



# NEWSLETTER

10<sup>th</sup> December  
2024  
Term 4, Week 9

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

Kia ora whānau,

*Thank you*

This is our last newsletter for 2024, and I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude. I thank you all for your support, caring and commitment to our school over the past year.

Thank you to the parents and guardians who have supported and encouraged the children on their learning journey this year. On behalf of the school staff, I would like to thank you for your involvement in the many school activities and events that have enriched this year.

I would like to thank our wonderful PTFA; your work benefits the whole community, both present and future. Your financial support of learning programmes and resources enhances the everyday learning experiences in and out of the classroom. I thank all the parents who attend the meetings and who continue to dedicate their time and energy to supporting the school in many practical ways. I would like to acknowledge the office holders; Amanda, Ziad and Michelle for their leadership, Shelly for her work with the second hand uniform and the numerous parents who have given so generously of their time for the Gala, organising fundraisers and supporting the many community events throughout the year. Thank you also to the CLPs who provide a valuable link between the PTFA and the class parents.

Our school is very blessed to be supported by a wonderful Board and I thank you for giving up your time and expertise in governing the school, forming policy, setting the strategic direction and financial and property management. I would like to personally acknowledge Anne-Marie, our Presiding Member and Emma, our Treasurer for their ongoing support in these roles.

Finally, I would like to thank our incredible staff who have worked so hard for the children and the community over the year. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to nurturing our students and your passion for education.

I do hope that you will be able to take some time to be with family and friends this festive season, whether that be at home or abroad. I wish you all a very blessed Christmas and a joyful New Year. I pray that you and your whānau will be happy, be safe and I wish you all the very best in the year ahead.

God bless,  
Marina Binns  
Tumuaki - Principal.

## END OF SCHOOL YEAR

### SPORT CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION

Next week, on Monday, we will be gathering in the hall to present Certificates of Representation to those children who represented St John's in *Interschool* Athletics, Basketball, Football, Gymnastics, Hockey, Netball and Tennis.

We warmly invite you to attend. The presentations will begin at 2:15pm in the school hall.

### **SCHOOL CLOSES FOR 2024 on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> December at 12:00 noon**

School buses will not be running, please make arrangements for your child/ren to be collected promptly at midday.

### END OF YEAR REPORTS

These will be coming home with the children on the last day of school. Please look out for the envelope in your child's bag. If, for any reason, your child is not at school on the last day, these will be posted to your home address.

Included in the report is information specifying what room your child will be in for 2024, a welcome note introducing their new class teacher and instructions for booking interviews for Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2024.

### CLASS PLACEMENTS ARE NOW FINALISED.

As we near the end of the school year, I want to acknowledge the care and thought that our teachers and leadership team have put into organizing the class placements for 2025. This is a process we approach with great care, considering the academic, social, and emotional needs of every child to ensure the best possible learning environment for all.

We know how much you care about your child's education and happiness, and we deeply value the trust you place in us. These decisions are made with your child's best interests at heart, and we ask for your support in trusting this process and the professional expertise of our team.

**Class placements will be shared in your child's end-of-year report, which will come home on the last day of the term. These decisions are final.**

We understand that your child may sometimes feel disappointed if their placement isn't what they were hoping for. If this happens, your support as parents is invaluable. Encouraging them to see the new class as an opportunity to grow, make new friends, and take on fresh challenges can help them develop resilience and a positive mindset. Remind them that their teachers, old and new, are here to support them and that exciting opportunities await in the new year.

Thank you for your understanding, trust, and continued support as we work together to give your children the best possible education.



## YEARS 4-6 INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS DAY

Congratulations to all the students who went to the Interschool Athletics Event to represent St John's on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

Individual achievements include:

- Joshua Buckley 1<sup>st</sup> Year 5 Boys Shotput
- Samantha Chow 4<sup>th</sup> Year 6 Girls Shotput
- Nixie Cox-Taiseni 3<sup>rd</sup> Year 5 Girls 800m, 4<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Girls 400m
- Eloisa Duff 1<sup>st</sup> Year 6 Girls Long Jump, 1<sup>st</sup> Year 6 Girls 100m
- Gabriella Fuaaletoelau 4<sup>th</sup> Year 4 Girls 200m
- Elijah McClurg 3<sup>rd</sup> Year 5 Boys High Jump
- Lucy McQueen 1<sup>st</sup> Year 4 Girls High Jump, 4<sup>th</sup> Year 4 Girls 400m
- Janneke Madgwick 2<sup>nd</sup> Year 4 Girls High Jump
- Daniel Smith 1<sup>st</sup> Year 4 Boys 400m
- Year 6 Girls Relay team 2<sup>nd</sup> Year 6 Girls 4x100m Relay
- Year 6 Boys Relay team 3<sup>rd</sup> Year 6 Boys 4x100m Relay

## YEARS 1-3 RUN, JUMP, THROW

Our Rangitoto Team displayed their developing skills in athletics with great enthusiasm. I was impressed with the level of running, jumping and throwing as well as their attitude and effort on the day.



A special event was finishing off the day with a game of 'Rainbow Tag' which involved the children running around the school, trying to locate seven different teachers, all with a different colour marker to collect.

The children received tokens for their skill and participation. The winning house on the day was **Liston**. Congratulations on your achievement.





I have received a lot of positive feedback on the two school athletic events and would like to gather your feedback on whether you preferred the two events being run separately or whether you preferred the way we have done it in the past of Year 1-6 all going offsite for the day.

If you have 2 minutes, we would appreciate if you could complete this [short survey of preference](#).

## ESOL GRADUATION

On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, all the ESOL students and the ESOL teaching team gathered together in the outdoor classroom for the Graduation of our ESOL students and End of Year Celebration. A group of students led us in prayer and then those graduating from ESOL were acknowledged. We ended the time together with some lovely pizza.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE YEAR 3 SPURS



Congratulations to the Year 3 Spurs Basketball team on coming first in their grade.

*Y3 Spurs won their final basketball game 20-16 against the Murray's Bay Hot Shots and were placed first in the Y3&4 B Grade.*

*The team have had an epic year together and it's been amazing watching their skills and teamwork improve. Well done Spurs!*

*Alex Ward - Coach*

## END OF YEAR MASS

Thank you to all those who were able to come and celebrate the End of Year Mass with us. It is always a special time together as a school and faith community.

For those who were unable to join us, here is the [link](#) to the Nativity Video that was shared as the Gospel reading at the Mass.



## YEAR 6 DAYS OUT

Following the end of year Mass last Friday the Year 6 students went off to Parnell Baths to spend a fun afternoon with their friends. It was a lovely afternoon of eating, swimming and playing in the sun. Thank you to all the parents who came along to help supervise, cook our sausage sizzle and spend the time with us.

Today our Year 6 students, guided by their teachers and visiting facilitator, embarked on their retreat – a special time for reflection, connection, and spiritual growth. Held in a peaceful setting at Outram Hall, the retreat provided an opportunity for our young leaders to step away from the busyness of daily life and focus on their faith journey and the values we hold dear as a Catholic school.



## RANGITOTO TEAM (YEAR 1-3) NATIVITY



The Rangitoto Team warmly invites you to our Christmas Showcase

**'WINTER WONDERLAND'**

**When:** Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 1:00pm

**Where:** St John's School Hall

## KAITIAKI GUARDIANS

In 2024, Year 5 students at St John's had the opportunity to apply for the role of **Kaitiaki Guardian**, becoming part of the school's dedicated sustainability team. Their responsibilities included initiating a new composting program, planting shrubs and trees generously gifted to the school by Restore Hibiscus Coast, and learning about environmental care by clearing noxious weeds from the nature gully.





Additionally, the Kaitiaki Guardians played a key role in raising environmental awareness across the school. They helped organize a successful bake sale and a seedling and vegetable sale, with proceeds going towards purchasing essential items for the school garden. This hands-on involvement has not only strengthened their connection to the environment but also instilled valuable teamwork and leadership skills.

These are some of the comments students made about being a Kaitiaki Guardian.

*I have enjoyed pulling out weeds in the nature gully and the turning circle. I think all of the Kaitiaki Guardians liked planting the trees with soil and mulch. It was challenging digging the holes but we managed to do it. I enjoyed ripping out the weeds that were bad. My favourite weed is Wiley Nightshade because it smells like petrol.*

**Hugo S**

*My favourite things about being a Kaitiaki Guardian were: learning about all the different weeds, having fun pulling noxious weeds out of the gully, and spending time with Julia and my group of friends.*

**Violet K**

*I loved being a Kaitiaki Guardian because I have been able to help the environment. I loved learning about composting and our native ferns.*

**Brooklyn**

*I enjoyed Kaitiaki Guardians because we planted trees for the environment, cut down weed trees, and pulled out the potato-looking bulbs.*

**Luca M**

*My favourite thing about Kaitiaki Guardians was planting seeds and trees and I also enjoyed pulling out weeds. I enjoyed spending time in the nature gully and doing the composting.*

**Bo S**



*My favourite thing about being a Kaitiaki Guardian was helping the school with pulling and breaking down the weeds and using all the tools to cut down and trim the trees.*

**Oonagh B**

*My favourite thing about Kaitiaki Guardians is that we got to pull out weeds and learn about them. I also liked taking down trees. I loved doing Kaitiaki Guardians.*

**Emma M**

*My favourite part of being a Kaitiaki Guardian was pulling out the ladder ferns, cutting them, and breaking down the weeds to help our environment.*

**Rosie K**

*My favourite thing about being a Kaitiaki Guardians is that you got to help your school, by handling weeds, being able to help the environment, and planting trees and more fun things in the nature gully.*

**Max B**

*My favourite thing about being a Kaitiaki Guardian was planting trees with my friends and going on the trip.*

**Josh B**

## SOCIAL OUTREACH- DONATION OF PRE-LOVED SPECS



Every Specsavers store provides a glasses recycling service and encourages customers donate old glasses to be quality-checked and sent to people in need overseas. This year we collected old glasses at school, and these were dropped off at Specsavers last week.

Thank you to all those people who supported this initiative. A special thanks to Meesol and her family for bringing this initiative and co-ordinating it at St John's.



## KINDO – OUTSTANDING ITEMS

### END OF 2024



Many thanks to those families who have recently signed into their Kindo accounts [www.mykindo.co.nz](http://www.mykindo.co.nz) and finalised payments for 2024. There are still various items outstanding across the school and we would greatly appreciate your attention to these as soon as possible so that end of year accounts can be reconciled.

We do appreciate that we are still living in unprecedented times financially and we do not wish to add any further pressure onto family life. If you are having difficulty in meeting your payments or if we can be of any assistance, please feel free to personally contact Miss Marina Binns (Principal) in confidence, [MarinaB@sjmb.school.nz](mailto:MarinaB@sjmb.school.nz)

Year 6 Leavers will be emailed separately on how to move on with Kindo or close your account.

### BEGINNING OF 2025

Please ensure you login to your Kindo account ([www.mykindo.co.nz](http://www.mykindo.co.nz)) regularly to give permission, volunteer to help and make payments for Trip permission forms, Sports Registrations, Back to School expenses etc.

We endeavour to load all additional yearly charges, for example for Maths, Literacy and R.E. E-learning for the beginning of the year. If possible, we also post permissions and costs for our EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) trips and appreciate your early addition to these items. An explanation of each charge is in the description of the item on Kindo.

**Termly School Fees will continue to be dealt with separately** by Mrs Michele Nash, [michelen@sjmb.school.nz](mailto:michelen@sjmb.school.nz)

## SCHOOL POOL



The children have been enjoying their time in the school pool over the last few days.

To make the most of the pool, it is a good idea that the children have their named swimming gear at school every day (just in case there is the opportunity for a quick dip).

Equally, having their full PE gear at school each day is helpful if the pool is not available or in the case of accidents that may mean a change of clothes is warranted.



## POOL KEYS



Should you wish to use the pool over the Summer break, you are offered a key to take advantage of the pool for family swimming after school and over the holidays. The cost is \$80 for the entire season plus a \$20 key bond [refundable]. The season end is flexible, around 31st March 2025, and will be notified through the school newsletter.

Keys are numbered and must be returned within four weeks of the end of the season when a bond refund will be given. If the key is not returned within this time the refund is forfeited as these keys need to be refigured and replaced each year. Keys can be purchased at the school office up until noon, Tuesday 17th December when the office closes for the year.

## LOST / FOUND PROPERTY



It is nearing the end of the year and the blue box of lost property items in the office is FULL yet again! You and your children are welcome to come and look for missing items at any time of day whilst the office is open. All unnamed uniform items remaining at the end of the year will be donated to the PTFA second hand uniforms for resale and all non-school clothing, footwear and other items will be donated to charity.

## SPORTS UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

A friendly reminder that all sport uniform and equipment belonging to the school needs to be accounted for before the end of the school year. All uniforms will be checked back in against the 'issued list' we have, so **please ensure that these are all returned**. Thank you for your support in this.

## BACK TO SCHOOL 2025 – YOU CAN ORDER NOW

We've teamed up with OfficeMax to make your back to school shop super easy. And if you order in December, you'll go in the draw to WIN 1 of 5 \$1000 cash prizes\*.



Your child's stationery list is already loaded. Just go to [myschool.co.nz](https://myschool.co.nz) and select your child's year level for next year. Simply add your details, check that you want everything on the list, then click and confirm - and OfficeMax will get your delivery underway with free delivery on orders over \$70\*.

You can pay by internet banking, credit card or debit card. Zip# is also available, so you can pay in 4 interest free payments over 6 weeks and still get your order right away. Plus, you'll be helping our school earn school rewards\* that we use to purchase much needed extra resources for our school.

We encourage you to order early to ensure your child has all their stationery requirements ready to go in plenty of time for the start of Term 1 on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025

So go ahead and beat the back to school rush, order today and give them the best start possible.

#Zip Pay in 4 is available to approved applicants only and subject to completion of satisfactory credit checks. For more information visit [myschool.co.nz/zip](https://myschool.co.nz/zip). T&Cs and late fees apply. Zip Co NZ Finance Limited FSP 598969. \*T&Cs apply, see [myschool.co.nz](https://myschool.co.nz) for details.



## EZCOVERS

Once again, we are welcoming the opportunity to use EZ Covers. EZ Covers are a simple and unique way to cover school exercise books. They are reusable, non-toxic, PVC free and made right here in NZ.

You can order your covers in a few easy steps

1. Go to [www.ezcovers.com](http://www.ezcovers.com)
2. Select the cover types and sizes you need
3. At checkout, select St John's School (Mairangi Bay) from the drop down box and use the code EZ15 to earn our PTFA a \$0.15 cent rebate for every cover purchased.

**EZCOVERS**  
We make covering school exercise books EZ Peasy!

There is a cover design for everyone with our wide range of school book covers. The hardest part is choosing!

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Great for different subjects!

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**Support your school!**  
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15c per cover! Your school has signed up to the EZ Covers rebate! 15c per cover is donated to your school, simply choose your school at checkout!

**ABOUT EZCOVERS**  
At EZ Covers we have created an easier and cheaper way to cover school books. Our covers are proudly made in New Zealand in a range of Kiwi school book sizes.

**SCHOOL DONATION**  
Select your school from the drop-down list when ordering & we will donate 15c per cover back to your school. You will see a note congratulating your school once you place your order.

**ECO FRIENDLY**  
We love the three P's: Reusable, Recyclable & Really EZ to put onto school exercise books. Our covers are non-toxic, PVC free and can be used over & over again, reducing waste.

**ORDER IN BULK**  
School staff: Looking to get your students sorted?  
You can order in bulk!  
• Discounted rates on bulk orders  
• Free shipping

Want to see them for yourself? We are happy to send some samples for you to see and feel before ordering at scale.  
We send hundreds of covers to many schools across New Zealand and Australia every year. Some schools use a different design or color for each subject, which teachers and students find very useful.

info@ezcovers.com www.ezcovers.com facebook.com/ezcover @ezcovers

## SCHOOL CALENDAR AND DATES TO NOTE

Keep up to date with school events through downloading and linking the SJMB Community Calendar. [Link to download calendar](#)

## SOCIAL OUTREACH – ANGEL TREE



Thank you to all those in our community who have contributed to our Parish Christmas Angel Tree. This year, these gifts will be supporting the parishes in Northland.

Angel Trees are decorated with paper angels, each representing a child in need of presents. If you would like to participate, please choose an Angel from the tree. Buy a gift for the age range and gender of the child as requested on the back of the Angel wrap it up, stick the angel tag onto it and then place under the tree in the office.

Please note that the final collection day will be Friday, 13th of December.

## FROM THE PARISH

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL PREFERENCE FORMS:** Fr Carlo and Fr Danko 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](mailto:office@ecbcatholic.org.nz)

**MONTHLY CHILDREN'S MASS:** 3rd Sunday: 9.00 am Mass St. John's Church. Contact Lindy [lindy@willplan.co.nz](mailto:lindy@willplan.co.nz)

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



# HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

These programmes are independent of the school. For further information, please contact the organisers directly. **Please note that the Kids Choice programme will be exclusively for children attending St John's and their siblings.**



## Kids Choice St Johns

Summer Holiday Programme  
17th December—3rd February 2025

St Johns School hall  
87a Penzance Road  
MAIRANGI BAY

Open daily : 7am - 6pm

Contact : Barb 027 440 6363

or

09 478 3705

Email : bmcneill@infogen.net.nz

www.kidschoice.co.nz

**WINZ SUBSIDY APPROVED**

Application forms available from Barb or Rachel



\$ 65 Full day

Mon 16th Dec

**NO**

**PROGRAMME**

Mon 23rd Dec  
Movies & Xmas  
cookies



Mon 6th Jan  
Picnic on the field



Mon 13th Jan  
Sandcastles



Mon 20th Jan  
slime



Mon 27th Jan  
Swim



Mon 3rd Feb  
Lego party



Kids Choice St Johns  
Summer Holiday Programme  
17th December—3rd February 2025  
Open 7am til 6pm Monday to Friday

\$ 65 Full day

Tue 17th Dec  
Cupcakes



Tue 24th Dec  
Christmas party



Tue 7th Jan  
Mairangi play



Tue 14th Jan  
Water pistols



Tue 21st Jan  
Sweets



Tue 28th Jan  
Pizza



Tue 4th Feb

**BACK TO SCHOOL**

\$ 70 Full day

Wed 18th Dec  
Santa show



Wed 25th Dec

**NO**

**PROGRAMME**

Wed 8th Jan  
Parakai pools



Wed 15th Jan  
Wavepool



Wed 22nd Jan  
Potter childrens park



Wed 29th Jan

**NO**

**PROGRAMME**

\$ 70 Full day

Thurs 19th Dec  
Mission Bay



Thurs 26th Dec

**NO**

**PROGRAMME**

Thurs 9th Jan  
Sunnynook park



Thurs 16th Jan  
Magic Loft



Thurs 23rd Jan  
Zoo



Thurs 30th Jan  
Swim



\$ 65 Full day

Fri 20th Dec  
Indoor games



Fri 27th Dec

**NO**

**PROGRAMME**

Fri 10th Jan  
Origami & Face paint



Fri 17th Jan  
Pyjama Party



Fri 24th Jan  
beach swim



Fri 31st Jan  
Tech day



## BASKETBALL CAMPS

- Summer School Holidays -

CAMP 1: December 9th - December 13th  
CAMP 2: December 16th - December 20th  
CAMP 3: December 23rd - December 24th  
CAMP 4: January 6th - January 10th  
CAMP 5: January 13th - January 17th  
CAMP 6: January 20th - January 24th

9:00am to 3:00pm

\$65 per day

School Years 4-10

Grouped by Age and Skill Level  
(DR. Shot 3-4pm book seperately)

SWISH  
FACTORY



[theswishfactory.com/holidaycamps](http://theswishfactory.com/holidaycamps)



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

BOOK NOW

WEEK 1: TUES 21ST - THURS 23RD JAN  
WEEK 2: TUESDAY 27TH - THURS 30TH JAN  
HOBSONVILLE SCHOOL

### KIWI KICK STARS CHRISTMAS GIFTS



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[www.kiwikickstars.com](http://www.kiwikickstars.com)





# Holiday Surf Programme

## Orewa Beach

We are running our popular holiday surf programme over the January School Holidays at Orewa Beach. This is open to 6-16 year olds

**Fun, Active & Healthy**

6-16yr olds | 4-days | Early Morning, Mid-Morning or Afternoon Sessions

Orewa Beach | 3-6 Jan | 7-10 Jan | 11-14 Jan 2025

Suitable for beginner & intermediates – developing surf skills and water confidence in a fun and safe environment. Each student receives a Wave Warrior book



**Limited spaces | Please email to book**

[surf@nzsurfacademy.co.nz](mailto:surf@nzsurfacademy.co.nz)

[www.nzsurfacademy.co.nz](http://www.nzsurfacademy.co.nz)



# ART CLASSES

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**BOOK HERE:**

[bookwhen.com/mairangiarts](http://bookwhen.com/mairangiarts)  
20 Hastings Road, Mairangi Bay



## Mid Bays Music School 2025

At Mid Bays Music, our highly qualified tutors are dedicated to making music learning both relevant and enjoyable. We would love the opportunity to support your child's musical journey!



**Murrays Bay**  
INTERMEDIATE

**When:** Weekdays after school or Saturday mornings

**Where:** Murrays Bay Intermediate School

**Start Date:** 15th February 2025

**Cost:** \$170 - \$270 for the entire year (this includes book hire, but *not* instrument hire)

**Age:** Group lessons are available for children aged 6–12, with [age requirements](#) for some instruments.

**Instruments Offered:** Guitar, Ukulele, Clarinet, Saxophone, Keyboard, Trumpet, Recorder, Flute, Drums, Violin, Viola, and Cello. Click [here](#) to learn more about each instrument.

**Enrolments for 2025** will open on December 1st and must be completed through Kindo. If you haven't done so already, please make sure you have an account set up.

**Spaces are limited**, and some instruments have sold out within the first 48 hours in the past! To avoid disappointment, be sure to register early!

For any troubleshooting or questions, please visit our website at [www.mbmusic.org](http://www.mbmusic.org), or email us at [mbmusic@mbi.school.nz](mailto:mbmusic@mbi.school.nz).