

Stella Maris Catholic Primary School

Kia ora e te Whānau

At the Matikao Assembly on Monday St Lucy echoed the message of the Feast of Christ the King that we heard in the Gospel last Sunday. They brought us the message that Jesus is our king forever. Jesus died on the cross for us - He loves and protects us over himself, and this is what makes him a true king. At the end of the assembly St Lucy led us in this prayer

*Dear God,
Thank you for giving us Jesus. He is the King!
Help us to keep Him King of our lives always.
We want to serve you with all we have.
We thank you for your never-ending love.
We love you, God!
Amen.*

The Feast of Christ the King takes place on the last Sunday of the liturgical year. This coming Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent, a time in which we prepare for the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. During Advent you might like to come along to Mass to help your children prepare for Christmas. St John's, Orewa Saturday evenings at 5:30pm, Sunday mornings at 10:30am. St Francis, Manly Sunday mornings at 8:30am.



Uniform reminders: Our uniform is looking a bit messy around the school at the moment as we have many children wearing non-uniform items. Can you please ensure your child is wearing correct uniform at all times. They need a **temporary** uniform pass please write/email your class teacher to let them know while you are sorting correct uniform items. A reminder that long black pants should not be worn now, long hair needs to be tied up properly with plain black hair ties and clips and the sandals are to be a plain black school sandal. Also SCHOOL hats are compulsory this term. Please encourage your child to wear their uniform with pride, as it reflects our school. Thank you for your help with this.

School Structure for 2023: The structure of the school will be as follows: **Matikao Team** will start with 4 classes - 2 Year 1 classes, and 2 Year 2 classes. We will open a Year 0 class later in the year, as the need arises. **Mohehu Team** will have 5 Year 3/4 classes. **Huruhuru Team** will have 4 Year 5/6 classes. Teachers have spent the last few weeks working on class placements for next year and are in the final stages of finalising these. You will be informed of your child's class in their end of year report.

Ma te Atua koutou e manaaki – May God bless you all

Catherine Cyprian
Principal



DRS Message

Advent at Stella Maris sees many old and a few new traditions revisited this year. Each class has an Advent wreath and uses these daily in class prayers. The colour purple adorns prayer focus areas signifying a time of prayer, penance and sacrifice. We explore the Liturgical Calendar and learn how the colour purple is used in times of waiting in the Church's year. Classes learn how we can prepare for the coming of Emmanuel, God with us. Some year groups explore the many people who waited and prepared for the birth of our Saviour. Many classes have, in the past, created Jesse trees and this year as a school we contribute in the creation of a school wide Jesse tree. This can be seen in our Main Atrium at school and will be added to each day by individual classes. A Nativity scene is erected in our main atrium to remind us of Jesus' humble beginnings and how our "King of Kings" became fully human. Junior classes have begun to prepare for our annual Nativity show on the 13th December. The true meaning of Christmas guides our learning through our last month at Stella Maris and we know that the Joy of Christmas will be found when we have prepared properly.

Almighty God, fulfill our desire and kindle our hearts by your Spirit, that being filled with the oil of your grace, we may shine as bright lights at the coming of your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

TEAM NEWS

Matikao:

Swimming is now well behind us as we plunge head-first into the final weeks of this school year. Once again we thank all the wonderful support people who helped us to keep our tamariki safe on the walks to and from the Northern Arena - you were stalwart and staunch, no matter the weather! We have busy times ahead as we continue our training for the Athletics skills showcase in Week 8 and begin practising for our Christmas Celebration performance in Week 9. We are looking forward to journeying with you into Advent and beyond!

Mokehū:

Kia Ora whanau, on Wednesday we had Andrea from Pest Free Hibiscus Coast, part of Forest and Bird NZ. She spoke to us about the work they are doing to ensure the survival of many of our native birds and animals. The children enjoyed this presentation. Thank you Mrs Manning for organising this. On Monday we will gather together as Mokehū team for assembly at 11.20am, you are welcome to attend if you are able.

Huruhuru: Swimming lessons are well under way and the students, despite being tired, are enjoying the experience. Thank you to those parents that have given their time to walk our students to and from Northern Arena. We will also be participating in the Interschool Athletics at the Millennium Institute Stadium this week and we wish the participants all the very best. The support and encouragement they bestow on each other is a tribute to the great values we foster at Stella Maris.



PTFA Cookie Dough Fundraiser

Our second spot prize winners are: Indi and Lola Davies, Lockie and Millie Pearson, Lily Snow Rivers-Simons, Aroha Vidoto, Isabella Reid. Don't forget to register to be in to win more spot prizes and to help raise funds for our schools

Parish News

A request has been made from our parish, St John's Church in Orewa for any parent, grandparent or guardian who would like to volunteer with the sacramental programme for 2023. If you feel that would like to help please contact Farren Coetzee on 027 302 1776 or via email @ farrencoetzee@gmail.com.

More Reflections from Huruhuru Camp Carey Park

Braxton O'Connor: *On camp I had the best time of my life. My favourite activity was kayaking, even though I got so wet and freezing cold, it was still my favourite activity. There were seven activities. They were kayaking, archery, flying fox, Hobo stoves, crate stacking and finally the confidence course. In these activities, I had to push myself so hard to get to the end of it, especially the confidence course. Next, the food was so good. On the first night we had butter chicken. It was so good. Then the next night we had roast and it was delicious. We also had games in the gym at night and I got really sweaty. I think the year three and four students that go to camp in 2 years in 2024, will love the experience.*

Jasmine Cate: *Camp Carey Park was truly One Big Adventure! Fun, fantastic, amazing and really exciting! I am one of the tribe leaders and have found my tribe and all of the other tribes to grow together. We all worked together well as a team! I tried new things such as Archery, Crate Stacking and Trolley Carts. I mainly loved Kayaking and the Confidence Course. Because I loved seeing the breathtaking views and the adrenaline and excitement. Camp has helped me to be more confident and also work better with others that I don't know that well. I have loved being a leader and helping others. I would strongly recommend Carey Park to future Stella kids. From the spacious cabins to the fun filled activities, this is an experience I will never forget! Camp has been a fabulous experience that I will never forget. Fun, laughs with friends and endless fun at Carey Park Camp!*

Jakob Smith: *This camp is my favourite camp and probably the best camp I will ever have. There were activities I will never forget. I strongly suggest you check out this wonderful place. At the start I did not feel like kayaking because I thought it would be cold and boring. I felt the same about a load of other activities too. I realised I really enjoyed kayaking and I'll definitely try it again in the future. I pushed through most of the activities but two of them I didn't do which were crate stacking and flying fox. Some of the challenges I completed took me out of my comfort zone, and had me getting to know my tribe members a bit more and making new friends. I recommend camp to anyone. It doesn't matter who you are, it will be an experience that you won't forget.*

James Walker: *I thought kayaking was the best activity because rowing with the oars was fun, and I even saw a dead eel, but later, my parents told me it was alive... so, it was actually a pretty good experience. The crate stacking had me nervous. I'm slightly afraid of heights and I saw how high the other kids in my tribe were going, so I was afraid of falling. But after I got on my third crate, I realised it was all fine. The best part about camp was the games they had. I especially liked table tennis because Ms Hunt and I duked it out against Rayden and Nick in table tennis and had an amazing time. I was sad that camp ended so early, but seeing the weather now on Friday, I was slightly satisfied that we had gone for just three days. The first time our tribe (The Fire Lions) met together, we were disorganised, uncooperative and disagreeing on almost everything, but just before camp, we bonded and learned more about each other, and that helped us to grow together.*

Going to camp has helped me to be a bit more courageous, daring and to exercise and get outdoors more often. I would definitely recommend camp Carey Park for incoming students to attend. We had an amazing time filled to the brim with excitement and joyous emotions all the way through. I am excited for the next students' "One Big Adventure".

Rieleigh Ongcoy: *I highly recommend Camp Carey Park for the rest of the Stella Maris community. It has a variety of kid friendly activities that all are guaranteed to enjoy. The activities brought my tribe together and helped us to learn how to work cohesively. The majority of the activities give you opportunities to step out of your comfort zone - "for courage is not the absence of fear but still acting in spite of it". Throughout all the activities the staff supported us in overcoming our fears, reminding us to believe in ourselves and encouraging us to try everything. The top team competition gave you the chance to work and socialise with new people other than your tribe. Food servings were more than generous and included desert. The facilities were exceptional. I'd gladly take the chance to camp there once more. On behalf of everyone in the Huruhuru team I would love to show our gratitude to everyone that made this camp possible. For the camp staff known and unknown. For the Teachers and parent volunteers. We all owe you a huge thank you for your devotion.*

Mark Your Diaries

07 Dec	Mokehu Athletics and Sprints Day
08 Dec	Matikao Athletics and Sprints Day
12 Dec	Service and SHINE Awards Assembly 9am
15 Dec	End Of Year Thanksgiving Mass 11am St John's Church
16 Dec	Children's Picnic and class swap
16 Dec	Reports go Home *Please note change to previous date
20 Dec	TERM FOUR ENDS 12.20pm

2022 School Term Dates

TERM 4 Monday 17 Oct – Tuesday 20 Dec

2023 School Term Dates

TERM 1 Tuesday	07 Feb – Thursday	06 Apr
TERM 2 Monday	24 Apr – Friday	30 Jun
TERM 3 Monday	17 Jul – Friday	22 Sep
TERM 4 Monday	09 Oct – Wednesday	20 Dec

Family Whanau Book Resource Link

<http://www.faithalive.org.nz/assets/Resources/Family-whanau-book.pdf>

Shining Moments



This week we congratulate Marie Woodard who has completed her 2 years as a beginning teacher and received her full certification. Mrs Woodard has had a start to teaching like no other. The totally unexpected lockdown a month in, followed by more lockdowns, isolations and bubble school saw her facing a situation that was a challenge for experienced teachers and she rose to this challenge like a teacher far beyond her experience. We are blessed to have Mrs Woodard as part of our team at Stella Maris and we look forward to continuing to share her teaching journey. "Shine for God"

Telephone

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09 424 2318

Parish Office

– Parish Priest –
Father Raphael
09 426 5599 ext 2

– Parish Secretary –
Theresa Fouché
09 426 5599

theresa@hbcparish.org.nz

SKIDS

– After School Care –
021 0829 7693

School Dental Clinic

09 426 8470

Bayes Buses

09 426 5504

Public Health Nurse

09 427 0300 ext 4339

Influenza A (H1N1)

– Advise Healthline –
0800 611 116

Coronavirus Healthline

0800 358 5453

Stella Maris School

– Website –

www.stellamaris.school.nz

School Bank Details

Attendance Dues &
Donations

12 3046 0362238 01

All other Payments

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PTFA Bank Details

12 3046 0376269 00

Waitemata Health

www.webhealth.co.nz

Auckland Youth

www.akyouth.org.nz

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In the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit Amen**

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