

Stella Maris Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER 10 September 2026

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Kia ora e te Whānau

Thank you to all of the dads who came along to Dads' Day last Friday for an afternoon of sharing in learning and play. It was great to see so many dads and to see the excitement on children's faces. There are many special days in our school calendar and this is one that really means a lot to our students.

The next special day we have of sharing is our Grandparents' Day on Tuesday 27 October (the day after Labour Day). We invite grandparents to come along to school from 8:45am – 12:00pm to join their grandchildren in classes and enjoy a shared morning tea in the hall. Please ask your grandparents or a significant family member to mark this day in their diaries. More information will come soon.

The **Readathon** is underway. If you have been into school you will have seen the transformation of classroom and office doors to promote reading and favourite books. Check out the photos below. I have heard stories of children trying to complete their Bingo cards by doing multiple activities at the same time, such as wearing their PJs while reading upside down under a blanket fort, or reading a book recommended by a friend that was published this year while wearing a funny hat. I'm not sure that there are any books with yellow covers left in the library as I spotted a class yesterday for these. If you capture a fun photo of your child/children reading please email it to me and we will create a "Readers' Photo Board" in the main atrium. principal@stellamaris.school.nz So far there are 87 students

Sign up by 11th September to go in the draw to win a Karaoke Microphone



signed up on the Go Raise It page to gather sponsors who have raised \$2768. This is not quite a quarter of the school, imagine how much we could raise if the rest of the school signed up. Tomorrow we have the first spot prize draw – everyone who is signed up by midday tomorrow will be in the draw for Karaoke microphone. It only takes a few moments to sign up.

School Uniform: Our school uniform is something that tells the wider community who we are. Wherever our students wear the uniform they are representing Stella Maris. Lately it has become a bit untidy as we have an increasing number of students wearing non-uniform items or have shorts or thermals they wear underneath the uniform that are visible. As we go into term 4 and we move into summer uniform I ask families to ensure that all students are wearing the correct uniform next term. Apart from the plain black school sandals and plain black hair accessories all other uniform items are available at our uniform suppliers Positive Image in Flexman Place, Silverdale. A reminder also that the school hat is compulsory in term 4 – please make sure that your child has one before the term starts.

Boys: Black shorts, Stella Maris polo shirt, Stella Maris hat, Stella Maris fleece, plain black school sandals.

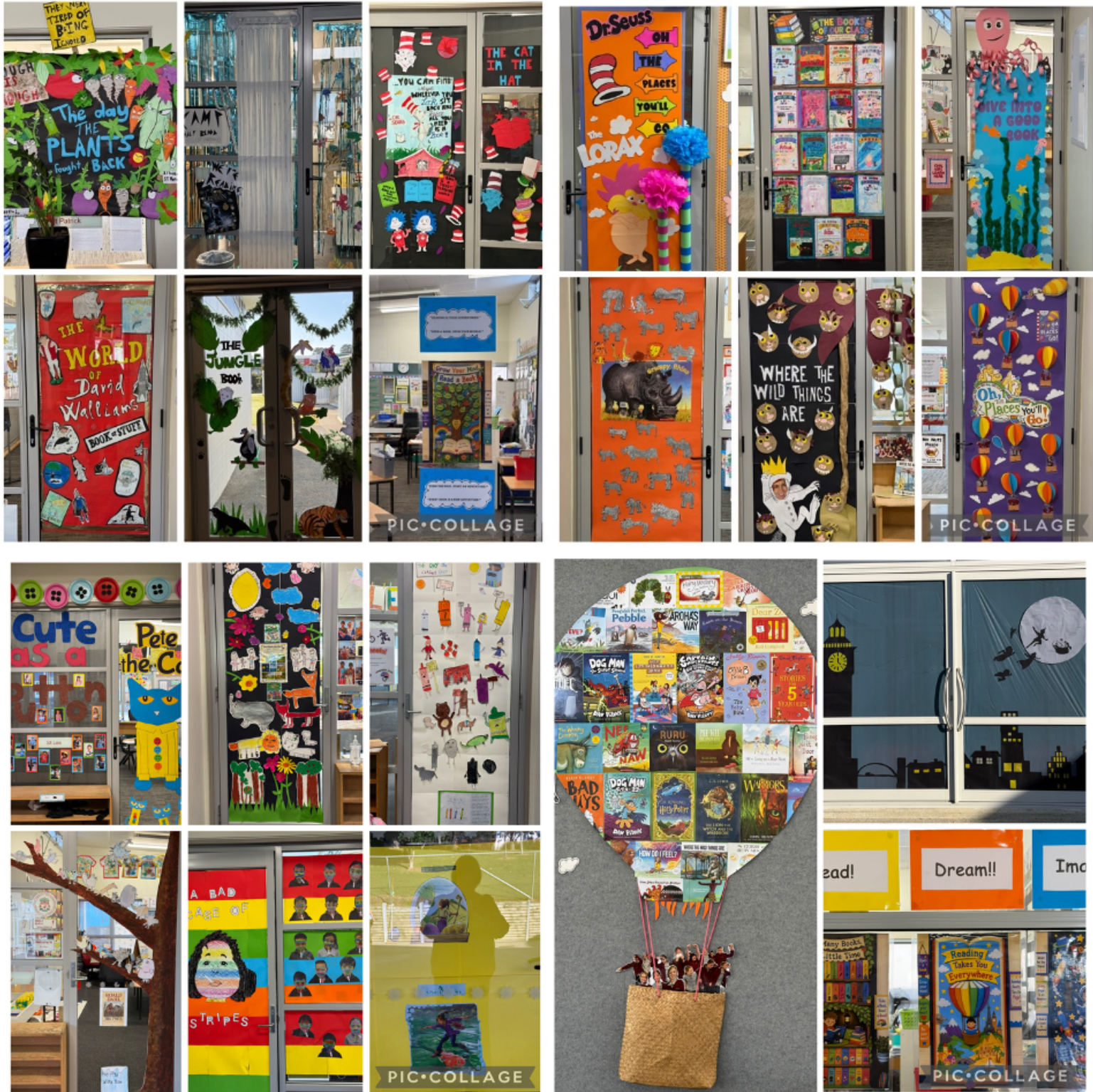
Girls: Black culottes, Stella Maris blouse or Stella Maris polo shirt, Stella Maris hat, plain black school sandals, plain black hair ties, ribbons and clips.

Help us to ensure that the correct uniform is worn tidily and with a pride that represents Stella Maris.

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

Catherine Cyprian
Principal

OUR SPECTACULAR READ'A'THON DOOR DISPLAYS



DRS Message

As we close in on the end of another term we begin to reflect on the teaching and learning of our theme for the term, Te Atua- God. Teachers at each year level have designed self assessments over the last few years that explore the learners understanding of achievement objectives. Our younger learners are asked to determine whether they can or can not answer specific questions while our older learners are asked to explain their understanding of objectives with evidence. This varied approach is designed to meet the learners at their cognitive level. After they complete these self assessments we expect learners to bring home their RE books over the holidays. We hope this is a time that whanau can explore these self assessments and the learning throughout the term. It is a wonderful way for the students to show off their learning but also to explore areas where they may not have been as successful. We hope this sparks conversations around the specific objectives to inspire learning for the whole whanau. We see this as another way we at Stella Maris can evangelise and share encounters with Jesus beyond the classroom.

*E Te Atua, God our loving Father,
You gift us with this world and invite
us to respond with love and wisdom.
E Hehu Karaiti, Jesus Christ, beloved Son,
You show us how to live and call us
to participate in your life and mission.
E Te Wairua Tapu, Holy Spirit,
You empower and guide us on our shared spiritual journey.
Bless the young people and whānau in our parishes
and their Catholic school communities.
Bless all who work in Religious Education in Aotearoa New Zealand
Remind us that you are always with us,
Fill us with enthusiasm, knowledge and joy to learn and teach that which is at the
heart of our schools,
You, who live and reign for ever and ever.
Āmene.*

The First Holy Communion Mass

The children who are completing the Sacramental Programme will be celebrating their First Holy Communion next weekend, September 20, during the 10.30am mass at St. John's Church in Orewa. There will be a lot of seating reserved for the families. There will also be an additional mass celebrated on that morning at 8.30am at St. John's Church (due to St. Francis's currently being closed for renovations), so if you would like a less busy option, you are warmly invited to attend the 8.30am mass.

Team News**Marama Team**

Kiaora Whanau, this week we started with a beautiful assembly led by St Leo. The Mārama team were very proud of how well the children led us and the message they taught of "how to grow a friend". These children have only been at school for a very short time, however they presented like professionals! Thank you Mrs Jansen and St Leo.

Last Friday we enjoyed having our classes filled with our Father figures. There was crafts, healthy plate making, aeroplane competitions, measuring dads, balloon-volleyball and a fun game of octopus on the courts. Thank you for coming into our classrooms and sharing this special time with us.

Ahi Team

Thank you to all our dads who were able to make our Dads Day last week. This week our Read-a-thon has started, with information going home on Monday. Ahi students are recording their times for how long they have read during the day. Please also check out our classroom doors, as they have been decorated with a book theme to celebrate this fundraising initiative. Just a reminder that Shine Challenges are due early next term. The holidays are the perfect opportunity to get these finished and ready to have them signed off by your teacher next term.



Holiday HQ

Holiday HQ the ultimate destination for kids looking for an unforgettable break from the school routine!

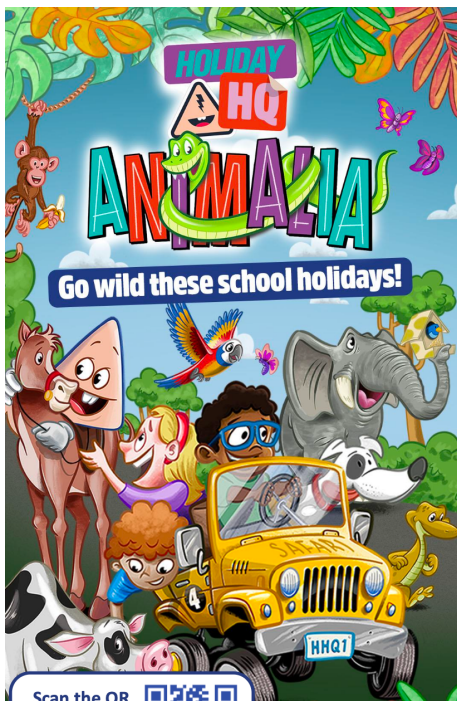
From exciting outdoor escapades to creative workshops, cooking classes and interactive learning sessions - our expert educators provide a dynamic blend of engaging activities and enriching experiences.

Spring Holidays 2026

Step into the wild these spring school holidays at Holiday HQ: Animalia!

Step into a world of amazing animals, exciting adventures and hands-on fun! Explore the wilds of Aotearoa, dive beneath the ocean, discover jungle creatures, meet polar animals and travel back in time to the world of dinosaurs!

28 Sept – 9 Oct



Scan the QR code to secure your spot today!

MSD-Approved.
Work & Income
OSCAR Subsidy
available!

skids Stella Maris
Stella Maris Primary
School

50 Silverdale Street
Silverdale, Auckland

Book now at skids.co.nz/stellamaris

Customer Service:
021 08297693

Email:
stellamaris@skids.co.nz

Onsite:
027 2754377



28th September – 9th October 2026

Sept

Monday 28th



BUSY BEES

Get ready for a buzzing day of creativity & delicious fun! Make your own Honey Bee Bead Craft, create a beautiful Honeycomb Canvas Masterpiece, & enjoy a delicious honey-inspired treat.



Tuesday 29th



JUNGLE MISSION TRIP: My Wonderland

Join us for a day as we head off to My Wonderland for an exciting play adventure! More jungle fun missions & games back on site with a Monkey Madness Sundae treat!



Wednesday 30th



BUBBLE JUNGLE

A fantastic bubbly jungle adventure like no other with a Bubble Show, jungle games & animal inspired art using bubbles of course! Let the jungle fun begin!



Thursday 1st



ANIMALIA DINER DAY

Get ready for a wildly delicious day! Kids create their own donuts & milkshakes in our decorating & mixing stations! Come hungry & ready to make some wild treats!



Friday 2nd



LOST CREATURES

Dig it, discover it, uncover the secrets of the past! Step back in time & be an extinct creature explorer! Fossil digs, creature detective challenges, extinction survival games & hands on fossil making.



Oct

Monday 5th



MADAGASCAR MUSICAL

Lights, camera, ACTION! From hilarious animal characters & wild dance moves, there's something for every budding star! Find your character, own the stage & let the show begin!



Tuesday 6th



THE GREAT WHEELS DERBY

Start your engines for a wild ride! Design, build & customise your own animal inspired wheels. Test it out in an exciting Derby Challenge. Build it, race it, bring home the roar!



Wednesday 7th



FLYING HIGH

Spread your wings & get creative! Explore the world of flying animals & make awesome take-home creations including their own bird feeders, wind chimes & flying animal projects!



Thursday 8th



SHAUN THE SHEEP: THE BEASTY OF MOSSY BOTTOM

Grab your popcorn & get ready for a baaa-riffant day! We're heading to the movies followed by more fun back on site with game, creative activities & crafty farmyard fun.



Friday 9th



FUR & FEATHERS HIGH TEA

Step into the world of animal-inspired elegance! Expect plenty of tasty treats, creativity & a touch of wild sophistication! Bring your fave animal stuffy along to join the fun!



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Mark Your Diaries

14 Sep	Ahi Assembly 9am
18 Sep	Second Hand Uniform Sale 2.30pm
21 Sep.	Whole School Assembly 9am
24 Sep	Fundraising Read-A-thon Ends
25 Sep	Term 3 Ends 2.45pm
27 Sep	Daylight Saving starts - clocks forward
12 Oct	Term 4 Begins 8.45am

2026 School Term Dates

TERM 3	Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September
TERM 4	Monday 12 October - Tuesday 15 December

2026 Public Holidays

Labour Day	Monday 26 October
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2027 School Term Dates

- Term 1:** Starts Tuesday 2 February, ends Friday 9 April
(Easter falls in term time 26 March to 30 March)
- Term 2:** Starts Tuesday 27 April, ends Friday 2 July
- Term 3:** Starts Monday 19 July, ends Friday 24 September
- Term 4:** Starts Monday 11 October, ends Thursday 16 December

***A reminder when you are organising family holidays
to please organise these during the school holidays.***

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

Stella Maris Primary School Board

Attendance Dues &
Donations

12 3046 0362238 01

All other Payments

12 3046 0362238 00

PTFA Bank Details

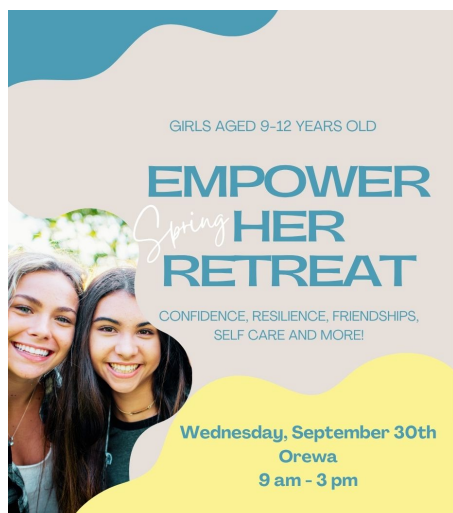
12 3046 0376269 00

Waitemata Health

www.webhealth.co.nz

Auckland Youth

www.akyouth.org.nz



GIRLS AGED 9-12 YEARS OLD

EMPOWER HER RETREAT

CONFIDENCE, RESILIENCE, FRIENDSHIPS, SELF CARE AND MORE!

Wednesday, September 30th
Orewa
9 am - 3 pm

Empower Her Girls Retreat Day!

We are so excited to invite you on our amazing Girls Retreat Day, specially designed to nurture and empower resilience skills, strengthen friendships and build self-care and wellbeing tools.

Key Highlights:

- Strengthening Self-Esteem and Self-Talk:** We will empower and equip your daughter with the tools to cultivate a healthy inner dialogue that boosts confidence.
- Character-Building:** We'll delve into character-building exercises that help your daughter grow into a compassionate and resilient individual.
- Friendships:** Learn about healthy friendships, conflict resolution, and dealing with negative friendship behaviours.
- Reframing Negative Thinking:** Empower your daughter with tools to shift negative thoughts and turn challenges into opportunities for growth.
- Self-Care Journals:** Foster a love for self-reflection by creating personalised self-care journals. Explore the importance of self-care and strategies to improve it for enhanced emotional regulation.

We can't wait to see you!!

www.strongerwithin.org

@strongerwithin_ Stronger Within

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**