



**Week 1, Term 3**  
**21 July 2020**

# NEWSLETTER

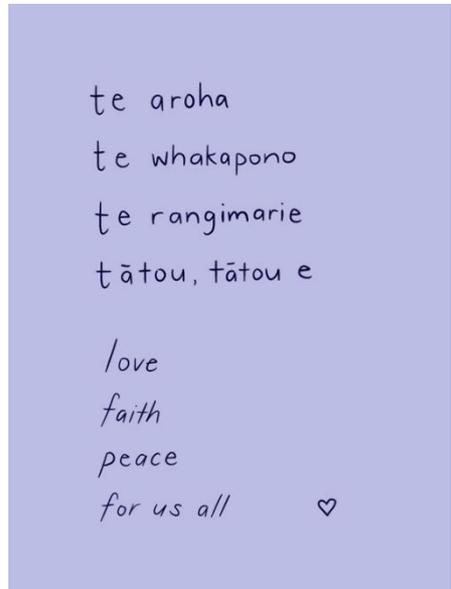
Kia ora whanau

Welcome back to Term 3! I do hope you have had a lovely break with your children. Many of the children told me they were visiting Rotorua or Taupo or other awesome spots in NZ. We are so lucky that there is so much to discover in our own country, but just staying home and being able to go out and about unrestricted was wonderful too.

Glenn and I have now been full time residents on Waiheke Island for one year, so we felt it was time to get our Auckland home ready for moving on. We thought this would be a simple task, but like the old saying goes, "you paint one room and realise that you need to paint all the rest". It was a big job and took most of the holidays, but the end result was really satisfying.

We have a wonderful Term planned for our children. Lots of fun learning experiences, sporting events, and the Senior School Musical. Mrs Mercer and Mrs Ritsma have been very busy during the holidays working on our Garden to Table initiative. The children have been loving spending more time outdoors in the nature gully as part of the school curriculum, so planting and growing their own produce will only add authenticity to their learning.

God's blessings on you all,  
Viki Trainor – Principal



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## DATES TO DIARY

31 <sup>st</sup> July	Deadline for ICAS assessment enrolments
8 <sup>th</sup> August	Feast of St Mary of the Cross (Mary MacKillop)
10 <sup>th</sup> August	Positive Puberty Year 5 and 6 Parent Information Evening
12 <sup>th</sup> August	Positive Puberty Year 5 and 6 Student Session
15 <sup>th</sup> August	Feast of the Assumption
18 <sup>th</sup> August	ICAS Science Assessment
24 <sup>th</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup> August	Literature Week and Book Fair
25 <sup>th</sup> August	Parent Teacher Conferences
26 <sup>th</sup> August	ICAS English
2 <sup>nd</sup> September	ICAS Mathematics
8 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> September	School Production
25 <sup>th</sup> September	End of Term

Don't forget to keep an eye on the school calendar for more dates as they are added. The calendar is available on the school website and on Skool Loop.

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## PŌWHIRI TO WELCOME FATHER ALEX



Yesterday we had the pleasure of formally welcoming Father Alex into our school community with a St John's School pōwhiri.

A pōwhiri is a traditional Māori ceremony whereby manuhiri (visitors) become part of the tangata whenua (the host group) through exchanging mihi whakatau (speeches) and waiata (songs).

It begins with manuhiri being called forward by a karanga (a woman's call of welcome) and they are then led to the front.

Mihi whakatau (speeches) follow, with both sides having a chance to speak. After each speech we sing a waiata.

The manuhiri are then invited to come forward and meet the hosts with a hongi; a mode of greeting traditional to Māori where you gently press noses together. This is to symbolise the exchange of breath - the essence of life.

We then seal the coming together by sitting down and sharing kai (food). From this moment we are one people and our visitors are part of our school community for the time they are with us.

We were very proud of how well our children represented the school, in particular the children from Kapa Haka and the student leaders who spoke on our behalf. We were extremely impressed at the level of leadership and confidence shown by our student leaders within the pōwhiri ceremony and wish to thank Zoe Mena, Ashlyn Stevenson, Oscar Reade, Santiago Fall and Connor Sievwright for their effort and preparation and commend them for their achievement.



We also wish to thank Mrs Mountjoy for her leadership in the pōwhiri and for her preparation of the children. She shares her wealth of knowledge and skill to help us all develop and celebrate our Māori culture and practice.

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## STUDENT LEADER COMMISSIONING



Yesterday we thanked our outgoing student leaders for their service and commissioned our new leaders for Terms 3 and 4 and a blessing was given by Father Alex.

Each leader offered a pledge of service.

*"With Gods help we accept the responsibility to be leaders in our school community.*

*We will be role models to other students. Through our words, deeds and actions, we will bring others closer to God."*

Our House Teams hold fast in tradition and competition. Our House Captains and Vice Captains are elected by their peers to serve their House for two terms. This is a very sought after role for many of our Year 6 students.

The Young McKillops are a group of young leaders selected to support our Director of Religious Studies, Mrs Zaisluik, and later this year, returning from maternity leave, Mrs Baddeley, to uphold the Catholic Special Character of our school and to follow in the footsteps of Mary McKillop, who never saw a need without doing something about it.

Our St John's Ambassadors are expected to exemplify the school values at all times. They take turns to represent our school at weekly Parish Masses and also at special occasions. They also host visitors new to our school and they work closely with the Principal to share ideas and opinions.

These students play an important part in our school community and we wish them all the best as they take on these roles.

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## **LOCKDOWN PRACTICE**

As you are aware, on Wednesday the 1st of July 2020, we conducted a full lockdown practice. We received the following feedback from Harrison Tews, the company who we worked with to create our new Emergency Management Plan.

*"The school followed the procedures calmly and confidently, with clear direction and leadership from Principal Viki Trainor in this training and exercise. The students and teachers should also be congratulated for the way they followed the correct procedures and at the speed and skill at which the school was placed into lockdown and appropriate communications were sent through the school prior to a controlled release from the lock down."*

We would like to express how impressed we were with the response from the children and staff. Congratulations everyone!

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## **NETBALL TOURNAMENT**

Last Sunday 4 of our 5 Senior netball teams entered the Netball North Harbour Pre-season Tournament. All players had a great day and these games have given them a good introduction to their season which starts tomorrow.



### **Year 6/1 - Blurb from Coach Michelle Ferguson**

Well done to the Year 6, Team 1 Netball team who took out Second Place for the Year 6 division in this weekend's netball tournament. Winning strongly with four from four games, with a gripping final that drew and needed to go into overtime, just missing out by one goal on first place. The girls did an amazing job representing St John's and gave it their all.

### **Year 5/1 - Blurb from Coach Kylie Hasler**

We had a fun and successful tournament at Netball North Harbour on Sunday the 19th July. The girls played their hearts out and the weather held out all day for us. They won 5/5 games and loved every second of it. Well done St John's Team 5/1!





## HAUORA WELLBEING

As a community we are all experiencing challenges at present – within our families, our learning environments, our businesses, and the wider community. Some challenges may seem overwhelming but there are many organisations and resources that can help us.

Many employers and business owners are finding it tough even though NZ remains in Level 1. Your income may have dropped, or your customers may have stopped coming. Now may be the time to rethink how your business operates or how your business can remain viable as the wider community gets back on its feet.

For practical advice and support, try browsing the Government website <https://www.business.govt.nz/covid-19/> which gives advice about financial support available, visa issues, tips about working from home and sorting out leases and tenancies on commercial property etc.

For \$200 plus GST you might like to think about engaging a business mentor for 12 months to guide you through these uncertain times. For more information about a mentor or other support and up to date business advice, check out <https://www.aucklandchamber.co.nz/>

Please don't be afraid to ask for help. No-one will judge you. If you have never had to consider alternative ways to maintain your business income, you may need to do so now.



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## ICAS ASSESSMENTS

All parents of Year 3-6 children received an email in respect of these upcoming assessments. ICAS is designed to target student's higher order thinking and problem solving skills in English, Mathematics and Science. The assessments are available for students wishing to extend themselves academically and take up the personal challenge of competing in an international assessment.



**These assessments are optional.** We encourage you to discuss this opportunity with your child. Students may select as many or as few assessments as they wish to sit. The cost is \$16.25 per assessment.

If you have a child in Year 3-6 and did not receive the email, please check your junk email folder or contact the office to ensure we have your up to date contact details on file.

Mrs Marsh

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## BEANIES

The second order for our new school beanies has arrived. They can be purchased from the office for \$12.50. The first order sold out in a couple of days so be quick as this is the last delivery we can get at this great price.





## UNIFORM REMINDER OF THE WEEK

If you feel cold in the morning, please feel free to wear a singlet or a thermal underneath. Make sure that it is hidden underneath your shirt so that your uniform looks smart.

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## STEAM

Please continue bringing in your old, non-working small appliances so that we can dismantle them. Please check that the item can actually be unscrewed/opened up before bringing in.

Year 3, 4, 5 children will need their recorder and recorder book at school from Week 2. Please ensure your child's recorder and book is clearly named.

Mrs Blind

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## SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

The sale will be held this Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 2:30pm in the hall.

For any urgent needs please contact our parent co-ordinator: Fran Gilchrist, Tel: 021 488 279.

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## CONGRATULATIONS

**Jacob Robertson, Tait Keegan and George Murphy** Players of the Day - Soccer.

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## COMMUNITY NOTICES

**LOST Polar Fleece** from Room 7 named Francis with a phone number. In your child has inadvertently picked this up and is wearing this fleece instead of their own, please return to the office. There are a number of fleece jackets in lost property. Please feel free to come in and search through this bin at any time that suits you.

## Mairangi Bay Tennis Club Afterschool Coaching Programme Term 3: 20th July - 19th September

During Term 2 some of our students participated in this programme on a Thursday after school and thoroughly enjoyed the 5 weeks that the programme ran for. John, from the Tennis Club, arranged a walking bus whereby he met the children at the school gate at the end of the day and walked them down to the club. Parents collected their child at the end of the session directly from the Mairangi Bay Tennis Club, at approximately 4:00pm. The Term 3 preferred day for St John's will again be a Thursday, however, should you be able to attend on another day, please advise of your preference when you make your enquiry.

If you would like your child to be involved in learning how to play tennis, or if they are already playing and wish to upskill, please collect an information programme sheet from our school office. Alternatively, you may contact the Head Coach John Rogers, via email: [jrr.tennis@gmail.com](mailto:jrr.tennis@gmail.com) or by phone on: 021 295 1822. The programme is starting this week, however, children can start from next week. All classes are subject to minimum numbers.

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