



St Francis Xavier Catholic School

To Love, To Learn and To Serve
Kia Aroha, Kia Akona, Kia Aro Atu

No.6 Term 2 Rāpare-Thursday 12th May-Haratua 2022

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of our School,

Over the Easter break we reflected on the journey of Jesus and the incredible hurdles He endured. His resurrection provides a sense of hope, joy and peace. As we entered Term 2 we joined back together as one school community and realised how fortunate we are to have one another amidst the hurdles and changes of daily life. This term we look forward to a sense of normality, happiness and hope in new learning, connectedness and friendships.

School Uniform

Autumn weather is a sign to wear our winter school uniform. If you haven't already done so, please shine those flat, black leather shoes and pull up the navy socks! A reminder that long hair needs to be tied up with a black or navy blue hair tie. No jewellery is to be worn unless it is a taonga tucked inside your child's shirt. Your child may also need extra layers to keep warm due to ventilation being key at present. If you are unsure of winter uniform requirements, please refer to our school website.

We have a healthy collection of second hand uniforms at school. Please fill in a slip at the office or email Jennie Dean, jennie@sfx.school.nz if you need some uniform support.

Staff Only Day

Staff Only Day on Friday 3rd June. Please note this date in your diary, as school will be closed to all students as per the Primary Schools' Collective Agreement. Staff will be involved in training with Ministry of Education facilitators on this day.

Team Work, Persistence and Success

A huge acknowledgement and thank you to our Epro8 teams representing school last week. Congratulations to 'Team 2' who won the competition. Please read on for more information about this wonderful event.

Enrolment Notice

Early enrolments ensure a place for your child to attend St. Francis Xavier Catholic School. For more information please contact the school office on 4371039, or visit our school website: <https://www.sfx.school.nz/>

Farewell

It is with regret that we farewell Raewyn Edwards-Bercic who has been in the school for 22 years. We all thank you sincerely for the work that you have done, Raewyn. You will be sincerely missed and we wish you all the very best in the future.



Nga mihi nui,
Tracey Balks - Deputy Principal



Please note the next PTFA Meeting has now been deferred until the 25th of May.



...to Amelia Brearley, Lily Crewther, Roxanne Edwin, Sapphira and Zechariah Ioane, Hannah Jaison, Asher Joseph, Alban Perquin-Le Gars, Alize Tamihere-Nahu and Charlize Te Ao who started at our school recently.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This Sunday's Readings:

(Fifth Sunday of Easter) Acts 14: 21-27; Apocalypse 21: 1-5; John 13: 31-35

Thought for the Week:

It takes some of us a lifetime to learn that Christ, our Good Shepherd, knows exactly what He is doing with us.
He understands us perfectly.

Welcome back! It is great to see the children return from their holidays and be eager to start the new term.

No Uniform Days

Caritas

Our Gold Coin donation, no uniform day for Caritas is on **Friday 27/05**.

This year YCC (Youth Creating Change - formally known as Mufti Mania) are supporting Laura Vicuna in Bethlehem. Laura Vicuna School is a small school situated in the Holy Land. The school began in 1988 and is in dire need of support to fix and repair toilets, purchase a new laptop and projector, and round tables for small group learning activities.

St Vincent de Paul and Soul Food

Our Bring a Can, no uniform day is on **Friday 01/07**.

Please bring an item(s) of non-perishable food on this day.
These will be given to St Vincent de Paul and Soul Food.

Pastoral Care Basket

Our Pastoral Care basket that is situated underneath the statue of Mary, in the school office area. Non-perishable food items placed in this basket go towards a family in need, in our community. We welcome donations at anytime of the year.

Yours in Christ,
Mrs Maria Wilson DRS – Director of Religious Studies

Student Success

- Congratulations Anna and Nathan Hewitt who have been very busy competing in gymnastic competitions throughout New Zealand with great success.
- Gisborne - Central Island Champs -They both made finals in all their categories (Top 8 make finals)
- Anna competed Tumble (Placed first), Trampoline (Placed 2nd in both individual and synchro) and Double Mini (Placed 5th).
- Anna qualified for Nationals with her scores in all categories, so is now part of the Northland Gymnastics Competition team that will attend Nationals in July in Invercargill. Nathan competed Individual Trampoline (placed 6th) and Double Mini (Placed 5th) - He had personal bests in both and was very close to Nationals qualification, fingers crossed for him at the next competition.
- Anna competed in Rotorua - North Island Tumble Championships and placed 3rd.
- Their next competition is this weekend in Rotorua which is the Midland Champs, the children will be competing in Tumble, Trampoline and Double Mini. They also have the Nationals in the July school holidays in Invercargill.
- We wish them well for this.



Pukenui Whanau

WHANAU NAMES

This year, we have decided to change the names of the Whanau groups to reflect the new Local Curriculum.

It is our goal for children to know more about local landmarks, histories and significant events of the past. We want children to build a sense of belonging and connectedness to the Whangarei area, and also increase their knowledge of the landmarks that form part of our school pepeha. Ko Parihaka te maunga
Ko Hatea te awa
Our new Whanau names are Parihaka, Hatea, Manaia, Kauika and Pukenui.



Pukenui Whanau is named after Whangarei's Pukenui Forest. The forest is also known as the Western Hills. Pukenui Forest is a dominant feature and treasure of Whangarei. The eastern fringes of the forest are bounded by the edge of our city - from Maunu in the South to Western Hills Drive and Kamo in the North.

Pukenui Forest contains places of importance to Maori and Europeans, including historic and cultural sites such as the Kauika Pa site, Pa of Te Parawhau and remnants of former logging and quarrying activities.

As the "lungs of the city", Pukenui Forest is a sensitive and rare lowland broadleaf forest. Living in the forest are the Long-Tailed Bat, North Island Brown Kiwi and the Kereru (New Zealand Wood Pigeon) along with other threatened species. Part of the forest that surrounds the Whau Valley Dam catches rain water which fills its streams and flows into the Dam. The Whau Valley Dam provides high-quality water for most of our city.

It is our goal that overtime the children will learn why Pukenui Forest is a taonga of Whangarei and how to care for it.



EPro8 Competition, Week 1, Term 2, 2022

This year, three teams of Year 5 and 6 children from our school competed in the Northpower EPro8 Northland Challenge.

A fantastic effort by our Yr5/6 school teams at the heats of the EPro8 competition held at Kamo Intermediate last week. EPro8 is a team event where teams of 4 have to work through a challenge using problem solving skills amid a range of construction and electronic sections. An exciting way for children to learn and use the knowledge and skills of the Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) curriculums. Points are awarded to teams when they meet the criteria. For 2 ½ hours our teams displayed persistence, perseverance and a "can do" attitude.

SFX teams finished 4th and 5th with special congratulations going to SFX Team 2 - Gladwin Chakkissery, Adam Frazerhurst, Sofia Higgins, Sienna MacPherson and Hewitt Pool who were skilled and persistent enough to make the Grand Final last Thursday against all other top 3 winners of the other heats. In a hotly contested Grand Final, the SFX Team 2 WON!!

A wonderful result in front of proud parents and teachers.

Thank you to Mr Kini who lead the three teams.



SCHOOL EVENTS

Dates and times for events are subject to change.
Please check this fortnightly newsletter for any changes.

MAY

9th	8:45 am	Bike Safety Week
17th	11 am	Yr 5 & 6 Peace Walk around Kensington Park
18th	5:45 pm	Board of Trustees Meeting
25th		Yr 5 & 6 WPSSA Winter Sports
25th	7 pm	PTFA Meeting
27th		CARITAS Gold Coin Donation No-Uniform Day
27th		Yr 5 & 6 Whangarei Library Trip - Rms 1 and 22

JUNE

3rd		Staff Only Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
6th		Queen's Birthday Public Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED
10th		Yr 5 & 6 Whangarei Library Trip - Rms 18 and 22
15th		He Kakano New Entrant Transition Programme - Session 1
17th		Yr 5 & 6 Whangarei Library Trip - Rms 13 and 16
22nd		He Kakano New Entrant Transition Programme - Session 2
24th		Matariki Public Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED
29th		He Kakano New Entrant Transition Programme - Session 3

JULY

1st		BRING-A-CAN Non Uniform Day
6th	1:30-6 pm	Student Learning Conversations
7th	1:30-6 pm	Student Learning Conversations
8th	2:50 pm	Term 2 Ends

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance is available to assist families who may need financial support with the payment of Attendance Dues for preference students attending both primary and secondary Catholic schools in Auckland Diocese. Families facing financial difficulties can contact their school office, their Parish Priest, or Auckland Common Fund Ltd at the Catholic Diocese of Auckland on 09-360-3069 for further information. Application forms for this assistance are available from school and parish offices, or can be downloaded from the Catholic Diocese of Auckland Website: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/>

SCHOOL STATEMENTS

School statements have been emailed earlier in the week. Thank you to those who have made payments since receiving your statement. Please ensure you include your CHILD'S NAME, in your payment reference. If you didn't receive your child's statement, please come and see us at the office and we will print one off for you.

POMPALLIER CATHOLIC COLLEGE ENROLMENTS

Are you thinking of enrolling your child in Pompallier Catholic College for 2023?

Here is some important information to know in advance.

Enrolments for the College will open in the coming months. The closing date for all enrolments is likely to be late August or early September. The school is very close to its maximum roll. **Therefore, no applications will be considered after the closing date.**

The College roll has grown rapidly recently. Consequently we will be unable to offer places to non-preferential students for 2023.

The Board of Trustees has developed an enrolment policy which will help parents discern if their child is eligible to attend the College. This will be published on the College website in the near future.

Please keep up to date with further information regarding enrolments at Pompallier in the College newsletters, the College website, St Francis Xavier Catholic School newsletters and the Parish Bulletin.

If you have any queries regarding 2023 enrolments, please contact [Kelli Adams](mailto:Kelli.Adams@pompallier.school.nz) at Pompallier Catholic College admin@pompallier.school.nz