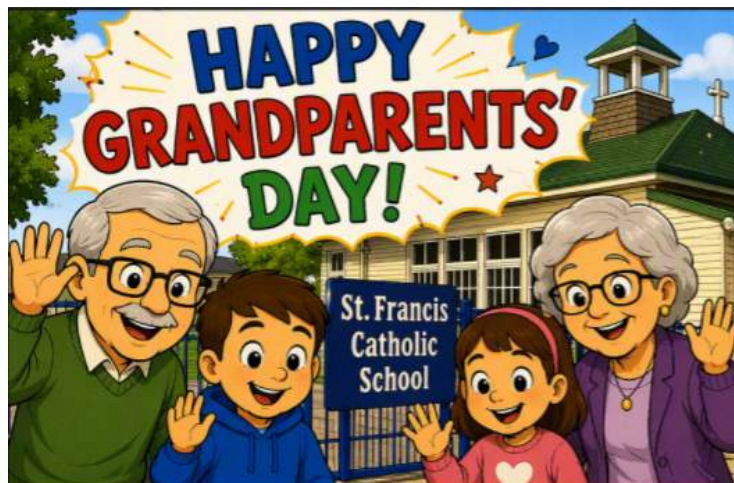
real-life practice. We'll be focusing on using readily available resources, with a great mix of craft stalls and outdoor games. To make this day a huge success, we would love your support! Please start saving up your coins at home in preparation for Week 4. We will share the full list of items and activity prices in next week's newsletter, so you know what to expect. In addition, our senior classes have already begun collecting items for raffles! All money raised from these raffles will go directly toward EOTC (Education Outside The Classroom) for our Year 5 and 6 students. Because we aim to raise as much as possible to support our learners, we will rely heavily on your generous donations. We are looking forward to a fabulous, fun Friday with great excitement and anticipation!

St. Francis Dads' Support Group aka Darts Night – TOMORROW NIGHT – last Thursday of the month. The next stupendous darts session is on Thursday, 30 July, 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.

Grandparents Day – Friday 28 August

- 9.15am – Mass in the Church – Year 4 – 6 students, grandparents (and any younger students who want to accompany their grandparents to Mass)
- 10.15am(ish) – 11.30am: Morning tea in the hall, art exhibition etc
- 11.30am – 12.30pm: Classroom Visits

Homebaking for Grandparents morning tea: Last year we had about 30 families contribute lovely home baking for the morning tea, which was the perfect amount. If you want to contribute home baking this year, or volunteer to help with set up, making cups of teas etc, please email the school office – office@stfrancis.school.nz or Angela Franich (parent coordinator) – angelajshand@gmail.com or 021857446.



Extra Curricular Activities -

- Thursday after school drama classes are shifting to Thursday at lunchtime, and they have included a holiday programme - all onsite at school!
<https://ptchevdrama.com/reservations>
- Complement your child's school experience with music lessons! Piano and guitar lessons available at school, helping students build confidence, creativity, and lifelong skills.



https://musiceducation.co.nz/pages/music-in-schools?utm_source=NEWSLETTER&utm_medium=NEWSLETTER&utm_campaign=NEWSLETTER-MIS&utm_id=MIS&utm_term=MIS&utm_content=MIS

- Skills of Soccer with Billy Harris - Lunchtime Soccer lessons with former All White, Billy Harris - Text him on 0272799042 for info and prices.
- Playball is excited to be back at St. Francis School in Term 3, 2026!

Playball is a sport and movement programme for children aged 2-9 years. Our goal isn't to create sporting superstars, but to give children the opportunity to develop essential social, educational, and personal skills through fun, active play. From a child's perspective, the most important part of



our programme is FUN! For many children, their Playball lesson is the highlight of their week.

Children are coached in a wide range of sports skills, and our qualified coaches follow a structured curriculum to ensure every child receives the best possible coaching.

When: Every Wednesday during Term 3, Time: 1:00 pm – 1:50 pm. Coaches will meet the children in the school hall, they will have time to eat their lunch before the session begins. Term 3 Fees: \$110 for the 8-week term (incl. GST). To enrol your child, sign up online at:

<https://www.playballkids.com/franchise/aucklandcbd>, Select "St. Francis School" under the

Classes section. Be quick – places are limited! If you have any questions, please contact Tania on 021 0289 5901 or email tania@playball.co.nz. Starts in Week 3.

Dates for 2026:

- Term 2 – Monday 20 April – Friday 3 July.
- Term 3 – Monday 20 July – Friday 25 September.
- Term 4 – Monday 12 October – Wednesday 16 December.

Teacher Only Day – Friday 23 October. Public Holiday – Labour Day: Monday 26 October.

Coming up:

Thursday 30 July – Year 4 Swimming

Thursday 6 August – InnerCity Rugby comp, Year 4 Swimming

Friday 7 August – St Mary MacKillop liturgy

Thursday 13 August – Year 4 Swimming

Tuesday 18 August – Auckland Proclaiming the Word comp –
Good luck Dominic!

Thursday 20 August – InnerCity Speech finals, Year 4 Swimming

Friday 21 August – Foodie Friday

Sunday 23 August – Confirmation Mass

Tuesday 25 August – 6.30pm BOT meeting

Thursday 27 August – InnerCity Netball comp, Art Exhibition in the
hall, Year 4 Swimming

Friday 28 August – Grandparents Day

Thursday 3 September – Year 4 Swimming

Friday 4 September – Year 5 and 6 Father's Day Breakfast

Monday 7 September – Year 1 and 2 Stepping Out Week, with NZ
Police

Thursday 10 September – InnerCity Football comp, Year 4
Swimming

Monday 14 September – Cultural Week

Thursday 17 September – Year 4 Swimming

Friday 18 September – Cultural Day & Picnic

Thursday 24 September – Year 4 Swimming

Friday 25 September – Foodie Friday, Last day of Term 3, Enviro
Mass

Lisa Bateman (Principal) & Olivia Neary (Deputy Principal) –
lisab@stfrancis.school.nz & olivian@stfrancis.school.nz



St Francis Catholic School

CLASS OF 2026

YEAR 6 GRADUATION DINNER

SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER 2026

Mass | 5.00–6.00pm
Dinner in the school hall | 6.00–8.00pm

WHAT WE'LL NEED FROM YEAR 6 FAMILIES

- 1 YEARBOOK & SLIDESHOW**
Complete a short Microsoft Form with your child and provide two photos by 27 August. Link to follow.
- 2 FUNDRAISING**
Help us raise funds for the dinner and a graduating-class gift to the school. Our main fundraiser is a bake sale on 8 September, with baking supplied by Year 6 families.
- 3 LEAVERS' T-SHIRTS**
Order and pay through Kindo later this term. T-shirts will be presented with the yearbooks at dinner and can be worn—and signed—during the final week of school.
- 4 BRING A PLATE**
Please bring a side dish or dessert on the night. A Meal Train link will be sent so families can advise what they will bring.

More information and links will follow.



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL
AVONDALE

ENROL NOW !

2027 - YEAR 7 & 8 PLACES AVAILABLE

Inclusive & caring

Learner focused

Values based

Our vision for St Mary's learners: Confident lifelong learners who CARE Connect, Achieve, Reflect, Engage

We are a small school with a huge commitment to providing an exceptional education for year 1 to 8 students. Reach out to us and experience our awesomeness firsthand – we can't wait to hear from you!

PH 09 828 5599
2138 Great North Road, Avondale
stmarysoffice@stma.school.nz
www.stmarysavondale.school.nz

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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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Jo de Beer
027 469 4148



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**
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