



# St Leo's Catholic Primary School

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14 May 2025

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

## Introducing Pope Leo XIV: A Historic First for the Church

We joyfully welcome Pope Leo XIV, formerly Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost, as the 267th leader of the Catholic Church. Born in Chicago in 1955, he is the first American and the first member of the Augustinian Order to be elected pope. His extensive pastoral work includes over two decades of missionary service in Peru.



Pope Leo XIV chose his papal name to honor Pope Leo XIII, renowned for his commitment to social justice and the dignity of labour. In his inaugural address, he emphasised the Church's role as a "beacon that illuminates the dark nights of this world," signaling a dedication to compassion, unity, and renewal.

Let us keep Pope Leo XIV in our prayers as he embarks on this sacred journey, guiding the global Catholic community with wisdom and humility.

## Open Day

We had a wonderful Open Day filled with smiles, learning, and community spirit. It was a joy to welcome prospective families into our school, share our classrooms, and showcase the vibrant learning that happens every day at St Leo's. Thank you to our amazing staff and students who helped make the day such a success.

## Waterwise Regatta

Grace Rumble, Jacob Horner, Tommy Sosa and Johnathan Coates represented the school in the regatta. They had a fabulous time and represented the school well. They showed perseverance and determination and were respectful of everyone around them.

## Chess Tournament

Congratulations to Grace Rumble, Freya Jameson, James Edhouse, James Horner, Jacob Horner, and Johnathan Coates who proudly represented our school at the recent chess tournament. The team showed great focus, strategic thinking, and sportsmanship throughout the day. Most importantly, they had a fantastic time competing, learning, and connecting with other young chess players. Ka pai to all our players.

## Assessment and Reporting

The Minister of Education last week provided schools with further guidance around assessment and reporting. For 2025 we are to report achievement and progress based on the new English and Maths curriculum. The assessments for these curriculums will be finalised in Term 4, at which stage teachers will be provided professional development on them. The Minister also shared a link

to a **Parent Portal**. This website contains information as to the programme of learning for each year level and activities that you can do at home to support your child's learning.

You will be receiving your child's progress report in the final week of the term. It will share with you what your child has achieved and their next steps, in relation to the new curriculum. It is a progress report as the children are halfway through their year's programme of learning. For the end of the year report we will be able to provide you information as to where your child is at in relation to the full year's programme of learning, which is delivered according to the year level your child is at.

### School Cross Country

Our school cross country is happening next week on Friday 23 May, and we're looking forward to a fun, active day for all our tamariki. Students will leave school at 11:30am to travel to Cambria Park. Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE gear, with a water bottle, sunhat, and suitable footwear. Whānau are warmly invited to come along and cheer on our runners — we'd love your support! If you are walking with the school please be at school by 11.25am. If you are not walking but have offered to help please report to Mr M at Mt Cambria at 11.40am.

### Catholic Schools Day

We are celebrating Catholic Schools Day 28 May 2025! This is an opportunity to showcase who we are to our communities. The theme of Catholic Schools Day 2025 is Shine like stars in the world: E tīaho ana koe hei rama i te ao. As a school we will start with a liturgy and have some fun activities organised for the day. The children can come to school in mufti and bring a gold coin to donate to Caritas.

Catholic Schools Day is a time to reflect on what it really means to be centred in Jesus Christ; a time to shout from the rooftops how proud we are to belong to a Catholic school.

Jesus was a teacher. His followers call him teacher forty-five times in the Gospels. They perceive him as someone who could teach them and from whom they could learn. The questions and requests they made of him echo in our schools today.

### Kapa Haka with Ngahiwi and Terehia

We are thrilled to have Ngahiwi Walker and Terehia guiding our tamariki in Kapa Haka this term. Through waiata, haka, and movement, students are deepening their connection to te ao Māori, building confidence, and celebrating the beauty of Māori language and culture. Ngahiwi and Terehia bring not only skill and experience, but also warmth and manaakitanga to every session. It's wonderful to see our students engaging with such pride and enthusiasm. He taonga te reo, he taonga te tikanga – our language and culture are treasures! We will be working up to performing at the Bayswater school Kapa Haka festival on 14 June around 4.30 pm. Please keep this date free so we can have a good turnout of performers.



**CSD25**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS DAY  
WEDNESDAY 28 MAY 2025



**SATURDAY 14 JUNE 4-7PM**

## Remediation of the Asphalt

We're excited to announce that asphalt remediation work is planned for later this year, following conversations with the Catholic Schools Property Services (CSPS) team. The upgrades will focus on the senior playground area, including improvements around the seating area, around the drains and updates to the playground markings. These enhancements will create a safer, more enjoyable environment for our tamariki and support positive outdoor play. We look forward to sharing more updates as plans progress.

## 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.

God Bless, *Vimi Chandra*

## Other notices:

### Winter uniforms:

All children will need to be in winter uniform from King's birthday weekend. Please note we do have a supply of second-hand old uniforms, but to order the new uniform, go to:

<https://www.schooluniform.co.nz> Please note that they will be closed from Friday 30th May -

Friday 06th June for family reasons. You can still place an order but it won't be sent until 9 June.

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

Please note that sneakers/sports shoes are not part of the school uniform.

## Firewood

We have bags of mixed firewood for sale for \$20 per bag. Please see Renee if you would like some.


## Play dates

We would appreciate it if playdates could be arranged by both parties before school. We have had a couple of instances where children have gone home with another child without letting their parents know. This is for health and safety reasons as we would hate a child to go missing or get hurt and no one knows where they are.

## Working bee

We would like to hold a working bee on Saturday 24th May from 1pm to 4pm. Areas we need help with are gardening, cleaning gutters, sanding and painting doors, raking the bark and a general clean up around the school grounds before the winter weather sets in. If you are able to help please let Renee know or just turn up on the day. We have ladders and some gardening equipment. A yummy afternoon tea will be provided as a thank you. Children are welcome to come but please note that they are the parent's responsibility. Even if you can only spare an hour all help would be appreciated.

**Cans for a cause - please support this Basket in the office for donations**



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CANS FOR A CAUSE**

Many families across New Zealand are struggling to put enough food on the table for their whānau and are in urgent need of support.

The Rotary Clubs of New Zealand are committed to collecting 1 million cans of food to support local food banks in our communities.

**You can help!**

Donate your food items between 9<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> June to help us collect a million food items.

A community project organised by:

Items most in need:

- Canned fish
- Baked Beans and Spaghetti
- Canned veges
- Canned fruit
- Soup
- Diced tomatoes
- Spreads
- Rice
- Pasta
- Cereals

**Rotary**  
Combined Districts of  
New Zealand

**Timetable of events term 2**

Friday 16 May	Whole school trip to Naughty Wasters
Sunday 18 May	Sacramental Programme
Tuesday 20 May	Playgroup 9.15am
Wednesday 21 May	Music lessons with Dominic
Friday 23 May	Cross Country 11.30am
Saturday 24 May	Working bee 1pm - 4pm
Sunday 25 May	Sacramental programme
Tuesday 27 May	Playgroup 9.15am Assembly 10.30am
Wednesday 28 May	Music lessons with Dominic
Thursday 29 May	Rippa rugby tournament
Friday 30 May	Rosmini Open day
Monday 2 June	King's birthday (school closed)
Tuesday 3 June	Save Day Rippa rugby Playgroup 9.15am BOT meeting
Wednesday 4 June	Music lessons with Dominic
Friday 6 June	Whole school mass Sausage sizzle lunch
Sunday 8 June	Sacramental programme & Mass
Monday 9 June - 16th June	Rotary cans for a cause collection
Tuesday 10 June	Playgroup 9.15am Assembly 10.30am
Wednesday 11 June	Music lessons with Dominic
Saturday 14 June	Bayswater school Matariki festival- St Leo's Kapa Haka group performing
Sunday 15 June	Family Mass/Confirmation & First Holy Communion 9.30am
Tuesday 17 June	Playgroup 9.15am Whole school to Science Roadshow
Wednesday 18 June	Music lessons with Dominic Proposed Matariki evening
Thursday 19 June	NS Catholic Schools speech comp



Friday 20 June	Matariki Holiday
Tuesday 24 June	Playgroup 9.15am Assembly 10.30am
Wednesday 25 June	Music lessons with Dominic
Thursday 26 June	Ronald McDonald PJ day
Friday 27 June	Term 2 ends
Sunday 29 June	Matariki market at Belmont Rose Centre

### PTFA News

Next PTFA meeting **11 June 2025** 7.30pm in the staffroom or via google meet

**Matariki market** - On **Sunday 29 June** we have the opportunity to sell waffles at the Rose Centre Matariki festival. This runs from 10am - 2pm. We are looking for people who can help to cook waffles on the day (the batter will be made and waffle irons provided). If we have enough helpers you could do shifts if needed. Please let Renee, Gin or Amy know if you can help.

**Sausage sizzle lunch** - **6 June** - lunchtime sausage sizzle. Order forms will come home next week. \$6 for a sausage in bread, drink and a treat.

**Disco** - We will be holding a school disco for the children on **27 June**. More details will follow but save the date for a fun evening. We need a couple more volunteers to help with this so if you can please let Renee, Gin or Amy know.

**Pies** - details will be coming home soon so keep a look out for them

**Quiz night prizes** - at the Quiz night we usually run some silent auctions and were wondering if anyone in our school community has an experience we could use eg a bach for a weekend, trip on a boat etc. Please see Amy, Gin or Renee if you can help.



### Save these dates

**Quiz Night** - Friday 12 September

**School Fair** - Sunday 16 November Look out for more exciting events coming your way.



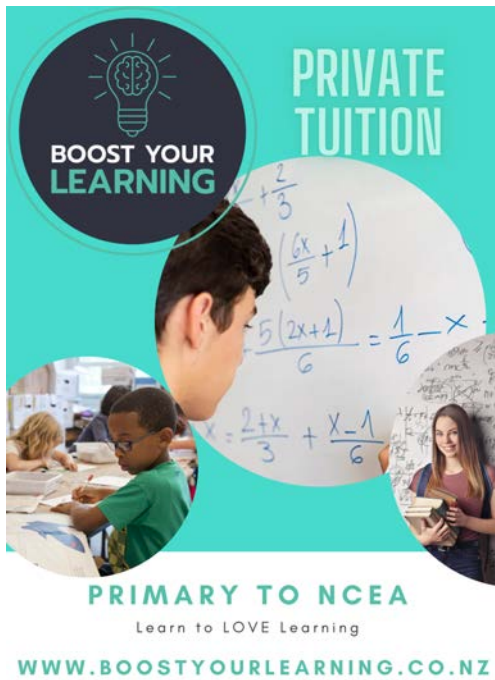
Thank you for the generous donations we have received so far. Keep them coming.

We are looking for clean, good quality bed linen, duvet, blankets, sleeping bags, pjs, slippers and socks.

Collection box in the office. Runs until 20 June



## Community Notices



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## SPANISH C.L.U.B



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📍 Location: Devonport School

Time: Monday 3:15PM – 4:15PM

💰 Cost: \$240/8weeks

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**11AM-2PM**

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**mac MAIRANGI ARTS CENTRE**

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### 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](mailto:simon.watts@parliament.govt.nz)

SimonWattsMP



Authorised by Hon Simon Watts, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.



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