



18<sup>th</sup> February  
2025

# NEWSLETTER

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

Kia ora whanau,

## EOTC WEEK

It was a bit of a wet start to our EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) week this year, but the weather cleared during the morning and activities were able to go ahead as planned. The forecast indicates that the weather will improve over the week ahead.

EOTC Week is a week that the children and teachers look forward to as we leave our normal programme and explore and learn in our school and local environment. There is an exciting programme planned, and all the children will participate in both onsite and offsite activities.



Yesterday we farewelled our Year 5 and 6 children and their teachers as they headed off to Carey Park Camp, our Year 4 children as they headed to Long Bay for the day and our Year 3 children as they headed to Tree Adventures in Woodhill Forest.



A lot of preparation and hard work goes into making these experiences possible and a success. With these and other trips and activities planned for this week, I would like to thank the teachers and administration staff for their organisation and planning. I would also like to thank all the parents who volunteered to help at these events. They would not be possible without your generosity. We hope that you enjoy them as much as the children will.

## TERM 1 AND 2 STUDENT LEADERS

There are many opportunities for all our Year 6 students to become active leaders in our school and I look forward to seeing this group of Year 6 leaders take up this leadership. In such roles the students are invited to lead their peers and demonstrate and develop responsibility for both themselves and others. As leaders they are in position to, through their own words and actions, influence, motivate and guide others to become the best they can be and grow closer to God.

Our House Leaders; elected by their peers to lead our four houses provide a valuable student voice to the Senior Leadership, their mandate is to KNOW what is right, to STAND for what is right and to LEAD others in that direction.

For <b>Keegan</b> House;	Oonagh Burns and Louie Straka
For <b>Liston</b> House;	Hugo Smith and Brooklyn Vousden
For <b>Pierce</b> House;	Bo Shearer and Violet Kingston
For <b>Quinlan</b> House;	Joshua Buckley and Angelina Lavender de la Garza.

We will also commission our Young MacKillops; selected by Mrs Mountjoy and their teachers. They provide a student voice around social justice and work with Mrs Mountjoy as our Director of Religious Studies to support and promote the Special Character of our school, particularly through leadership in liturgy.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY - MORNING SCHOOL DROP OFF

We have noticed a few instances of parents driving into the front car park (off Penzance Rd) or stopping in the driveway area to drop children off in the morning. For health and safety reasons, this area is for staff parking only as this entrance is also a pedestrian access way to the surrounding streets.



Students can be dropped off in the circular turning circle (off East Coast Road), with parents stopping to let children out onto the footpath. Parents wishing to park and come into school can park at either the school carpark by the turning circle or in the church car park off Hastings Rd.



## HEALTH AND SAFETY - AFTER SCHOOL PICK UP

We have been told of instances where parents are driving down the wrong side of the East Coast Rd driveway to bypass the waiting traffic to park. We ask that parents keep left on the driveway and join the waiting queue.

God bless,  
Marina Binns – Principal

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### BEGINNING OF THE YEAR SCHOOL MASS – 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 9:15AM



We look forward to our first school Mass of the year where we ask God's blessing on the year ahead and we induct our Term 1 and 2 student leaders; our House Leaders and Young MacKillops. You are all warmly invited to celebrate Mass with us on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February, at 9:15am in St John's Church.

## KAITIAKI GUARDIANS

Last week we had two EnviroPods installed. These are fitted in our stormwater drains to collect rubbish and debris before it enters the stormwater system and heads out to sea. We would like to thank the Mountains-To-Sea Trust for their generous donation of these LittaTraps.



mountainstosea.org.nz emr.org.nz whitebaitconnection.co.nz waiconnection.nz



**Volunteers  
needed**



## HELPERS NEEDED

**Calling All Parent Volunteers!** 📖❤️

We need your help! Our Scholastic book orders bring the joy of reading into our classrooms, and we're looking for parent volunteers to join our established Scholastic group to help distribute orders once a term during Week 4 or 5.

It's a simple but rewarding way to support our students and teachers – plus you'll get to see the excitement on children's faces when their new books arrive! If you can spare a little time, we'd love to have you on board.

To volunteer or find out more, please contact Mrs Dunn at [Library@sjmb.school.nz](mailto:Library@sjmb.school.nz) Thank you for helping us spread the love of reading! 📖✨

## FROM THE PTFA

### PTFA MEETING – ALL WELCOME!

Join us for our first PTFA meeting of the year on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 7:00pm in the school staffroom.

We'll be electing our committee positions and planning fundraising activities and PTFA-led events for the year ahead.

This is a great opportunity to get involved, share ideas, and support our school community. We'd love to see you there!



**Save the Date!**

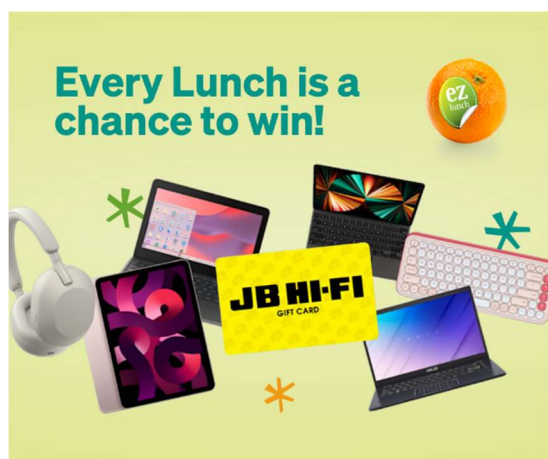
**Friday, 28th February 5:30pm**

The PTFA picnic, held in the early evening, is a wonderful informal gathering of our school community where you are invited to bring a picnic, chairs, rugs and beverages and the children have the option of bringing their togs for a swim in the school pool (under your parental supervision of course!).



## SCHOOL LUNCH ORDERS

Reminder that school lunches for Monday and Wednesday can be ordered via [Kindo](#).  
Subway is available on Friday, ordered through the [Subway](#) website.



- Every parent who orders an ezlunch goes into a weekly draw to win **\$100 Kindo Credit** for themselves **AND** \$100 for your school. Starts Monday 10 February 2025 and runs through to Friday 11 April 2025.
  - Plus, all orders automatically enter the **Grand Prize Draw** for a **\$1,000 JB Hi-Fi Voucher + \$500 for their school!**
- 🌟 **Thank you to JB Hi-Fi for making our Grand Prize rewards possible!** JB Hi-Fi has partnered with Kindo in 2025 to streamline BYOD for schools, and we appreciate their generous support. 🍌

## FROM THE PARISH



### PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

Parish Sacramental Programme (for those 8 years of age and over on 9th June 2025) - enrolment closes on 28<sup>th</sup> February.

[LINK FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

Parent information evening – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and Programme starts Sunday 9th March.

### PARISH PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUPS

Are you new to St John's? Would you like to get to know other families in our community? Are you missing extended family? For fun, laughter, low key/low-cost monthly gatherings and to make great friends, you are invited to become part of the Passionist Family Group Movement which welcomes everyone. We are a "FAMILY FOR ALL".

Please contact Shelley & Graham Ward on Tel: 0273 886 114 or enquire at the Parish office for more information.



# ATTENDANCE DUES



Providing for **Catholic Schools**  
in the Auckland Diocese



Attendance Dues are used to pay for building related costs at Catholic Schools in the Auckland Diocese.

Paying Attendance Dues is a condition of enrolment for all students attending New Zealand Catholic Schools.

Attendance Dues are compulsory – there is a legal requirement for parents and caregivers to pay Attendance Dues under the Education and Training Act 2020.

**ATTENDANCE DUES ARE:**

2025	PRIMARY STUDENTS	SECONDARY STUDENTS
per year (incl. GST)	\$532	\$1,080
per term (incl. GST)	\$133	\$270

**For more information:**

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/>

**Phone:** (09) 360 3040

**Email:** [acfl@cda.org.nz](mailto:acfl@cda.org.nz)

*Mō tā tou, ā, mō ngā uri ā muri ake | For us, and our children after us.*



The Catholic Special Character contribution is used to fund the staff and services provided by the Catholic Education Services Board who are responsible, on behalf of the Proprietor, for safeguarding and strengthening the Catholic Special Character of our schools.

The contribution is \$15 per term per student or \$60 per student per year.

The contribution is tax deductible and a 33% refund can be claimed from the IRD.

**For more information:**

[www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-education-services/](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-education-services/)

**Phone:** (09) 3603091 **Email:** [ces@cda.org.nz](mailto:ces@cda.org.nz)



## **JOB VACANCY**

### **Receptionist/Administrator – Catholic Social Services, Auckland.**

Catholic Social Services is looking for a part-time (20 hours – 3 days – hours can be negotiable) Receptionist/Administrator based in Ponsonby. As a faith-based professional service Catholic Social Services provides social work, counselling, out-reach and support to individual people and families.

The successful applicant would be required to provide efficient, effective, and professional reception and administrative services to the team at Catholic Social Services.

For further details please go to our website [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz), Diocesan Services and staff vacancies.