



18<sup>th</sup> March  
2025

# NEWSLETTER

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

Kia ora whanau,

## SWIMMING SPORTS

The sun was shining on us last Tuesday for our annual Swimming Sports. I was very impressed by the spirit displayed by our children, and while cheering for their house, I also heard many children cheering on children from other houses too. I would like to thank the children for their participation, the teachers and learning support team for their preparation of the children and assistance on the day and all the whānau who came along to support the children, cheering them on from the bank.

Congratulations to **Pierce** House, winners of the Nicola Jack Memorial Cup for 2025.



## INTERSCHOOL TENNIS

Last Thursday 8 students represented our school in the Interschool Tennis Tournament held at Campbells Bay Tennis Club.

Congratulations to the team; Andre A, Joshua B, Amanda C, Avril C, Lani H, Sean J, Emma M, and Wonai S.

Thank you to Mrs Dorrington for her organisation for the day and thank you to all the whānau who helped with transport and support on the day.



## EXCITING NEW "HOW WE DO THINGS" VIDEOS!



We're excited to introduce a series of short videos to help our students learn how we do things at our school! These fun and easy-to-follow clips will guide children through everyday routines and expectations, making it even easier for them to feel confident and independent.

We've already started creating some, and we'll be adding more throughout the year. Keep an eye out for new videos as we continue to make learning at our school even more engaging and supportive!

[LINK FOR VIDEO PLAYLIST](#)

## AUTUMN



The weather has certainly started to turn, from summer to autumn, with drops in temperature and darker mornings. Inspired by this autumnal image, this is a piece of writing from a Year 3 student.

*Huge trees are eavesdropping among the chatter. Branches are swaying and dancing. Leaves are graceful in autumn. Vibrant colours on the ground. A messy path full of colours, red, gold, amber, brown. Happy and graceful all around. What a beautiful autumn day! People are happy walking around. Things are bright and happy.*  
Agnes, Room 8.

## HONOURING ANZAC DAY – A TIME TO REMEMBER

ANZAC Day is a significant occasion for all New Zealanders, marking a time of remembrance, respect, and gratitude for those who have served and sacrificed in war. As a school community, we recognise the importance of teaching our students about the values of courage, service, and unity that ANZAC Day represents.

Our participation in the ANZAC Day parade is a way to honour the men and women who have defended our freedoms and to instil in our children a deep sense of respect for our history. By coming together on this day, we help ensure that the legacy of the ANZACs lives on in future generations.

We invite our students and families to take part in this special commemoration as we stand in solidarity to remember, reflect, and give thanks.

**LEST WE FORGET**  
**ANZAC DAY**  
25TH APRIL

**Want to walk with us in the ANZAC Parade?**

St John's School will participate in this year's ANZAC Memorial Parade and Service in Browns Bay on Friday 25 April.

**Want to walk with us?**

Meet at 8:15 am on the corner of Anzac Road and Beachfront Lane (Service starts at 8:45 am)

All whānau welcome!

Students should wear their school uniform.

If your child would like to take part in the parade and/or help make our wreath in Week 9, please email Mrs Fuaaletoelau [viviennef@sjmb.school.nz](mailto:viviennef@sjmb.school.nz)

God bless,  
Marina Binns – Principal

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

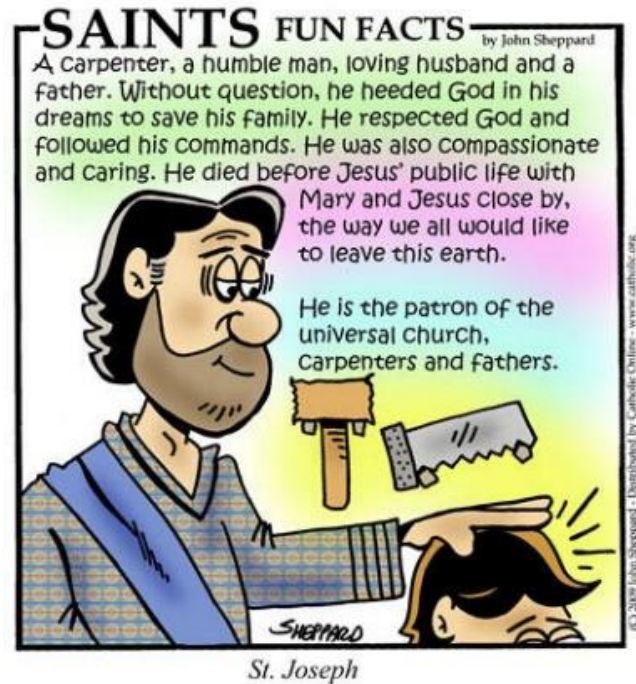
### MASS FOR THE FEAST OF ST JOSEPH – 19<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

St Joseph was a special man who cared greatly for Jesus and Mary. He is considered the patron saint of the Universal Church, families, fathers, expectant mothers, travellers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, engineers and working people, among others.

His feast day is March 19<sup>th</sup>.

We celebrate this as a special day at our school because St John's School was founded in 1961 by the Sisters of St Joseph.

Tomorrow (Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March) we will be celebrating Mass together as a school. You are welcome to join us in this celebration at 9:15am in the church.



## STUDENT NEWS REPORTS ON SCHOOL EVENTS

### A Splashing Win!

Written by Simon F, Year 6

Last week, St John's School Mairangi Bay hosted their annual swimming races with the students of St John's participating for the Nicola Jack Memorial Cup. Anticipation was high as all houses were giving it their all, determined to win the Nicola Jack memorial cup, trying their hardest for their team by swimming various techniques the fastest. The parents sat in the grassy banks cheering for their children and their house.

The Nicola Jack cup has a backstory in which a former student Nicola Jack had a passion for swimming sports. Tragically she died in a car accident. Her family donated the Nicola Jack memorial cup in honour of their beloved child.

House leader, Bo, said that "It was good and very interesting to watch the children of St John's so entertained and excited"

Miss Binns, the Principal of the school, said that "I was very impressed by the spirit displayed by our children, and while cheering for their house, I also heard many children cheering on children from other houses too!"

The teachers congratulate Pierce for their close victory against Liston as they shouted and squealed, celebrating their flawless victory, waving their shirts and singing songs. The community congratulates them for giving it their all and for a good cause.

Pierce is looking forward to next year's swimming sports ready to blow again!



### Splash 'n compete!

Written by Lani H, Year 6

On Tuesday the 11th of March St. John's school held their annual swimming sports day, where everyone was sitting in their house teams and wearing their house colours. Everyone participated in the swimming races, they had loads of fun!

All of the house colours were trying their hardest in all of the races because each house wanted to win the Nicola Jack memorial cup. Nicola Jack was a little girl at St. John's, who loved swimming but sadly she died when she was still a little girl, so in her memory, her family donated the Nicola Jack memorial cup to the school for their swimming sports day!

Mrs Taylor, the starter of all the races, said that "it was a wonderful day, and everyone showed good school spirit!"

Aside from swimming they also had a little competition where their principal and house captains were standing at the front of the pool and screaming a cheer and their house had to say the same thing. The loudest house won and they got special pegs for their house.

At the end of the day whichever house had the most points won, and the winning house was.....

**BLUE HOUSE!!!**

The staff and students had loads of fun in the sunshine and are already looking forward to next year's swimming sports!



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### **PTFA PICNIC SUCCESS!**

Written by Max B, Year 6

On Friday 7th March at St John's School, the families and friends gathered after school for a picnic run by the PTFA. People were sliding on cardboard, buying drinks and food, and hanging around the pool and with others.

There were strong men running the sausage sizzle, laughing away and making jokes.

Every year the PTFA do this so the students can spend more time with family and friends.

Oonagh B, a student of St John's school, said "it was really fun and enjoyable."

Everyone enjoyed it and can't wait until another one!



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### **Pierce adds another to score**

Written by Luca M, Year 6



On the 11th of March, the students of St John's hosted the annual swimming sports event.

The students of St John's went down to their pool to do their swimming sports where they sat in house colours and competed for the Nicola Jack Memorial Cup. Nicola Jack was a girl who loved swimming in the pool but sadly passed in a car accident. But in memory of her, her parents donated the trophy.

The swimming sports is a community event, and anyone can come and watch. Finn G, a competitor for Blue House, said "at first I was nervous but when I got in it felt good."

At the swimming sports, parents spectated and cheered for their kids during their races. Everyone had a great day.

LIBRARY AT LUNCHTIME

Our library is open at lunchtimes and has become a wonderfully busy place. Our fabulous student librarians are ensuring that it is a welcoming place for all students.



REGISTER FOR NATIONAL FAMILY READING MONTH

**READ EVERY DAY!  
READ MORE IN MAY!**

May is the month for readers. Bring your family together and join us in the **NATIONAL FAMILY READING MONTH Challenge**.

Register between 1 March and 31 March to **WIN ONE OF 50 FREE BOOK PACKS** worth \$150!

Take the 31-Day Challenge:  
[scholastic.com.au/nfrm](http://scholastic.com.au/nfrm)

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NATIONAL FAMILY READING MONTH  
2025  
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WRITTEN BY MR LUKE  
ILLUSTRATED BY CHRIS BENNETT

**GUESS WHAT WE ARE DOING TODAY?**

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LITTLE *Heart* DAY ♥

**THIS WEEK 12 KIWI FAMILIES WILL BE TOLD THEIR CHILD HAS A HEART CONDITION**

**Heart Kids NZ supports these families.**

**Little Heart Day is their biggest fundraising campaign for the year...**

**TEXT 'ARIA' TO 2427**

**AND DONATE \$3 TODAY TO HELP THE SMALLEST HEARTS FACING THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES**



**PTFA**



**Get Ready to Dance – The School Disco is Coming!**

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April**

**Junior School (Years 1 - 3): 4.00pm - 5:30pm**  
**Senior School (Years 4 - 6): 6.00pm - 8pm**

Get your dancing shoes on and get ready for a night of music, lights, and fun! Our school disco is just around the corner, and it's going to be an unforgettable evening filled with awesome tunes, cool moves, and plenty of laughter with friends.

Dress up, bring your best dance moves, and get ready to groove! Don't miss out on this fantastic event – see you on the dance floor!

**Tickets will be available via Kindo for \$10 (includes entry to disco and an LED Wandstick)**  
**\$3.00 Sausage sizzle will be available from 5:30 - 6:30pm**

## FROM THE PARISH

### PARISH PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUPS

'Are you thinking of joining a Passionist Family Group?  
If so, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH. The rest of your group is waiting to meet YOU!

Please contact Shelley & Graham at [gandsward@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gandsward@xtra.co.nz), 0273 886 114, put your enrolment form in the collection basket in church or contact the Parish office.'

## HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

### KIDS CHOICE HOLIDAY PROGRAMME



*Kids Choice  
Autumn Holiday Programme*  
  
*14th April to 25th April 2025  
Open 7am til 6pm Monday to Friday*



\$ 60 Full day

\$ 60 Full day

\$ 60 Full day

\$ 60 Full day

\$ 60 Full day

Mon 14th  
Takapuna Playground

Tue 15th  
Snow Planet  
Jacket & gloves

Wed 16th  
Flippin Fun  
Grip socks

Thurs 17th  
Easter egg hunt

Friday 18th  
**GOOD FRIDAY**  
  
**NO  
PROGRAMME**

Mon 21st  
Easter Monday  
  
**NO  
PROGRAMME**

Tue 22nd  
My Wonderland  
Grip socks

Wed 23rd  
Mr Magic

Thurs 24th  
Anzac CRAFT &  
GAMES

Fri 25th  
Anzac Day  
  
**NO  
PROGRAMME**

[CLICK HERE FOR KIDS CHOICE REGISTRATION FORM](#)

# Children's Art WORKSHOP

One-day program for ages 7-12yrs.

If your child loves drawing and painting they'll love this one-day workshop with artist Eion Bryant.

With step-by-step instruction they will draw then create a vibrant acrylic painting learning tips and techniques along the way.

Fun and focused.

#### VENUE

St Anne's Hall

Browns Bay

Date: April 24th

Hours: 10.00am -  
3.00pm.

Cost: \$65

#### BOOKINGS:

eion@eionbryant.com

Ph. 0211327033

or 0210606641



## ART CLASSES

**BOOK ONLINE TODAY!**

**AT MAIRANGIARTS.CO.NZ**



**APRIL HOLIDAY & TERM 2 CLASSES**

FOR YOUTH AGES 5+ & ADULTS

Get \$10 off\*  
using our code!  
**ART4MAC**  
Youth Holiday  
classes only

**BOOK HERE:**

bookwhen.com/mairangiarts  
20 Hastings Road, Mairangi Bay

