



St Leo's Catholic Primary School

Compassion | Hospitality | Respect | Service | Social Justice

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102 Victoria Rd, Devonport, Auckland 0624
All correspondence to: P.O. Box 32-064 Devonport, Auckland 0744



13 March 2025

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

Ash Wednesday & the Beginning of Lent

Last week, we marked Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, a sacred season of reflection, prayer, and renewal. As we received the ashes on our foreheads, we were reminded of our call to repentance and spiritual growth, preparing our hearts for Easter.

Lent is a time to pause, reflect, and journey closer to God through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. As a school community, we encourage our students to think about ways to show kindness, give to others, and grow their faith during this season.

May this Lenten journey be a time of grace, renewal, and preparation for the joy of Easter.

Beach Day Fun in the Sun!

What a fantastic day we had at Beach Day! The sun was shining, the waves were rolling, and our students enjoyed the sand, sea, and outdoor activities. From beach games to swimming and exploring the shoreline, it was a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together, have fun, and appreciate the beauty of our coastal surroundings.

A big thank you to our staff, parent helpers, and whānau, who helped make the day safe and enjoyable for everyone. We are grateful for these special moments that create lasting memories for our students.

We're already looking forward to our next adventure by the sea!

St Catherine News

This week I was lucky enough to take St Catherine's class to the Navy Museum to learn about medals and the importance of why people receive medals. They looked around the museum and got a chance to make their own medals.



Parent Interviews and School Information Sessions

We value the strong partnership between home and school, and we invite all parents to book a time for our upcoming Parent Interviews. These sessions provide a great opportunity to discuss your child's progress, ask questions, and learn more about the year ahead. School finishes at 2 pm and interviews start at 2.20 pm for St Catherine & St Patrick classes and 3.20pm for St Clare. Before the interviews, Vimi will run parent information sessions. There will be 3 sessions: 8 am, 2 pm and 4.30 pm. The information sessions will cover key updates, classroom expectations, and ways we can work together to support student learning. The sessions will take place in the STEM Room. Parent interviews will be scheduled throughout the afternoon—please ensure you book a time with your child's teacher through the Skool Loop App. Any problems booking please see Renee

We look forward to seeing you there and strengthening our school-home connection!

Parent concerns:

Occasionally, things occur at school, leading to parents seeking clarification. If you have concerns about your children's progress or wish to seek clarification about something that has happened at school, the classroom teacher is the first point of contact to answer the concerns or enquiries of parents about their children. Generally, matters are resolved at this level.

If there is further concern or dissatisfaction after meeting with the classroom teachers, parents should seek an appointment to meet with me.

There are specific avenues for enquiring about information about the school or commenting on school policies, property, and procedures. Please contact Renee or myself if you wish to do so. Please visit the School Docs site to review our Concerns and Complaints Policy and Raising Concerns and Complaints Policy. Log in details below.

School Docs and Policy Review

Each term, the Board of Trustees reviews several of our policies. The Board reviews some of these, and some are also reviewed by staff for some policies; parents seek feedback. Have a look at other school policies for information.

Please visit our school docs website <http://www.stleos.school.nz/policies.html>.

Click on the St Leo's Catholic School Policies User name: StLeos Password: mercy

Sponsorship: Your chance to sponsor a child to come to St Leo's in 2025

St Leo's Catholic Primary School Board invites you to consider sponsoring a child's attendance dues for 2025 (a total of \$532 for the year or \$133 a term). What a great way to support our young Catholic community and grow our local school. We have a few people who have already become sponsors, which is also tax deductible. Please contact the school office at 09 445 9339 if you can help.

A few reminders for the upcoming days:

- We would like to remind you about hats. These are essential in this hot weather, and children without hats will be asked to remain in the shade during outside play times. Please stress to your children the importance of keeping their hats on when playing outside.
- No vehicles are permitted to enter school grounds during school hours. The best places to park are on Owens Road or Victoria Road. Please be aware that there is a clear-way area on either side of the driveway on Owens Road that is regularly policed by Auckland Transport. Please do not park across neighbours' driveways.

- All children must be collected promptly after school unless enrolled in the After School Care programme.
- **No children are to be in the staff car park anytime.** Parents, please walk your children around the administration building to exit the school on Victoria Road. Parents are not to park in the staff car park when they are collecting their children.
- A reminder that there is no parking area on either side of the Owens Rd driveway from 8.30 am - 9.30 am and 2.30 pm to 3.30 pm. This is often randomly policed by AT.
- Please ensure the correct school uniform is worn to and from school, including footwear. Caps are not school uniform and neither are sneakers or crocs. Last year many children were leaving the school grounds without shoes on. We would like the children to take pride in their school uniform. Don't forget the sunhats.
- Bicycles and scooters are to be walked in and out of the grounds. Children riding bikes to school on a regular basis are encouraged to wear a safety vest and must wear their helmet. Safe can be obtained from the office.
- Pupil absences are to be phoned in by 9.30a.m. Alternatively you can send in absences via the school app. Messages may be left on the answer phone. The Ministry of Education requires us to recognise the reason for the absence so please be specific.
- We would like to remind parents that we have some children who have severe life threatening food allergies. We ask families to assist us to protect these children by avoiding having nuts in school lunches. This includes whole nuts, products containing nuts, nutella and peanut butter. We appreciate this is an inconvenience but ask for your cooperation in this matter. We also ask parents not to bring cakes or sweets to school to share with the class on your child's birthday.

God Bless,

Vimi Chandra

Other notices:

Winter uniforms will be worn from either beginning of term 2 or King's birthday weekend. Please note we do have a supply of second hand uniforms but to order the new uniform go to:

<https://www.schooluniform.co.nz>

We have no second hand new uniforms yet. We would like all students in the new uniforms by the beginning of 2026.

Sports teams

Unfortunately we do not have enough people interested in netball this year to make any netball teams, we are about 4 people short for both 3/4 and 5/6 water polo teams (now for term 2), we need another 3 people to make a year 3/4 hockey team and 5 each for a year 1/2 and 5/6 teams. If you have not already indicated your child would be keen to play any of these sports but they would like to please let me know as soon as possible as registration dates are looming. For any more information please contact Renee.

Timetable of events for Term 1

Thursday 13 March	Year 6 Waterwise
Friday 14 March	Whole school mass Peninsula swimming
Monday 17 March	St Patrick's Day Takuranga Walk
Tuesday 18 March	Playgroup 9.15 - 10.15 Assembly 10.15am
Wednesday 19 March	Music lessons with Dominic Yr 6 Grip Leadership Programme
Thursday 20 March	Year 6 Waterwise
Friday 21 March	St Catherine Antarctica VR experience @ school
Sunday 23 March	Sacramental programme begins 3.30 - 5pm
Tuesday 25 March	Playgroup 9.15 - 10.15 Open Day 9am - 3pm
Wednesday 26 March	Music lessons with Dominic
Thursday 27 March	Year 6 Waterwise Carmel OPeN Day 1.30 -
Friday 28 March	Whole school mass Renee away
Sunday 30 March	School/Parish Mass PTFA AGM and morning tea after Mass Sacramental programme 3.30 - 5pm
Tuesday 1 April	Playgroup 9.15 - 10.15 Assembly 10.15am
Wednesday 2 April	Music lessons with Dominic BOT meeting
Thursday 3 April	Year 6 Waterwise Parent/Teacher interviews - School closes 2pm After school care available
Monday 7 April - Wednesday 9 April	Life Education Visit
Tuesday 8 April	Playgroup 9.15 - 10.15
Wednesday 9 April	Music lessons with Dominic
Thursday 10 April	Year 6 Waterwise TBC
Friday 11 April	Whole school mass Term 1 ends
Sunday 13 April	Sacramental programme

PTFA News

Next PTFA meeting 19 March 2025 7.30pm in the staffroom or via zoom

AGM

This will now be held on Sunday 30 March straight after the Parish/school mass.

Come over to the school grounds for morning tea and a short meeting. There will be games for the children to play while the adults meet.

Positions to fill are chairperson/co chair, secretary and St Catherine class rep.

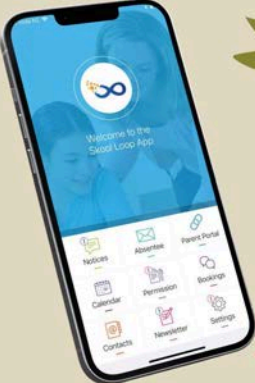
Thanks to Anne-Katherine for staying on as Treasurer and Tammy and Courtney for taking over the class rep jobs for St Clare & St Patrick.

Hot Cross Buns

Please get your hot cross bun orders in by 31 March. \$23 per packet for delicious award winning hot cross buns. If you don't have your order form I have some here at the office. Money can be either in cash or into PTFA account 12-3057-0067576-00





Seasonal Updates, Anytime



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Download today to keep up to date with school information. Notices, newsletters, absentee notifications and much more.

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Scan the QR code or In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.



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St Mary's College 2026

Enrolments

Enrolments are OPEN (but closing soon).

St Mary's College is a girls college providing a Catholic education in the Mercy tradition. We are now accepting enrolments for Year 7 and Year 9 students, with a limited number of places available at other year levels.

Visit us at: www.stmaryak.school.nz

We invite you to submit an online application for your daughter to join our Mercy Family.

St Mary's College has NO zoning restrictions.

Enrolments close 21 March.

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YOUR LOCAL FOOTBALL CLUB



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SCORE GOALS · LEARN NEW SKILLS

CONTACT CLUBMANAGER@NSU.ORG.NZ

Community Notices



[Register | Harcourts Cooper & Co Share to Shore](#)



Perhaps you can't take your daughter shopping because she throws a tantrum every time.
Maybe you have a son who keeps getting into fights at school.
Or you have a baby that just won't settle.

"Being a parent should be easier than this..."
and it CAN be

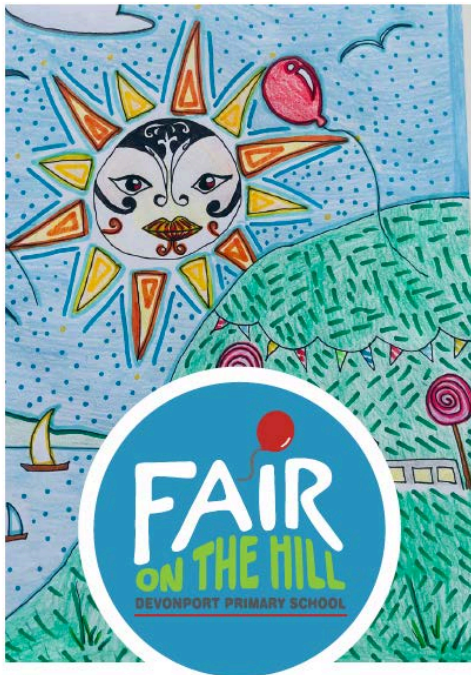
If you want family life to be more smooth sailing,
Positive Parenting will help.

It is a government-approved programme that offers confidential and non-judgmental support.

Vanessa Coultas
BSc Psychology
Triple P Practitioner

Contact Vanessa:
021 211 7196
vcoultas@outlook.com

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/LoRkqkWn3tASvqtR/?mibextid=K35XfP>



SATURDAY 15 MARCH
12-6PM

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...AND MORE!

\$5 Entry. We look forward to seeing you there!



RIPPA WORLD CUP SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME
14th AND 15th APRIL 2025

The North Shore Rugby Club is running a two-day "Rippa World Cup" fun non-contact rugby tournament for boys and girls from Year 3 to Year 8. Kids in their respective

grades from different clubs and schools will be mixed up to form teams "representing" various countries (e.g. England, Australia, New Zealand etc).

This is a great chance for the kids to have some fun during the holidays, while learning new skills, getting active and making new friends.

Dates: Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th of April 2025. Please direct all questions to: rippaworldcup@gmail.com

Time: 8:30am to 4:00pm each day

To register:

Venue: North Shore Rugby Club (Cambridge Terrace, Devonport).

Entry Fee: \$140 (includes playing shirt)

Further Information: <http://www.northshorerugby.co.nz/RWC>

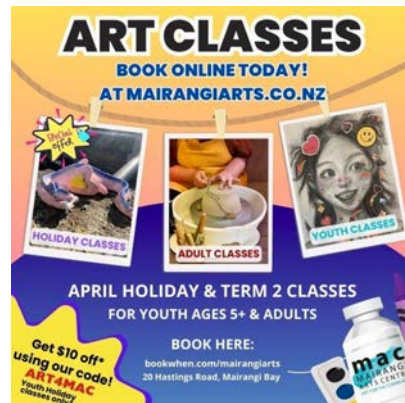


NOUGHTY WASTERS
MAKERSPACE



play and create
learn how to use tools

School Holiday Programme
April 14-16, 22-24
9am - 3pm, Ages 4-12
27 Lake Road Devonport
\$75 Book on Humanitix
hi@annlangisplay.com



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Devonport Family Medicine **New patients welcome**
Mon to Fri 8am - 5pm
(09) 445 0528
dfmdoctors.co.nz

Family friendly healthcare

The team at Devonport Family Medicine are dedicated to supporting the health and wellbeing of your family. Dr Pieter Veenhuijsen has worked in the Devonport community for over 13 years. Dr Kosar Kheirabi has recently joined the team and has experience in all areas of medicine with a keen interest in paediatrics, surgery, women's health and health of older people. Together with an experienced nursing and admin team, the practice is committed to delivering quality care with a personal touch. Enrol online or simply pop in to see us.

Hon Simon Watts
MP for North Shore

simon.watts@parliament.govt.nz
SimonWattsMP




Authorised by Hon Simon Watts, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.



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