



Te Kura o Hato Mere St Mary's School Blenheim

www.stmb.school.nz

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Term 3 #3
2026



SAVE THE DATE

- 12 October** – Teacher Only Day
- 13 October** – Term 4 Starts
- 15 October** – Pasifika Performance
- 21-23 October** – Taiopenga
- 23 October** – Assembly Led by Yr 5
- 26 October** – Labour Day No School
- 2 Nov.** – Marl. Anniversary No School
- 4 Nov.** – Athletics Day
- 6 Nov.** – Assembly Led by Yr 4
- 8 Nov.** – School Mass at Church
- 20 Nov.** – Assembly Led by Rm 1A
- 23 Nov.** – Teacher Only Day



CONTACT US

3 Stephenson Street,
Blenheim 7201

03 578 9494

Liz – admin@stmb.school.nz

Cherice – office@stmb.school.nz



[stmarysschoolblenheim](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysschoolblenheim)

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, warmest greetings and blessings

Kia ora koutou katoa,

Now at the end of Term 3 and holidays, we reflect with gratitude on a full and memorable term at St Mary's School. Our kura has been alive with learning, service, culture, faith, sport and connection.

A particular highlight was the blessing and official opening of our new Administration Building and Learning Centre. It was a very special occasion, shared with Archbishop Paul Martin SM, parish, whānau, iwi, Board members and our wider community. The unveiling of the pakohe taonga gifted by iwi, alongside the developing pūrākau featured in the building, has helped anchor this new space in the stories, identity and mana of Te Waiharakeke. We are proud that this entrance now reflects who we are as a faith-filled and culturally connected school community.

Our students have continued to shine beyond the classroom. Our sports teams have trained, competed and represented St Mary's with enthusiasm and pride across a range of events and festivals. Our kapa haka rūpū, choir and Pasifika groups have practised with commitment, performed with confidence and helped represent the rich cultural identities within our school and we look forward to our Pasifika group taking the stage early Term 4.





Whether on the field, on the stage or in service to others, our tamariki are showing what it means to live our values of Whakaute, Manawanui and Whakamana. They are demonstrating respect for others, perseverance through challenge and the confidence to use their gifts in ways that uplift our whole community.

There have also been many opportunities for students to lead and serve through prayer, liturgy, parish events and community occasions. We have appreciated the contribution of our student leaders, including their involvement in welcoming guests, supporting the opening celebrations and serving at the St Vincent de Paul morning tea. These experiences remind us that our Catholic Special Character is lived through relationships, hospitality and care for one another.

Throughout the term, teachers have continued their professional learning in curriculum, assessment, structured literacy, mathematics, writing and Philosophy for Children. Mid-year reports and parent conferences provided valuable opportunities for meaningful conversations about each child's progress, strengths, wellbeing and next steps. Thank you to all whānau who engaged so thoughtfully in these discussions. Your knowledge, aspirations and partnership make a genuine difference to your child's learning journey.

I would like to acknowledge the dedication, expertise and generosity of our staff. They consistently create the conditions in which our tamariki can learn, belong and flourish. We are equally grateful to our whānau for the many ways you support school life: encouraging your children, helping with events, attending celebrations and working alongside us with such care.

We hope your family have had time to rest, reconnect and enjoy being together during this holiday break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday for another exciting stage of our journey together.

Ngā mihi nui,

Ma te Atua e manaaki

Bridget Comer

Tumuaki | Principal

OUR YEAR 7 & 8 STUDENTS RISE TO THE RIPLYL ENTERPRISE CHALLENGE!



Our Year 7 & 8 students have been putting their creativity, teamwork and entrepreneurial thinking to the test this term as part of the exciting Ripyl Enterprise Challenge, in partnership with FutureFX!

Throughout the challenge, students have been working closely with members of our local community to identify real-world problems, explore innovative solutions and develop their own business ideas. This fantastic hands-on learning experience has encouraged our students to think outside the box, build confidence, work collaboratively and strengthen their financial literacy, commerce and problem-solving skills.

A huge thank you to Calvin Watt and the fantastic team at FutureFX for generously sharing their time, knowledge, expertise and encouragement with our students. Their passion for inspiring young minds and connecting classroom learning with real-world experiences has made this an incredibly valuable and rewarding opportunity.

We would also like to acknowledge our dedicated teachers, local businesses, community members and everyone who has supported and guided our students throughout this journey. Partnerships like these highlight the importance of our school and wider community working together to create meaningful learning opportunities for our tamariki.





Our budding entrepreneurs are now busy putting the finishing touches on their presentations, ready to pitch their innovative ideas early next term. We can't wait to see their hard work, creativity and problem-solving skills come to life! Save the Date – Ripyl Enterprise Challenge Awards Evening!

We are excited to celebrate the achievements of our Year 7 & 8 students and recognise the dedication, creativity and effort they have put into this challenge.

Tuesday, 27 October 2026

Ūkaipō – Rangitāne Cultural Centre, Grovetown

Further details, including the time, will be shared soon. In the meantime, please mark this date in your calendars!

Watch Our Students in Action!

FutureFX has put together a fantastic video capturing our students in action throughout the challenge. It's wonderful to see their enthusiasm, collaboration and innovative thinking as they tackle real-world challenges!

Take a moment to watch and see what our talented young entrepreneurs have been up to!

Ngā mihi nui to FutureFX and everyone involved in making this incredible learning experience possible. We are so proud of our Year 7 & 8 students and can't wait to celebrate their achievements!





ROAD PATROL SAFETY



Just a friendly reminder to please use our school crossings when crossing the road with your children before and after school.

Our Road Patrollers do an incredible job helping to keep our students and whānau safe, and it is really important that we all follow their instructions. Please make sure you wait until you hear the clear instruction “Cross now” before stepping onto the road. Our patrollers give this instruction only after they have completed their safety checks, put their signs out, and made sure it is safe for everyone to cross.

We have noticed that on occasion people are beginning to cross before the “Cross now” instruction is given. Even when the signs are out, this does not necessarily mean it is safe to cross yet, so please continue to wait for the patrollers’ instruction.

Thank you for helping us model safe road-crossing behaviour for our tamariki and for supporting our Road Patrollers in the important job they do each day. We really appreciate everyone doing their part to keep our school community safe.

Watch the demonstration video our students made -->





TEACHERS VS STUDENTS

NETBALL

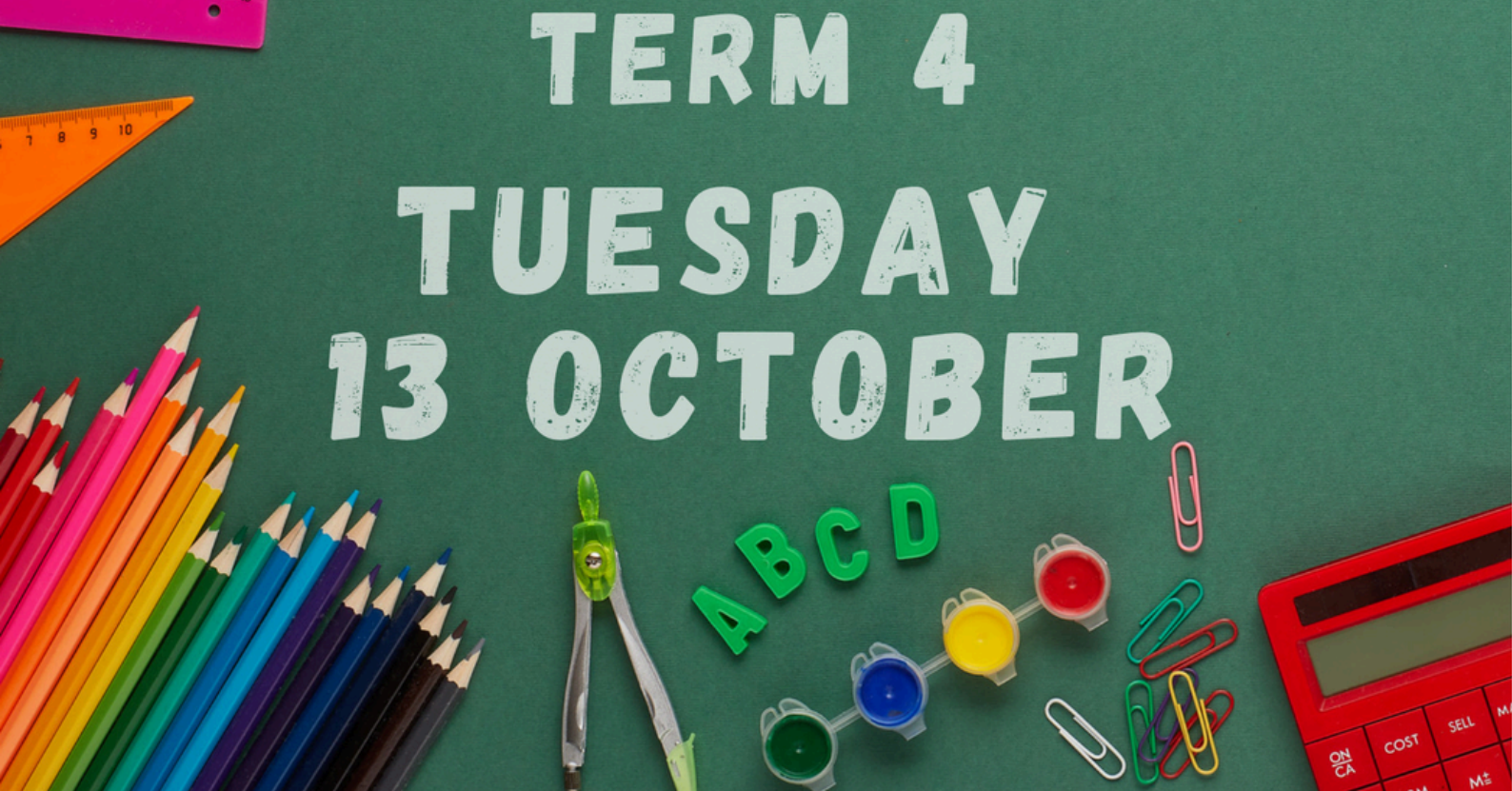




BACK TO SCHOOL

TERM 4

TUESDAY
13 OCTOBER



ABCD



SUBWAY

WEDNESDAYS



SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMME

Delivered to school in time
for lunch each Wednesday

order online
before 9am Wednesday
www.subwayexpress.co.nz



*Please join us to start
of each week with
whole school*

P R A Y E R

*First Day of the Week
at 9:10am
in the St Mary's Hall*



Te Kura o Hato Mere
St Mary's School Blenheim
www.stmb.school.nz

**COME ALONG TO WATCH
OUR STMB PASIFIKA GROUP PERFORM
THURSDAY, 15TH OCTOBER
10AM-12PM
AT MARLBOROUGH GIRLS' COLLEGE HALL**

PARENT FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Organisers of fun events for the school to raise funds that help to reduce costs to parents.

**Be part of the team,
we welcome your help.**

Contact Parent Chairperson
Berys Williams 021 0266 8081
smfincchairperson@gmail.com



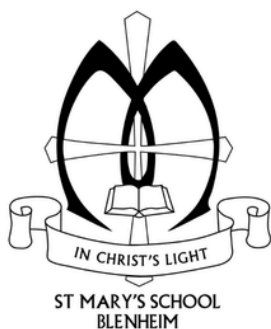
WHOLE SCHOOL MASS

**SUNDAY, 8TH NOVEMBER
ARRIVE BY 9:45AM**

**WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM
AT ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

*We would love to see our school community come together to celebrate Mass.
All families are warmly welcome – we hope to see you there!*





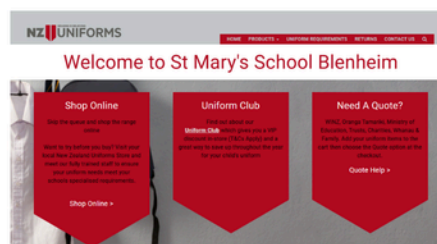
UNIFORM



Order Online

All St Mary's School uniform is sold via NZ Uniforms

www.stmb.nzuniforms.com



Second hand shop and lost property located within the St Mary's School Office



Get in Touch



03 578 9494



admin@stmb.school.nz



www.stmb.school.nz

Our Uniform

The school uniform is a very important part of St Mary's School, Blenheim. It represents past, present and future students. Being the only Catholic school in Blenheim the uniform also represents the Parish community we are part of. All students need to wear the correct uniform at all times; to and from school and during the school day.



Girls

Term 1 & 4 - Summer Compulsory

- Tartan Culotte
- White Short Sleeved Blouse (with Logo)
- Black T Bars or Black Lace up School Shoes
- White Ankle Socks
- Black Bucket Hat (with Logo)
- Black Jersey and / or Jacket (with logo)

Term 2 & 3 - Winter Compulsory

- Tartan Culotte
- White Short Sleeved Blouse (with Logo)
- Black T Bars or Black Lace up Shoes
- Black Over-the-knee Socks or Black Tights

Optional

- Tupenu/Lavalava (Maroon with Logo)
- Black Softshell Jacket (with Logo)
- Jersey (with Logo)
- Vest (with Logo)
- Beanie (with Logo)
- Black Sandals (worn with no socks)

All Children

Hair & Accessories

- Hair below collar length is to be tied back.
- Hair Ties: Black, Brown, Maroon, or White.
- Earrings: Stud or small hoop earrings, gold or silver.
- Taonga: Necklaces of cultural or spiritual significance are acceptable.

PE/Sport Uniform

- Black Polo Shirt (with School Logo)
- Plain Black Shorts
- Soft Soled Shoes

Boys

Term 1 & 4 - Summer Compulsory

- Grey Shorts
- Polo Shirt, Short Sleeved (with Logo)
- Black Lace up Shoes
- Black Socks with White Stripe
- Black Bucket Hat (with Logo)
- Black Jersey and / or Jacket (with logo)

Term 2 & 3 - Winter Compulsory

- Grey Shorts
- Polo Shirt, Short Sleeved (with Logo)
- Black Lace up Shoes
- Black Socks with White Stripe

Optional

- Tupenu/Lavalava (Black with Logo)
- Black Softshell Jacket (with Logo)
- Jersey (with Logo)
- Vest (with Logo)
- Beanie (with Logo)
- Black Sandals (worn with no socks)



Please make contact with the St Mary's School office if you need any assistance ordering uniform



On 1 October 2026, 4 new road rules have become law. Here's what they are:

The aim of the new rules is to make people's travel safer and better reflect how people already use the roads. **From 1 October:**

- **Kids 12-years-old and younger can now ride their bikes on the footpath.** Parents and caregivers are now also allowed to ride with them. Keep an eye out for kids on bikes when entering or leaving driveways.
- **You'll now be able to ride your e-scooter in cycle lanes.** This'll mean e-scooter riders can get to where they're going more efficiently. The speed limit still applies to e-scooters, and we highly recommend that you wear a helmet when riding.
- **There's now a minimum passing gap of 1.5m when passing people riding bikes, horses or e-scooters** that are travelling in your lane and heading in the same direction as you. This only applies to people driving motor vehicles or riding motorbikes. The 1.5m passing gap doesn't apply to parked cars or people that are travelling in a different lane to you. If it's not safe to pass, then you'll need to wait and pass when it's safe.
- **Everyone is now required to give way to buses that are signalling that they're leaving bus stops,** the roadside or bus lanes on roads that're 60km/h or less. This new rule allows for buses to safely re-enter traffic.



END OF YEAR DATES



27 November – Top of the South Touch Rugby Tournament

2 December – Year 8 Leavers Dinner Celebration

4 December – Assembly led by

8 December – Whole School Prizegiving 5:30pm start

10 December – Last day of school

1 February – First day of 2027

6 February – Waitangi Day





Art & Religion

A presentation by artist Mieke Davies, exploring the highlights from her arts trip to Italy 2025.

A fundraiser for
St Mary's Youth
Group!

Sunday 8th Nov
3pm-5pm, St Marys
community Centre,
61 Maxwell rd.

Entry by Koha
\$10+

Refreshments
provided.
RSVP to Mieke
0277499199
art@miekedavies.com

Join us for a casual
afternoon of fascinating
stories of artistic
masterpieces, ancient ruins,
churches and creepy dead saints!



Wellspring

Come to the water

you who are thirsty

Formation retreat

Oct 16- 18

St Mary's Church, Blenheim.

Hosted by St Mary's Youth Ministry

Guest Speaker: Brendan Malone of Lifenet NZ

Friday 16th : 6pm-8pm (St Mary's church) - all welcome

ROSARY (6pm-6.30pm) followed by ADORATION, RECONCILIATION, PRAYER & WORSHIP

Saturday 17th : 9.15am INTRO (Parish Community Centre) - catered morn/afternoon tea, and BBQ lunch.

All daytime workshops suitable for adults and late teens.

Workshop 1. 9.30am - 10.30am

HOW TO HAVE LIVING FAITH IN A FAITHLESS AGE

Jesus calls us to be salt and light to the people around us, but what does this really mean and how do we do it well, especially in an age that often seems indifferent or hostile to belief in God?

Workshop 2. 11am - 12pm

THE LORD'S PRAYER AS A TEMPLATE FOR THE CHRISTIAN LIFE PART #1

It can be easy to miss how much deep and important wisdom is packed into the Lord's Prayer, so we'll explore the many ways it is teaching us how to live Christian life well.

Workshop 3. 1pm - 2pm

THE LORD'S PRAYER AS A TEMPLATE FOR THE CHRISTIAN LIFE PART #2

We continue our deep dive into the Lord's Prayer.

Workshop 4. 2.30pm - 3.30pm

HOW TO SHARE YOUR FAITH WITH OTHERS

Evangelism is an important part of the life of faith that Jesus calls all of us to participate in, but for many of us it can also feel like a very scary and uncertain thing to do. In this session we'll be exploring practical insights that take the fear out of sharing faith while also maximizing the impact of your conversations with others about your faith.

Soulfood

Brainfood

Teen session 6pm - 7.30pm (St Mary's Youth Rooms) Dinner included

HOW THE SAINTS CAN HELP US LIVE THE BEST LIFE POSSIBLE

Brendan will share some amazing true stories about men and women of faith, and how the lives of the Saints can help us get the most out of our time here on earth!

Sunday 18th : 10am (St Mary's Church)

MASS FOLLOWED BY SHARED LUNCH (in the community centre)

Suggested Koha for the weekend : ADULTS : \$20 TEENS : \$10 (or just give the koha you can afford)

You can register with cash after weekend Masses in the foyer, or email Mieke Davies stmarysyouthgroup@extra.co.nz

and deposit the fee into this account. 06 0601 0121182 00 please put 'wellspring' and your name as reference.

Registrations close 10th Oct. Queries to Maurice and Mieke Davies 0223918584

NEWSLETTERS

click the image to view



Ministry of Education
Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

Ngā mātārere me ngā kawerongo **Bulletins and newsletters**

Bulletins for the education sector and information for whānau and communities.



WelCom

Newsletter of the Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington, New Zealand