



ST IGNATIUS  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



# HEADS UP!

## We are GENEROUS – OHAOHA

This means that we will follow in the footsteps of Jesus like Saint Mary MacKillop and  
*'Never see a need without doing something about it.'*

*I am generous. I look for opportunities to give and to share.*

*I take time to think of others. I give freely, fully, and joyfully.*

*"Faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead" (James 2:15-17)*

*Jesus feeds the five thousand (Matthew 14:13- 21)*

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February**

***Kia ora koutou***

## OUR FAITH

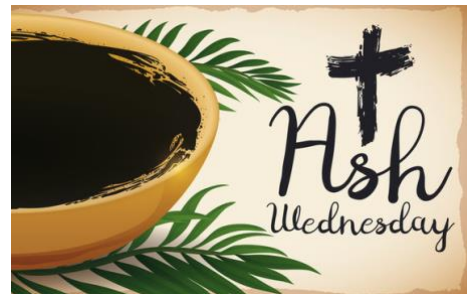
### Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday

Next week we begin the Lenten season, a very important time in the church's liturgical year.

The children are looking forward to learning more about Shrove Tuesday and getting to make pancakes. Please drop off any electric fry pans that you are happy for us to use to the office on Monday or Tuesday morning. Thank you to one of our parents, Adam O'Connor who donated all the eggs.



A reminder for children to bring a small cardboard box to school to decorate. These will then come home as 'koha' boxes for the duration of Lent and then be returned to school towards the end of term. Coins can be collected by the children for their koha boxes and money raised will go to the Caritas Lenten Appeal. A calendar will come home next week with lots of ideas on what the children and your family can do over Lent.



We look forward to having many of you join us for the liturgy at St Ignatius Church on Wednesday at 2pm to receive the ashes.

## **2026-2027 Sacramental Programme - Information Evening**

Wednesday 4th March, St Ignatius Parish Centre, 7:15pm

If your child is in Year 4 or above and you would like them to receive their Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and 1st Holy Communion, please come along.

Attending the Information Session is a requirement for Enrolment.

Any questions, please Email Gina - [sacraments@easternbayscatholic.org.nz](mailto:sacraments@easternbayscatholic.org.nz)

## **OUR LEARNING**

### **Parent Meetings**

Thank you for making the time to come to meet with your child's teacher this week for the Parent Sharing meetings. This is a valuable opportunity to meet face to face and share information about your child. If you were unable to make it please contact the office or the teacher directly to book in a time.

Next week we will send out a copy of our school information that would normally be shared at a Term 1 Parent evening. The meeting will not be held this year due to it being such a short term and the many other things that are happening. Instead you will receive a copy of the presentation. You are welcome to let us know if you have any questions or require further clarification on anything at all. In the first instance check with your child's kaitiaki teacher and, if they can't answer anything, Mrs Watson or I should be able to help.

### **Bike Skills**

Year 5 & 6 students were able to improve their skills this week thanks to the Bigfoot Adventures team who came in to run a programme that follows national Bike Skills Guidelines, covering bike safety check, clothing requirements and safe riding techniques. It was great to see the students learning to ride their bikes safely and confidently.

### **Biking to and from School**

Year 6 students whose parents have completed the St. Ignatius Cycling Declaration may ride to/from school independently. The declaration can be collected from the office.

Year 5 children have an opportunity in Term Four to begin independently riding to school.

Younger children who want to ride to school will need to be accompanied by a caregiver.



## **Robotics**

This week we started VEXGO robotics at St Ignatius. This is a stem based program. Hayden and Gethin really enjoyed it and completed the first stage. Next week they will extend what they have learnt to add motors and then code/program the car. VexGo is designed for Years 2-6 and many more children will get the opportunity to experience it thanks to the expertise of Ms Sarah Bugden, one of our amazing Learning Assistants who is also involved in robotics outside of school time.



## **OUR PEOPLE**

### **Resignation**

Sadly, we have received Mrs Megan Alexander's resignation. She will be leaving us at the end of the term to move to Queenstown as her husband has recently moved there for work. She has been in our school for 6 years and taught many children over this time. She also holds the leadership role of Director of Religious Studies (DRS) and has recently been acting team leader for Timatanga Learning Community. We will be sorry to see her go and will farewell her towards the end of term. The School Board will begin the recruitment process for a replacement next week.

### **Condolences**

We pray for Darcy Salter and his family following the loss of Darcy's grandfather (Sue's dad) who passed away last evening after a long battle with cancer. May he rest in peace.

### **Whakatau**

This morning we held a special mihi whakatau to welcome all our new tamariki, their whanau and new staff to our school. We also welcomed a new seminarian, Bob who

has recently joined the parish and will be involved in the school. It was a special ceremony with the kapa haka group showing great mana in their leadership.

### **Friends and Family – AFC Tickets**

There are more AFC football tickets loaded up on MyKindo for the current round of games. By purchasing these you will be supporting our Friends and Family. The atmosphere at the games is great and they have all sorts of activities for the kids, with plenty of food stalls and drinks. It really is a great sporting event to take a young ones to.

## **OUR PLACE**

### **Hapu Groups**

This year we have added a new Hapu Group, Kohimarama Hapu. This is because the Hapu Groups will now be based on kaitiaki groups rather than year groups.

Hapu groups are the groups that we use when going to Hapu Mass and for Tuakana Terina classes that work together for things like Buddy Reading.

**Te Waipuna collections** are also done in Hapu Groups. For those of you who are new to the school we ask for donations of food for the Te Waipuna basket which is located in the office. One Hapu Group a week brings in the food. Mrs Murphy sends out an email reminder about this so you will know when it is your turn. It will also be in the calendar. The donations are collected at the end of each week and delivered by generous school volunteers to the team at Te Waipuna Puawai who work helping those in need in the Glenn Innes, and wider Tamaki community. Suitable donations are things like weetbix or rice.

Our new Hapu Groups:

**WAITEMATA - Sparkling Water**  
**Mrs Wright and Ms Webb's kaitiaki**

**RANGITOTO - Bleeding Sky**  
**Mrs Pillay and Mrs Barrington's kaitiaki**

**TAMAKI - Loving People of the Isthmus**  
**Mr Peck, Mrs Wells and Mrs Jones's kaitiaki**

**KOHIMARAMA - Gathering of Light**  
**Mrs Alexander's and Mrs Lundy's Kaitiaki**

## Communication

We are very aware that there have been a lot of notices sent out in these first two weeks of school. I am sure you will appreciate that the beginning of the school year is a very busy time and we do our best to keep everybody informed about what is happening.

Going forward we will trial sending this Heads Up every fortnight instead of every week to help cut down on the number of communications your receive. A reminder that this and other school wide notices are also available on the at school app.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Ngā manaakitanga

Jane Penney  
Principal – Tumuaki

<b>OUR CALENDAR</b>	
<b>Note: for the most up to date information check the calendar on our website <a href="https://www.stignatius.school.nz/">https://www.stignatius.school.nz/</a></b>	
<b>TERM 4, 2025</b>	
<b>Week 3 Te Waipuna Collection Rangitoto Hapu – Years 2 &amp; 5</b>	
<i>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February</i>	Shrove Tuesday -pancake making
<i>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February</i>	Ash Wednesday – Liturgy at 2pm at St Ignatius Church
<i>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February</i>	Year 6 students leave for Camp
<b>Week 4</b>	
<i>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February</i>	Rangitoto Hapu Mass – Mrs Pillay & Mrs Barrington kaitiaki groups 9am
<i>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February</i>	Board Meeting 7pm
<b>Week 5</b>	
<i>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March</i>	Waitemata Hapu Mass - Ms Webb and Mrs Wright's kaitiaki groups 9am
<i>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March</i>	Friends and Family AGM 7pm – all welcome
<i>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March</i>	Whole School Assembly TBC
<b>Week 6</b>	
<i>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March</i>	Year 6 Puberty Sessions
<i>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March</i>	Whole School Athletics day at Mt Smart Stadium
<i>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March</i>	Year 6 Puberty Sessions – Day 2
<b>2026 Term dates:</b>	
<b>Term 1</b> Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February – Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	
<b>Term 2</b> Monday 20 April – Friday July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	
<b>Term 3</b> Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July – Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	
<b>Term 4</b> Monday October 12 <sup>th</sup> - Tuesday December 15 <sup>th</sup>	



**BARADENE COLLEGE - OPEN DAY TOURS – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>, Wednesday 4th & Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**BOOKINGS online REQUIRED (bookings open 9.00am Monday 23 February)**

**Tour times: 9am and 10am each day**

**Book at [www.baradene.school.nz](http://www.baradene.school.nz) – 2026 Open Day Tours**

**Please refer to the website for booking closing times for each day.**

**Enrolments for Year 7, 2027 and for limited places in other Year levels are being accepted now and will close at 3pm on Friday 13 March, 2026.**



**Steigerman upright Piano and stool available free to good home.**

Older but in good condition and in tune. Can be collected in Auckland. Contact Barry Larsen 0292976539

## CHESS PROGRAMME

Playing chess develops self-confidence, concentration and problem-solving skills.

We are pleased to continue the Chess Coaching Programme at **St Ignatius School** and look forward to bringing the excitement, competition and educational benefits of chess to your children.

## WHY CHESS?

- Improve concentration and focus
- Develop important life skills – fair play and decision making
- Tactical & Strategic thinking
- Prepare for Chess Tournaments against other schools
- Develop a love of chess, of learning and of thinking

## WHAT HAPPENS IN A CHESS POWER COACHING PROGRAM?

Each session starts with a formal lesson; all players will learn a new strategy, idea or skill each week. Then they put those skills into practice with activities and games. All games are monitored and supervised by the coach who provides individual feedback along the way. Throughout the program, we reward kids that do well and encourage and support kids that are struggling. At completion of the program we recognise each child with a certificate based on their performance.

**Q** Where can I learn more?

**A** Visit our [Parents Centre](#)

## CLASS DETAILS

Sessions are held **before school** on Mondays from **7:40am – 8:40am**. **Please note the change of time. This is to allow students to get ready for a clean start of school at 8.50am.**


Classes start on **Monday 16 February 2026**. The last session will be held on Monday 30 March 2026. There are a total of 7 sessions.

Class Fee: \$193 for the term/student.

## REGISTRATION

Register Now!

Payment can be made online by bank transfer or credit card via Stripe.

A photograph of a woman with brown hair hugging a young girl with blonde hair from behind. They are both smiling and wearing light-colored, possibly dance-related, clothing. The background is dark and textured.


**enrolments are open**

Train with passionate teachers in a  
positive supportive studio  
environment

All ages and levels welcome

**92 Saint Heliers Bay Road, St Heliers**

Email [dancecollectivenz@gmail.com](mailto:dancecollectivenz@gmail.com)  
to book a free trial.

  
**DANCE**  
COLLECTIVE





## **30th Anniversary Promotion**

**Enrol and receive your second month  
tuition-free!**

**Give your child the best start to their learning  
journey with our limited-time offer.**

**Simply enrol your child and pay for the first  
month, and your second month will be  
completely free.**

### **Terms and Conditions:**

- **Eligibility:** This offer is exclusively for new families enrolling before April 8, 2026.
- **Offer Details:** The second month of fees will be waived after the first month's payment is received. An enrolment fee is still applicable.
- **Availability:** Enrolment is subject to space availability.
- **Duration:** The GCK board reserves the right to end this promotion early.



**kindy@gck.org.nz**  
**Contact - Karen Millar (head teacher)**



# ST HELIERS ATELIER

## AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

Unleash your child's inner artist at St Helier's Atelier!



STHELIERSATELIER.COM



@ST\_HELIERS\_ATELIER

- \*Easy step by step guidance
- \*Small class – max 6 students per class
- \*Create your own take home masterpiece
- \*Snacks & good vibes provided!



3PM - 5:30PM | \$40 PER SESSION.



27 LONG DRIVE, ST HELIERS.



### TERM 1 SCHEDULE

#### Monday

##### AVAILABLE

Step-by-step painting guidance from the teacher, students will gain confidence & explore new techniques in acrylic painting.

#### Tuesday

##### 1 SPOT LEFT

Step-by-step painting guidance from the teacher, students will gain confidence & explore new techniques in acrylic painting.

#### Wednesday

Step-by-step painting guidance from the teacher, students will gain confidence & explore new techniques in acrylic painting.

**FULLY BOOKED !**

#### Thursday

##### 2 SPOTS LEFT

Manga Inking Dojo focuses on learning how to use a G nib pen used by manga artists. It strengthens hand control & pressure sensitivity, skills that transfer well to digital inking.

#### Friday

##### AVAILABLE

Creative session focusing on exploring ideas & developing drawing & storytelling skills in a supportive, workshop-style environment.

BOOKING ENQUIRIES, CONTACT EMILLY : STHELIERSATELIER@GMAIL.COM

/

021335807



# FUNdraising

**Cute, Colourful and Durable Labels**

**Join our Fundraiser Programme**

**Follow the steps below to participate in our fundraiser**

- 1** Go to <https://preciouslabels.co.nz/?ref=STIGNATIUSCATHOLICSCHOOL>
- 2** Choose your label pack
- 3** Go to Checkout  
(Enter your School's name in the 'Notes' box on the Checkout page)
- 4** See the 'Fundraiser' tab on the website for more info

**Thankyou for your support !**

**20% of your purchase will go to our school**

**Don't forget to spread the word!  
Foward this website url to your family and friends!**

**Questions?**

**Please email us at - [info@preciouslabels.co.nz](mailto:info@preciouslabels.co.nz)**

[www.preciouslabels.co.nz](http://www.preciouslabels.co.nz) 09 3930093





### A fantastic opportunity for your child!

Shine Speech & Drama classes inspire confidence and imagination, helping students communicate effectively and build self-belief that helps them succeed in life.

Here's what people are saying about Shine's lessons ...

*"He got up and spoke in front of the school. He would never have done that before"*  
— James' Mum

*"....the best speech and drama teacher working in New Zealand today."* NZ Herald

SHINE SPEECH & DRAMA covers:

- public speaking
- acting skills
- voice (projection and articulation)
- reading aloud skills
- positive body language
- storytelling
- relationship skills
- option to enter exams through Speech NZ and Trinity.
- Shine Achievement Awards available for all students.



***Fiona is an experienced and enthusiastic educator and a performer who loves teaching speech and drama. She trained at a drama school in France and has an LTCL (performance) and ATCL (speech and drama teaching) from Trinity College, paired with a Master's of International Business and Commerce Degree from the University of Auckland. She has worked professionally in the performing arts since her 20s in TV and film and many theatre productions acting, producing and more recently directing theatre. Fiona is an ICF accredited executive coach and managing trustee of Active Arts.***

Register [here](#) for term 1 lessons, beginning **Thursday 12th February 2026** \*Now taking place before school 8.00-8.50am\*. Term fees are \$278 for group lessons with 8 lessons guaranteed per term. Sibling discount of 10% for any siblings enrolling.

Any questions please don't hesitate to call Nina on 021-160 9197.

