

Ss Peter and Paul School

Tuesday, 6 December 2022



Kia ora Parents and Caregivers,

We had a great turn out for our 'Helpers thank you morning tea' last Friday. This is one small way we can say thanks for the many ways our parents, grandparents and friends have supported us throughout the year. From the practical help on school trips to the quick response to phone calls, the friendly supportive presence around the school, attendance at school liturgies and events - so many ways that together, we build a strong community.

As another year draws to a close, on behalf of all our staff, I wish everyone a very happy Christmas and some relaxing days filled with holiday sunshine, wherever you may spend it.

Farewell

Next week we will be saying a fond farewell to Tamara Hirstich, our Room 11 classroom teacher. Congratulations to Tamara who has accepted a senior teacher position and we wish her well with this next career opportunity.

Farewell and best wishes to students and families who will be leaving us at the end of the year to head off to new schools and in some cases, new cities and countries as well. We wish you well as you also embark on new adventures

Reporting to Parents

Please look out for your child's second written report which will be coming home in an envelope with them this **Friday 9 December**. There will be 3 items in the envelope:

- Their End of Year Report
- A summary page that highlights the learning that has been shared throughout the year
- A page designed to help you interpret the End of Year Report

For our separated parents - We try hard to ensure that school reports get to everyone and to be sensitive to people's individual circumstances. Ensuring that your contact details are up to date is very helpful. Please contact the Office Team if you would prefer to have the report emailed to you.

Class Organisation for 2023

Our classes for next year are all but finalised. A significant amount of teacher time and effort has been dedicated to getting a good mix for everyone as we look for:

- A mix of students' learning abilities, behaviours and dispositions
- A good gender balance
- The age range of students
- Specific needs of students
- Friendship groupings

Our classroom structure will look a little different next year with all year 1 & 2 students in Kowhai, all Year 3 & 4 students in Nikau, the majority of year 5 & 6 in Pohutukawa and some year 6 girls and all year 7 & 8 girls in Rata.

We will be warmly welcoming 3 new classroom teachers - Sarah Swan, Emalyn Jiang and Ryan Glentworth.

Kowhai: Elaine Stewart (Area Leader), Jenna Dyson, Gina Manning, Sarah Tweedie, Suni Abraham, Sarah Swan, Emalyn Jiang, with Irene Gould and Alison Butler as part time teachers.

Nikau: Jane Aitken (Area Leader), Pru Martin, Caitlin Fitzgerald, Ryan Glentworth, Aurea Casino, with Jane and Alison as part time teachers.

Pohutukawa: Sinead Senek (Area Leader), Hugh Watson, Sarah Gilmour, Janine O'Styke, with Andrea Spink as part time teacher.

Rata: Freya Coote (Area Leader), Ivy Abella, Laura Rose, with Victoria McHalick as part time teacher.

A stationery requirement list, which informs you about your child's classroom and teacher, along with a form about School Donations, will go home on **Monday 12 December**. The full classroom lists will be shared with students during the day. We find this helps to ease any concerns. Some children can be disappointed they are not in the same class as a particular friend or they may have a preconceived view about a particular teacher. We appreciate your support with encouraging your children to be open to new friendships and experiences as this all helps to build their resilience and confidence.

Yr 5-8 End of Year Celebration (including graduation ceremony)

We will be reviewing the timing of this event as during the evening session we often have small numbers of students from year groups, other than Year 6 boys and Year 8 girls, come along. Teachers go to a lot of effort with plans and practices only to have students drop out at the last minute or not turn up on the night. Last year, because of COVID restrictions, this event was held during the day. Having all our Year 4-8 students present to celebrate the end of the school year and farewell our graduating students proved to be a very special occasion.

Kowhai's Christmas event seems to be the big drawcard for parents and grandparents in the evening so this might be the way to go in the future.

Road Patrol Pool Party

This big 'Thank You Road Patrollers!' event will be held at Huia Pool, Monday 12 December from 10-12pm. To all our wonderful team, don't forget to bring your swimming gear that day. If you have something orange, you might like to wear that along to the pool as well.

OUR WEBSITE



PARISH WEBSITE



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Kay Tester Principal



SPECIAL CHARACTER

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

A huge thank you for your generosity with this appeal. We cannot express in words how amazingly kind you have been, especially at this time of year. We are so fortunate that as a school and parish community we are able to support each other in this way, and share in the spirit of giving this Christmas season.

Nga mihi mahana,

Aurea Casino

Director of Religious Studies



“You will find out that Charity is a heavy burden to carry, heavier than the kettle of soup and the full basket. ...” St Vincent de Paul

A Letter

from the Board

Kia Ora,

I am very pleased to be part of the St.Peter and Paul School board. It is an amazing opportunity to discuss where school have accomplished so far by Tamariki (Children) and Kaiako (Teachers) and what are the future plans for the school. In the November meeting the board members have discussed key things especially on the learning support, progress and achievement and collaborative approach with whanau to mitigate any issues. I had a wonderful experience with the celebration of learning afternoon by interacting and participating in their group activities. I wish all the success and will continue to work with the board for the upcoming school year.

Ngā mihi,

George Jose

Elected Trustee

Ss Peter and Paul School Board



Ready, Set, Kowhai!

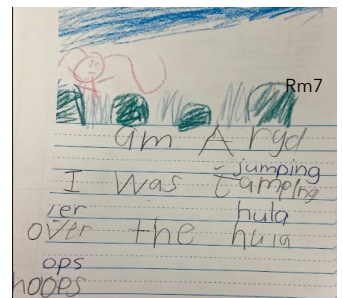
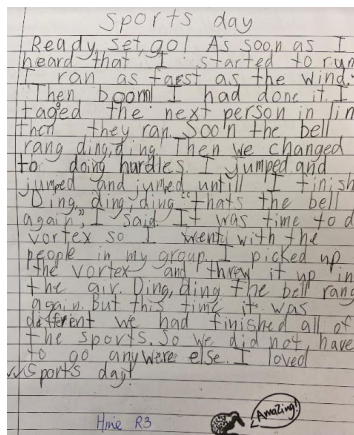
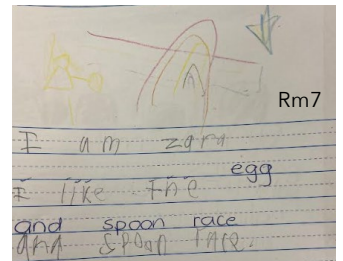
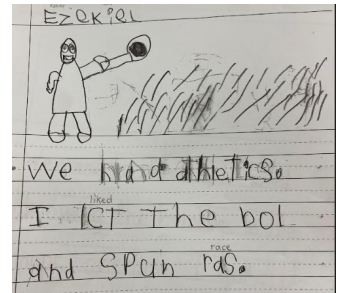
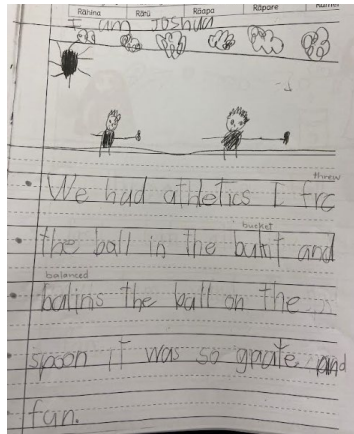
We have had a great week showing off our athletic skills. Thank you to all parents and caregivers for coming along to share this experience with us!

"Today we had sports day. I was in team 3. I wore my red shoes and shorts. We did a spoon race. To play the spoon race get a spoon and take a ball and walk to the cone and come back" Nathan Rm2

"I loved throwing the ring on the concrete. I am really good at it!" Alex Rm 1

"The most fun part was the sack race. I liked it and almost fell down!" Aksa Rm1

"I was in team 1. There were 12 stations. I was so excited for sports day. Miss Tweedie was in charge of the vortex and Miss Manning was in charge of balancing which was fun too!" Victoria Rm 2



New Entrant Blessing

On the afternoon of Friday 25 November we gathered in the church to bless all the new Kowhai students who have joined our school community this year. It was so lovely to be able to come together now that the restrictions we have had have been lifted. Many thanks to all the parents and family members who were able to join us in the celebration. A special thanks to Father Alfred Chong who blessed the children.



Our Learning Week 8, Term 4

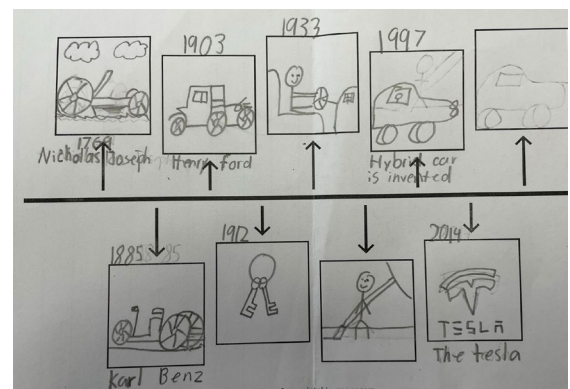
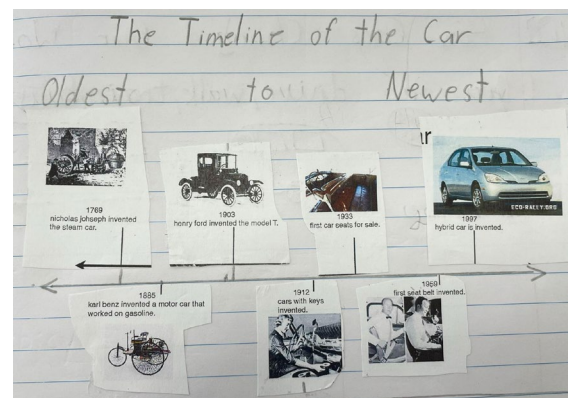
Transport Timelines

Following on from our Cable Car trip, Nikau students have been learning about other forms of transport and how they have changed over time. They noticed that transport has become much more comfortable and safe. Students have had a lot of fun researching the first cars to be invented and were fascinated by the timelines of various car models.

“The Ford model T was made in 1908” **Leo Rm 10**

“I have enjoyed learning about the history of cars. It is something new and different which has been fun” **Luke Rm 10**

“Teslas were first made in 2003” **Ethan Rm 10**



Christmas Carol Performances

We are also busy practising Christmas songs for our visits to local rest homes this coming Friday and for our performance for our whanau next week. Here is a sneak peak of some of the amazing art that will accompany our performance.

POHUTUKAWA

Our Learning Week 8, Term 4

Brookfield Camp Wainuiomata

Year 5 and 6 students spent a wonderful day at Brookfield camp completing a variety of physical challenges from kayaking, flying fox, bush walking, obstacle course and working together as a team to build a bush survival shelter. Thanks to our great parent volunteers for helping with the activities and encouraging the children to have a go!

I loved the nature walk because it was like a fun adventure. **Ruby C**

The flying fox was fun, especially when I hit the tyres at the end and bounced back. **Isabella**

The kayaking was great because it was challenging and I haven't done it for such a long time. **Reide**



I loved kayaking as it was my first time doing it. **Aalya**

Kayaking was great, especially the challenge of kayaking through the shallow parts. **Samantha**

Swinging on the flying fox was fun, especially swinging up high. **Myron**

I enjoyed working with others to build the survival shelter even though it didn't work. **Joel S**

Kayaking was great but I really loved being with my friends and playing on the tyre swing. **Connor**

RATA

Our Learning Week 8, Term 4

Year 8 Retreat at Home of Compassion

On Tuesday the 29th of November all the year 8s in the Rata area went to the Sisters Home of Compassion, also known as the year 8 retreat. The year 8 retreat was a very enjoyable experience. The whole retreat was so calming and genuine it made me feel so peaceful and at ease. We had a variety of activities like going on a short bush walk to the old reservoir and sitting and praying next to Suzanne Aubert's grave. We heard a lot about Suzanne's whole life and about all the people she helped. Even though she sadly passed on October 1st 1926 she is on the journey to becoming a saint. She will hopefully be known as the first saint in New Zealand. Suzanne was such an inspiration and her legacy lives on in all of us.

Carley Harris



Year 8 Dinner

On December 1st all the year eights came together and celebrated their last year at Ss Peter & Paul school at the Speights Ale House, it was a lot of fun and we enjoyed our time together. We sat down at our tables and flicked through the year books that Maya, Ellie and Peighton created. Then we watched an imovie that showed our years at this wonderful school. One of the best parts was eating! We ate a lovely prepaid buffet, then we danced to a variety of songs. This was followed by dessert. We had brownies, lemon cheesecake, berries and lots of delicious whipped cream. This event is something all of us will cherish forever.

By Summer Shen, Tania Mladenovic & Olivia McIntyre

SCHOOL SPORT

Interzone Athletics

On Tuesday 29 November, 36 of our students who had qualified through the Zone event represented South West Zone at the Interzone event.

The students who took part were:

Year 8 - Ellie M, Maya, Niamh, Zephna, Amelia

Year 7 - Milana, Caprie, Gabbi, Caitlyn F

Year 6 - Sam McGrath, Rylee, Kaiser, Olive, Boston, Jacob, Connor

Year 5 - Ellie C, Ella Sparrow, Ella Courtney, CJ, Hudson, Gerrard, Callum, De Andrei.

Year 4 - Sara, Gabrielle, John, Paul, Billy, Declan, Mckenzie, Reagan, Aastha, Sophie

2 of our athletes - Riley (Yr8) and Ivory (Yr 4) were injured so unable to compete.

Regionals

From this group we had 11 students qualify for the Regionals being held today in Masterton

1st in their events were Aastha (Vortex), CJ (High Jump), John (High Jump), Ellie M (Long Jump), Ella S (High Jump).

2nd placings to Maya (Vortex), CJ(80m), Sam (800m), Declan (Vortex)

3rd placings to Milana (100m, 200m, Long Jump), Ellie C (80m), Zephna (Discus)



LEFT: Brooke, Jenna, Niamh, Trizibelle, Kayla, Caitlin, Lucy, Tia, Rebecca
RIGHT: Carter



Touch

With the season drawing to a close we thank those parents who have given up their time for these players - Lucy Duncan, Vanessa Hunger, Michelle and Damien Ruocco, Eric Thom, Nadine Stembridge, Charlie Wrigley, Aaron Hawthorne, Tina Lyons, Jason Love, Chontel Foley, Aaron Mai, Jade Sloan, Louise Turner, Laura Rose, Ben Vaughan, Kate Maxwell, Rau Maxwell, Shaun Mahoney, Kelly Wilson, Greg Stechman and Kerry Johnstone.



LEFT: CJ, Sesefo (supporter), Jayden, Harper, Ella, Ruby, Hudson, Jereone (supporter) with coach Jason behind.

RIGHT: Declan



Netball

The season for our Year 0 to 4 teams has been impacted by the weather but as they get their last games in we thank Shane Jensen, Jenny Keenan, Kevin Sparrow (who was Star helper for 2 teams), Matt Burt, Katy Yung, Kelly Wilson, Tom Nelson and Rachelle Clark for providing the support needed for our 7 teams.

Touch Celebration

Two of our teams entered the Total Touch Jam festival on a recent Saturday and braved the weather to enjoy themselves. They won the award - Taonga/Harmony for demonstrating respect, fairplay, attitude and good play. This is a great testimony to all the players.

2023 Sport

We will be sending out registrations late January for Touch and Year 0 to 4 Netball for Term 1. They will have short deadlines so please be prepared to fill in forms as soon as you receive them - this will be before school starts.

This will be closely followed by Year 5 to 8 Netball then Basketball.



LEFT: Ella

RIGHT: Harper



REMINDERS AND UPDATES

COLLECTION OF MEDICINES

By Wednesday 14 December

All medicines which are kept in the office for your child/children are available for collection at any time from now until 3:30pm on Wednesday 14 December.

Any medicines left at school will be taken to a local pharmacy for their appropriate disposal.

Thank you!

LIBRARY

There are still a number of overdue library books that need to be returned to school. We would appreciate your help to ensure all books are returned this week. Thank you

DATES TO REMEMBER - 2023

Uniform Shop Open by Appointment Only

Friday 27 January, 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm

To make your appointment please follow the below steps:

Please go to <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz>

Select 'Make a Booking'

Enter the code: mkh7y

Quick Link: [Link to Uniform Shop Bookings for 27 January 2023](#)

School Office Opens

Wednesday 25 January, 9:30am - 3pm

& daily there after during the same hours until School commences for the new year.

School Commences

Wednesday 1 February 8:50am

[Click here for 2023 Term dates](#)

PTA NEWS

McKenzie Pool Party

Are you ready for a big splash with friends, or to race along the aqua run? Come along to McKenzie Pool on 9 December (6 - 8pm) for our pool party. Bring a picnic for dinner or there will be sausages (\$2) and snacks to purchase. Entry fee is \$5 per child, under 5 years and adults are free.

No need to pre register or pay, just turn up on the day. Look forward to seeing you there.

Any questions please email pta@stpeterpaul.school.nz



Have you joined the PTA Facebook group yet? Stay up-to-date with school community events by joining our page!

