

Stella Maris Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER 19 March 2026

NEWSLETTER

Kia ora e te Whānau

Last Friday evening a group of students led the parish Stations of the Cross at St John's – this group did us all proud as they led a reverent reflection of Jesus's journey to the cross. Thank you to Margaux Elumba, Natalie Farrell, Tiffany Hoang, Anna Turner, Aroha Vidoto and Leo Doyle for the preparation you did for this through lunchtime and evening practices.

St Anthony class will be leading the school in Stations of the Cross at school on Thursday 2 April at 9am in the school hall. You are all welcome to join us.

We are very excited to be holding our first ever colour run tomorrow afternoon. If you haven't bought your tickets and still wish to attend, you will be able to purchase tickets at the event. A few reminders... Those participating are encouraged to wear white as this will help the colours stand out. The children will get wet so it will be a good idea to bring a change of clothes and towel to get changed afterwards.

NB: the pick up zone will be closed tomorrow afternoon as we need to keep this space clear for the fire truck that will be on site for the colour run.

- ◆ Please do not park where cones are placed as we need to leave a clear exit for the fire truck.
- ◆ There will be no parking available on the grass area due to fire hoses running through the area. This will mean limited parking in the school carpark area.
- ◆ If parking in Old Mill Rd please be respectful of our neighbours – avoid parking on grass verges, and make sure driveways are not blocked.
- ◆ If you are needing to pick your child up after school, pick up will be at the roundabout at the top of the stairs.
- ◆ We ask for your patience as we work to keep everyone safe in the carpark.

We look forward to this fun new community event.

Whānau Connect Conferences: Next Wednesday and Thursday there are opportunities for you to meet with your child's teacher to discuss ways that you can support them in their learning. Please make sure you have booked a conference time. Note that school will be closed from 12:20pm on Wednesday 25 March as the conferences begin at 1:00pm.

PTFA AGM: The PTFA are holding their AGM on **Tuesday 31 March at 7pm in the staffroom**. Our PTFA work hard to provide a variety of events for the school that are for fundraising and building community spirit. Three of the office holders of the PTFA are stepping down from their roles at the AGM. Katie Dee is stepping down from the Chairperson role, Tom Dee is stepping down from the Deputy Chair role, and Michelle Arnott is stepping down from the Treasurer Role. We thank them all for the enthusiasm, energy and skill that they have brought to the PTFA. While we will be looking for new office holders we are also looking for more members – the more members we have the wider we can share the work. If you have an interest in becoming a member of the PTFA please come along to the AGM to learn a bit more. All are welcome.

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

Catherine Cyprian
Principal



DRS Message

The Gospels in Lent are all about preparing us for Easter by tracing Jesus' journey to the cross. They focus on the themes of repentance, conversion, temptation and divine identity. They offer guidance to us all in the three pillars of Lent- prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Our students explore the ministry of Jesus to His ultimate sacrifice. There are learnings about how to deal with challenging times, how to trust in the presence of God and to understand how we are called to pray, fast from things that distracts us from God and charity. This week we hear how Jesus demonstrated His power over death by raising Lazarus from the tomb. Jesus didn't immediately return to Mary and Martha when they initially requested His help. He shows us that at times Jesus waits to use His power in bigger ways than expected.

*Dear Jesus,
Thank you that you are powerful
and that you have victory over even the scariest things.
Thank you for being friends with Lazarus
and showing us that you love us so much.
When we are sad, like Mary and Martha,
help us remember that you are close to us.
Thank you that, because you are the Resurrection and the Life,
we can have hope and new life in you.
Help us trust in your love, just like you told them to believe in you.
In your name, Amen.*

TEAM NEWS

Mārama Team News

Kia-ora Parents, as you read this, we are hopefully completing our athletics unit with our 'showcase'. The children have all enjoyed the Thursday afternoon lessons and have developed their skill level. As they move through the school their skills and techniques are refined as they are given more opportunities to experience athletics.

The children are buzzing with the Colour Run happening tomorrow. This looks like it will be a wonderful event and we thank the PTFA for adding this to our school calendar. Thank you to those that have supported this event by purchasing tickets. We look forward to seeing you tomorrow.

A reminder that our Museum trip is fast approaching; please see below the dates for the classes. The teachers have contacted the parents who are required to help on the day. We were inundated with offers of support, and unfortunately are unable to take all parents.

- Monday 30th March for St Lucy, St Benedict, St Anne, and St Clare classes.
- Tuesday 31st March for St Francis, St Nicholas and St Mary classes.

Finally, last Friday was a wonderful event that we hope will become a regular fixture on our school calendar. It was absolutely amazing to see the range of countries represented. Children wore their national outfits with pride and beamed as they shared where they were from and information or greetings from their country. Mārama team had an impromptu parade on the court which was a highlight of the day.

Ahi Team News

At Team Assembly on Monday, we presented certificates to our Year 4 sprinters and Year 5/6 athletics. Congratulations on your achievements. We thank St Joachim for the lovely liturgy that they led for the school for us today. We look forward to meeting with our families next week at the Whanau Connect Conferences, as we enjoy talking with you about your children's progress and learning goals. On Thursday 2nd April at 9am, St Anthony will be leading the school in the Stations of the Cross. All in our Stella community are welcome to attend.



Eat Yummy apples for your school's share of \$200,000 free sports gear. Collect the 'Yummy Stickers' and 'cut-out labels' from Yummy 1.5kg apple bags.

Yummy apples are available at New World, Pak'n Save and participating Four Square stores.

The more stickers you collect, the more sports gear for our school!

Grab a collection sheet from your teacher, fill it up with stickers, return it to the school and grab a new one to fill up!

Let's do this, Stella Maris!



Hockey

If you would like to your child to play Hockey you will find details and a link to registration on the community page of the HERO app. Registrations close Wednesday 25th March.

PARISH NEWS

The 2026 Sacramental Programme

This programme will be run during terms 2 and 3 this year. Children need to be aged 9 by June 1st to enrol in the programme. Information and enrolment details will be in the newsletter over the coming weeks. Applications will open on March 2 and close on April 18. This programme is facilitated by the Hibiscus Coast Parish so please email [Brenda.Neville@hibiscuscoastparish.org.nz](mailto:Brenda.neville@hibiscuscoastparish.org.nz) if you have any queries.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Private Piano Lessons

I am very excited to offer piano lessons at school on Monday and Friday mornings in the cottage of the Church (Holy Trinity) next to the school. Ruth is a kind and patient, experienced, passionate and accomplished, fun loving music teacher who is super excited to begin a musical adventure with you. Beginners to advanced students are welcome. Ruth is experienced in teaching special abilities students and has journeyed with blind students, autistic students, ADHD students as they have learned music in a fun and stimulating way. Please contact Ruth directly to make a booking: Phone: 021 445 6816 Email: ruth.goodenough67@gmail.com

THE PTFA WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE

STELLA MARIS'S FIRST EVER COLOUR RUN

MARCH 20

**3PM - WARMUP
3:30PM - START**

**TICKETS LIVE ON KINDO
\$10/PP OR \$25/FAMILY PASS
FOR 3 OR MORE CHILDREN**

**ONLINE FUNDRAISER
TO UPGRADE THE SCHOOL'S SPORTS
AND PE EQUIPMENT**

**SIGN UP NOW AT
[HTTPS://STELLAMARISCOLOURRUN.RAISEIT.CO.NZ/](https://stellamariscoLOURRUN.raiseit.co.nz/)**

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



SAUSAGE SIZZLE (PREPAY ON KINDO) AND THE HARCOURTS ICE CREAM TRUCK WILL BE AT THE EVENT. BRING CASH TO AVOID QUEUES!

GET READY TO RUN, GET MESSY, AND HAVE FUN! - BYO WHITE T-SHIRT

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: STELLAPTFA@STELLAMARIS.SCHOOL.NZ



FRANCISCUS

THE GRADUATE CHOIR NEW ZEALAND
Terence Maskell
Elizabeth Mandeno soprano Philip Smith organ

A Recital to Commemorate the Papacy of Pope Francis

21 April 2026 7:30pm
St Michael's Church, Remuera

Featuring Britten's Requiem and music by Howells, Foulenc, Harris, Durufle and Artley

TICKETS \$30-10
GO TO [WWW.GRADUATECHOIR.CO.NZ](https://www.graduatechoir.co.nz) TO BUY TICKETS

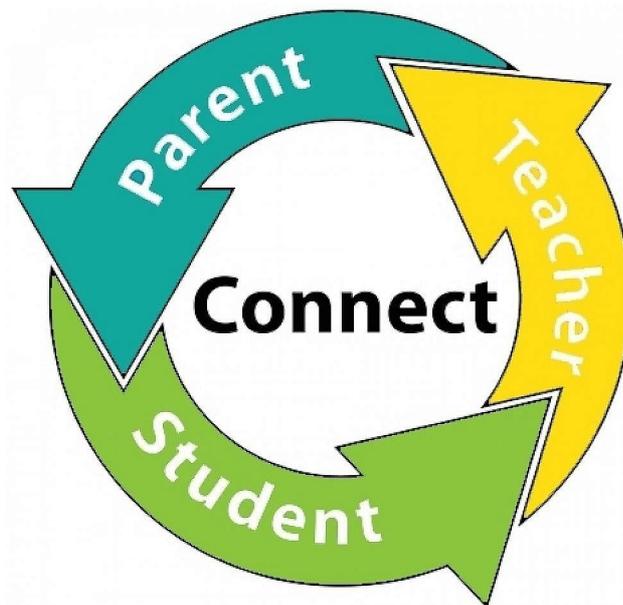



Whanau Connect Conferences

Wednesday 25 March from 1:15pm to 7:00pm

Thursday 26 March from 3:15pm to 6:00pm

**School will finish at 12:20pm on
Wednesday 25th March**



Bookings are to be made online by visiting:

www.schoolinterviews.co.nz

Our school Access Number is 6h4uq

All bookings for all levels are online.

<https://enrolmy.com/skids-bumblers-limited/book-now/142-Stella-Maris-Early-Finish-Day-25-March-2026>

Join the fun
EARLY FINISH DAY
25 March 2025
12:20pm – 2:45pm
Ask your Coordinator for more info about what's happening!
Book Now
skids



Mark Your Diaries

20 Mar	Colour Run from 3pm
25 Mar	School Finishes at 12.20pm
25 Mar	Whānau Connect Conferences
26 Mar	Whānau Connect Conferences
27 Mar	Second Hand Uniform Sale 2.30pm
02 Apr	END OF TERM ONE 2:45pm
20 Apr	Term Two Commences 8.45am

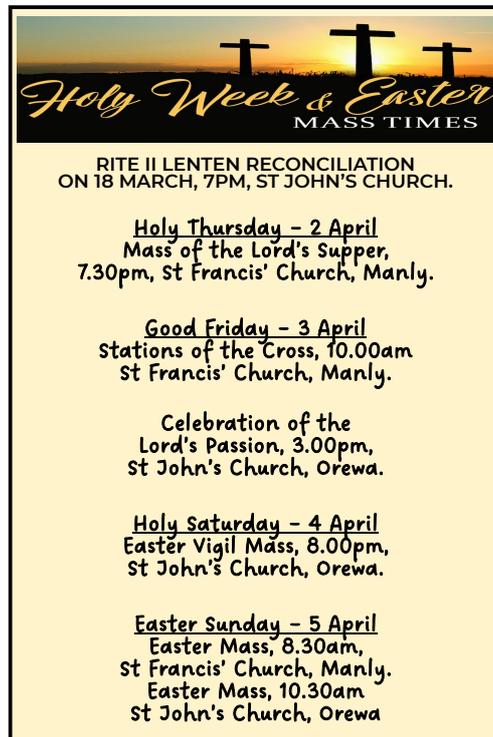


2026 School Term Dates

TERM 1	Monday 2 February - Thursday 2 April
TERM 2	Monday 20 April - Friday 3 July
TERM 3	Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September
TERM 4	Monday 12 October - Tuesday 15 December

2026 Public Holidays

Good Friday	Friday 3 April
ANZAC Day	Monday 27 April (Observed)
King's Birthday	Monday 1 June
Matariki	Friday 10 July (During July Holidays)
Labour Day	Monday 26 October



Holy Week & Easter
MASS TIMES

RITE II LENTEN RECONCILIATION
ON 18 MARCH, 7PM, ST JOHN'S CHURCH.

Holy Thursday - 2 April
Mass of the Lord's Supper,
7.30pm, St Francis' Church, Manly.

Good Friday - 3 April
Stations of the Cross, 10.00am
St Francis' Church, Manly.

Celebration of the
Lord's Passion, 3.00pm,
St John's Church, Orewa.

Holy Saturday - 4 April
Easter Vigil Mass, 8.00pm,
St John's Church, Orewa.

Easter Sunday - 5 April
Easter Mass, 8.30am,
St Francis' Church, Manly.
Easter Mass, 10.30am
St John's Church, Orewa

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

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
12 3046 0362238 00

PTFA Bank Details

12 3046 0376269 00

Waitemata Health

www.webhealth.co.nz
Auckland Youth
www.akyouth.org.nz

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**

**“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**