



St Francis Catholic School

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of excellence for our tamariki.



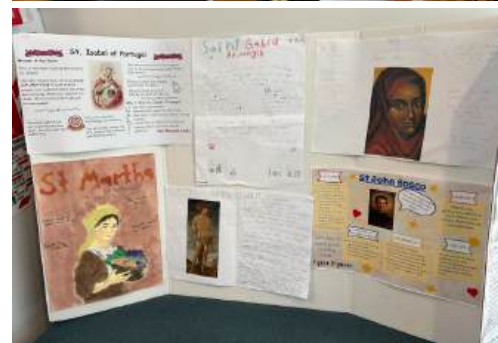
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The Sacrament of Confirmation – by Van McGregor Room 6 📞📧📞 This Sunday some of the students at St Francis completed the sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation comes after your Holy Communion and it is the last thing that you do to be fully a part of the Church. Each student chooses a saint's name to be confirmed as and chooses a sponsor. My confirmation name is Archangel Gabriel who was the Saint of Telecommunications. My sponsor's name is Daniel. It was a special day for some of the Year 5s and 6s. At 10:30am all the confirmation people were in the Whānau room, then at 11:00 we started the Mass and all the candidates gathered at the front. We said a prayer and sat down with our families. Then a few people did some readings and Father John read the gospel. After we went up and got confirmed it pretty much ended like a normal Mass. We had the bread and wine, sang the finishing song and ended. That is how my confirmation went.

By Ayden and Eden Room 2 – On Sunday 23rd, at St Francis and Saint Therese Church, Catholic kids from Point Chevalier were confirmed. Bishop Paul came all the way from the Cook Islands to celebrate our confirmation Mass because Bishop Steven Lowe couldn't come. First, we had to go to the whanau room at 10.30a.m. where we got our confirmation badges and cards with our saint's name on them. Then at 11:00am we entered the church and Eden did the welcome. We walked down the aisle and Bishop Paul did a blessing. After that,



Isla did the first reading, Sienna did the psalms and Poppy did the Gospel. We sang a song, then the candidates had to stand and Bishop Paul said the baptismal promises and we had to answer, "I do." Then we had the 5 prayers of the faithful. Fast forward a little bit, it was the laying of the hands. We had to close our eyes and Bishop Paul and Father John laid their hands on us. Then our sponsors had to come up, and we had to go up to the altar, and Bishop Paul said, "Saint ___ be sealed with the holy spirit." Then we responded, "Amen." Then he anointed us with chrism and said, "Peace be with you." We responded with "and with your spirit." Then we had the rest of the Mass and afterwards the 2nd best part happened... MORNING TEA!!!



Parish News – Children’s Liturgy – We are seeking some more helpers to run the Sunday Children’s Liturgy sessions in the school whanau room. It’s a brief breakout session (around 20 mins during the Sunday 9am Mass) where the leader reads the children’s version of the gospel, discusses it and gets the kids to do some fun colouring-in. All materials and the process is provided. Please contact Stuart on 027 818 2403 for more info. It’s a great “service hour” generator for high-schoolers and you’ll only need to do it once or twice a term.

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.

Callout to the Musical Youth – Please get in touch with Stuart if your musical angel is keen to perform at Mass during Collection, as we are always after a wee bit of musical fun. Also, please reach out if they would like to give playing music during Mass a go as Chris, Jo and Annie are always looking for new recruits – full guidance will be provided.

St Francis Fridays – Now that Senior Fun Friday is over we are back to our Francis Friday updates!!

Colouring in Competition – As part of our celebrations for St Francis, Mrs Smith and Miss Ryan organised a school-wide coloring competition that showcased an incredible amount of creative talent across every year level. With a massive number of entries and an exceptionally high standard of artwork, picking the winners was an extremely difficult task for our judges.

Congratulations to all our talented artists, and a special shoutout to our top placings:

Juniors

- **1st:** Ezekiel (Rm 10)
- **2nd:** Luca (Rm 10)
- **3rd:** Chloe (Rm 12)

Middle

- **1st:** Georgia-Rose (Rm 5)
- **2nd:** Juliette (Rm 3)
- **3rd:** Losaline (Rm 5)

Seniors

- **1st:** Zamirah (Rm 7)
- **2nd:** Micah F (Rm 8)
- **3rd:** Eliana (Rm 2)

Teachers

- **1st:** Janet Skinner



Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make our St Francis celebrations so colorful!

St Francis Colouring Competition by Clara Room 2 – As you know the St Francis coloring competition has been going on for the past 2 weeks. You all did really well, from Year 1 to Year 6. It was really hard to only pick 3 people from each category. Congratulations to all these winners! Good luck for next time!

St Francis and the Leper by Leona Room 2– Last Friday at morning tea all of the liturgy leaders did a play about St Francis and the Leper, we did it in the library. We did this play because of Francis Friday where we do something fun to learn about St Francis so we did a play. There were alot of parts to do. Zamirah was Leo, who was St Francis's friend that liked to party. I was the narrator, I think I did a really good job and all of the liturgy team as well. In my opinion it was so fun that the liturgy leaders did the play. Leona and I loved the opportunities of having these roles in the St Francis and the Leper play, we hope to do another one.



Why St Francis is the best school... Room 6 has been working on persuasive writing and have created some writing about why we think St Francis is the best school!

Eva P (Room 6) – Imagine a place where everyone belongs, where everyone's voices are heard, where kids go to make a difference in their lives. Have you ever wondered, as a parent, "Is my kid happy?" Who are they going to grow up to be? Will they be a good person? Will they be smart, will they be kind? Well, at St Francis, we develop and add more information to our brains every day. But it's not all boring here. We do so many fun things, too! Sometimes we have a fun Friday to raise money for camp or new sports equipment! We even have a foodie Friday for pizza! With our 3 playgrounds, netball court, soccer field and canopy, you will never get bored! 12 classrooms, 6 years, amazing teachers. Your child will learn more than ever. So where will you send your child?

Mia 'Uhila (Room 6) – Don't you want to have a good education, learn new things and meet amazing new friends? Well then you're in luck! Saint Francis Catholic School is a great school, where you can experience new things, meet new people and start a new fresh life away from the chaos of home. In our school, we focus on our five school values; Excellence, Service, Faith, Resilience and Respect. We look up to these values to help us be better people. We also have Whanau Groups. Whanau Groups are where you get placed in a group, where you have to earn Gold Tokens. At the end, the Whanau Group with the highest amount of tokens, gets free play after lunch on a Friday. We also run a program for the older children in Years five and six. We call this program Garden To Table. Garden To Table is where you split your class into two groups. In one group you are in the kitchen cooking food. In the other group you are in the garden doing garden work. An hour and a half later, you meet together to eat the food the kitchen group made. The best part of being a Year six in my opinion is definitely Whanau Leaders. They are the leaders of the school. I am lucky enough to have a twin brother who is a Whanau Leader. Only the most well behaved Year sixes get chosen to be Whanau Leaders. They take responsibility in the school jobs and help all the teachers with their problems.

These are just a few of the many many awesome things about Saint Francis. So, do you think you would want to come to this school?.

Congratulations to Mia 'Uhila (Room 6) Who not only produces incredible writing on why you should come to St Francis but also done fantastically well at the Auckland Inner City speech competition.



Grandparents Day – this Friday

- 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



Friday morning: drop off your homebaking for Grandparents morning tea

Final three days of Raffle Ticket Sales! – We are continuing to sell raffle tickets both before and after school outside the Garden to Table room with sales wrapping up on Grandparents Day!

- **Prizes:** Snack Pack, Chocolate/Sweets Pack, Stationery Pack and Doll House
- **Pricing:** \$2 per ticket or \$5 for 3 tickets

Thank you again for making this financial literacy event such a huge success for our students!

School Colour Fun Run – Big Thank You to Our Major Sponsor – Goodwins – A huge thank you to Goodwins, our Major Sponsor for the St Francis Colour Fun Run on **Friday, 20 November!**

Goodwins is an independent, family-owned real estate and property management agency with strong ties to St Francis—including current students Jacob (Room 11), Leila (Room 1), and ex-pupil Jax (now at St Paul's).

We are incredibly grateful for their support. If you're looking for expert residential sales or property management services, please support the business that supports our school.

Visit goodwins.co.nz to see how they can help your family.



Colour Fun Run – Parent Helpers

We are looking for helpers who are keen to be involved in helping at the 2026 St Francis

Goodwins School Colour Fun Run. If you would like to be a part of this great day, please complete the link below. There is the opportunity to be involved with setup / during the event & with

cleanup, or all of the above! This event is not possible without the support and involvement of our amazing parents, so we thank you in advance for your time in helping make this event a huge success. Any questions please contact Annalies at annalies.donald@meshconsulting.co.nz
Link for parent helper signup - <https://forms.gle/UtoLzCzEksowofwG8>

Tongan Language Week in Room 4 -

Room 4 had a wonderful time celebrating Tongan Language Week! A massive thank you to Taven's mum and dad, who generously came in to share their rich culture with our students. The class loved learning through music, watching traditional dancing and the highlight for many tasting some delicious keke and refreshing 'ōtai.



Message from the Y6 Grad committee - On Tuesday 8 September we are having a fun school day! A **mufti day** and another **bake sale**! This is to support the year 6 graduation event and to provide a gift to the school.

- **YEAR 6 FAMILIES ONLY** - please can you bake something and bring it to school on the morning of 8 September. No cakes but slices, muffins, cupcakes and cookies are very welcome to fill lunchboxes.
- **For the whole school**, come to school in your favourite clothes and give a cold coin donation. We know it's coming into a busy season so a big THANK YOU in advance for supporting this! From the Graduation Committee

From the St Francis Mums WhatsApp group - The start up 'Tin Can' out of the states has just launched in NZ last month. Their product is a new-school landline for kids, a screen-free way for them to chat with their friends, all run via WiFi (rather than requiring a phone line). Kids can call from their tin can to their tin can contacts for free or you can pay a monthly fee for them to also have the capability to call and receive calls from other approved numbers. We are building a St Francis Tin Can Kid Community for anyone that is interested, meaning that community group orders of 25 units or more can receive a 20% discount. The bigger the group, the bigger the discount. So far we have about 24 interested families. Orders will be arriving in New Zealand in November. For further information or pricing for the Tin Can, see: tincan.kids/en-nz
If you are keen to order, please contact Katie Hamilton on WhatsApp: 0212751785 by the 31st of August.

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

Back by popular demand, the St. Francis Dads will have **a special support session, aka pub crawl, on Friday 20 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 Ambler, 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.

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Drama Club.

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garden to table Room
Mondays
2026

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

Friday 28 August – Grandparents Day, Mass @ 9.15am

Thursday 3 September – Pt Chev library art project

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

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

Tuesday 8 September – Mufti Day / Bake Sale, raising funds for the Y6 Grad celebrations

Thursday 10 September – InnerCity Football comp, Year 4 Swimming, Catholic Cross Country

Monday 14 September – Cultural Week

Thursday 17 September – Year 4 Swimming

Friday 18 September – Cultural Day & Picnic, St Francis Fridays quiz

Monday 21 September – extra Year 4 Swimming lesson

Thursday 24 September – Year 4 Swimming

Friday 25 September – Foodie Friday, Assembly, Last day of Term 3, Enviro Mass @ 9.15am

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



The poster is for the St Francis Catholic School Year 6 Graduation Dinner. It features the school's crest and a lion logo with the text 'CLASS OF 2026'. The main heading is 'YEAR 6 GRADUATION DINNER' followed by 'SAVE THE DATE' in large, bold, yellow letters on a blue background. The date is 'FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER 2026'. The schedule is 'Mass | 5.00–6.00pm' and 'Dinner in the school hall | 6.00–8.00pm'. Below this, a section titled 'WHAT WE'LL NEED FROM YEAR 6 FAMILIES' lists four items: 1. YEARBOOK & SLIDESHOW (complete a form and provide photos by 27 August), 2. FUNDRAISING (help raise funds, main fundraiser is a bake sale on 8 September), 3. LEAVERS' T-SHIRTS (order and pay through Kindo later this term), and 4. BRING A PLATE (bring a side dish or dessert). The poster ends with 'More information and links will follow.'

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.

Your children are amazing already. We just help them prove it.

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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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