

Ss Peter and Paul School

Tuesday, 2 May 2023



Kia ora Parents and Caregivers,

Welcomes & Farewells

A very warm welcome to Term 2 with a special welcome to our new students, families and staff who have joined (and rejoined) us since our last newsletter. Kōwhai welcomes Elaine, Kaylee, Jesiah, Zayla, Muhammed and Riviya, Nikau welcomes Ryan and welcomes back Hunter, as does Rātā welcome back Tamsin. Welcome also to Jiang Lei who has joined our teacher aide team.

We hope you have all enjoyed your start to school and feel very much at home here.

Our school is blessed with the most wonderful staff and it's always hard to part with any of them. However life always offers exciting opportunities such as travel overseas. Jess Stewart, one of our teacher aides is leaving on her OE in a couple of weeks and we wish her all the best. Jess has also been very creative in our school's design space, compiling our school newsletters and maintaining the website.

Learning conferences

Learning conferences are available to parents and caregivers at the end of Terms 1, 2 & 3. In an ideal world, we would have full attendance as these conferences are our main way of reporting on your children's progress and achievement. However we know that a number of parents had to cancel due to illness and some were away overseas. Wednesday 21 and Tuesday 27 June are the next ones available.

Thanks also to those who responded to the paper survey we had available. Your input is most appreciated and will be taken into account as we begin our strategic planning for the next 2 years. There will be further opportunities for your input throughout the year.

A common discussion point at Learning Conferences is how parents can help at home. Reading for pleasure is one of the most powerful ways of improving your children's literacy, learning and well-being. This link below will take you to the National Library Services to Schools site which highlights ways you can support and encourage

your children to develop a love of reading.

[Reading at home](#)

Attendance at school

Another important way that parents can help with their children's learning is to ensure that unless they are unwell, they are present at school every day. Our latest data from the Ministry of Education shows that the percentage of our students attending regularly (90% or higher) last term was 69.8%.

Among students not attending regularly, the most common reason for absence was illness.

Students attending 0-70% had the highest proportion of unjustified absence due to a holiday.

Our office team is very grateful for all the efforts you make to inform us of your children's absence and to give a clear reason why.

There may be times that you experience difficulty getting your child to school and the reasons for this can be many and varied. Should you see a pattern emerging then please make contact with your teacher or Area Leader who will put in a plan to help. Likewise, should we see attendance dropping, we will be in touch to talk more about it with you.

School Liturgy

We had the most beautiful Easter Liturgy on the last morning of Term 1. Thanks to parents and the wider community who were able to join us. The singing was particularly moving and did bring a tear to the eye of many adults present, including Fr Patrick and me.

At the end of this term (Thursday 29 June) we will be celebrating our Feast Day Mass and concert. Whānau are most welcome to attend these events.

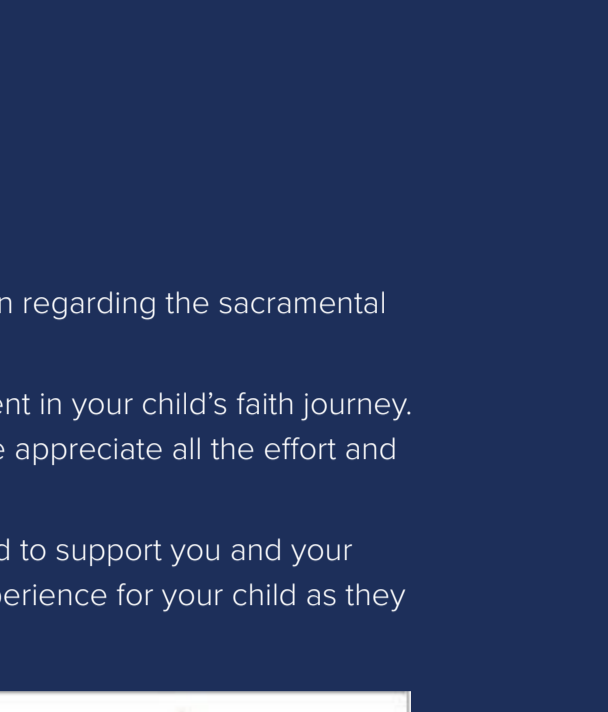
Kay Teator Principal

[OUR WEBSITE](#)

[PARISH WEBSITE](#)

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SPECIAL CHARACTER

First Holy Communion Sacrament

Parent Meeting - Tuesday 2 May, 7:30pm in the Chapel

We are looking forward to seeing you at the Parent Meeting. We will discuss important information regarding the sacramental programme and the preparation process for your child's First Holy Communion.

On behalf of the Sacramental Team, we thank you for your continuous support and encouragement in your child's faith journey. We recognize that as parents, you play an integral role in nurturing your child's spirituality, and we appreciate all the effort and commitment you have shown towards this end.

The sacramental programme is an essential part of your child's faith formation, and we are excited to support you and your child through this important milestone. Together, we can create a meaningful and memorable experience for your child as they deepen their relationship with God.

Please save these dates:

1st Preparation Mass - Sunday 14 May

2nd Preparation Mass - Sunday 28 May

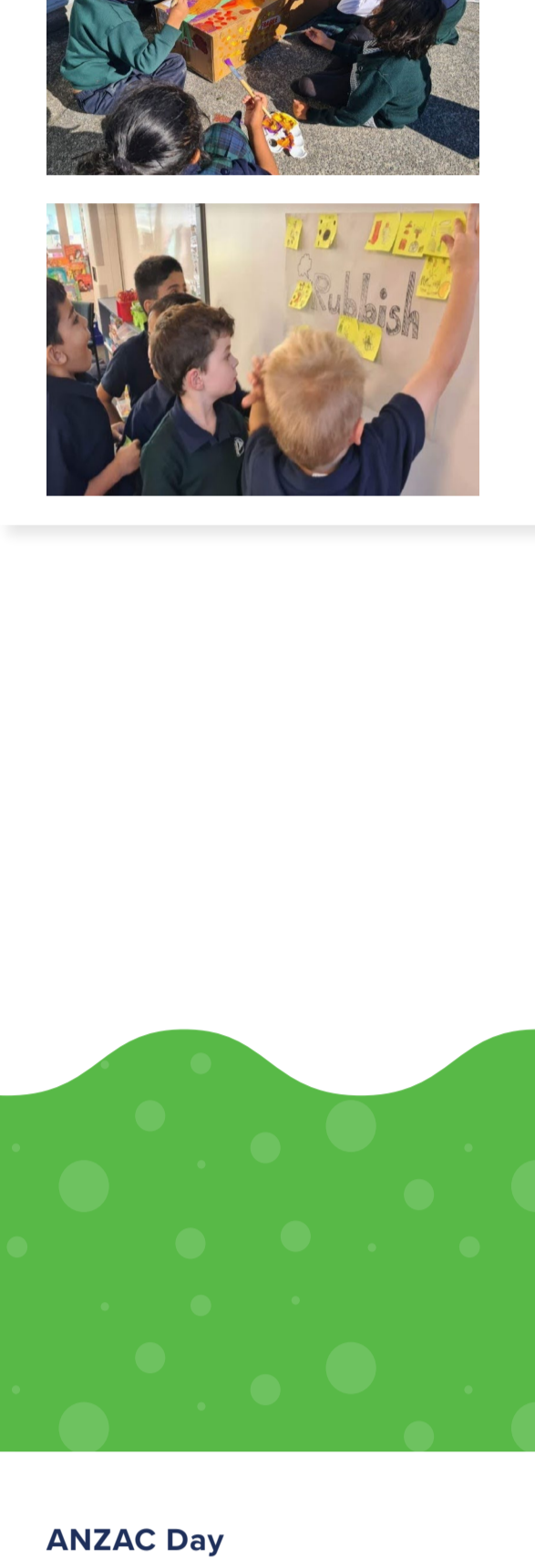
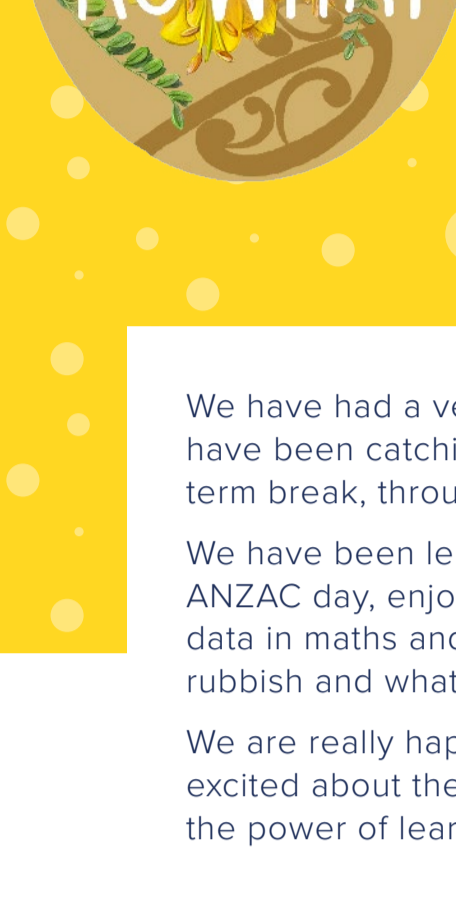
First Holy Communion - Sunday 11 June, 9am and 5:30pm Masses

Ngā mihi mahana

Aurea Casino

Director of Religious Studies

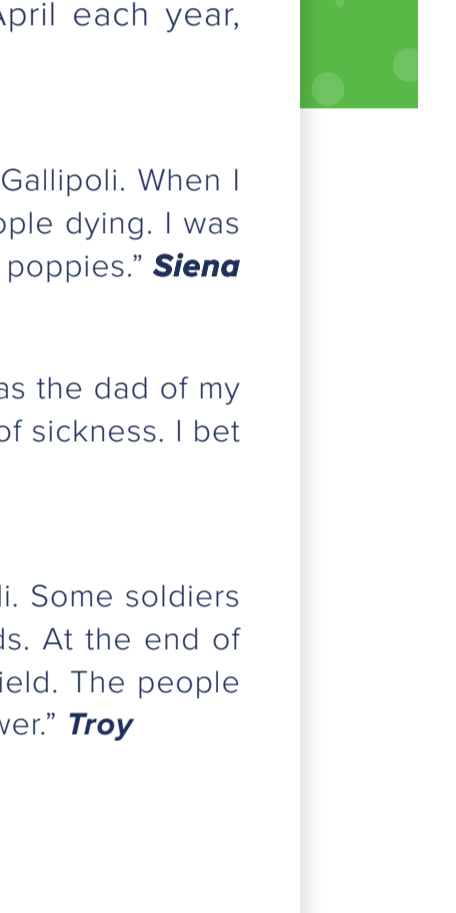
Any questions please email me at drs@stpeterpaul.school.nz



We have had a very busy start to Term 2 in Kowhai! We have been catching up with our friends after the long term break, through discovery and play.

We have been learning about and acknowledging ANZAC day, enjoying reading, sorting and displaying data in maths and have been exploring the concept of rubbish and what we can do about it.

We are really happy to be back and we are already excited about the term ahead which will be driven by the power of learning and our impact on the world.



ANZAC Day

We began Term 2 with a focus on ANZAC Day. Through books and videos we have learnt about why we have a public holiday on 25th April each year, and why we wear poppies.

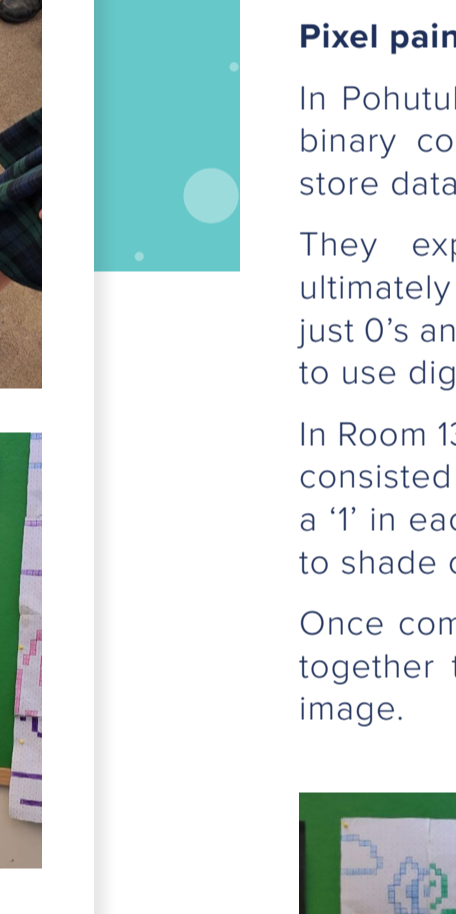
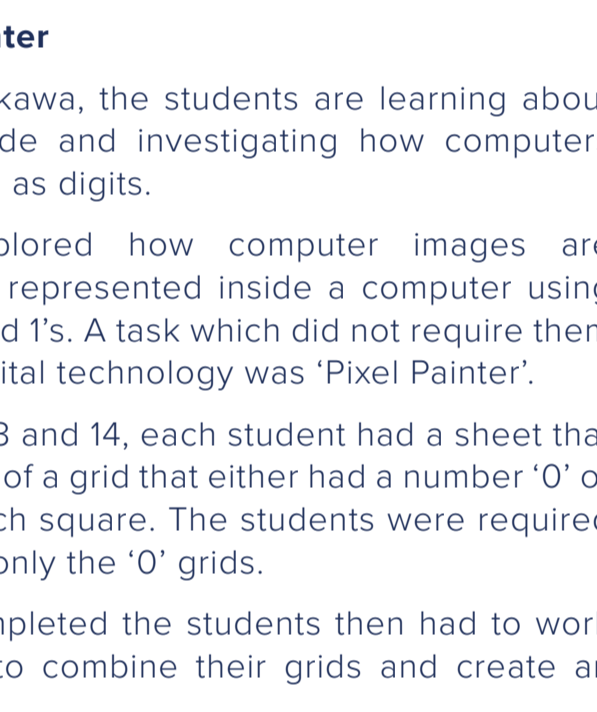
"Dear Diary, today I was dropped off at Gallipoli. When I got there I heard gunshots and saw people dying. I was hiding on the battlefield and I saw some poppies." **Sienna**

"My great grandad fought in WWI. He was the dad of my nana. He didn't die in the war - he died of sickness. I bet he saw heaps of poppies." **Abby**

"Many soldiers lost their lives at Gallipoli. Some soldiers lost their lives trying to save their friends. At the end of the war, poppies grew up on the battlefield. The people decided to make poppies the Anzac flower." **Troy**

Poppy - Acrostic Poem by Eleanor

- Poppies grew in the war sites
- On Anzac Day we wear poppies to remember soldiers
- Poppies show peace
- People died in fields of poppies
- You should remember them!



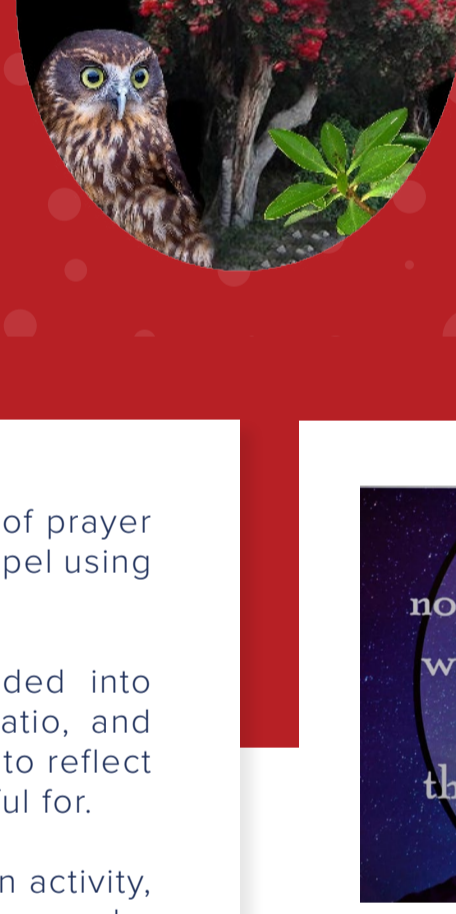
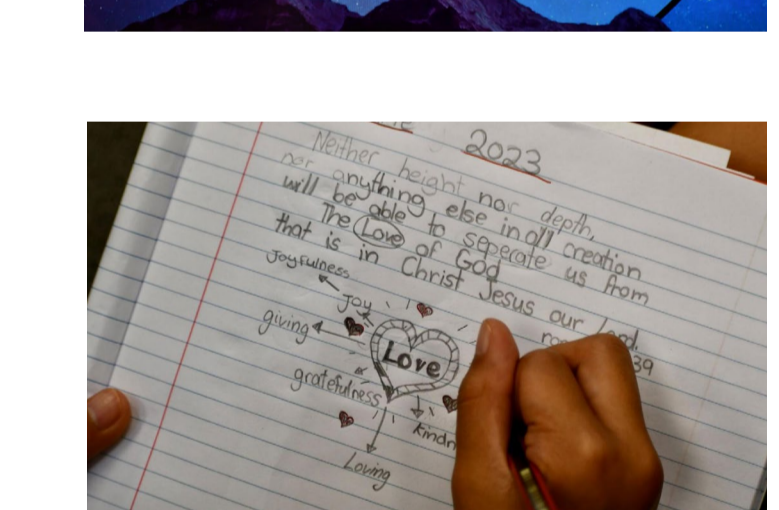
Pixel painter

In Pohutukawa, the students are learning about binary code and investigating how computers store data as digits.

They explored how computer images are ultimately represented inside a computer using just 0's and 1's. A task which did not require them to use digital technology was 'Pixel Painter'.

In Room 13 and 14, each student had a sheet that consisted of a grid that either had a number '0' or a '1' in each square. The students were required to shade only the '0' grids.

Once completed the students then had to work together to combine their grids and create an image.

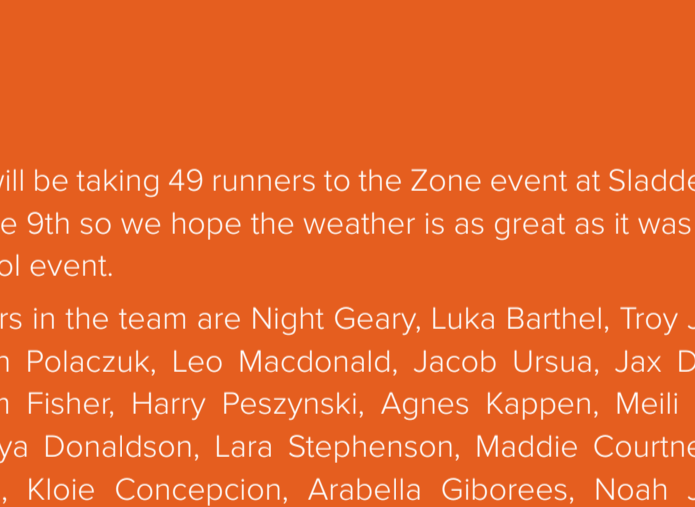
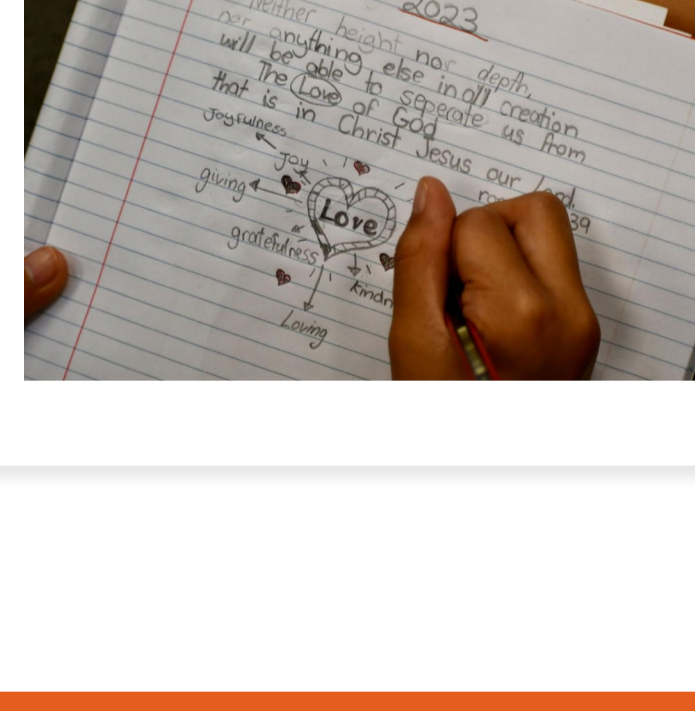


Religious Studies

We are learning about the power of prayer in Rata Area by praying with a Gospel using Lectio Divina.

A practical reading that is divided into four stages: lectio, meditatio, oratio, and contemplatio. We took some time to reflect on our life and what we are grateful for.

"We did Lectio Divina, a meditation activity, last Friday in the Rata area. We began by slowly and meditatively reading a bible passage aloud. Then, in our R.E. books, we wrote down the passage. We then chose a word from the passage and brainstormed about anything that connects to the word, such as writing down emotions, drawing about how we felt, and writing any questions we had about the word. Then we prayed and reflected on the passage. It was a very relaxing experience, and the meditation was interesting." **Rennie & Pippie**



SPORTS NEWS

South Cross Country

Last Thursday, on a lovely sunny morning, the Year 4-8 students had the opportunity to trial for the South West Zone cross country. It was wonderful to see not only the perseverance of the runners, but also the encouragement and support given to them by the rest of the students who were there to cheer them on.

Congratulations to all the runners.

First in each group were:

Year 4 - Maaz Buksh and Frankie Bennett

Year 5 - Paul Coote and Sara Howard-Fortune

Year 6 - Hudson Thom and Lydia Cumming

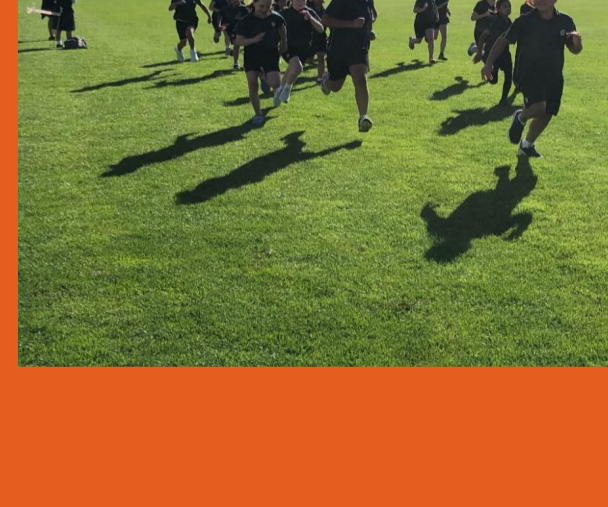
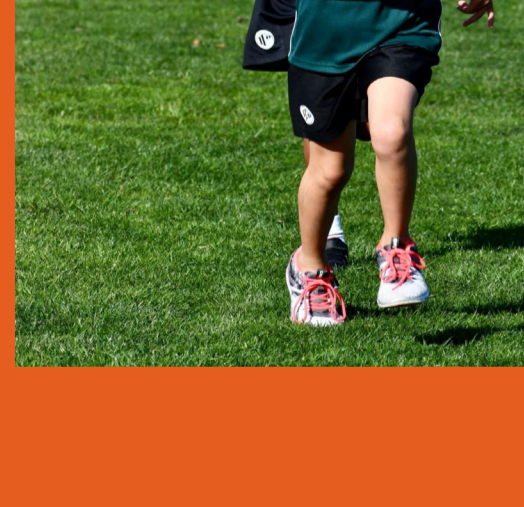
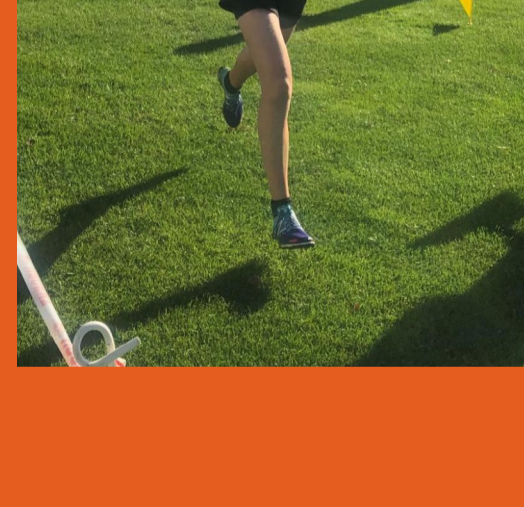
Year 7 - Emily Clark

Year 8 - Milana Burt

(Note Year 7 and 8 qualifiers go straight to the Interzone event)

We will be taking 49 runners to the Zone event at Sladden Park on the 9th so we hope the weather is as great as it was for the school event.

Others in the team are Night Geary, Luka Barthel, Troy Jordan, Jaxon Polaczuk, Leo Macdonald, Jacob Ursua, Jax Duncan, Adam Fisher, Harry Peszynski, Agnes Kappen, Meili Angus, Mataya Donaldson, Lara Stephenson, Maddie Courtney, Cici Shen, Kioe Concepcion, Arabella Giborees, Noah Jordan, Billy Sloan, Angus Theobald, Max Chevallier-Boutell, John Coote, Declan Mai, Carter Wilson, Kaleb Corin, Emily O'Grady, Gabrielle Yinigo, Ritihin Rozario, Neo Jeun, Stefan Doyle, DeAndre Pingol, Rithwin Rozario, Nejo Jeun, Stefan Doyle, Royden Maxwell, Harper Turner, Ruby Thom, Lotte Theobald, Peyton Kelekolo, Vethmi Kotalange, Nadia Burt, Jada Tetevano, Milla Duncan, Brooke Crighton, Kayla Wong, Bailey Newbould and Bailey Mayo.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS AND UPDATES

School Parent Portal

For families who are new to our school, the Parent Portal provides you with quick access to:

- your child's contact details - click on 'My Child'. Check contact details. Please advise the school office if there are any changes to be made.
- view your child's account (under accounts; download the statement to view your current balance)
- school policies & procedures (under contacts)
- view your child's attendance for the year to date (click on 'report an absence' then scroll down to view)
- be able to report an absence

How to access this ...

Please visit your app store for your phone, either Google Play or the Apple App Store and search for the app called @School Mobile or to login via the internet go to <https://www.atschool.co.nz/>.

You will then be able to use the username and password that you have been emailed to log in and see information about your child.

If you have not received your user id and password please email admin@stpeterpaul.school.nz to have your login details sent to you.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Teresa or Lisa in the school office.

Uniform

A reminder that Term 2 now changes to our winter uniform.

For girls this is the pinafore, culottes or intermediate skirt. Black tights may be worn but NOT leggings.

Boys have the option of wearing trousers.

If you have any queries about uniform, please do not hesitate to email Teresa at uniform@stpeterpaul.school.nz



2024 Enrolments

We welcome enrolments from our school community for 2024

If you, your family or friends are wishing to enrol their child at our school for next year and haven't done so already, please go to our school website, click on the 'Enrol Now' button at the top of the home page. Here you will find the next steps in our enrolment process detailed for you.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on lisa@stpeterpaul.school.nz or 569 5759 ext 2.

Lisa Short
Ss Peter & Paul School

PTA News

Next committee meeting

Welcome back to Term 2!

The PTA have their next meeting on Friday 19 May, 3pm at Ss Peter and Paul School staff room.

Please join us with hearing what the PTA has planned this term and bring ideas of future fundraising opportunities and community gatherings. Would be great to see you there!

PTA Committee

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



Tuesday, 2 May 2023

Community News

YOU'RE INVITED TO A FUNDRAISER SCREENING OF



**LIGHT HOUSE PETONE
52 BEACH STREET**

**MONDAY 8TH MAY 6.00PM
ARRIVE AT 5.45PM | TICKETS \$20**

Fundraising for Relay for Life - an amazing cancer campaign which Sacred Heart College will be participating in Wellington this year. Our girls will be running all night to keep the baton moving to symbolise cancer never sleeps!

To book contact bella.penman10@gmail.com or message the Sacred Heart Relay for Life Instagram @shcrelay4life23