

# Stella Maris Catholic Primary School

Kia ora e te Whānau

Welcome back to school for Term 4, and a very warm welcome to our new students and families who have joined us this term. We look forward to getting to know you throughout the term. This term we have opened a new classroom for Year 0 in St Clare class, with Ms Monica Allemann as the class teacher.

This term we have a schoolwide focus on Kia Kaha – a programme that helps students develop strategies for respectful relationships where bullying behaviours are not tolerated. The year 0-3 students will learn a range of personal skills to prevent bullying occurring, and what they can do if they have been or are being affected by bullying behaviour. The year 4-6 students will learn about the impact of bullying, a range of personal skills to prevent bullying, and what they can do if they have been or are being affected by bullying behaviour.

**October, Month of the Rosary:** The month of October is a time in the Catholic Church dedicated to honouring the Blessed Virgin Mary through the prayer of the Holy Rosary. At Stella Maris we pray a decade of the Rosary daily in class prayers and as a whole school on Thursdays. By praying the Rosary regularly we learn about the events of Jesus' life, death and resurrection through the mysteries of the Rosary. Maybe you could find time as a family to pray a decade of the Rosary several times in October. The children will be able to help lead it, and you might find these links helpful:

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/rosary/>

<https://hallow.com/blog/how-to-pray-the-rosary/>

<https://rosarycenter.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary>

**Grandparents' Day:** All grandparents, or someone special to our students, are invited to join the children in class on Tuesday 28th October, 8:45am – 11:30am. This has always been a treasured day in our school community, and we look forward to sharing this time with grandparents.

**2026 Enrolments:** Planning for 2026 is well underway. If you have a child who is turning five next year it is helpful if enrolments are handed in to the office this term so that we are able to plan class placements.

**Junior Playground Upgrade:** Very exciting news! The work on the junior playground will begin from next week. This means that the playground will be fenced off and closed until the work is completed. Weather permitting we will have our new junior playground by mid November.

**Potential Strike:** You may have heard through the media that NZEI, the union which represents many primary principals, teachers and support staff, has given informal notice of potential strike action on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. If the strike goes ahead most of our staff will be striking on this day. Formal notification will not be given until 3 days before the intended day of strike. We appreciate that this notice doesn't provide clarity, however we wanted to give you as much time as possible to prepare and make alternative arrangements. As soon as we have confirmed information, we will let you know if the strike is going ahead. Thank you for your understanding and support as we manage this situation.

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

Catherine Cyprian  
Principal



## DRS Message

This term in our RE programme at Stella Maris we focus on the “Being Church” theme. Being Church encompasses Catholic Christian practice; how we should live our best life, one which embeds and lives out the teachings of Jesus. It is important that young people are given the tools to examine modern culture in the light of Catholic Tradition and teaching, and understand how Christian thinking interrogates and sometimes counters that culture. Being Church requires the teaching of Christian virtues and values and the Church’s teachings concerning social justice. Where possible young people should be given the chance to serve others in practical ways – to put their learning into practice.

### Our Year 1-2 content areas aim to have children...

- Develop an understanding that I am part of God’s family, and what I do and how I behave towards others is important.
- Recognise that the Church has rituals, symbols and holy things, and I can learn what to do and say to be part of them.

### Our Year 3-4 content areas aim to have children...

- Grow in understanding of what a Sacrament is and what they do.
- Explore the seven Sacraments: what are they and how can they be part of my journey

### Our Year 5-6 content areas aim to have children...

- Develop an understanding of the 9 principles of Catholic Social Teaching and that they come from Jesus’ teaching.
- Explore and show how I can live these teachings.

## MĀRAMA TEAM NEWS

Kiaora Mārama whanau and welcome back to term 4. A big welcome to the new students who have joined us, especially the 6 children who started in St Clare this week. Thank you to the parents that sent named school hats in, this makes the organisation a lot easier for classroom teachers.

This week we have started daily Rosary in all classes and this will continue throughout the month of October. We have swimming in week 6 and information will come home about this shortly, please keep an eye out in bags for this. We also look forward to welcoming the Grandparents into our classrooms on Tuesday 28th October.

## AHI TEAM NEWS

Welcome to Term 4. For all our students, it is a time to enjoy their last term before they step up to their new challenges in 2026. Our Year 6 students will be moving to new schools, Year 5 students will be stepping up as leaders of the school, and Year 4 students are preparing to support the 2026 Year 6 students.

On Tuesday, 21 Year 5/6 students trialled for the Interschool Swimming Competition that will be held on the 6th November. Students will be notified if they have qualified for this team. We thank Ms Kain and Mrs Buckley for organising this event. Ms Hunt is currently organising the Y5/6 Softball teams for the Interschool event on 22nd October. Students will be notified if they are participating on the day.

We remind our Ahi students that their Shine Challenges need to be completed before 7th November. Students are also reminded that they need to have their sunhats at school for them to wear throughout Term 4.

# Stella Maris Catholic Primary School



## Can You Hand Sew? Help Needed In The Library!

Our library cushions need a little love — a few buttons to sew and holes to mend. If you can hand sew and have a morning to spare, we'd really appreciate your help! Please get in touch with Nicky in the Library. Thank you!

## Global Games Rugby Festival - Taupō

During the final week of term, several of our students proudly represented their rugby clubs at the Global Games in Taupō - New Zealand's largest junior rugby festival, held over three exciting days. Representing Silverdale United Rugby Club were James McColl, Knox Hape, Harley O'Brien, Ollie Baxter-Mackay, Kaelem Cross, Daniel Coetzee, Huxley Selkirk, Latham Drake, Christian Comber, Kasper Nielsen, Ben Cox, Samuel Bessone, and Levi Cheval. Max Mayhew represented Northcote Rugby Club. All players showed fantastic courage, resilience, and grit throughout the festival. Well done to everyone involved, you represented Stella Maris with pride!



## Summer Football

The Stella 6, 7ers started off their summer soccer season with a bang! They lost their first game 3-1 to Orewa Primary United, but then won 4-2 against Orewa Primary Warriors. A shout out to Ryan Campion as the player of the day as the team goalie! Ryan played such a good game!



## SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Brochures For The Bumper Christmas Issue Have Been Sent Home With Students Today.

Ordering Will Close 300pm  
23rd October.

MILDALE SHOW HOME VILLAGE  
WAIWAI DRIVE

**OPEN DAY**

**OCT 11**  
11am - 4pm

**FREE** COFFEE & BBQ

**KIDS ACTIVITIES**  
Ice Cream Games Hunger Ball  
Bouncy Castle Face painting

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## Mark Your Diaries

10 Oct	Second hand Uniform Sale 8.15am
16 Oct	Whole School Rosary 9am
16 Oct	Shakeout Drill
22 Oct	Interschool Softball
25 Oct	PTFA 2026 Planning Meeting 6.30pm
27 Oct	Labour Day - School Closed
28 Oct	Grandparents Day 8.45am -11am
31 Oct	Carmel and Rosmini Orientation Day
10 Nov	Marama Team swimming one week
17 Nov	Ahi Team swimming one week
21 Nov	Mufti Day - Bring a Gourmet Item
05 Dec	Splash 'n Dash
12 Dec	End of Year Thanksgiving Liturgy
15 Dec	Shine Challenge and Service Assembly
15 Dec	Year 6 Graduation Dinner 6pm
16 Dec	<b>END OF TERM FOUR 12:20pm</b>
02 Feb	<b>TERM ONE 2026 COMMENCES</b>

## 2025 School Term Dates

TERM 4 Monday 6 October - Tuesday 16 December

## 2025 Public Holidays

Labour Day Mon Oct 27

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**SchoolDocs/Policies:** We have moved all of our policies to SchoolDocs. If you need to access any of the policies you can click on the link on the school website – look for the SchoolDocs link under the Community page. You will need the following username and password to access them. <https://stellamaris.schooldocs.co.nz> Username: **stellamaris** Password: **shine**

## Telephone

### Netball

– Cancellation Contact –  
teresa@netballnorthharbour.co.nz

### Parish Office

– Parish Priest –  
Father Chris  
09 426 5599 ext 2

– Parish Secretary –  
Theresa Fouché  
09 426 5599

[theresa@hbcparish.org.nz](mailto: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](http://www.stellamaris.school.nz)

### School Bank Details

Attendance Dues &  
Donations

12 3046 0362238 01

All other Payments

12 3046 0362238 00

### PTFA Bank Details

12 3046 0376269 00

### Waitemata Health

[www.webhealth.co.nz](http://www.webhealth.co.nz)

Auckland Youth

[www.akyouth.org.nz](http://www.akyouth.org.nz)

**“Ki te ingoa o te Matua, O te Tamaiti O te Wairua Tapu, Amene”  
In the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit Amen**