

— Term 4 - Week 4, 2025 —



Holy Cross School

Newsletter



IMPORTANT DATES

Every Thursday
Junior Swimming (Room
11, 12, 7 & 8)
12.15 - 1.15pm

Wednesday 5th November
Eastern zone athletics
Year 4-8

Friday 7th November
Whanau
Picnic/Consultations
5.00 - 7.00pm

Friday 14th November
Earthquake Tsunami
Parent Pick Up
2.30 - 3.30pm

Tuesday 18th November
GTT 10 year anniversary

Principal's Message

Talofa lava and kia ora e te whānau,
Today, we celebrate the arrival of some very special people — those who entered through our gates this morning as manuhiri, but who leave as members of our whānau.

It is my privilege to warmly welcome Yusuf, Aviana, Kingsley, Lucah, and Audrey, along with your families, to Holy Cross School. We also extend a warm welcome to our new TLA, Wesley.

The last couple of weeks have been windy in more ways than one! We've had red wind warnings, thunderstorms, school closures, and even mega strikes!

This week, I'd like to share with you the great start we've made in shaping the strategic direction of our school — and, with your input, where we'd like to head next. Below is an outline of the first draft of our school's strategic plan.

Please remember to join us at our family picnic next Friday — a chance to watch our children perform, enjoy some delicious food, and most importantly, have **your** say about the direction of our school.

Principal's Message

Draft Strategic Plan 2026–2028



Goal 1 Theme: Kotahitanga — Strengthening Community and Connection

Specific Goal: To strengthen authentic partnerships between school, whānau, parish, and community that reflect the diversity and faith of Holy Cross.

Catholic Character Focus: Deepen our connection with Holy Trinity Parish and the wider Archdiocese through shared celebration, prayer, and service opportunities



Kotahitanga

Strengthening
Community and
Connection

Goal 2 Theme: Ako — Deep, Connected Learning for Every Child

Specific Goal: To ensure every learner experiences success through a rich, connected curriculum that reflects who they are and where they come from.

Catholic Character Focus: Encourage ākonga to live out Catholic Social Teaching through acts of service, kaitiakitanga (care for creation), and contribution to community wellbeing.



Ako

Deep, Connected
Learning for Every
Child

Goal 3 Theme: Whakaako — Teaching for the Future

Specific Goal: To grow confident, reflective kaiako who use evidence-informed and culturally responsive practice to meet the needs of all learners within our Catholic faith and values.

Catholic Character Focus: Embed Tō Tātou Whakapono (the new Religious Education curriculum) to strengthen teacher understanding and integration of Catholic faith and values across learning.



Whakaako

Teaching for the
future

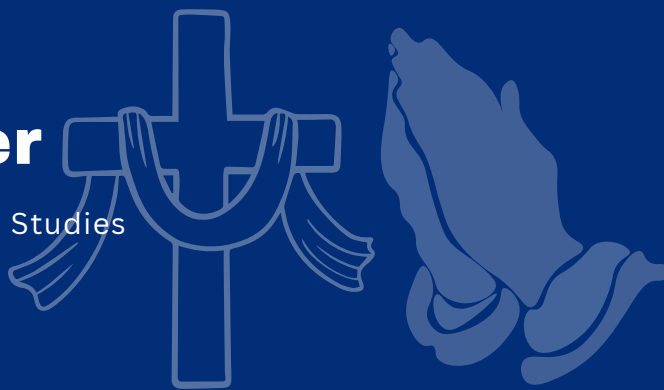
As we move forward together, let us continue to nurture kindness, courage, and unity — values that make Holy Cross more than just a school, but a true family.

Thank you for all that you do to support our tamariki, our staff, and our community.

Alofa tele, kia kaha, and God bless.

Catholic Character

Director of Religious Studies
Simone Meech



ALL SAINTS DAY

November 1

ALL SOULS DAY

November 2

All Saints Mass Saturday 1 Nov: 9:30 am @ St Patrick's Church, followed by Reconciliation

All Souls Mass Sunday 2 Nov, 8:30 am & 10:30 am @ St Patrick's Church

The beginning of November brings two important observances in the Catholic tradition: All Saints' Day (1st Nov) and All Souls' Day (2nd Nov). These days offer a chance for our school community to reflect on faith, remembrance, and the communion of saints. The students will be remembering loved ones who passed away and name our favourite saints next Friday at our usual Friday morning whole school prayers in the hall at 9 am. You are always welcome to attend.

All Saints' Day is a Holy Day of Obligation that celebrates all Christian saints. This day honors the heavenly saints for their virtuous faith, inspiring us to pursue holiness through lives dedicated to God and service.

Following All Saints' Day is All Souls' Day. This day is dedicated to remembering and praying for everyone who has passed away, expressing the strong, continued connection we share with them through the communion of saints.

Room 7



In room 7 we have been learning about financial literacy in maths. We looked at NZ coins and paper money and made our own money to play shops with. We have been writing about how we would spend a budget of \$10 at a take away restaurant, worked out the total of our order and gave change back.

We have also been learning about butterfly symmetry, the anatomy and the life cycle of insects. We have been reading non-fiction books and learned how to do research to find out interesting facts about our favourite insects.

A highlight are our swimming lessons every Thursday. The kids are learning how to float like a starfish, glide with head under water, arm circles forwards and backwards, diving to retrieve toys, etc.

Our athletics afternoon last Friday was super-fun with 3 rotations of throwing, running, and hockey relays.

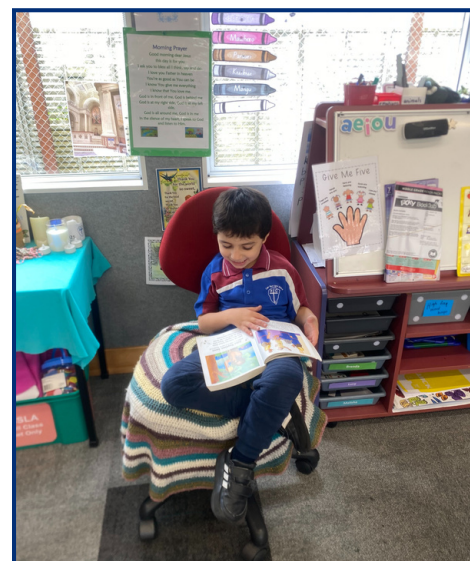
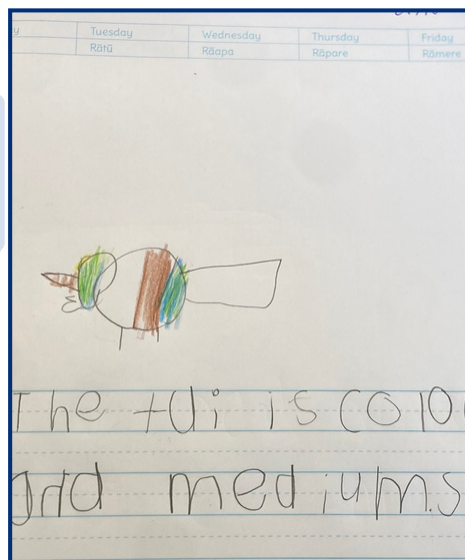


Room 11



What a lovely start of the Term we have had in Room 11! We have been learning about diwali and native birds in writing, "teen" and "ty" numbers in maths, and are becoming such clever readers. We have been learning about Mary and the Rosary, and practicing our "Hail Mary" prayer each morning.

We have loved swimming every Thursday and are so excited to have Kingsley and Lucah join us for the rest of the year!



Room 12



Already this term we have done some great learning about Diwali, probability and we have also been enjoying our swimming lessons. Please enjoy some photos of us....





Last week, in the kitchen we celebrated Diwali by making Vegetable Pulao.

Ishaani and Dhreya shared their knowledge of Diwali with our class.

Since we have been learning about adverbs in writing, we wrote about Diwali:

Action (verb) + adverb

light diyas + carefully

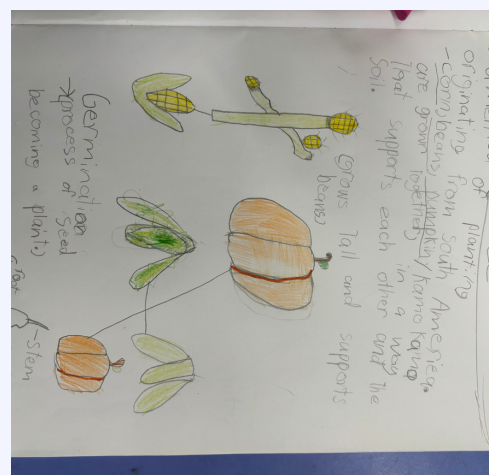
colour rangoli + mindfully

Sita walked through the forest + fearfully

Rama fought the demons + bravely

In the garden, we learned about companion planting. A method of planting, referred to as the three sisters, from South America. The three sisters are corn, beans and pumpkin or kamo kamo. These plants are grown together in a way that supports each other and the soil.

We also learned about germination, which is the process of a seed becoming a plant.



School News

Term 4 Summer Uniform

It's time to say good bye to winter and the cold! Term 4 summer uniform can now be worn.

Year 1-6 can wear either the navy skort, short & polo or summer dress and black sandals with no socks.

Year 7-8 can wear skort or short & polo, tartan skirt and blouse or light blue shirt, with black sandals and no socks.

School hats need to come to school everyday, they are compulsory to be worn at play and lunchtime.
Remember: No hat-No play. Hats available to purchase from the office.

NZUniform on Thorndon Quay will have all necessary items of uniform



If your children would like to participate in the Children's Mass 6pm on Christmas Eve at St Patrick's Church contact the parish office holytrinity.wgtn@gmail.com or 04 3886 953



Happy Birthday to..

Amato
Solomon
Esme W

Birthday wishes to you all.



Holy Cross School

FAMILY

PICNIC

“Bring your whānau! Enjoy our children’s performances and share your thoughts for our 2026–2028 school plan at our community picnic.”



7 NOVEMBER, 2025
5:00 - 7:00 PM



2-4 Athens St,
Miramar

- ✓ **Week 5, Friday - 7th of November**
- ✓ BYO - Shared Family Picnic
- ✓ 2026 Strategic Planning & Consultation
- ✓ Senior & Junior Cultural Group Performances





School News



He Pitopito Kōrero

Bulletin for School Leaders

Guidance following increased national risk of measles

Health New Zealand is alerting schools to an escalating risk of measles as it responds to a measles outbreak following confirmation of 13 new cases of measles since 20 October.

This escalating risk is a concern, especially for education settings where measles can spread rapidly. In New Zealand, our measles immunisation rates are too low to prevent outbreaks from happening when measles is circulating in our communities. Our low immunisation rates contribute to this lack of community protection.

Measles is highly contagious and serious – about one in three people may need hospital care. It spreads when an infected person breathes, coughs or sneezes.

Information to share with parents, caregivers and your communities

- Measles is circulating and is very contagious. There is now measles in Northland, Auckland, Manawatu, Nelson and Wellington, and we expect further cases across New Zealand.
- Watch out for symptoms – fever, cough, runny nose, sore eyes, and a blotchy rash:

Measles – Health New Zealand

- Anyone with measles symptoms must stay at home and should seek urgent advice by ringing their doctor or Healthline on 0800 611 116.
- Anyone who is closely exposed to a measles case must stay at home. Health New Zealand will provide individuals with advice on a case-by-case basis (including when they can leave quarantine at home).
- Health New Zealand is actively working with the schools that currently have measles cases.
- People are considered immune to measles after having two doses of a measles vaccine from 12 months or older, or if you have had measles before. For more information on measles immunity visit:

Measles immunity – Health New Zealand

- Encourage families and whānau to check their own and their child/childrens' immunisation status through My Health Record:

My Health Record – Health New Zealand

- Anyone born between 1969 and 2004 may have only received one vaccine dose and might not be fully protected. It's safe to get extra doses. A free vaccine can be booked online or via the Vaccination Helpline on 0800 28 29 26.

Book my vaccine – Health New Zealand



School Photography Packages- Holy Cross School 20th March 2026

Package 1 - \$30
- 1x 7.5x5" - 1x
4x6" - 4x 2x3"



Package 2 - \$30
- Laminated Class Photo
- 1x 7.5x5"



Package 3 - \$48
- Laminated Class Photo
- 1x 7.5x5"
- 1x 4x6"
- 4 x 2x3"



Whānau Package - \$48
- 3x 7.5x5"

*Upto 3 different poses from
Individual and Sibling photos



Creative Portraits for Modern Families

Courtyard, Level 1, Studio 3, 177B Thorndon Quay, Pipitea, Wellington.

Phone 04 384 8009 Web www.inspirephotography.co.nz



OCTOBER

FRIDAY 31 Term 4 Powhiri for new students 9.30am

NOVEMBER

WEDNESDAY 5 Eastern zone athletics day
FRIDAY 7 Whanau picnic/consultation 5.00pm
FRIDAY 14 Earthquake & tsunami evacuation/
PARENT PICK UP 2.40PM from top of zigzag
TUESDAY 18 10 year GTT anniversary special celebration
TUESDAY 25 BOT meeting 6.00pm

DECEMBER

THURSDAY 4 Gardasil 2nd dose immunisation Year 7 students
FRIDAY 5 School reports and 2026 class letters go home
FRIDAY 5 Thank you morning tea 11.00am
WEDNESDAY 10 Meet the teacher 2026
THURSDAY 11 Year 8 graduation 6.00pm-8.00pm
TUESDAY 16 Whanau picnic 5pm Christmas liturgy 6pm in the hall
WEDNESDAY 17 Last day of school - pick up from 12.30pm

Holy Cross School

Thanks to the below businesses for sponsoring our school app:



Annie Newell
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2021

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If you would like to advertise on the Holy Cross School Skool Loop App please email Content@skoolloop.com



To download our app: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose School once installed.

Downloading the Skool Loop app a step by step guide



Once you have downloaded the Skool Loop App, via either your Google Play or App store, please follow the below instructions to select your school

1. Open the Skool Loop App - you will land on a welcome page.
2. Click the 'Select your schools' this will bring you to a menu you can either search your school or follow the country/region prompts.
3. Once you reach your school, select it with the tick on the righthand side. You can select as many schools as required.
4. Tap the 'select schools' button in the top right corner.
5. Tap the big orange choose button. This will load your school and bring you to the settings page.
6. Subscribe to the groups that are relevant to you, then click the 'go back' button on your phone, which will bring you to the main screen of your schools app.
7. Use the circular arrow button at the top of the main screen to toggle between your chosen schools.

NEED MORE HELP OR INFORMATION?
Call Skool Loop on 0800 238 379





What's on this term

6th - 10th October



STEM Superstars

Get ready for a week filled with fun STEM activities! Engineering, compass building, water filtration and more!

13th - 17th October



Indigenous People

Discover the rich traditions of Indigenous cultures through a week of creative art, active play, and storytelling-inspired fun.

20th - 24th October



Diwali

Join us for a vibrant Diwali celebration filled with creativity, culture and fun. Decorate rangoli cupcakes, craft clay diyas and explore the festival of lights!

27th - 31st October



Halloween

Get into the spooky spirit with this weeks Halloween fun themed activities, and fast paced fun.

3rd - 7th November



You're the Zest

Squeeze the day with a juicy mix of citrus-inspired games, creative crafts, fizzy experiments, and a splash of DIY lemonade fun.

10th - 14th November



Sprinkle Kindness

Celebrate the power of kindness with a week full of heartwarming activities, thoughtful gestures, and creative ways to make someone smile!

17th to 21st November



Disney Week

Step into the Hundred Acre Wood for a magical week of Disney fun with Winnie and Friends—packed with crafts, games, and imagination!

24th - 28th November



On The Move

Celebrating World Transport Day as we explore the exciting ways people and goods travel across our communities and around the world!

1st - 5th December



It's Legendary!

Experience myths and legends from all over the world with this week's mythical and magical theme.

8th - 12th December



Animal Kingdom

Dive into the wild with hands-on fun, creative challenges, and animal-themed adventures that spark curiosity and bring nature to life!

15th - 19th December



Christmas Week

Make spirits bright with our Christmas Week after-school programme

In addition to the weekly theme activities each week, we also have The Taste Factory every Monday from Week 2 to Week 7 and enjoy The Weekender Club every Friday throughout Term 4 — all at no extra cost. Just make sure to book on Mondays and Fridays to take part!