



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 27 November

Gala

What a wonderful evening we had on the 14th of November! It was great to see so many of you at the gala, such a fun event and the weather was very kind to us. A huge thank you to our organising team and their tireless efforts to make it happen. And to all our volunteers during the day and on the night - thank you! Our students are the winners from all your efforts!

Class placements for 2026

These are well underway and will be confirmed on your child's report that will go live on Friday 12 December via HERO. I want to assure you all that a lot of consideration and care is put into these placements to ensure the best for all children. Not all personal requests are able to be met, however if you have any concerns please direct these to myself, Cath Daignault, DP, or Janine Ramsay, AP.

Carpark

Over the past couple of weeks I have received correspondence from some parents around safety issues when dropping off and picking children up, especially on wet days. We appreciate all concern raised and assure you there are plans in place to have clearer car park markings painted. There is also a responsibility for everyone using the car park area to be very vigilant and patient, especially at pick up time in the afternoon. The work will hopefully happen over the holiday break and we are also clarifying guidelines for parking on the roadside to ensure clear visibility can be maintained at all times.

Attendance Management Plan

From the start of 2026 all schools are required to have in place an attendance management plan. The Government has clear expectations of what constitutes regular attendance and we know that if children aren't present to learn, achievement and their sense of belonging at school are negatively impacted, thus affecting their overall wellbeing. Everyday matters! There will be more on this from early next term including sharing with you our reviewed processes for following up on absences.

Continued below . . .

Community Consultation

Our surveys will be available again via the HERO app. Thank you to those who have responded, and thank you in advance to those who can find a few minutes to over the next week or so. We value your contributions.

End of year reports

These will be made available online from 2.00pm on Friday 12 December via the HERO app. If you have not downloaded this app we recommend you do so and if you are unsure how to access our school information, please ring the school for assistance and support.

The HERO app looks like this (pictured right) and is available for both Android phones and iPhones.

To download a copy your child's report please follow the instructions that are on the top of the report.



Staff changes

At the end of this year we will be farewelling Miss Hayleigh-Anne Pine from her teacher position in the Toki Hub. Hayleigh-Anne leaves us to continue her teaching career in the greater Melbourne area. While we are sad to be losing Hayleigh-Anne as a valued member of our team, we are also excited for her as she embarks on new adventures. We thank Hayleigh-Anne for her dedication, her positivity and her unwavering support of the learners and learning she has impacted in such a great way over the past two years. We also congratulate her for the successful completion of her Provisionally Registered Teacher period which we will celebrate as a staff in the coming weeks. She will leave St. Patricks as a fully registered teacher!

We also acknowledge and thank Mrs. Sue Forsyth who over the past two years has been a Specialist Learning Teacher for some of our students. Sue brought many years of invaluable experience to this role and we have all been fortunate to learn from her. We wish Sue all the very best as she continues her role within the Church and new endeavours.

Lastly, our thoughts and prayers have been with Ms. Donna Kiff who very recently lost her dear mum. We know how special mums are and send strength and love to Donna and her family during this sad time.

The next school newsletter will be our last for 2025. Enjoy the last three weeks with us and we look very forward to seeing you all at the many end of year events.

Vicki - Principal



School Mass
Sunday
30th November
9am



It is an expectation, when you enrolled your child, that you attend Mass. If you are unable to make Mass on Sunday you must inform your child's teacher this week with your reasons.

Please bring a plate to share after Mass

R.E. REFLECTION



The Importance of *Advent* for Catholics

As we enter the season of Advent, the beginning of the Church's liturgical year, we are reminded that this is a special time of preparation and hope for Catholics around the world. For Catholics, Advent is much more than counting down to Christmas — it is a season that invites us to pause, reflect, and prepare our hearts.

A Season of Hope

The four candles of the Advent wreath help us mark the weeks leading up to Christmas. With each candle we light, the light grows brighter, reminding us that hope increases as we draw closer to the celebration of Jesus' birth. Many classes use this time to reflect on what they are hopeful for and how they can bring hope to others.

Preparing Our Hearts

Advent encourages us to “make room” for Jesus in our daily lives. Students and families often take part in simple acts of kindness—helping a friend, donating food or gifts, or showing patience and compassion. Many parishes also offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent to help people prepare spiritually for Christmas.



Remembering the Nativity

Throughout Advent, our Scripture readings and classroom discussions help us remember the story of Mary, Joseph, and the journey to Bethlehem. Students may take part in nativity plays, prayer services, and reflections that bring the Christmas story to life and remind us of God's great love shown through the birth of Jesus.

Living With Christ Today

Advent also reminds us that Jesus is with us now — through prayer, through the people who care for us, and in the moments when we choose kindness and justice. Many schools support service projects at this time of year, helping children understand that caring for others is one way to welcome Jesus into our world.

Looking Forward With Faith

The early weeks of Advent focus on being ready and staying awake for Christ's return. This doesn't mean waiting in fear, but living with purpose, responsibility, and love. Students learn that every good choice—big or small—helps to build a world filled with peace and goodness.



DIARY DATES

Upcoming Events

- Monday 24 - Friday 28th November - Book Week
- Friday 28th November - Book Week Dress Up Day
- Thursday 27th November - Boys Super Smash Cricket
- Sunday 30th November - 9am School Mass
- Tuesday 9th December - 2pm Nativity Play
- Thursday 11th November - Y8 Leavers Dinner (Time TBC)
- Thursday 4th December - 1.15pm Franciscan College Concert in Church
- Friday 12th December - Reports Available from 2pm on Hero
- Monday 15th December - 2pm Leavers liturgy
- Tuesday 16th - 5.30pm Prizegiving
- Wednesday 17th December - School Finishes Midday





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



ATHLETICS DAY

We were recently blessed with fabulous weather for our Athletics Day. Students had a great day participating and pushing themselves to achieve some great results.

Certificates have been printed and we will take time to acknowledge our winners and place getters soon including those that represented and placed at the Interschools competition as well.

Well done everyone, you're all winners in our eyes!



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

ISSUE 8 OPEN NOW!

\$5 Earn a **PROMO CODE**
Included with order confirmation

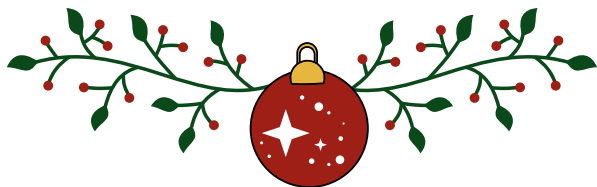


SCHOLASTIC **Book Club**

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

A friendly reminder online orders close tomorrow, Friday 28 November at 1pm. Some great ideas for Christmas presents.

Every purchase you make on Book Club earns our school 15% of the order value in Scholastic Rewards? We use these to purchase more books and educational resources for the school. It all helps!



FRIDGE MAGNETS

Looking for another great idea for a Christmas gift, stocking stuffer or secret santa gift?

How about a St Patrick's School fridge magnet, only \$3!

Available to purchase from the school office, just ask Kylee!





COMMUNITY NOTICES



WANTED - HOUSE TO RENT

We (school family) are looking for a long-term rental house with 3-4 bedrooms for two adults and two kids (6 and 4 years old), ideally in Nukuhau or Rangatira Park, but any other area is fine. We don't have pets.

Please call Maria 027 353 9425 if you know of anything available. Many thanks!

School's Out
Before School • After School • Holiday Programmes

WAIPAHIHI

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME
SUMMER 2025 - 2026

School's Out Waipahihi
98 Richmond Avenue
Waipahihi
Taupo

MON 15 DEC 	TUE 16 DEC 	WED 17 DEC Day in the Tropics Let's kick off the summer holidays with a day in the Tropics! We'll kick back, sip refreshing fruit smoothies, and make some bright, colourful tropical crafts. Centre Day - \$55	THU 18 DEC Mind Junction Activity Park Get ready for an action-packed adventure at Mind Junction Activity Park! Explore the giant maze, test your skills in the discovery centre, play mini golf, and check out the Lego display. Trip Day - \$67	FRI 19 DEC Kiwiana Day Celebrate the season with classic Kiwi Fun-Kiwiana arts and crafts, backyard games, and a tasty sausage sizzle! Centre Day - \$55
MON 22 DEC DIY Christmas Gifts Get creative and make special Christmas gifts for your family and friends! From handmade crafts to festive decorations, it's a day full of sparkle and creativity. Centre Day - \$55	TUE 23 DEC Huka Falls River Cruise and Walk Let's experience Taupo's famous Huka Falls by boat. Enjoy a scenic river cruise and walk. Leaving sharp at 9:30am Trip Day - \$67	WED 24 DEC School's Out Christmas Party It's Christmas Eve! Let's celebrate with games, fun, and Christmas presents for everyone! Centre Day - \$55	THU 25 DEC Merry Christmas!! CLOSED	FRI 26 DEC CLOSED
MON 29 DEC CLOSED	TUE 30 DEC CLOSED	WED 31 DEC CLOSED	THU 1 JAN Happy New Year!! CLOSED	FRI 2 JAN CLOSED
MON 5 JAN New Year Party Welcome to 2026! Join us for party games, water fun, yummy food, and new friendships! The perfect way to start the year with smiles and fun. Centre Day - \$55	TUE 6 JAN Waikato Army Museum Get ready for an inspiring journey into New Zealand's iconic military history! Departing 9:30am sharp. Arrive back at approx 4:00pm. Trip Day - \$67	WED 7 JAN Kpop Demon Hunters Come dressed as your favourite K-POP heroes or demon-slayers, create your own harmonium-inspired jam, take on K-POP group challenges, and finish with an epic Karaoke showdown! Centre Day - \$55	THU 8 JAN Lake Kinloch Swim We're heading to beautiful Lake Kinloch for a refreshing swim and a relaxing day by the water - finished off with delicious fish & chips for lunch! Trip Day - \$67	FRI 9 JAN Art Day A day full of imagination! Kids will enjoy Bubble Art, Marble Art, Landscape Art, and Finish The Day by creating a special Lake home masterpiece. Centre Day - \$55

OPEN 8.00 AM - 6.00 PM DAILY
Children must wear appropriate clothing, hat and shoes, bring lunch and a refillable water bottle. Tags and towel required for water days.

For more information call 022 137 5484 or email waipahihi@schoolsout.co.nz

WINZ Subsidy and discounts available for eligible families. Contact us for further details.

Enrol now at www.schoolsout.co.nz/waipahihi

School's Out
Before School • After School • Holiday Programmes

WAIPAHIHI

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME
SUMMER 2025 - 2026

School's Out Waipahihi
98 Richmond Avenue
Waipahihi
Taupo

MON 12 JAN Messy Monday Get ready for... magic potions, slimy fun, colourful sand, hand painting and so much more! It's the perfect day to get creative, get messy, and let your imagination run wild! Centre Day - \$55	TUE 13 JAN Bowling at Dropzone Strike, spare, or just for fun - it's time to hit the lanes! Join us for Bowling at Drop Zone, where we'll enjoy friendly games, teamwork, and lots of high five moments! Trip Day - \$67	WED 14 JAN Wacky Wednesday Time to get wacky! We'll style crazy hair, paint fantastic faces, and create the most outrageous paper fashion outfits ever! Let your imagination run wild for Wacky Wednesday! Centre Day - \$55	THU 15 JAN AC Baths Get ready for a day of water fun! We're heading to the AC Baths to swim, splash, slide, and play. Trip Day - \$67	FRI 16 JAN DIY Woodwork Day Build it, paint it, keep it! Join us for Woodwork Day and make your own wooden creation to take home. Centre Day - \$55
MON 19 JAN School's Out Restaurant Get ready to be chefs! At School's Out Restaurant, we'll form teams, plan our very own menu, mix fun drinks, and cook up tasty treats. A day of flavours, teamwork, and foodie fun! Centre Day - \$55	TUE 20 JAN Vortex Ninja Park at Motions Entertainment Calling all ninjas-in-training! We're off to Motions Entertainment's Vortex Ninja Park in Rotorua to test our speed and strength on fun obstacle courses. Depart at 9:30am Trip Day - \$67	WED 21 JAN Carnival Day Roll up! Roll up! Carnival Day is here! Bounce to your heart's content on the bouncy castle and enjoy a day filled with colorful carnival fun, games, and excitement! Centre Day - \$55	THU 22 JAN Huka Prawn Park! Join us for an awesome day of fun at Huka Prawn Park! Try prawn fishing and race your friends on the paddleboats. It's going to be a prawn-tastic day! Trip Day - \$67	FRI 23 JAN Camping Day Let's go camping! Bring your tents, your energy, and your outdoor adventure mood. We'll explore, play, and end the afternoon with a fireside meal and movie time. Centre Day - \$55
MON 26 JAN AUCKLAND ANNIVERSARY CLOSED	TUE 27 JAN Lake Swim & Mr Whippy Let's make a splash! Join us for a Lake Swim adventure and a sweet visit from Mr Whippy. Sun, water, friends, and ice cream - the best combo! Trip Day - \$67	WED 28 JAN Upcycling Day Get creative and go green! We'll transform old T-shirts into tote bags, craft with cardboard and yarn, and explore the art of turning everyday items into something awesome. Centre Day - \$55	THU 29 JAN Drop Zone Trampoline Park We're off to Drop Zone for some trampoline park fun! Jump, bounce, flip, and play with friends - it's going to be awesome! Trip Day - \$67	FRI 30 JAN Summer Party Day Let's slow down and relax after a busy holiday! Wear your comfiest clothes, chill with friends, and enjoy a calm day together. You may bring your named device for quiet play and movie time. Centre Day - \$55

OPEN 8.00 AM - 6.00 PM DAILY
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For more information call 022 137 5484 or email waipahihi@schoolsout.co.nz

WINZ Subsidy and discounts available for eligible families. Contact us for further details.

Enrol now at www.schoolsout.co.nz/waipahihi



COMMUNITY NOTICES



A fun, active, and meaningful way for your child to spend the school holidays!

- Loads of fun and learn new skills!
- Outdoor challenges and team building
- Making new friends and building confidence
- Spend a week at the beach or in the mountains
- Making lasting memories!



HILLARY
OUTDOORS
EDUCATION CENTRES

HILLARY HOLIDAY CAMP



ADVENTURE
IS CALLING!

Tongariro Centre
Alpine - Rock - Bush - Lake

Coromandel Centre
Marine - Ocean - Surf - Bush

WWW.HILLARYOUTDOORS.CO.NZ





**THANK YOU TO THE PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES
THAT GENEROUSLY SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!**

Please support them when you can!



Thank you **Amanda & Dean Calvert**, owners of Greenstone Entertainment, for generously supporting our school for many years!

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PRESENTS



TAUPŌ SUMMER CONCERT

SAT 24 JAN 2026

TAUPŌ AMPHITHEATRE

AUCKLAND ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

IGGY POP

JOAN JETT AND THE BLACKHEARTS

HOODOO GURUS x ZED



**RAPIDS
Jet TAUPŌ
NEW ZEALAND**

**ROB
AWA**

RAPIDSJET.COM OR 0800 727 437 TO BOOK



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Generation Homes – Central North Island
www.generation.co.nz

ANNA LOPEZ

+64 21 023 06483 | anna.lopez@bayleystaupo.co.nz

As a local expert and active community supporter, I make every sale count.

List your property with me, and I'll donate \$500 from every successful sale to the PTFA at St Patrick's School.

Reach out now to list your property and support our local school.



BAYLEYS

ALTOGETHER BETTER

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