

# Stella Maris Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER 5 March 2026

NEWSLETTER

Kia ora e te Whānau

**Attendance Management Plan:** You will be aware that improving school attendance is a major focus for the Government. From the beginning of 2026 every school is required to have in place an Attendance Management Plan.

At Stella Maris Primary School we understand that regular school attendance is vital for the success and wellbeing of our students. Attending school every day supports our students to build strong foundations for their learning and social development. Regular attendance means students are able to consistently build on their learning and achievement success.

The government has set a national target of 80% of students attending school regularly, at least 90% of the time. This means that students should be absent for no more than 5 days per term to ensure they have continued success at school.

We appreciate you keeping your child home when they are unwell as this helps to slow the spread of the viruses and bugs to other students and staff.

At Stella Maris we will work with families to ensure students are attending school regularly (90% of the time – absent no more than 5 days per term) 80% of the time. Below are the 4 thresholds for attendance as set by the government and Ministry of Education.

REGULAR ATTENDANCE	IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE	MODERATE ATTENDANCE	CHRONIC ATTENDANCE
Over 90% attendance (absent less than 5 days per term)	Between 80%-90% attendance (absent between 5-9.5 days per term)	Between 70%-80% attendance (absent between 10-14 days per term)	Less than 70% attendance (absent 15 or more days per term)

When reporting your child's absence please give a clear reason for their absence (note: "my child will be absent today" is not a reason). Notify the school by 8:45am each day that they are absent. This can be done by:

- o Leaving a message on the school absence line 09 427 9189
- o Emailing [absences@stellamaris.school.nz](mailto:absences@stellamaris.school.nz)
- o Using the Absentee link in the school App.

A reminder that holidays during term time are an "explained but unjustified" absence, and we ask that where possible holidays are booked during term breaks.

The full Attendance Management Plan is available for viewing on the school website. If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

**Cultural Day – Friday 13 March:** As part of our Religious Education and Social Sciences inquiry that we are focusing on this term – "Our Story, Ā Tātou Whakapapa" – we are inviting the students to come dressed in a way that shares their family story with their classmates next Friday. This could be a traditional costume, or a costume that they create that tells their story. They will have an opportunity in class to share their family story as told through what they wear.

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

Catherine Cyprian  
Principal  
Stella Maris Primary School



## DRS Message

This Sunday we hear the gospel story of Jesus meeting the Woman at the Well. The story of the woman at the well (John 4) is about Jesus breaking social rules to show love to a misunderstood Samaritan woman. He offers her "living water"—spiritual satisfaction and eternal life—knowing all her secrets yet loving her anyway, leading her to tell her whole town he is the Messiah

Key Points for us to take from this:

- **Breaking Barriers:** In Bible times, Jews and Samaritans did not talk to each other, but Jesus talked to her to show that God loves everyone.
- **What is Living Water?** Jesus explained that water from a well only stops thirst for a little while, but the "living water" he gives (His love and forgiveness) lasts forever.
- **Jesus Knows You:** Jesus knew the woman had made mistakes, but he didn't judge her; he offered her a fresh start.
- **Sharing the News:** The woman was so excited, she left her water jar behind to tell everyone in her village about Jesus.

*Jesus loves us no matter what we have done,  
and he wants to be our best friend,  
filling our hearts with joy like a "fountain".*

*Lord Jesus, I come to You thirsty,  
just as the woman at the well did.  
I know You are already here,  
waiting for me in the heat of my day,  
knowing everything about my life, yet offering me grace.  
Thank You for seeing me completely—my mistakes,  
my fears, and my hidden tears—and not condemning me.  
Amen.*



## Team News

### Mārama Team News

Kiaora whanau, as this is published, we hope to be outside participating in the Mārama sprint races! These races are followed with our Mārama Athletics showcase on Thursday 19th March from 12.45pm. We thank you for your support and encouragement in these 'fun' events. A reminder that the Museum trip permission slip and payment is required back by Friday 13th March. In classes, children are continuing on their Lenten journey by trying to make good choices and looking for ways to help others.

### Ahi Team News

This week, the Year 5/6 students had their Athletics competition. The students demonstrated perseverance, resilience, and sportsmanship throughout the day. They should all be very proud of their achievements. We thank all the teachers and teacher aides for making this day such a successful event. The Year 4 students are focusing on learning their times tables at home. Please support your child with these. It is a good time to remind Year 5/6 students that they should be able to instantly recall their times tables (within 5 seconds).

## 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@ [Brenda.neville@hibiscuscoastparish.org.nz](mailto:Brenda.neville@hibiscuscoastparish.org.nz) if you have any queries.

## Community News



## SCHOLASTICS BOOK CLUB



*Order forms have gone home this week - orders will close on*

*Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March*

*This is a wonderful way of supporting your child's reading and raising bonus points for the school to purchase curriculum items. Please hand your orders into the school office.*

*Your support is appreciated.*



### Junior League Is Back At The Hibiscus Coast Raiders Rugby League Club!

Our 2026 junior league season kicks off on **2nd May**, and registrations are now open for tamariki aged **4.5 through to 15 years**, across all junior and youth grades.

Rugby league is more than just a sport – it's about community, connection, confidence, and fun. It's where friendships are built, skills are developed, and kids learn resilience, teamwork, and discipline in a supportive environment. With so many young fans inspired by the **NZ Warriors**, there's never been a better time to start league young.

To get the season underway, we're hosting a **Junior Muster** on **Sunday 22nd March**. This is a great opportunity for tamariki and whānau to come down to the club, meet our coaches and managers, and let the kids jump in for drills, games, and plenty of league fun.

#### Location:

161 Brightside Road, Stanmore Bay [You can register online here: https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/310507](https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/310507) or come on down to muster to register. Whether your child is completely new to league or already loves the game, come on down and have a go – everyone is welcome. We'd love to see you there. For any questions, please flick them through to:

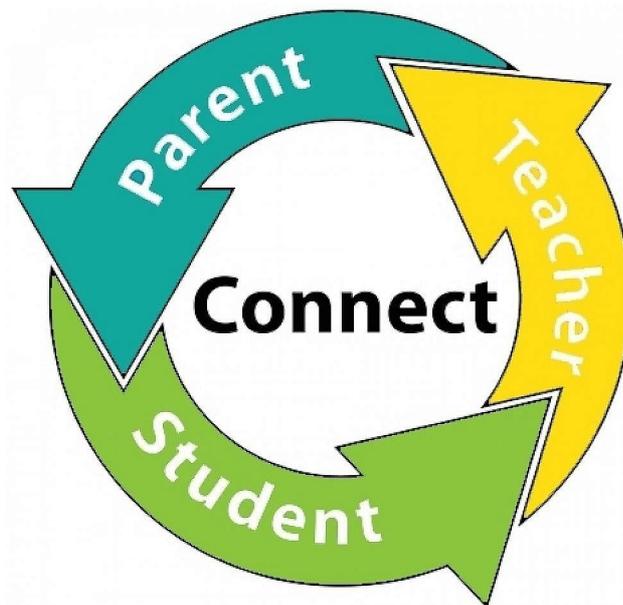
[hbcjuniorraiders@gmail.com](mailto:hbcjuniorraiders@gmail.com)

# 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 25<sup>th</sup> March**



**Bookings are to be made online by visiting:**

[www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://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 Childcare for more info about what's happening!  
Book Now  
skids

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!**

SHOE SCIENCE

Harcourts



HOLEY MOLEY

PAK'nSAVE

SecondWind



THE POOL MAN

F45 TRAINING

**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](mailto:STELLAPTFA@STELLAMARIS.SCHOOL.NZ)**

# 20% OFF

## STOREWIDE

For all Stella Maris Students,  
Parents, and Teachers



# SHOE SCIENCE

ALBANY | SILVERDALE

T&C's: Redeemable at Shoe Science Albany & Silverdale, either print & present or show us your phone. Offer not redeemable with any specials, promotional voucher or loyalty programme. Offer ends 1/04/2026

## Mark Your Diaries

06 Mar	Pizza Fun Lunch
09 Mar	Mārama Assembly 9am
25 Mar	<b>School Finishes at 12.20pm</b>
25 Mar	Whānau Connect Conferences
26 Mar	Whānau Connect Conferences
02 Apr	<b>END OF TERM ONE 2:45pm</b>
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

## Telephone

### Netball

– Cancellation Contact –  
[teresa@netballnorthharbour.co.nz](mailto: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)

**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**