



ST PATRICK'S

CATHOLIC SCHOOL TAUPŌ

TE WHAKAPONO ME ANA MAHI - FAITH IN ACTION



ATAWHAI | KINDNESS



TAPATAHI | INTEGRITY



HIRINGA | DETERMINATION



KOTAHITANGA | UNITY

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Thursday 21 August

Nau mai, haere mai, warm greetings to you all.

The term is moving quickly, and it's hard to believe that we are already into the second half!

A big thank you to our hardworking PTA members who met last week. They are busy planning a number of fundraisers. Our annual calendars are currently being completed in classrooms and are looking amazing—these make wonderful keepsakes and gifts, as well as being a valuable fundraiser. The PTA is also organising another PTFA social night, which will be a fantastic opportunity to meet new parents and continue building a strong school community.

In addition, they are planning family fun games after our school Mass on September 14th, and work is already underway for our School Gala on November 14th. Many hands make light work, and this is an event where everyone's gifts, talents, and time can make a big difference. Please mark these dates in your calendars. A special thank you to this enthusiastic group of parents for leading the way — you are warmly invited to join them at their next meeting on Monday, September 15th at 6.30pm in the staffroom.

Our teachers are attending Paid Union Meetings on Friday and Monday. School will remain open, with classes combined so that staff can attend their sessions. Please continue to keep the education sector in your prayers, as we strive to ensure the best outcomes for your children.

Classes are busy preparing for the Tūwharetoa Taiopenga Festival — the waiata are sounding amazing, and I look forward to watching the performances on September 9th and 10th. Junior swimming has also been a great success over the past two weeks, with many proud and happy tamariki returning to school after their sessions. We also wish our students all the very best for the Interschool Cross Country on Tuesday, August 26th.

Continued . . .

Finally, congratulations again to all our students who have been involved in winter sports codes this season – you have shown real determination and unity. I especially enjoyed watching our Year 7 & 8 girls win their A final championship game – what excellent teamwork! Thank you to the coaches and parents who have supported our students.

Thank you, whānau, for your continued support of our kura.

Ngā mihi nui,
Cath and all the St Patrick's Staff

SPECIAL SHOUTOUT!



Congratulations and a special shoutout to the St Pats Y5/6 Angels Netball Team that took out the Best Dressed award during the final round of the season. Second year in a row apparently!

Also, well done Anahera Shepherd who received the Fair Play award!



DIARY DATES

Term 3 *Upcoming Events*

- Thursday 21st August - BOT Meeting, Y8 Tauhara College Visit & Open Evening
- Tuesday 26th August - Interschool Cross Country
- Tuesday 9th September - Pikorua Hub Tuwharetoa Festival
- Wednesday 10th September - Koru & Toki Hub Tuwharetoa Festival
- Sunday 14th September - **FAMILY MASS, ALL EXPECTED TO ATTEND**
- Monday 15th September - Y 5/6 Rippa Rugby Tournament
- Tuesday 16th September - Y 7/8 Rippa Rugby Festival
- Thursday 18th September - Big Music Day, BOT Meeting
- Friday 19th September - Term 3 Ends



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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST PAT'S...

Congratulations to our Year 7/8 Gems Netball Team who finished 1st in their division this past weekend. Well done team on a fantastic season!





WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST PAT'S...

Well done to all our dancers that recently participated in the Dance NZmade competition.

Special congratulations to:

Eilee Sutton 1st Overall Year 8 / National Solo Nomination

Maddie Sutton 1st Overall Year 7

Keira Sutton 2nd Overall Year 2

Juniors - no placing but especially adorable!

Seniors - 2nd place Y7/8 division



R.E. REFLECTION



What our children are learning at St Patrick's School

Over the next few weeks all classes will be looking at Catholic social justice teachings using resources provided by our Catholic aid agency, Caritas New Zealand.

Catholic social teaching is a core body of Catholic doctrine that provides a moral framework for how Catholics should live in society. Rooted in scripture, tradition, and the teachings of popes and bishops, it addresses issues of human dignity, social justice, and the common good. It holds key principles that we teach children about and examines how we as Catholics can live and show these principles to others, especially those less fortunate than ourselves.

- **Dignity of the Human Person:** This is the foundational principle. It holds that every person is created in the image of God and is therefore sacred and has inherent worth. All other rights and responsibilities flow from this fundamental belief.
- **The Common Good:** Society should be organised in a way that benefits all people, especially the most vulnerable. It's about working together to create a just and peaceful world where everyone can flourish.
- **Solidarity:** This principle emphasises that we are all part of one human family, regardless of national, racial, or economic differences. We are called to stand in unity with our brothers and sisters, particularly those who are marginalised or suffering.
- **Subsidiarity:** Decisions should be made at the most local level possible. This principle respects the capacity of individuals and communities to address their own problems and encourages participation in society.
- **Preferential Option for the Poor and Vulnerable:** A just society is measured by how it treats its most vulnerable members. This principle calls on individuals and communities to prioritise the needs of the poor and those on the margins.
- **Stewardship of Creation:** We have a responsibility to care for God's creation, the earth, recognising that all of creation is interconnected and that we are part of and dependent on the environment.
- **Rights and Responsibilities:** Human dignity can only be protected and a healthy community achieved if human rights are protected and corresponding responsibilities are met.

The lessons and resources used for social justice teachings aim to connect students to global issues that affect others. They will review aid work that Caritas, the New Zealand Catholic aid agency, does and how they, along with aid agencies, can make a real difference in the lives of people around the world.

Continued . . .

R.E. REFLECTION



Promoting reflection and action: Caritas encourages a "See, Judge, Act" process, which is a traditional method for applying Catholic Social Teaching. Students are guided to:

- **SEE** social justice issues as they affect society.
- **JUDGE** what is happening and why in light of Catholic principles.
- **ACT** to respond to the issues with concrete actions.

Upcoming events this term

Senior Hub Mass - Friday 22nd Aug

Middle Hub Mass - Friday 29th Aug

Junior Hub Mass - Friday 5th Sep

School Parish Mass Sunday 14th September - New entrant students will receive their bible.

ALL students are expected to attend

Please remember to keep our children who are involved in the sacrament programme in your prayers.

Gracious and loving God,

We come before you today with hearts full of gratitude for these children preparing to receive their First Holy Communion. As they take this significant step on their faith journey, we ask for your abundant blessings upon them.

Watch over them, Lord, and fill their hearts with joy and a deep sense of your presence. May they always remember this day and the incredible gift of your Son, Jesus, in the Eucharist.

Help us, as a community, to be a source of encouragement and a guiding light for them. May we always remember to pray for them, supporting them in their faith so they may grow in their love for you and others.

We pray all of this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



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COMMUNITY NOTICES

Be eye smart

1. Spend time outside everyday
2. Less screen time - take a break
3. Book an eye test
4. Wear sunglasses



HILLARY HOLIDAYS

EVERY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!

- ▶ Have the adventure of a lifetime these school holidays!
- ▶ Spend a week in the mountains or at the beach
- ▶ Bring your friends, try new things, meet some epic people

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📢 The Wait is Over – Camp NZ Bookings Are OPEN! 📢

Get ready for the greatest School Holiday Camp of all time – Edventure Camp NZ is back and bigger than ever!

📅 Tuesday 30th Sept – Friday 3rd October

📍 Ngamuwahine Lodge, Tauranga

💰 \$575 (OSCAR available)

🚌 Pickups from Auckland, Hamilton, and BOP (100 bus spaces available)

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