

Stella Maris Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER 26 March 2026

NEWSLETTER

Kia ora e te Whānau

We were so blessed last week with the wonderful weather that helped to make for a number of fabulous events through the week. Last Thursday was a busy athletics day with our Year 5/6 Inter-School Athletics team participating in the Hibiscus Coast Schools' Athletics Day and the Mārama team holding their Athletics Showcase. Our inter-school team represented Stella Maris so well with some great results across all events, and in their display of the Marian Values in the public arena. Congratulations to the Year 5/6 team for an awesome day and thank you to Mrs Bessone and the Ahi teachers for all you did to prepare the students for the day. Our Year 1-3 students had a fun afternoon showcasing the athletics skills they had been working on all term and were so proud to show them off. Thank you to the teachers of Mārama team for working with the students to build these skills and thank you to all of the parents who came along to support and cheer the students on.

And then there was our inaugural Colour Run on Friday afternoon. What a wonderfully fun, happy and messy afternoon this was. It was awesome to hear the joy and laughter as the children were sprayed with water by the Fire Service and then took off through the obstacle course. A huge thank you goes to everyone involved, especially the wonderful PTFA who put the event together and the team of helpers who got behind them. These sorts of days are an important part of our calendar not just for the fundraising but also for building the community spirit. We have raised just under \$12 000 that will go towards the upgrade of our sports equipment and gear. Thank you to all who participated.

As we prepare to head into term 2 we seek your help in building the independence of our students. One of the Learner Capabilities that we focus on with the students is Being a Self Manager – teaching them to look after their own things, being prepared to start lessons, follow instructions, to have a Growth Mindset, give things a go, learn from mistakes and try again. Below are some things that all of our students should be doing independently:

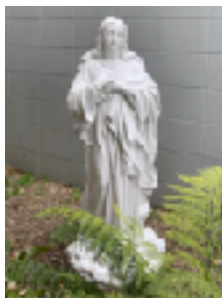
- Carry their own school bag into and out of school each day
- Unpack and pack their school bag in the classroom
- Make sure they are organised for the start of the school day before going out to play
- Put on their own shoes and socks
- Open and close their lunchbox
- Hand notices to parents or to the teacher/office
- Turn up for practices on time – and if there is a clash letting the coach know.

It would be great if you encourage the students in these things and maybe practice some of them at home also. Helping them to be self managers helps them to build resilience and independence.

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

Catherine Cyprian

Principal



DRS Message

This Sunday we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Jesus fulfils an old prophecy by entering the city riding on a humble donkey. People waved palm branches and placed their coats on the ground singing praise and worshipping Him. Some were showing Him by this that they wanted Him to be their King. This obviously upset many religious leaders and further set in motion the events later in the week. Throughout this week we will be reading the gospels each day through our speaker system. You might like to join with us and read these with your whanau at home throughout the week. We will be sending home a resource with daily readings and explanations of the events of Holy Week on Monday. Next week each class will explore their Holy Week lessons that guide them appropriately towards the events of Good Friday.

Prayer for Holy Week.

*Lord, let everything I do in the coming Holy Week
be inspired by You.*

*Help me to remember that nothing is important in my life unless
it glorifies You in some way. It's so easy to get caught up in the
day to day of my life.*

*Help me to enter fully into your Passion through my Lenten
promises and always be reminded that You went to the desert, the
garden and the cross for me.*

Amen.

TEAM NEWS

Mārama Team News

Kia Ora Whanau, we started week 8 by joining together for an assembly led by St Benedict class. These Year 1 children had been practicing leading assembly for the past few weeks and did a fantastic job. Thank you all. It was also wonderful to see so many proud parents in attendance. There was a lot of colourful hair in the audience, a reminder of the fantastic Colour Run put on by the PTFA last Friday. Thank you to the parents and teachers who helped organise this fun event.

A reminder that next week we have our Museum trip for all classes;

Monday 30th March for St Lucy, St Benedict, St Anne, and St Clare children.

Tuesday 31st March for St Francis, St Nicholas and St Mary children.

Please ensure that your child is at school by 8.30am. We look forward to this rich opportunity to learn outside of our classroom. We know all children will be on their best behaviour for this trip and will represent Stella Maris with pride.

Ahi Team News

Thank you to all our parents who have attended our Whanau Connect Conferences this week. Communication between the school and our families is vital to support your child to be successful in their learning journey. Next week, the school celebrates Holy Week, culminating with our Stations of the Cross on Thursday.

We thank all those parents who have supported the team with sports coaching, supervision, and transportation for interschool events throughout the term.



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!



PARISH NEWS

Congratulations to all those who recently completed the RCIC Programme at St. John's. We warmly welcome all of those being baptised into our parish family. They include:

- Remi O' Connor*
- Isla & Macy-Mae Barker,*
- Olivia Lehmann*
- Stanley & Fletcher Buchanan*
- Ryker, Bryn & Theo Doyle*
- Hyojung Olive Kim*
- Hailey Noul Jeong*
- Harper Boughtwood*
- Makenna Scott*
- Luna Ross*
- Tiffany & Cody Hoang*
- Jaxon & Ayayah Rihari*
- Aqua & Skye Woolridge*
- Eva & Harrison Hosking*
- Liya Patel*
- Madison & Harrison Glatt*
- Margot & Maven Nicol*

Payments Due

If your child has/is participating in the following activities please make payment at the school office or online:

Stella Maris School Board **12 3046 0362238 00**

Marama Museum Trip	\$21.00
Basketball Registration	\$15.00 (overdue)
Year 5/6 Interschool Cricket	\$3.00 (overdue)
Year 5/6 Interschool Athletics	\$4.00 (overdue)

School stationery was distributed to students at the start of the year. We still have a number of payments outstanding.

Year 1 students	\$60.00
Year 2 students	\$74.50
Year 3 students	\$70.50
Year 4 students	\$99.00
Year 5/6 students	\$101.00

Thank you to those who have already made payment.

Hockey

Hockey registrations have now closed. We still require coaches, if you are able to help with coaching please contact Mrs Pearson. Teams will be announced next week

Second Hand Uniform Sale

A reminder that there is a second hand uniform sale tomorrow afternoon from 2.30pm in the foyer.

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@ Brenda.neville@hibiscuscoastparish.org.nz if you have any queries.

We also have forms held at the school office if you wish to pick one up to enrol your child.

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: 021 145 6816 Email: ruth.goodenough67@gmail.com

Congratulations to Our Colour Run Class and Individual Fundraising Winners!

A huge shoutout to our amazing Colour Run class winners – **St. Mary in the Marama Team and St. Augustine in the Ahi Team** - what an incredible effort! Your enthusiasm, teamwork, and fundraising spirit truly paid off. To celebrate your awesome achievement, enjoy your well-deserved Pizza Fun Lunch this Friday, 27 March!

And a big congratulations to our second place class winners – **St. John in Ahi Team and St. Benedict in the Marama Team** - you'll be cooling down with Juicies Ice Blocks this Friday, 27 March!

Top 10 Fundraising Individuals

Congratulations on winning 9 rounds of mini-golf at [Holey Moley Golf Club](#) in Auckland! Collect your prize in the office this week.

- 1) Hunter Downing
- 2) Spencer Downing
- 3) Jon Holden
- 4) Emme Walker
- 5) Niko Green
- 6) Artemis Vincent
- 7) Cooper Walker
- 8) Isobel Brannan
- 9) Isla Brannan
- 10) Koa Ailincai

Thank you to everyone who participated and supported our Colour Run – you helped make it a colourful, fun-filled success for our whole school community!



Mark Your Diaries

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

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

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

**“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**