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Within our Catholic faith, leading by gentleness  
and strength, to inspire, grow and celebrate our learners.

*Mā tō tātou whakapono Katorika, Kia mārie, Kia kaha, Hei  
whakatipu, Hei whanake, Hei whakanui hoki ōu tātou ākonga*



**13 February 2025**

**Newsletter 2**

### ***Kia ora whānau and friends of St Anthony's School,***

*Next week will be our last week of swimming. It has been fantastic to see the students' confidence and swimming skills progress across this programme. It has also been wonderful to have a number of parents visit during these lessons. We swim each day from 12 - 1pm, please feel free to come and watch your child. A notice will be sent home after next week with the representatives chosen to compete in the Bush Swimming Sports.*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with Fr Ralph at this time, as he has had to travel home to the Philippines to support a family member undergoing surgery. We look forward to seeing him return later this term.*

*The staff and Board of Trustees are really looking forward to seeing everyone this evening at our School Picnic BBQ.*

*Ngā mihi nui*

*Marg Hyslop*

*Principal of St Anthony's School*

### **School Picnic and Games**

All school and parish families are invited to join us today **13 February** from **5 - 6.30pm** for a 'Welcome Back Picnic' on the school field. This will be a great opportunity for families to catch up and meet a few new faces. There will be a few games organised to take part in. Families are asked to bring food and refreshments for their family. Tea and coffee will be available and a free BBQ sausage/ bread. We look forward to seeing everyone there. Thank you to our wonderful Friends Committee who are running the BBQ.

## **2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope**



*Some of our Sr Alphonsus students enjoying the sunshine.*

### **School Community Mass**

Our Term 1 Community Mass will be held on Sunday, **2 March 2025** at 11.15am. Please mark this on your calendar.

### **2025 Baptism - Date change**

Due to unforeseen circumstances the Baptism Mass planned for 21 February has now been postponed until Term 2. If you are interested in your child/children taking part in the sacrament of Baptism this year, please contact our DRS Jenni Harrison [jharrison@stanthony.ac.nz](mailto:jharrison@stanthony.ac.nz)

### **Friday Mass**

School whānau are always very welcome to join us for our Friday week day Mass, **at 9.30am in our school hall**. Senior and Junior classes attend on alternative weeks.

## Farewell Students

Everyone at St Anthony's school wishes Maci-Anne Watson and her whānau all the very best with her new schooling option. Our school roll is 106 students.

## Attendance

Please see out Term 4 attendance data at the end of this newsletter as provided by the Ministry of Education. Schools are expected to record and report all absences to the Ministry of Education through our Student Management System i.e. our daily roll.

The Ministry of Education monitors schools reporting of absences, especially those that remain unexplained at the end of each week.

Their staff follow up and provide support to schools where needed.

One of the things we are continuing to focus on in 2025 is student attendance. You will hear us talking about this with you, with our students and it remains a strong focus. If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss more than a whole year of school by 16 years of age. As a parent or caregiver, you, alongside our school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance. All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school. Please let our school office know if your child is going to be absent for reasons like a tangi or medical appointment/procedure. The Ministry of Education advises that family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent. Therefore if you require time out of school for your child for such activities during the school term please contact the principal directly beforehand. Knowing if your child is well enough to go to school can be tricky. If you are still unsure, get in touch with us and let's work together to support your child.

## Teacher Only Days - School Closed

As per the January SKOOL Loop notice, please note that in Term 1, 2025 St Anthony's School will be closed for **Teacher Only Days on 4 & 5 March and 8 April 2025**, due to all of our teaching staff attending Structured Literacy professional development. If you require further information please contact the Principal or Deputy Principal.

## No Friday Lunch Orders

Please note that during the first four weeks of Term 1 (February), we will **not** be having Friday Lunch Orders due to swimming lessons. School Lunch orders will start again from **Friday, 28 February 2025**. Order forms are on the school website.

## Y3 - Y8 Swimming Programme Life Jackets

As part of our swimming programme we would like the students to experience being able to correctly put on a life jacket, and enter the pool wearing one. If you have a life jacket which we could borrow, we would be very grateful if you could please send it to school (to your child's class teacher) clearly named. We will ensure it gets returned to you at the end of the week. Thank you for your support.

## St Brigid's Feast Day Colouring Competition

Thank you to members of the St Brigid's parish who judged this competition. We sincerely appreciate your time and thoughtful consideration. Congratulations to all students who took part in this competition. A special congratulations to the following placegetters.

### Senior results:

Ava Tatere = First place  
Meri Thomson = Highly Commended  
Mason Reid = Highly Commended  
Amaia Brown = Highly Commended  
Te Paea O'Donnell = Highly Commended  
Pearl Cunningham = Highly Commended  
Hannah Baker = Highly Commended  
Aria Little = Highly Commended  
Bradley Ireland = Highly Commended

### Junior results:

Emily Buys = First place  
William Diamond = Highly Commended  
Isla Fouhy = Highly Commended

### Minor Sports

We are hosting the Bush Schools Y1 & Y2 Minor Sports at the Bush Multi Sport Park on Friday, 7 March 2025 (postponement Wednesday, 12 March). Our Year 5-8 students will be helping run all of the activities. We will require help to supervise our Y1 & Y2 students at this event. One of our activities on Minor Sports Day is Mini Golf. We are on the lookout to borrow some child size golf clubs. If you have any that you are happy for us to use, could you please send them to school for Rae Powell clearly named. A notice will be sent home with details about this event later this month.

### Cell Phones and Personal Digital Devices

To comply with the Government's regulations and our school policies, students do not use cell phones or personal digital devices such as smart watches, during our school hours (8.30am - 3.00pm). If students need to bring a phone/device for use after school, they are to hand it into the School Office upon arrival at school, for safe storage. These can then be collected again at the end of the school day. If whānau need to speak to their child during the school day, they can do so by phoning the school office or visit school.

### Friday Touch Rugby

The draws for Under 7, Under 9 and Under 11 have been revised. Please double check this information for your child. Draws are on our website in the Sports section. Good luck to all students taking part in this event. Thank you to our referees, managers and coaches. Please note that students should be collected from school to go to the stadium i.e under adult supervision and not walking to the stadium on their own.

### Emergency Contact & Update Medical Details

Please advise the Office staff in writing/email of any changes to your child's Emergency Contact details or medical details.

### SKOOL Loop

If you are having any difficulty at all with your SKOOL Loop app please call the school Office or the Principal and we will assist you with this.

### School Dates

#### **13 Feb - School Picnic/BBQ @ 5pm**

14 Feb - Friday Mass 9:30 Sr dSM, Fr T & Sr B

17 Feb - BOT Meeting 5pm

18 Feb - Y7 & Y8 Technology

21 Feb - Last day of swimming

21 Feb - School Assembly 2pm

25 Feb - Y7 & Y8 Technology

27 Feb - Patrol Training Y6 - Y8

27 Feb - Newsletter

28 Feb - Friday Mass 9:30 Sr A, Sr M, & Sr G

#### **2 Mar - Community Mass 11:15am**

#### **4 Mar - Teacher Only Day - School Closed**

#### **5 Mar - Teacher Only Day - School Closed**

5 Mar - Ash Wednesday

6 Mar - Bush Swimming

6 Mar - Assembly 12pm

7 Mar - Minor Sports (Y1-Y2)

7 Mar - Friday Mass 9:30 Sr G & Sr dSM

11 Mar - Y7 & Y8 Technology

12 Mar - Minor Sports (Y1-Y2) PP date

13 Mar - Newsletter

14 Mar - Friday Mass 9:30 Sr A, Sr M, & Sr G

17 Mar - St Patrick's Day

21 Mar - Friday Mass 9:30 Sr G & Sr dSM

21 Mar - Assembly 12pm

25 Mar - Y7 & Y8 Technology

27 Mar - Newsletter

28 Mar - Bush Schools Ball Sports Y5 - Y8

28 Mar - Friday Mass 9:30 Sr A, Sr M, & Sr G

28 Mar - Student Reports sent home

1 Apr - Parent Teacher Meetings

2 Apr - Parent Teacher Meetings

4 Apr - Whole school Mass

4 Apr - School Assembly 12pm

7 Apr - BOT Meeting

#### **8 Apr - Teacher Only Day - School Closed**

9 Apr - Principals Morning Tea

10 Apr - Newsletter

11 Apr - School Assembly 12pm

#### **11 Apr - Last day Term 1**

#### **28 April - First day Term 2**

### 2025 Term Dates

**Term One:** Tue 28 Jan - Fri 11 Apr (Easter and ANZAC Day are included in the holidays).

**Term Two:** Mon 28 Apr 2025 - Fri 27 Jun

**Term Three:** Mon 14 Jul 2025 - Fri 19 Sep

**Term Four:** Mon 6 Oct 2025 - Fri 12 Dec



### BOT Meeting

Our next BOT (Board of Trustees) meeting is at **5pm on Monday , 17 February 2025** at school. All are very welcome.

### School Planning

School whānau can access our 2025 - 2027 Strategic Plan, 2025 Annual Plan and our 2024 Analysis of Variance Report under the Board of Trustees tab on our school website.

### BOT Members

Patrick Baker [pbaker@stanthony.ac.nz](mailto:pbaker@stanthony.ac.nz)

Philipa Beech

Bronny Lea

Patsy O'Donnell

Michelle Jephson

Andy Gardiner

Natalie Beech

Rae Powell

Marg Hyslop

If you are interested in joining the Board at the next elections please come along to the next meeting or have a chat with one of our Board members.

### BOT School Policies & Procedures

Join in the review process if you like:

<https://stanthony.schooldocs.co.nz> (note that there is no "www").

Our **username** is: stanthony

Our **password** is: anthony

**Please refer to our school website for Community Notices**

Pahiatua Swim Club Presents

# SWIMATHON!


**Saturday 1st of March**  
**Tararua College Pool from**  
**10am onwards**

Pahiatua Swim Club will be holding a swimathon to help raise funds to go towards the new community pool. Sign up, and get friends and family to sponsor you to swim as many lengths as you can!

All ages welcome.

A sausage sizzle and drinks will be available to purchase on the day.

Please return sponsorship forms to Pahiatua Swim Club by 22 February to receive your swim time slot.



**SIGN UP NOW!**

Sponsorship forms available from Pahiatua Swim Club, Pahiatua School, Saint Anthony's School or Property Brokers Pahiatua



**Have your bulk fuel purchases support our school!**

For every 1,000L of bulk fuel you get, we receive \$5



**Call Fern on 0800 99 99 89 to start supporting us today!**

## Introduction

Welcome to Every Day Matters. This is a termly report that highlights attendance patterns in your school and provides actionable insights to improve student attendance.

Four **Student Attendance Categories** have been developed to help schools understand how frequently each student attends. These categories give you a way to monitor the progress you are making in supporting students to attend regularly.

	Student Categories	Student with	Equivalent to
	Regular attendance	over 90% attendance	missing fewer than 5 days across a term
	Irregular absence	more than 80% and up to 90% attendance	absent for between 5 and 9 days across a term
	Moderate absence	more than 70% and up to 80% attendance	absent for between 10 and 14.5 days across a term
	Chronic absence	70% attendance or less	absent for 15 days or more across a school term

This report provides a snapshot of how your school is performing, including an overview of the reasons for absence broken down by justified and unjustified reasons, insightful trends and next steps.

In April 2024, the Government announced a regular attendance target of 80 percent of students to be present for more than 90% of the term by 2030.

**NOTE:** In some cases, results have been rounded to the nearest percentage point to simplify the presentation of results. As a result, some totals may not add up to 100%.

## Term 4 Summary

### How many students regularly attended school this term?

**Regular Attendance**

**82%**

Compared to 79% in Term 4, 2023

**Irregular Absence 12%**

Compared to 18% in Term 4, 2023

**Moderate Absence 6%**

Compared to 2% in Term 4, 2023

**Chronic Absence 0%**

Compared to 2% in Term 4, 2023

### What were the main reasons given for absence this term?

1. (M) Illness / Medical Absence 63%
2. (J) Justified (other) 19%
3. (G) Holiday 11%
4. (E) Accepted (but unjustified) 7%

### How many students were on time to class?

**97%** of students were on time to class

Definition of lateness depends on school attendance policy.