

## St Mary's School

### Te Kura o Hato Mere

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Kia ora, Talofa, Mālō e lelei, Bula, Sà-wàt-dii, Nī hāo, Mauri, Hai, Sawubona, Hola, Ciao, Hallo, Ayubowan Privet, Dia dhuit, Aashamsaka, Konnichiwa, Namaste, Hello

#### Whānau Aspirations Conferences – A Vital Partnership

At Te Kura o Hato Mere, we deeply value the voices of our whānau, and the Whānau Aspirations Conferences play a critical role in shaping the direction of our kura. These conferences are more than just meetings—they are a cornerstone of our partnership with the community, ensuring that the aspirations of our whānau are reflected not only in the educational journey of each individual ākonga but also in the collective vision of our kura.

Our Annual Plan for 2025 has been carefully developed from our Strategic Plan which was created through extensive consultation with our community, including iwi, whānau, kaiako, and ākonga at the end of 2023. The Whānau Aspirations Conferences provide a dedicated space for whānau to share their hopes and expectations for their children's learning and wellbeing through the Tapa Wha model. The insights gathered from these conferences are essential in guiding our strategic priorities in areas such as Special Character, Cultural Responsiveness, Hauora (Well-being), and Teaching and Learning.

Through the conferences, whānau voice directly influences how we shape a learning environment that reflects the values and needs of our diverse community. The steps towards the development of a Graduate Profile for our tamariki and the strengthening of our localised curriculum are prime examples of how community input can inform our approach. By listening to and acting upon whānau aspirations, we are able to create meaningful opportunities for ākonga to engage with their culture, language, and identity while achieving academic success.

The focus on Hauora ensures that ākonga, whānau, and kaiako experience a nurturing and mana-enhancing environment. By gathering whānau aspirations and using them to shape decisions, we are fostering a sense of belonging and connectedness within our school community. Initiatives like the Kids Edible Garden expansion and the "Hope for the Future" environmental actions reflect the importance of small, collective steps towards big, meaningful change.

Thank you for your participation in these conferences. We are currently in the process of collating all our information. I am looking forward to sharing the key themes and results from this. Together, we are building a kura where every ākonga feels valued, supported, and inspired to walk confidently in Christ's light. Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to our shared vision.

Ngā mihi nui, Bridget Comer (Tumuaki / Principal)



- Ki-o-rahi Tournament Thursday 27th March
- Tabloid Sports / House Sports
   Year 7/8 Bake Sale Fundraiser
   1:45pm Friday 28th March
- School Mass all welcome 10am - Sunday 30th March
- Year 5-8 Fundamentals
   31st March 4th April
- Year 7/8 Leadership Camp 8th - 11th April
- Stations of the Cross
   11th April

- School Holidays 14th - 25th April
- Term 2 Begins 28th April
- Road Safety12th 16th May
- King's Birthday (No School)
   2nd June
- School Mass15th June (Sunday)





Room 7 and Room 1A's working together to take up change during Lent.

We are excited to share with you an update on the wonderful learning experience that took place recently between Room 7 and Room 1A. The two classes came together to explore the theme of empathy and the positive actions we can take to support others, inspired by the life and work of Suzanne Aubert.

Suzanne Aubert, who demonstrated remarkable empathy through actions such as sharing food, inviting lonely individuals for a cuppa, offering clothes, and providing many forms of support to those in need. To honor her example, our students engaged in a hands-on activity where they followed a procedure to create a cup and saucer. This served as a meaningful reminder of Suzanne Aubert's dedication to helping others, particularly those who were lonely.

Additionally, the students made hot chocolates. As part of their learning, Room 7 has been using a self-regulation strategy where they gently pretend to blow on their hot chocolate to help them focus on their breathing, and it was a wonderful way to tie this mindfulness practice into the event.

The Year 6 students had the opportunity to demonstrate service to others by making and sharing hot chocolates with their buddies. They also supported their younger buddies in creating their own cup and saucer, showcasing the values of care and kindness in action.

It was a heartwarming experience where our students not only learned about empathy but also practiced it through thoughtful actions.



We have revamped our Beatitude certificates to bring them in line with our values, we hope you love the new look as much as we do.





Welcome to our St Mary's whānau each of these students and their families:

Ivy, Miesha, Maria, Alex, Aroha, Mike, Peter, Louis, Ardella,

Mary, Awanui-ā-Rangi, Olive, James, Matteo, Markcus

Welcome also to Raika and Rajah who have been having their school visits and are eagerly awaiting Term 2 when they will start their school journey.











This week was Life Education Week and the mobile classroom was parked up outside the hall. Each class got two sessions of learning with Harold the Giraffe and his friend Graeme. As a surprise Harold came out of the classroom and went for a walk around the school surrounded by very excited students chanting his name.





Keep an eye out over the coming week for the winter sport registrations. These will be listed on HERO with a digital google permission form for you to fill in.

#### **Ki-o-rahi tournament** on Thursday, 27th March,

we will be practising at 7:45am and lunch times Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday next week.

Participants have been notified - if you have any questions please contact Mrs Fitzpatrick in the school office on Monday.



Swim Champions from our annual Swimming Sports 2025

Competitive swimmers had to swim at least 2 competitive events.

#### **Year 5 Girls**

1st-Lillie achieving 1st in Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Fly

#### Year 5 Boys

1st-Leon, achieving 1st in Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Fly 2nd-Pedro, 2nd in Backstroke and Fly and 3rd in Freestyle and Breaststroke 3rd-Waris, achieving 2nd in Freestyle and Breaststroke, 3rd Backstroke.

#### Year 6 Boys

1st - Alex, achieving 1st in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke

#### Year 8 girls

1st-Abi achieving 1st in Breaststroke, 2nd in Freestyle and 3rd in Backstroke 2nd - Aroha achieving 1st in freestyle and 2nd in backstroke 3rd - Gabbie achieving 1st in Backstroke and 3rd in Freestyle.

Congratulations to all year 4-8 students who went along to the swimming sports and had an absolute blast for the day.

Those that qualified were invited to attend the Marlborough Swimming Sports which happened today, with some nerves as this is the first time in a long time St Mary's has entered, however they all did amazingly.

Special mention to Leon who came 1st in Backstroke and 1st in his heat for Freestyle. Year 5 team who came 3rd in the medley race.

Thank you to the parent helpers and Mrs Fitzpatrick for your support and guidance!







We would like to invite all families to join us on Sunday, 30th March from 10am - 11am.

This is our beginning of year mass at St Mary's Catholic Church, please come along and join us.



The HERO app is what teachers use to share reports and progress during the year, along with the school using this platform to inform parents of anything coming up that might involve them such as parent teacher interviews which are booked via this system.

You can also inform the school when your child will be absent with the click of a button.

It is important for all parents to have this app downloaded and actively receiving information about their children's learning.

If you are having trouble accessing this then please come to the office where Natasha or Liz can assist you.







# TE WHETU O TE MOANA / STAR OF THE SEA MARLBOROUGH CATHOLIC PARISH

#### **Parish Newsletter**

Number 7 // Number 8 // Number 9

2025 ADW Attendance Dues Flyer

2025 ADW Attendance Dues Charge Notice



Click on the buttons below to view advertising notices from around the Marlborough Community.

Indoor Sports - Holiday
Programme

**Autumn Flu Clinic** 









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