



20th August
2024

NEWSLETTER

Te Reo o te Kura o Hato Hoani
The voice of St John's School

Kia ora whānau,

SCHOOL PARISH MASS

This past weekend, our community came together once again for a beautiful Mass at St John's Church. It was truly heartwarming to see our students actively participating in the weekend liturgy, from the readers to the altar servers, and those who brought up the gifts. Their reverence and enthusiasm added a special touch to the celebration.



I want to extend a sincere thank you to all the parents, families, staff and parishioners who attended. Your presence made the occasion even more meaningful, and your support is greatly appreciated. Let us continue to nurture the faith in our children and come together as one community in Christ.

PARISH CHILDREN'S MASS

Each third Sunday of every month (except January) our Parish have a Children's Mass where children lead the Mass and do the readings, Psalm, prayers, welcome, and offertory. Children who would like to be involved need to arrive at St John's church no later than 8:30am on the morning of the mass in order to have enough time to allocate roles and practise these before Mass starts. Roles cannot be reserved but rather will be chosen on the day. If you would like to be on an email list to receive a monthly reminder on the Friday before Children's Mass, please email – lindy@willplan.co.nz with your name and your children's names and ages.

As well as reports on what we have been up to at school, this newsletter has information on a number of exciting events coming up including;

- PTFA School Disco
- James Russell author visit
- Scholastic Book Fair
- School Photos
- Nearest and Dearest Day
- Daffodil Day

I ask that you take a few minutes to read through this information.

God bless,
Marina Binns
Principal/Tumuaki

BISHOP'S ANNUAL CARING MASS



On the 7th August, Mrs Mountjoy and I had the privilege of talking four students to Christ the King in Owairaka to participate in the Bishop's Annual Caring Mass. The Mass is a reminder of our collective responsibility to care for those in need, reflecting the love and compassion that are at the heart of our faith. We were grateful to be part of such a meaningful event that reinforces the values we cherish in our school. This Mass is a beautiful tradition that brings our Catholic community together in support of the work done by the Caring Foundation and students across all Primary and Secondary Schools in the Diocese. Each school is asked to nominate students for a Caring Award.

Samantha C, Sophie H, Evelyn L and Teresa R, were selected by their peers to acknowledge the care and support they have given others, both within and outside of our school community.



YOUTH PEACE WEEK

Youth Peace Week (5th to 9th August 2024) is an Aotearoa-based, international week of activities and events that seek to educate and inspire a New Zealand wide and global movement for peace. It is held every August to commemorate Hiroshima Day on 6th August, and Nagasaki Day on 9th August. Peace Week aims to raise awareness about peace education and building peaceful communities. It provides us with opportunities to learn skills to understand each other and how to live well together.

The theme for this year's Peace Week was '**Celebrating Peace Icons - PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE**', recognising those people who make positive differences in our local, national and global communities, such as Sir Peter Blake, Sir David Attenborough, Malala Yousafzai and Mother Teresa.



Blessed are the peacemakers:
for they shall be called the children of God.
Matthew 5:9



Throughout Peace week the children were involved in a variety of activities at school focused on peace education. At lunchtime, throughout the week, the Peer Mediators organised a variety of cooperative team building activities, peace related colouring competitions and origami - paper crane making for the children and teachers to participate in.

While Peace Week is over let us not forget its message; let us continue to build peaceful communities and encourage everyone to see the success in working together. "Young people are the future and by educating them on peace issues they can make a real difference in creating a more peaceful world!" (The Peace Foundation)

Allison Miller
Cool Schools Coordinator

BOOK BATTLE

On Friday 9th August, the two book battle teams for St John's School prepared and left to go to Northcross Intermediate to compete in the annual interschool Book Battle.

The two teams hopped into the cars and drove off (a parent/teacher drove it obviously). They soon arrived at the place where it all happened. They took pictures of the two teams and so, the battle began!

All the competitors went to their tables and chose their Joker rounds. A joker round is where each team picks a round, which is made of ten questions, and put a sticker provided onto the page. It then signifies to the judges that they will receive double points for each correct answer. Then the questions and possible answers are read out and each team tries their best to circle the correct answer.

After the questions were done the judges called out the winners however there were ties for second and third and guess what? One of the St John's teams was in the tie and there had to be tiebreakers! Tiebreakers are when two teams are asked a question and then everyone tries to put their hand up first if they know the answer and get picked to say the answer. The St John's team that was in the tiebreaker won third place and got a prize that included a trophy, a box of books for the school, and \$15 each!

After that was all over, the two teams headed to Sherwood Park to have ice cream and a little bit of time to play to celebrate their victory. They then drove all the way back to school and continued their normal school day.

Teresa Rotaeché and Annabel Vink (Team Captains)



SOCIAL OUTREACH

Yesterday Rooms 2 and 9 worked with North Shore CMA to host a large group of seniors in our school hall. They shared some of their work from Garden to Table, preparing, baking and serving lemon muffins and a variety of sandwiches. As well as this, both classes shared some singing, music and dance items, highlighting what they have been working on in their Performing Arts Programme. It was a joy to see the children's citizenship in action as they entertained, chatted and served older members of our community.

I was told repeatedly that I should be very proud of our students... and I was.







SPORT UPDATE

INTERSCHOOL NETBALL TOURNAMENT

On Tuesday 6th August our 6/1 and 5/1 netball teams represented St John's at the Supercluster Interschool netball tournament held at Pinehurst School. Each of our 8 cluster schools sent along two teams; one Year 5 and one Year 6. The weather started nice, but we did experience a one-off rain shower mid-morning, which was unexpected. Nevertheless, both teams, along with their coaches, managers and umpires enjoyed the day. Each of our teams played 5 games, which included a "play-off" and "finals" round. Whilst our team's game results were mixed, all players put on a display of good netball and showed great sportsmanship throughout the day. Our final placings were: 6/1 placed 5th overall, and 5/1 placed 7th overall.

Thanks to the coaches and managers for being available on the day to be with your teams, and to our two Carmel College umpires, Charlotte and Celia for doing a great job of controlling all teams during each of their games. Thanks to the parents who helped with transporting our players to and from Pinehurst School.



RIPPA RUGBY TOURNAMENT



On Thursday 8th August, we had 6 St John's Rippa teams representing us at the ECB Rugby Primary Schools Festival. Each year two tournaments are held during the winter months, usually one in Term 2 and one in Term 3. This year there were 60+ teams entered on both dates, made up from schools across the greater North Shore region, with children from Year 3 - Year 6.

The weather on the day was fairly dull, but with some sun sneaking through the clouds here and there, and accompanied by a very cold wind. Each team played 4 games each during the course of the day. There were no semi-finals or finals. All of our teams did well on the day with team results consisting of wins, losses and draws. Our Year 3/4 Mixed Pelicans team notched up 4 wins from 4 games, well done team and coach! The children in all teams benefit from a tournament like this as they play many games and all get a good period of time on the field where they can run around and show their skills.



Thanks to our coaches and managers for being there for your teams, and ensuring through your team practices, that the children knew the rules of the game and were able to play as a team at the tournaments. Many thanks to all the parents who helped transport our children to and from Windsor Park across both Rippa tournament dates.

Our 2024 Rippa teams were: SJ Lions (Yr 3 Boys), SJ Pelicans (Yr 3/4 Mixed), SJ Vikings (Yr 4 Mixed), SJ Condors (Yr 5 Boys), SJ Leopards (Yr 5/6 Girls) and SJ Jets (Yr 5/6 Boys)





SCHOOL DISCO PROCEDURES

The light wands have arrived, the DJ has been booked and the decorations are being prepared. Don't forget to purchase your ticket to the disco via Kindo (www.kindo.co.nz under PTFA) by the end of day Thursday 22nd.

Thank you to the PTFA for all their preparation and planning to make this a great event for the children.

We ask that parents drop off their children at the back door to the hall where they will enter and be supervised by the rostered parents and staff. Thank you to those parents and staff who have volunteered to supervise the children in the hall.

I know that, from past experience, a number of parents use this time to get together and socialise at a friend's house or down in the Bay. If you wish to remain onsite during the disco, you are welcome to pop down and wait in the staffroom. If your child is a bit anxious, this may be a good option as we can be contacted by the hall if necessary.

Doors will open for parents to come in approx. 5 minutes before the end of each disco (you may want to join your child for the last dance). We ask that parents come in the back door (by the kitchen), collect their children and exit through the front door (by the stage). For health and safety, no child will be able to leave the hall until collected by an adult.

JAMES RUSSELL AUTHOR VISIT

Award-winning children's author James Russell is visiting our school next Thursday and if you'd like to purchase one of James's books for your child you can do so.

All books (pictured) are \$20 each, and to purchase simply follow these steps.

1. Deposit the money into Dragon Brothers Books account, 06-0103-0314619-00
2. Email James at contact@dragonbrothersbooks.com and let him know a). Which book you'd like to order; b). The name of your child (James will sign it to them), c) Year of your child; and d) The deposit reference you used
3. James will have the books delivered to the school after his visit.



NEAREST AND DEAREST DAY

WE INVITE EACH CHILD TO BRING SOMEONE THEY HOLD DEAR
TO COME AND SHARE TIME WITH THEM AT SCHOOL.



FRIDAY 30TH AUGUST
8:50AM – 11:00AM (ISH)



You're invited to our

Scholastic Book Fair



Next Week!
Monday 26th - Friday 30th August
(Week 6)

School Library
Mon-Thu 2:30 - 3:30 pm
and
Fri 9:30 - 12:30 pm

**EFTPOS
Preferred**

DAFFODIL DAY - 30th August

For more than 20 years, St. John's School have proudly fundraised each year for The Cancer Society of NZ

In the past we have organised a coin trail. Nowadays, acquiring coins can be a hassle so you can donate online by following this [link](#). This link is active now and we are raising funds until Friday 30th August. If you would prefer to make a cash donation, these can be dropped off at the school office.

Any contribution is appreciated!

On Daffodil Day, the children are welcome to wear yellow in addition to pieces of their school uniform as a sign of hope. (eg, they could swap out their school shirt or shorts for a yellow one, wear yellow socks or a yellow ribbon).

SCHOOL PHOTOS



Coming up in Week 7 (Tuesday 3rd September) are our annual School photos. All children will be photographed individually and with their class group. There will also be the opportunity for sibling photos. If you wish for your children to be photographed together, please email office@sjmb.school.nz with your child's names and room numbers.

The following day, Wednesday 4th September, the photographers will be taking Sport team photos. This includes all St John's School Netball, Basketball, Flippaball and Hockey teams and the school representative teams for Cross Country, Ripa, Swimming, and Tennis.

All teams will be photographed in the uniform that they competed or play in except for Flippaball, who will be in full PE gear. We ask that children wear their trainers and short white sports socks (Hockey, please wear your navy hockey socks).

Coaches and managers are welcome to be included in the team photo, however, we are unable to give you a specific time. If you are wanting to be included in the photo or have any questions, please email Karen Dorrington karend@sjmb.school.nz by 3:00pm Monday 2nd September.

SCHOOL FEES DUE



A friendly reminder that Term 3 School Fees are now overdue.

If you have any queries regarding accounts, please email, in confidence, Michele Nash, Executive Assistant michelen@sjmb.school.nz.

NEW ENTRANT ENROLMENTS FOR 2025

You are reminded that **applications for New Entrant enrolment for next year (2025) will close on 31st August 2024.**



Children applying for enrolment after applications have closed for the forthcoming year will not be considered until the following year unless vacancies still exist on the roll after all previous applications have been accepted. If you have not yet made application for a New Entrant enrolment for 2025 then please email Michele Nash michelen@sjmb.school.nz for the application forms. Confirmation, or otherwise, of New Entrant enrolment will be sent to all applicants by mid-September 2024.

Please encourage your friends, family members and other families you know at pre-schools and daycare centres with new entrants who may qualify for Preference Enrolment to lodge their applications before 31st August or to ring Michele at the school office (Tel: 09 478 7734 Ext 203) if they have any questions regarding enrolment. Online applications can be made on the [tab](#) on the home page of the school website. Enquiries can also be made by email michelen@sjmb.school.nz

KAHUI AKO VOICES ONLINE MAGAZINE



NSCS Voices Online Magazine is produced by senior students at Rosmini and Carmel College to showcase student writing and events across the NSCS Kāhui Ako. The NSCS Kāhui Ako is made up of the seven Catholic Schools on the North Shore; Carmel, Rosmini, St John's, St Joseph's, St Leo's, St Mary's and Stella Maris.

If you would like your students' work to be published in the next online magazine please email it by Monday 26th August. All submissions need to go through the website on the online form. The newsletter will be being published each month.

Here is the link to the [NSCS Kāhui Ako online magazine](#).

FROM THE PTFA



Thank you to all those families who returned their sold and unsold raffle tickets last Friday. These are now being processed and prepared for the draw in September. If you still have tickets, sold or unsold, at home, we ask that these be returned to the school office as soon as possible.

A message we received on Sunday...

"A massive thank you to the wonderful children and parents from Rooms 7, 11, 1 and 2 who were shining stars at New World Browns Bay selling raffle tickets today. They sold an amazing 228 raffle tickets! You are true examples of our St John's community coming together to support each other. We really appreciate the time and effort that you put into today for all of us! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts."

CONGRATULATIONS



These Year 4 boys, who have been playing together on the same football team at the East Coast Bay Football Club, are all from St. John's. They play every Saturday morning and the SJ All Whites, secured first place in last summer's league! While it is not an official school team, they represent St John's proudly at the club.

We are so proud of their attitude and effort. Despite not having games in Term 1, this team continued their training sessions once a week with Alex, Ricardo's dad, as their coach. Well done SJ All Whites.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Keep up to date with school events through downloading and linking the SJMB Community Calendar.

[Link to download calendar](#)

FURNITURE... FREE TO A GOOD HOME



We have a surplus white, height adjustable desk that is available for collection. First in, first served... please email the office (office@sjmb.school.nz) if you are interested.

FROM THE PARISH

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PREFERENCE FORMS

Fr Carlo will be available to sign the forms on Wednesdays, 10am – 12 noon & 1 – 3pm for a 15-minute slot. Please make an appointment through: office@ecbcatholic.org.nz

MONTHLY CHILDREN'S MASS

3rd Sunday: 9.00 am Mass St. John's Church. Contact Lindy lindy@willplan.co.nz

NEWSLETTER

For more information from the Parish, please see [their regular newsletter](#).