



# St Leo's Catholic Primary School

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TRISH FITZGERALD 021 952 452  
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04 December 2025

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou whānau, and a warm St Leo's blessing on you all

## Season of Advent

Advent marks the beginning of the liturgical year and spans four weeks leading up to Christmas. It is a time characterised by preparation, not just for the joyful celebration of Jesus' birth, but for the transformation of our hearts and the world around us. This week, we enter the beautiful season of Advent, a special time of waiting, hope, and preparation as we look forward to celebrating Jesus' birth at Christmas. At St Leo's, we will focus each week on the themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, guiding our ākonga to reflect on how they can bring Christ's light into the world through their words and actions.

Classrooms will be marking the season with prayer, reflection, and acts of kindness that honour our Mercy values and our school's strong Catholic identity. As we light the first candle on the Advent wreath, we invite whānau to join us in embracing this time of thoughtful preparation and gratitude.



## Farewell Mrs Schaffer

We say a heartfelt farewell to Mrs Schaffer, who will be leaving us at the end of this year. We are incredibly grateful for the dedication, warmth, and creativity she has brought to St Leo's. Her passion for learning and her genuine care for our tamariki have made a lasting impact on our school community. Mrs Schaffer will be going to Germany and teaching there for a while. We will miss her dearly. We are excited for the fantastic opportunities that await her overseas. We send her off with our prayers, our gratitude, and our very best wishes.

## Welcome to Mrs Cleasby Kia ora St Leo's community!

My name is Emily Cleasby, and I'm so excited to be joining St Leo's next year. My family and I are originally from Sydney, Australia, and we've been living in Devonport for almost two years. It has been so lovely settling into this community and getting to know everyone. We're always up for a chat, so please come and say hello if you see us around!

We have two children: Alexis, who is five, and Theo, who is almost three. We've loved exploring the local playgrounds, beaches, library, and all the fun activities our area has to offer. As a family, we enjoy travelling, hiking, and volunteering through the Kaipātiki Project.

I began teaching in Sydney in late 2015, and every year since has been gratifying as I've watched my students learn, grow, achieve their goals and gain confidence in themselves. I especially enjoy teaching all aspects of literacy and creating engaging art projects while exploring different artists and art styles.



I'm really looking forward to becoming part of the St Leo's whānau and getting to know the people who make this community so special. See you in the new year!

## Family Picnic

We are excited to invite all our St Leo's whānau to our Family Picnic this Friday from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. This is an excellent opportunity for families to come together, relax, and enjoy each other's company as we celebrate the end of a busy year.

There will be pizzas, a sausage sizzle, and drinks available for purchase, so bring a blanket, find a sunny spot, and enjoy a fun afternoon with our school community. We look forward to seeing you there for a great evening of connection, laughter, and shared kai!

## Costumes for the end-of-year show

We are looking for sheep costumes for our Christmas show. If you have one that we could borrow, please let Renee or Vimi know.

## Christmas/Nativity Show – Thursday 11 December

We are delighted to invite all whānau and friends to our annual Christmas/Nativity Show on Thursday, 11 December at 10 am. This special celebration is a highlight of our year as our tamariki share the story of Jesus' birth through song, drama, and joy-filled performance.

Everyone is warmly welcome, so come along and support our students, and join us in the spirit of Christmas as we gather together as a community.

God Bless, *Vimi Chandra*

## Other notices:

### Term 4 fees

Term 4 fees invoices are now due. Term 4 activity invoices have been sent. Payment before the end of the term would be appreciated. If you have not yet received this please let Renee know.

### Summer uniform

A reminder that all girls need to be in the new uniform next year. <https://www.schooluniform.co.nz/>

### PTFA News

#### School Fair

The final figure for the fair was \$17,091.00.

#### Calendar art

This should be with us before the end of the term. We will let you know when it arrives

#### Christmas Festival

We still need a couple of people to help with selling drinks and ice blocks at the Christmas festival after the Santa Parade. Please see Gin, Amy or Renee if you can help.

#### Pie lunch

Your child should have brought home an order form for ordering a pie lunch. \$6 for pie, treat and drink. This will take place on the fun day 15th December. If you are able to help with the cooking and serving on this day please let Renee, Gin or Amy know.

Thank you to the following local businesses who supported our school fair:

Trish & Tracey Barfoot & Thompson  
New World Devonport

Toshiba  
Avenue Advice  
Peter Wolkamp Resident Builder  
Auckland Zoo  
ClipNCLimb  
Inflatable World  
Northern Rocks  
Paradox Books  
Hammer Hardware  
Devonport Squash Club  
Scholastic Books  
Anna Stretton  
North Shore United Soccer Club  
Victoria Superette  
Hirepool  
Stoked NZ  
Studio Pilates  
Mr Chips  
Container Nurseries  
The Thread Room  
Uglys

The Vic  
Devonport Drycleaners  
Dulcies  
Benefitz  
Chalmers Organics  
Devonport Resource Recovery Centre  
Wild Wheat  
Zealandia Horticulture Ltd  
Resene  
Scott Base Nursery  
Hauraki Social Club  
Bloom Pretzels  
Calimero  
Asahi  
MOTAT  
Devonport Navy Museum  
Farro  
Marbles Art Studio  
Wero Climb  
Skin Sense  
Belmont Pharmacy



Devonport



**TOSHIBA**

## CARMEL COLLEGE

Empowering young women through a Catholic education in the Mercy tradition to pursue personal excellence and to be prepared to challenge and shape the future.



Visit our Open Days on  
Thursday 26 February 2026 (1:30 - 3:00pm) and  
Friday 27 February 2026 (9:30 - 11am)

Register here  
for open days



## Timetable of events term 4

Friday 5 December	Save Day Peninsula Athletics Year 3 - 6 Mass 12.00 Family picnic 4pm - 6pm
Sunday 7 December	Santa Parade & stall at Christmas festival
Tuesday 9 December	Music with Dominic Playgroup 9.15 am Helpers morning tea 11 am
Wednesday 10 December	Music with Dominic Year 6 Leavers Dinner 5.30pm
Thursday 11 December	Christmas Show 10 am Chess club
Monday 15 December	Fun Day Pie lunch
Tuesday 16 December	Playgroup Year 6 Leavers Mass 10 am School finishes midday
Friday 19 December	Office closes until Jan 27th

### New Zealand Traveller Declaration

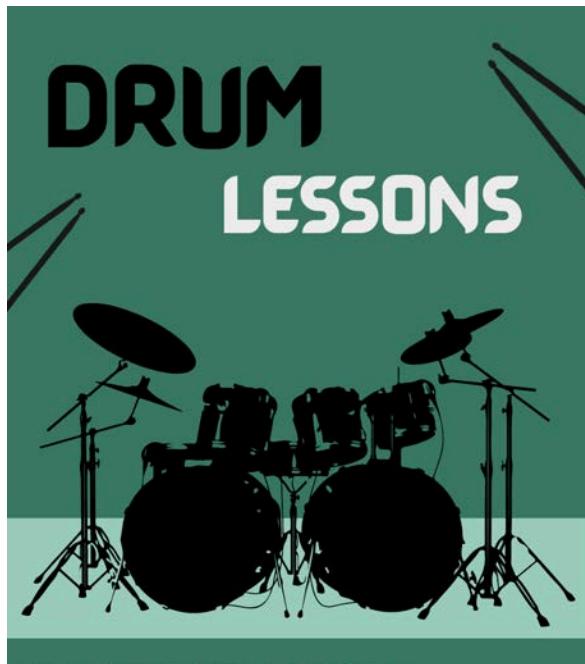
Going overseas for the school holidays? Everyone travelling into New Zealand must complete a New Zealand Traveller Declaration, including returning New Zealand passport holders.

Its FREE and you can do it on the [online form](#) or on the [NZTD app](#).

If you're travelling as a family or group and completing multiple declarations, the [NZTD app](#) allows you to copy your travel details into another declaration, making it easier to complete multiple declarations for the same journey. The submitted declarations are then all easy to see within the app.

The New Zealand Traveller Declaration collects travel, customs, immigration and biosecurity information and aims to improve the safety and security of New Zealand. It replaces the paper card you used to fill out on the plane.

To make your arrival easier, do your digital declaration before your flight back to New Zealand. Head to [travellerdeclaration.govt.nz](http://travellerdeclaration.govt.nz) today!



## Community Notices



Season's Greetings Ngā Mihi O Te Wā – The Vic has a great range of new films for the whole family to enjoy over summer! For more info visit [www.thevic.co.nz](http://www.thevic.co.nz)

### FUN FOOTBALL CAMP WITH INFLATABLE PITCH

Kick off the school holidays with football fun at our holiday programme held at the fantastic facilities of Takapuna Normal Intermediate School. Experience the thrill of our unique inflatable pitch as we dive into fun games, skill-building activities, matches, tournaments, and much more

**17-19 & 22-23 DEC**  
**19-22 & 26-29 JAN**

**TAKAPUNA NORMAL INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

Register on [enrolmy.com/msports-northshore](http://enrolmy.com/msports-northshore)

**9 - 12PM | 9 - 3PM**  
**\$39.99 | \$59.99**

More info: Chris Bryson  
[chrisb.fknz@gmail.com](mailto:chrisb.fknz@gmail.com)

**MULTIPLE GOALS!**




**LIVE ONLINE FAN CALL and Q & A**

# JESSE RANDALL

All White & Auckland FC

- Date: Sunday, 25th January
- Time: 7 p.m. NZDT
- Join FREE on Zoom

[SCAN TO REGISTER](#)



[OR CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

Brought to you by

**FYR** FUELING YOUTH ATHLETES





**Gently Loved Markets**  
**BTG Kids!**



Greenhithe Community Hall  
 Saturday 6th December • 12pm - 3pm

**NORTH SHORE** 

# youth music

**2026 APPLICATIONS OPEN NOW**

  
Songsters

  
Stringalongs

  
Children's Choir

  
Junior Orchestra

  
Con Brio Choir

  
Premier Choir  
Auditions 11-17 year old

Yes, Te Reo Māori class is back  
 One night a week  
 Rāpare/THURSDAY 6-9pm  
 Where: Te Pataka kōrero ki Te Hau  
 Kapua/Devonport Library  
 Starts March 2026

To apply or to find out more information about the above groups, visit our website or find us on Facebook

[www.nsym.org.nz](http://www.nsym.org.nz)

**Takapuna Beachside CINEMAS**

## SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT























**WIN A ZOO PASS**

WHEN YOU BUY TICKETS TO **ZOOTOPIA 2**

**Auckland ZOO**

Two annual passes to be won  
 Each pass covers 1 adult + 1 child (4-14)  
 Zoo is open 364 days a year!

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

[WWW.TAKAPUNAMOVIES.CO.NZ](http://WWW.TAKAPUNAMOVIES.CO.NZ)

# DEVONPORT COMMUNITY HOUSE PRE-CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
A VERY MERRY MARKET DAY!



THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
MOVIE DAY AND AN ICE CREAM!! EXTRA COST \$18  
ZOOTOPIA 2!



FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
CHRISTMAS PYJAMA PARTY!  
SHARED LUNCH, PRESENT MAKING  
AND XMAS MAKEOVERS!!



HO HO HO, LETS GO! LETS MAKE AND SWAP ALL SORTS OF COOL AND CUTE XMAS CRAFTY GIFTS TO TAKE HOME!

WOO HO HO ZOOTOPIA 2 MOVIE AND ICE-CREAM AT THE VIC PLUS CRAZY CHRISTMAS FUN & CUTE CRAFTS AT THE HOUSE!

WEAR YOUR PYJAMAS OR PAJALESS, LETS IF YOU LIKE, BRING SOMETHING FOR OUR SHARED LUNCH! FUN XMAS PARTY GAMES, XMAS MOVIES AND MORE!

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM FOR 5-13 YEAR OLDS FEES: 1 CHILD \$38 WITH 10% DISCOUNT FOR 2ND CHILD, 10% DISCOUNT FOR 3RD CHILD.  
EXTRA COST FOR SOME ACTIVITIES.

PLACES MAY BE LIMITED. ENROLMENTS AND BOOKINGS WILL TAKE PLACE AT ANY TIME, USING THE FOLLOWING LINK:  
<https://devonportcomhouse.aimyplus.com/>

EVERY DAY PLEASE BRING ALONG A DRINK, BOTTLE, MORNING TEA, LUNCH AND AFTERNOON TEA (STRICLY NO NUTS). BRING A JACKET OR RAINCOAT, HAT AND GLOVES. WE WILL BE OUTSIDE SO PLEASE BRING A SUNHAT, SHIRT AND PANTS. WE WILL BE DOING A LOT OF WALKING, PLEASE BRING A BOTTLE OF WATER. PLEASE REMEMBER SOCKS. IF YOU WANT TO USE OUR ROLLERBLADE, IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO POP A PAIR IN YOUR BAG THAT STAYS THERE ALL HOLIDAY. NO DEVICES PLEASE. EVERY DAY WE WILL HAVE SOME KIND OF CRAFT, SEWING, GAMES OR SCIENCE, THERE WILL BE A QUIET AREA FOR DRAWING OR JUST FOR READING, SO BRING YOUR FAVOURITE BOOK.



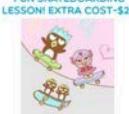
MON 19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
WATER PLAY SUMMER FUN DAY!



TUES 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
LETS CLIMB THE MOUNTAIN & HAVE GAMES & A PICNIC LUNCH!!



WED 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY  
ACTIVITY - YOUNG GUNS SKATE SCHOOL SUPER FUN SKATEBOARDING LESSON! EXTRA COST-\$20



THURS 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY  
MEGA SUPER AWESOME BOX CITY !!



FRI 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY  
PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR FUN DAY!! EPIC PENGUIN CRAZINESS & CRAFTS!



REMEMBER TO BRING A HAT, TOGS & A TOWEL FOR WATER PLAY AT THE COMMUNITY HOUSE!

MON 26<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
PUBLIC HOLIDAY TODAY!!



HAVE A HAPPY DAY!!

TUES 27<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
WATER BALLOONS & WATER PLAY FUN DAY!!



WED 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
TRIP-MOVIE DAY!! POUT POUT FISH MOVIE AND AN ICE CREAM! EXTRA COST \$18



THURS 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
ARTY PARTY MARKET FUN DAY!



FRI 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
LAST DAY!! PARTY ANIMALS DAY!! SHARED LUNCH! DRESS UPS AND PYJAMA PARTY!!



<https://devonportcomhouse.aimyplus.com/>

MON 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
BACK TO THE FUTURE DAY! AVENGER CHALLENGES & CRAFTS! ROBOT CHALLENGES AND GAMES!



TUES 6<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE!



WED 7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
SPONGEBOB MOVIE & AN ICE CREAM! EXTRA COST \$18



THURS 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
WATER FUN DAY!!!



FRI 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
TERRIFIC TOY STORY DAY!!



MON 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
TROLLS MUSIC MAKING MONDAY!



TUES 13<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
RATATOUILLE KOOKY COOKS DAY!



WED 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
LIL AND STITCH TROPICAL PARTY! WATER PLAY TODAY! BEACH VIBES!



THURS 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
TRIP DAY! CATCH THE FERRY TO RIBBON MEADOWS \$22 LETS GO IN A SAILBOAT UNDER THE HARBOUR BRIDGE!



FRI 16<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
HARRY POTTER MAGIC DAY!



CUTE HAIR MAKEOVERS AND MUSIC MAKING CRAFTS! TERRIFIC TALENT SHOW AND MORE!

REMEMBER TO BRING TOGS & A TOWEL FOR WATER PLAY AT THE COMMUNITY HOUSE! SHOES & A HAT FOR SANDCASTLE COMPETITION AT THE BEACH!

PLEASE ARRIVE BY 9AM THIS DAY WE WILL BE LEAVING AT 9:15AM AT THE VERY LATEST!

IF YOU LIKE, DRESS UP AS YOUR FAVOURITE CHARACTER FOR A DAY OF MAGICAL CRAFTS HARRY POTTER YOGA AND MYSTICAL ACTIVITIES!

<https://devonportcomhouse.aimyplus.com/>

bricks 4 kidz



HOLIDAY  
PROGRAMME

JANUARY 2026

34 Barrys Point Road, Takapuna

E: auckland-LNS@bricks4kidz.co.nz

M: 020 406 806 70

\$77 FULL DAY \$25 DROP IN SESSIONS

9am - 3pm

10% BUDDY DISCOUNT

Monday 12 January

Tuesday 13 January

Wednesday 14 January

Thursday 15 January

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Ninja Knockout

Bey Battle

Dragon Duels

Brick Studio: Create

Brick Studio: Perform

Turtle Takeover

Book now at:  
[www.bricks4kidz.co.nz](http://www.bricks4kidz.co.nz)  
or scan QR Code:



Thursday 22 January

Friday 23 January

Tuesday 27 January



Sweetopia Market

Minion Madness

Great Treasure Hunt

Wednesday 28 January

Thursday 29 January

Friday 30 January

Survivor Island

Aqua Adventures

Ultimate Survivor

# DEVONPORT COMMUNITY HOUSE HOLIDAY PROGRAMME JANUARY 2026

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Authorised by Hon S Watts, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.



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make healthy living  
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## The GAME



Coaching at Ngataringa Tennis Club available year round!  
Email us or book online at [www.thegame.net.nz](http://www.thegame.net.nz)

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