

Stella Maris Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER 2 April 2026

NEWSLETTER

Kia ora e te Whānau

Last Friday I watched with joy through my office window as St Clare and St Nicholas classes re-enacted Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem, with the children waving palms and singing "Hosanna" as Jesus rode in on a donkey. It was lovely to see the children bringing the Gospel to life.

Today is Holy Thursday – the beginning of the Easter Triduum - Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. On Holy Thursday we participate in the Mass of the Last Supper, on Good Friday we recall the Passion and crucifixion of Jesus, at the Easter Saturday Vigil the paschal candle is lit from the Easter fire – a ceremony of darkness and light. The Triduum finishes with the Resurrection on Easter Sunday, a time when we celebrate that darkness is overcome by light. I encourage you and your family to join the parish in the services over the Easter period. The timetable for the parish services can be found further on in the newsletter.

On Monday and Tuesday of this week our Mārama classes visited the Auckland Museum as part of their learning about Our Story. By all accounts it was a busy trip with lots of learning that was enjoyed by everyone. Thank you to all of the parents who helped out on the trip, and to the teachers for the preparation of the day.

PTFA: At the AGM, we thanked Michelle Arnott for her time on the PTFA, after six and half years she has stepped down from the role of treasurer. New officers were elected to most of the roles. Katie Dee is continuing as Chairperson while we continue to look for someone to take on this role. Beth Walker is secretary and Tara Fisher is treasurer. It was great to see some new faces at the meeting on Tuesday evening and the enthusiasm of the team to work together to provide fundraising events that bring our community together.

I wish you all a very happy and holy Easter, and a restful break from school routines. We look forward to everyone returning safely on Monday 20th April.

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

Catherine Cyprian
Principal





DRS Message

Today, Maundy Thursday, we reach the culmination of Holy Week with our traditional Stations of the Cross. St Anthony class has been working with commitment and reverence to lead us as we pray the Stations of the Cross. They have taken this Liturgy extremely seriously and recognise the honour and gravity of what they have led us in. I have been extremely moved by the way they have dedicated themselves fully to their roles. From our readers and technology crew to the students acting as guards, Mary, Jesus, the Women of Jerusalem, Simon of Cyrene, Veronica and all the other actors I have witnessed a real understanding of the importance of leading this Liturgy with reverence and prayerfulness. With their guidance the 14 Stations of the Cross are broken down for our school whanau in a way that opens a little doorway into the enormity of Jesus' love for us. We don't ignore Jesus' pain. We look at it, at an appropriate level. Hopefully, with eyes of love and openness. We pause to reflect on His sacrifice before we experience the full joy of His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Palm Sunday: "Lord, we want to walk with you this week and be by your side. Help us to stand by you at every step, just as you walked toward Jerusalem for us"

Holy Tuesday: "Jesus, help us to trust in You even when we do not understand. Remind us that You are with us, and that Your plan is always good, even if we do not fully understand it".

Holy Wednesday: "Jesus, deliver us from everything that separates us from You. Sometimes we choose fleeting things that pull us away from what truly matters".

Holy Thursday: "Lord, we thank you for staying with us in the Eucharist. Teach us to love and serve one another, as you served your disciples".

Good Friday: "Jesus, today we contemplate Your cross. We bring to you our weaknesses and ask for your mercy, trusting in your love".

Holy Saturday: "Jesus, we wait with You in silence. Help us to find peace in your presence as we wait for the joy of Easter".

Easter Sunday: "Jesus, today we celebrate that You are alive. May your resurrection light fill our homes and our hearts with joy."

TEAM NEWS

Mārama Team News

Kia ora whanau, this week started with our trip to the Museum, this was a highlight of our term and a great way to celebrate all the hard work the children have done. The bus ride over was full of excited, chatty children and when the sky tower appeared, a loud cheer rang out around the buses! The earthquake room, war planes and hands-on exhibitions were favourite parts and the bus ride home was much quieter with tired explorers! Thank you to our parent helpers, teacher aides and teachers for helping to ensure this trip was a success. Back at school we have been learning about Holy Week, finishing math chapters and continuing with LLLL work. We wish you all a safe and happy holiday, spending time with your family and reflecting on the sacredness of Easter.

Ahi Team News

Wishing everyone a safe and happy Easter and holiday. We look forward to beginning our new term with all our students.

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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.

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 if you have any queries.

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

Stella Maris PTFA Term 1 2026 Recap

The Stella Maris PTFA has had a busy start to the year with a pizza fun lunch and the AMAZING inaugural Colour Run! This was an absolutely incredible event that now has a permanent spot on the PTFA event calendar. The energy, enthusiasm and support was off the charts. A big thank you to the PTFA organising team lead by Beth, all of our wonderful volunteers and the school staff who helped pull off this event. To our school families who attended and our generous sponsors – thank you so much for your support and helping us raise the funds to improve our school sports equipment. We raised approx. \$12,000 – a huge effort!

Looking forward to term 2 we have the Mothers Day event (8th May), a fun lunch (29th May), the annual disco (19th June) and Matariki liturgy (3rd July). We did have a Comedy Night pencilled in but have decided to leave that event for 2027. We also are looking at hosting at a First Aid Refresher evening some time in the winter months – so keep an eye out for more info soon.

Changes in the PTFA committee are upon us. Last night we had the AGM and Michelle Arnott stepped down from her role as treasurer after serving on our committee for 7 years!! Thank you so much Michelle for your dedication and service to our school. Your ongoing work behind the scenes has been invaluable and is greatly appreciated by all. We are excited to announce that Tara Fisher has kindly agreed to move into the role and was elected as the new treasurer – thank you Tara! Tom Dee also stepped down from his co-chair position – thanks Tom for your service and all of your work on the junior playground upgrade. We definitely managed to recruit more male volunteers thanks to having a dad on the team, let's keep this us dads. Beth Walker is continuing in her role as the Secretary – thank you Beth we appreciate all your do for the PTFA, not just as the secretary but with the fun lunches, colour run and always putting your hand up to help! I have decided I will continue as the chair, which is made possible thanks to a few other parents stepping up and taking the lead on some of the key events and activities this year and lightening my load. Jenny Bentley has kindly taken over from Karen Bessone as the teacher representative – thank you Jenny and a big thank to Karen for all of your energy and support in this role for the last year. It really is a team effort!

Wondering how you can help? We hold monthly PTFA meetings, and everyone is invited to attend and give input. Our next meeting is on 5th May 7pm in the school staff room. We would love to see you there! You can also continue to support the PTFA and our school community by helping out at events, donating second hand uniforms (box in the office), answering our call outs for donations and sponsorship, coming along to the events, and sharing business connections or skills. No support, donation, or help is too small, and every bit makes a difference.

Have a wonderful end of term break and we look forward to working alongside you, our wonderful school community, next term.

Katie and the PTFA team.





ONLY BALLERS FOOTBALL ACADEMY

6 WEEK TRAINING PROGRAM

THURSDAYS - APRIL 30TH - JUNE 4TH

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

STELLA MARIS PRIMARY FIELDS

PROFESSIONAL COACHING FOR ONLY \$84

CONTACT - ADMIN@ONLYBALLERS.CO.NZ

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SCAN ME

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Scan the QR code to secure your spot today!

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skids Stella Maris
50 Silverdale Street, Silverdale

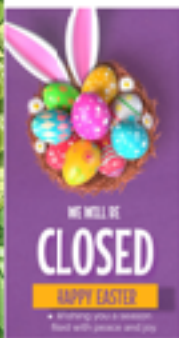
Customer Service: 021 06297693
Onsite: 027 2754377

Book now at skids.co.nz/stella_maris
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7th - 17th April 2026

April

Monday 6th



Tuesday 7th

Wizards & Witches Workshop

Step into a world of magic & spells! Brew potions, cast spells & create magical crafts & take part in enchanting challenges to become master witches & wizards! Get ready to wave your wand!



Wednesday 8th

Little Bo Peeps Mobile Farm - Premium Day

We are welcoming some friendly farm animals for some hands-on farm experience & supervised pony rides on site! A great day of outdoor fun & animal adventures!



Thursday 9th

TDR: Magicloft

Enjoy climbing, sliding, bouncing & exploring all the exciting play areas at Magicloft! It will be a day full of energy and adventure. Please bring your own sock or bring \$2.



Friday 10th

Island Explorers Treasure Hunt

An exciting day of fun & adventure! Follow treasure maps, solve clues, work together & uncover hidden treasure & make your sand dough art! We can't wait to get call!



Monday 13th

Ninja & Nerf Battle

Action-packed fun! Test your agility in ninjastyle obstacle challenges & fully supervised Nerf team battles! Safety rules & protective eyewear provided strictly enforced at all times.



Tuesday 14th

Makers Day

A day full of creativity & delicious fun! Unleash your inner artist for your canvas painting & marble arts. A fun-filled day of imagination & creativity-let's get making!



Wednesday 15th

TDR: Hoys Waka

Off to the movies to enjoy the big-screen adventure with some popcorn! Return on site for more fun filled activities & yummy snacks!



Thursday 16th

Hungerball Challenge Premium Day

Let the games begin in the exciting Hungerball Arena! Test your speed & skills in a friendly competition with your mates!



Friday 17th

Circus Carnival

Step right up for a day of circus fun & excitement! Try your hand at juggling, clown games & creative circus crafts! Get ready to join the show!



<https://enrolmy.com/skids-bumblers-limited/book-now/141-Stella-Maris-April-Holiday-HQ-The-Great-Outdoors->

AROHA RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS ACADEMY

April School Holidays
All levels welcome, no experience required

- Stay active and have fun these holidays
- Learn new rhythmic gymnastic skills & apparatus
- Enjoy games, routines & challenges
- Arts & crafts

Tuesday 14th April
Wednesday 15th April
Thursday 16th April
Friday 17th April

Location: Nukumea Primary School
Half day: 9:00-12:30pm (\$35 per day)
Full day: 9:00-3:00pm (\$50 per day)

Contact: office@arohagymnastics.nz

KUMON

Your child can strengthen essential maths and English skills with Kumon. Contact your local Kumon centre to secure your child's place in the May Free Trial!

KUMON SILVERDALE EDUCATION CENTRE
kumon.silverdale1@gmail.com
Rebecca Lu | 021 0382 9858

MAY FREE TRIAL

Terms and conditions apply. Visit www.kumon.co.nz

Mark Your Diaries

02 Apr **END OF TERM ONE 2:45pm**
 20 Apr Term Two Commences 8.45am


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## 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



**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](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)

**“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**