



Ss Peter and Paul School

Tuesday, 16 May 2023



Kia ora Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome

A very warm welcome to our new students and families who have joined us since our last newsletter. Kōwhai welcomes Quincy, Daniel and Nicolas. We hope you have all enjoyed your start to school and feel very much at home here.

Reasons for absence from school

There are some good reasons for being absent from school. For example, keeping your children at home depends on what illness they have. The [Infectious Diseases](#) table on the HealthEd website describes the symptoms and exclusion periods for some common childhood illnesses.

The Ministry of Education is introducing **3 new measures** for the actions schools take to improve attendance. These are designed to show:

- that schools quickly obtain explanations for absences
- how many students miss more than five full days of school in a term
- that schools intervene quickly before or when students reach this level of absence.

Measure 1: Thanks to your prompt reporting of absences and clear explanations given, we know that we have the first measure well covered. With these new measures in mind, there will **no longer** be an expectation for parents to present the school with a medical certificate of absence. Rather, we would appreciate you keeping in touch should children be unwell for extended periods of time e.g. more than a full week.

Measure 2 & 3: Attendance information will be another piece of information shared and discussed at the Learning Conferences at the end of the term as we know the impact attendance has on progress and achievement. Prior to this, parents may receive a phone call or an invitation to a meeting to discuss attendance should teachers notice attendance levels dropping.

An invite from our Mayor, Campbell Barry

We were delighted to receive an invite from the Mayor to contribute to the tree planting ceremony to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles III. Pictured with the Mayor and the newly planted commemorative tree, you can see our Year 8 House Leaders Milana Burt, Renny Collins, Pippie Lim and Jada Tetevano. Below is the poem they composed and read as part of the service.

The Coronation Poem

A tiny plant placed in the ground,
As our king is newly crowned.
This little tree we lay,
Will be remembered each and every day.
As this sapling grows in size,
The power of Charles will always thrive.
A small green tree grows in the earth,
Commemorating his legacy's worth.
The winds may blow and the leaves may fall,
But Charles III will still stand tall.
This tree, a signal of our respect,
For the new leader of the commonwealth,
Whose reign we won't forget.

The girls reflected on their participation and talked about how grateful they were to be invited, how pleased they were to be able to speak and how they would remember the experience for a long time.

House Games - Tuesday 23 May (pp Friday 25 May)

All our House Leaders will be in action next week as they organise games for everyone. On Tuesday 23 May, All students are invited to come along in their house colours and participate in a range of fun games.

Rata will be the first session of the day, Nikau and Pohutukawa in the middle block and Kowhai in the afternoon (rooms 1-3 at 1.30pm and rooms 5-7 at 2.15pm). You are most welcome to pop along and watch the action.

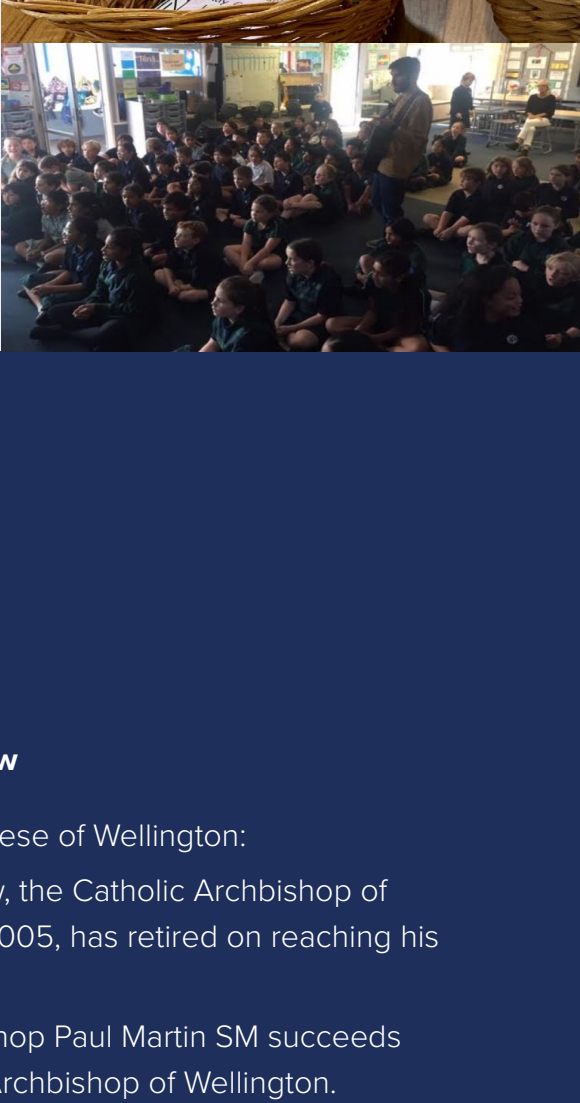
Kay Tester Principal

OUR WEBSITE

PARISH WEBSITE

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- Kowhai
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SPECIAL CHARACTER

Mother's Day

The children at our school have been busy preparing bookmarks for Mother's Day. The Christian Service Leaders did a fantastic job in the distribution and collection of these bookmarks.

The children recently shared these with the wider community during the Sunday Masses.

We are proud of our students for their kindness in sharing their Mother's Day bookmarks, and we hope that they brought joy to many mothers and grandmothers in the community.

Ngā mihi mahana,

Aurea Casino

Director of Religious Studies

Cardinal John Dew

From the Archdiocese of Wellington:

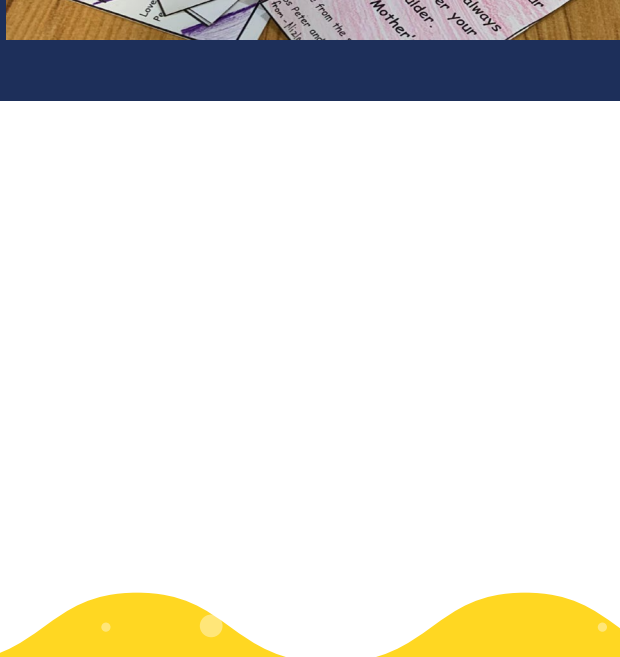
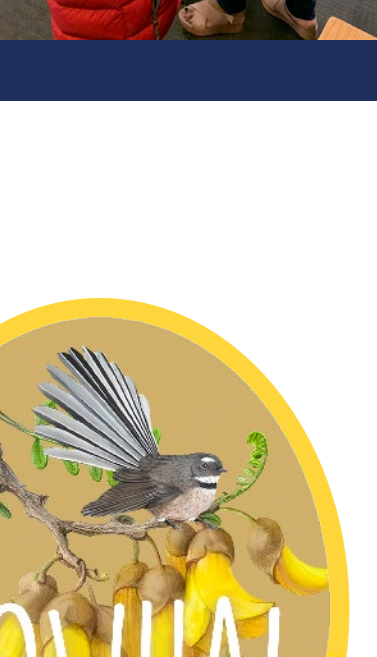
Cardinal John Dew, the Catholic Archbishop of Wellington since 2005, has retired on reaching his 75th birthday.

Coadjutor Archbishop Paul Martin SM succeeds Cardinal John as Archbishop of Wellington.

Cardinal John thanked the priests and people of Wellington for their support during his years as Archbishop.

We wish Cardinal John well in his retirement.

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



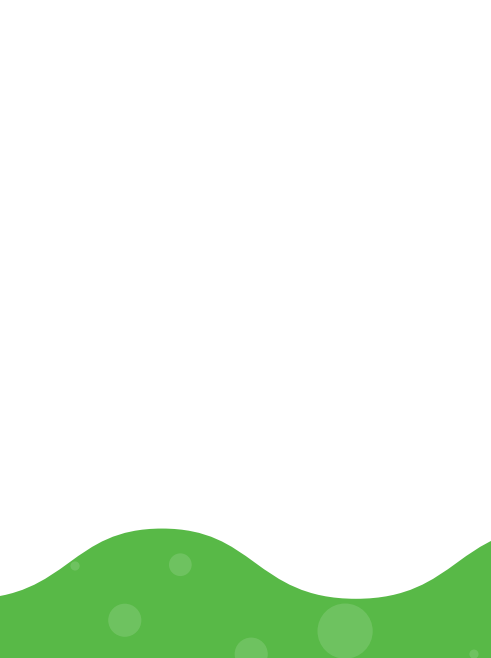
Fun run

Thank you to all who came to support us for our fun run! We had a great time experiencing all of the different obstacles Miss Tweedie organised for us.

"It felt like my lungs were on fire!"

Xavier

"When I ran around past my Nana and sister I felt so proud my heart was flying" **Gabriel**



Baking

We have also enjoyed baking this week. We all had a chance to mix together ingredients and decorate lovely cupcakes for those we love at home.

"I liked putting on the icing and sprinkles. It was fun and beautiful!" **Peyton**

"I liked putting on the icing. I picked pink for my Mum. She thought it was soooo yummy!... I also had a little taste!" **Zara**

"I was happy that my Mum liked it. I am glad she liked the decoration I put on the cake basket. They smelled delicious while they were in the oven!" **Martha-Rose**



Gala Games

As part of our technology unit this term, Nikau students have been researching different gala games in preparation for making their own gala games for our parents. We visited the Hutt War Memorial Library where the students got a chance to play a variety of games.

"I like how we watched a video about [Caine's arcade](#) and played the bottle top game." **Tommy**

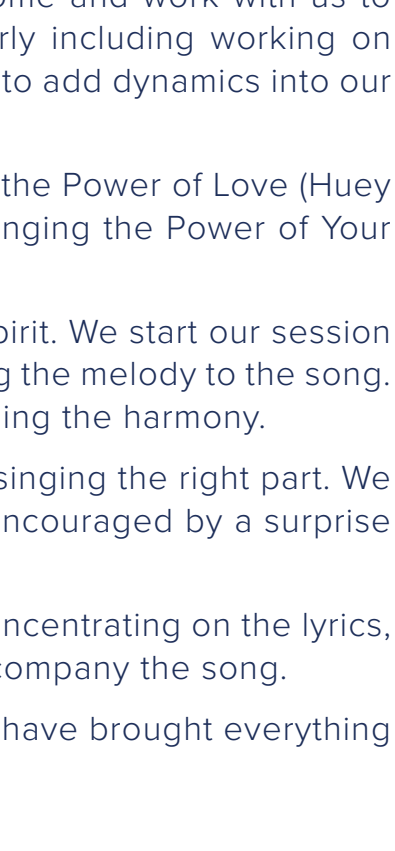
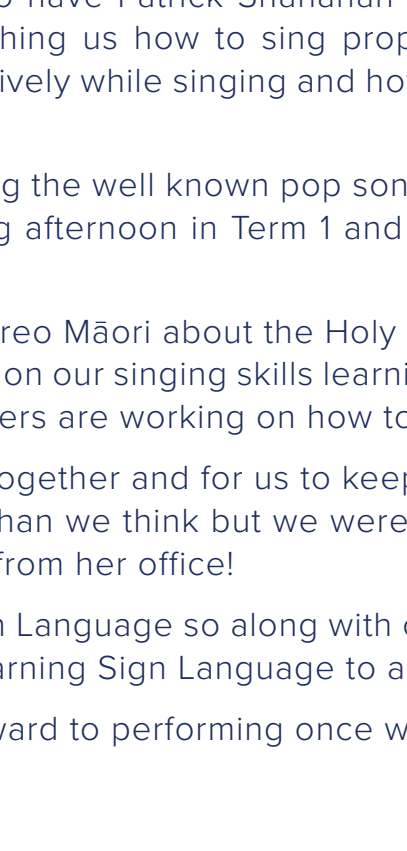
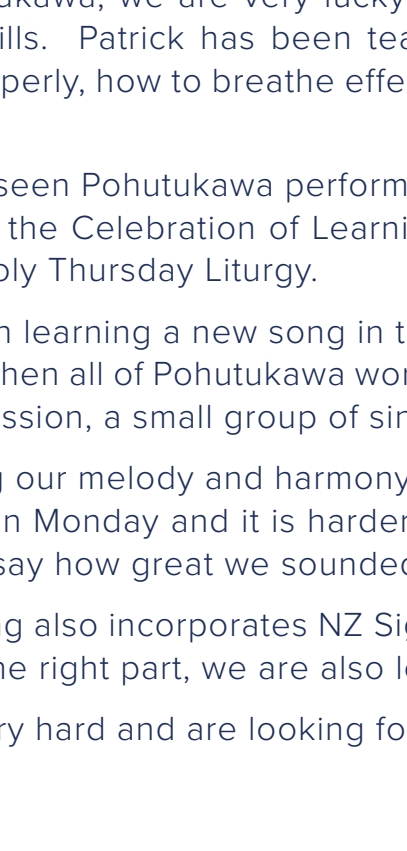
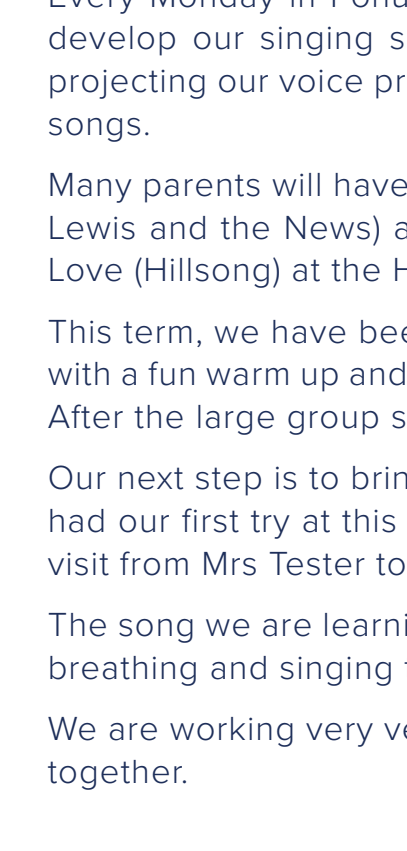
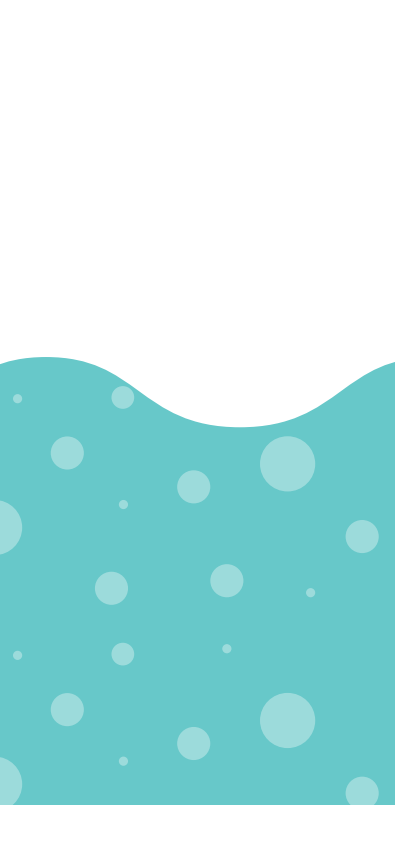
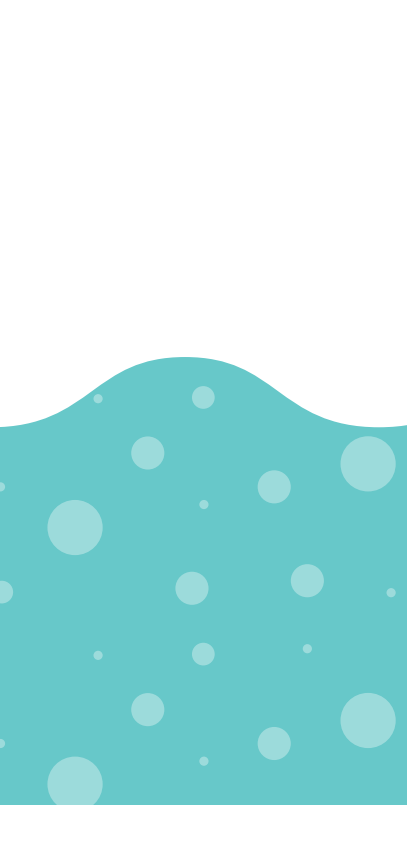
"I enjoyed playing the games especially the ring toss game, bottle top game and the can toss game." **Ryan C**

"I had so much fun at the library. It gave us inspiration for our gala games." **Renata**

"My favourite game we played in the library was the can toss." **Mataya**

"We went to the library to get some inspiration for making our own games and to have a bit of fun." **Luke**

"My favourite game we played was where I threw balls to knock over cans." **Agnès**



An Invitation to All Nikau Parents and Whanau

Please come and join us on Friday 2nd June from 11am (after the school mid-term assembly and morning tea) for a chance to play our gala games.

You are most welcome to join us during morning tea in our Nikau area for a tea/coffee and biscuit before the games begin. We hope to see you there!



Singing

Every Monday in Pohutukawa, we are very lucky to have Patrick Shanahan come and work with us to develop our singing skills. Patrick has been teaching us how to sing properly including working on projecting our voice properly, how to breathe effectively while singing and how to add dynamics into our songs.

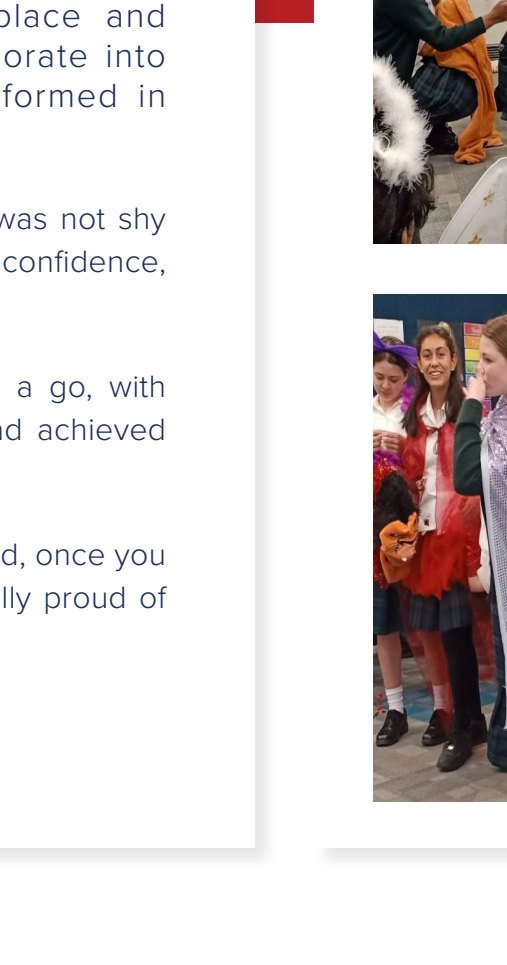
Many parents will have seen Pohutukawa performing the well known pop song the Power of Love (Huey Lewis and the News) at the Celebration of Learning afternoon in Term 1 and singing the Power of Your Love (Hillsong) at the Holy Thursday Liturgy.

This term, we have been learning a new song in te reo Māori about the Holy Spirit. We start our session with a fun warm up and then all of Pohutukawa work on our singing skills learning the melody to the song. After the large group session, a small group of singers are working on how to sing the harmony.

Our next step is to bring our melody and harmony together and for us to keep singing the right part. We had our first try at this on Monday and it is harder than we think but we were encouraged by a surprise visit from Mrs Tester to say how great we sounded from her office!

The song we are learning also incorporates NZ Sign Language so along with concentrating on the lyrics, breathing and singing the right part, we are also learning Sign Language to accompany the song.

We are working very very hard and are looking forward to performing once we have brought everything together.



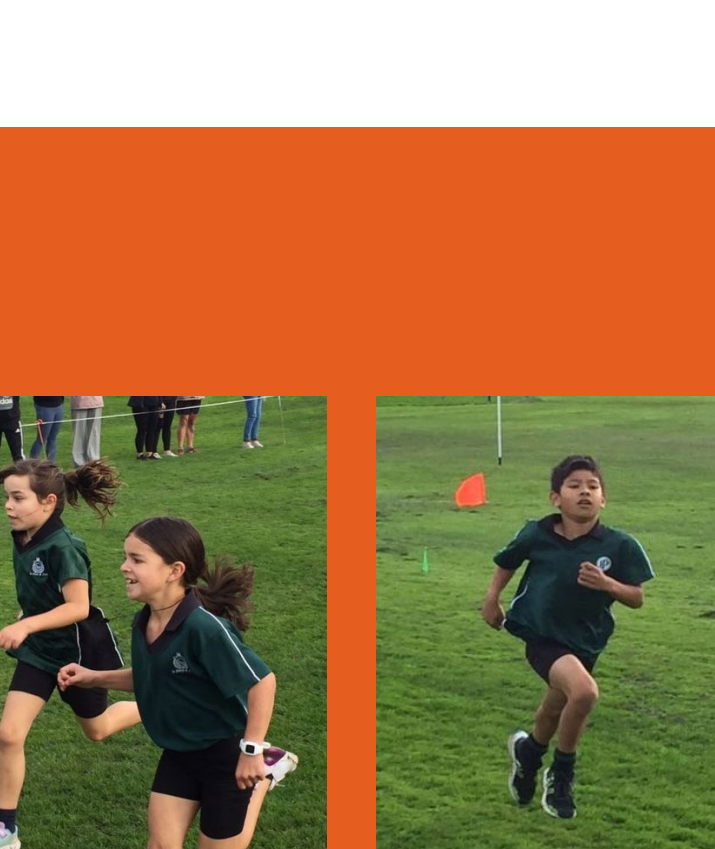
We have been having some fun with Drama in Rata Area. We played several warm up games and talked about having a go and taking risks. In groups we then prepared a short play.

Each group had a character, place and problem that they had to incorporate into their script. These were then performed in front of the area.

"I was impressed because everyone was not shy about it and gave it a go. I saw a lot of confidence, talent and laughter." **Ella**

"It was cool to see everyone having a go, with lots of support, everyone felt they had achieved something." **Georgie**

"I was really nervous before I performed, once you get out there it is really fun. I was really proud of myself afterwards." **Sophia**



SPORTS NEWS

South West Zone Cross Country

Last Tuesday 40 plus of our students took part in the South West Zone Cross Country at Sladden park. From this event the top 15 finishers progress to the Interzone in June.

We had some exciting finishes with hard fought races and congratulations to all who qualified.

Lydia Cumming won the Year 6 Girls event with Hudson Thom finishing 3rd in the Year 6 Boys. Sara Howard-Fortune took out the same place in the Year 5 Girls race.

Others to qualify are:

Yr 4 Night Geary and Frankie Bennett.

Yr 5 Billy Sloan, Angus Theobald, Paul Coote, Noah Jordan, Aarcha Menon, Sophie Turner and Chantelle Brion.

Yr 6 Lotte Theobald, Harper Turner and Caleb Reed.

Yr 7 Emily Clark, Vethmi Kotalange and Nadia Burt.

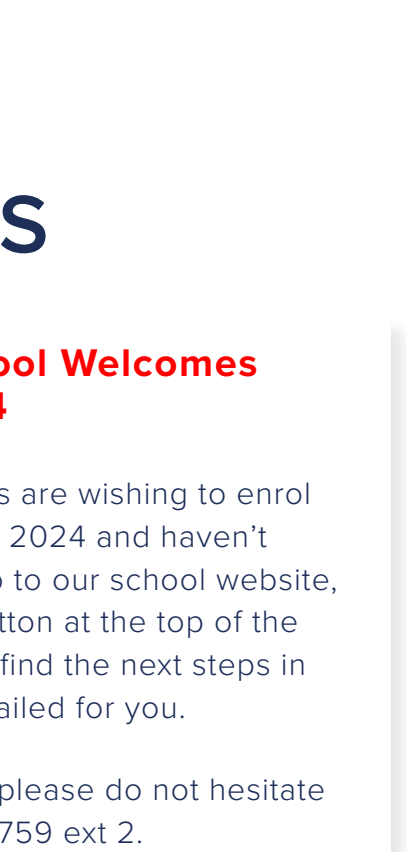
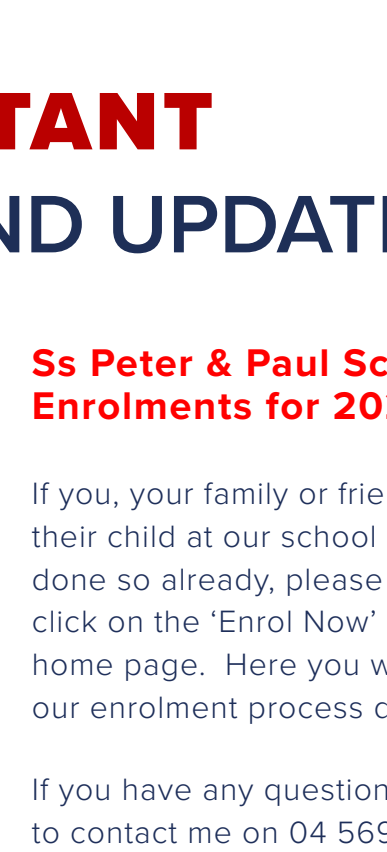
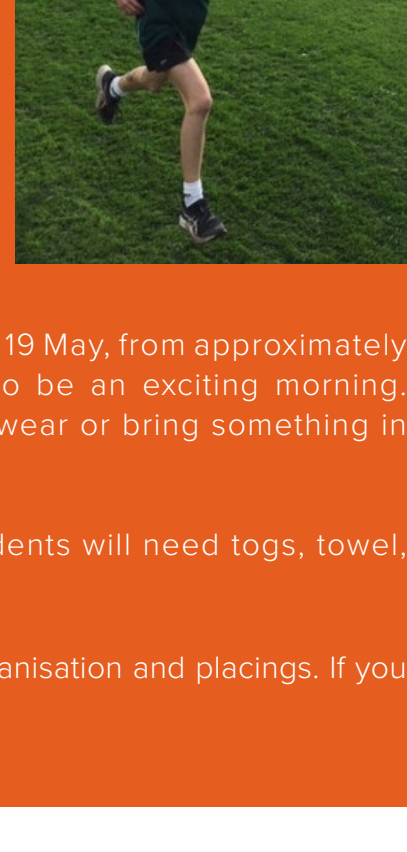
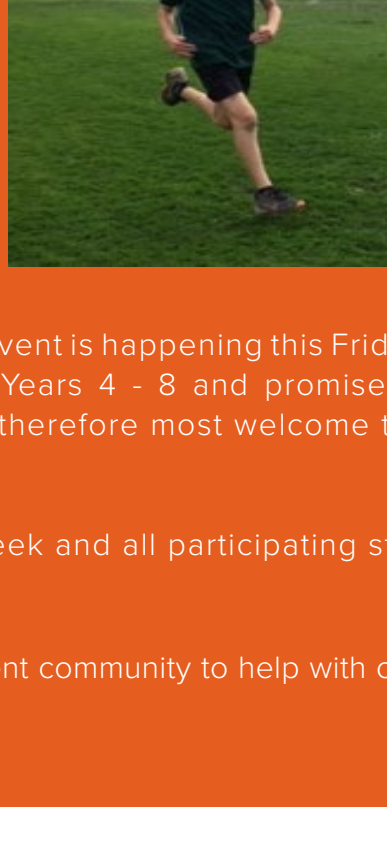
Yr 8 Jada Tetevano, Mila Duncan, Brooke Crighton, Kayla Wong, Bailey Newbould and Bailey Mayo.

Swimming Sports

We would like to remind you that our School Swimming Sports event is happening this Friday 19 May, from approximately 9.30am - 12pm. This is a fun, participation-based event for Years 4 - 8 and promises to be an exciting morning. Students will be sitting in their Houses for this event and are therefore most welcome to wear or bring something in their House colours.

Students will have the opportunity to sign up for races this week and all participating students will need togs, towel, goggles, raincoat, a hearty lunch and drink of water.

We would greatly appreciate some volunteers from within our parent community to help with organisation and placings. If you are able to help us please email: sport@stpeterpaul.school.nz



IMPORTANT REMINDERS AND UPDATES

School Opening Time

Just a friendly reminder that **school classrooms are open for students from 8:15am**.

Classroom teachers are very busy prior to this getting ready for their day and need the time and space to be able to concentrate on this.

Students can wait quietly in their classroom cloak bay on a cold/wet day should they arrive before their classroom is open.

We really do appreciate your support.

Ss Peter & Paul School Welcomes Enrolments for 2024

If you, your family or friends are wishing to enrol their child at our school for 2024 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 04 569 5759 ext 2.

Kind regards
Lisa Short
Ss Peter & Paul School

A message from the Attendance Dues Team

Just a friendly reminder that full payment of the Attendance Dues for 2023 is due by 31 May 2023. If you are paying by regular instalments, payments should be set up to close the balance by 30 November 2023 or by arrangement with the Dues team.

The May invoice/statement was emailed or posted to all families on 5 May. Please check that the invoice has not gone to your spam/junk inbox and that all your children are listed on the statement.

Financial assistance is available to families experiencing financial hardship (loss of income/redundancy, family reasons, etc.). It is a condition of the assistance application that the family has an affordable regular payment in place.

If you have any questions, please contact us:
Phone: 0800 462 725 Email: dues@wn.catholic.org.nz Text: 021 0890 7902

St Bernard's College Open Day

St Bernard's College will be holding an Open Day on Saturday 20 May 2023 from 10.00am until 2.00pm. Prospective students and their parents are invited to visit during these hours to find out more about St Bernard's College and what it can provide.

St Bernard's College is a Year 7-13 Catholic boys' college.

For further information please see our website: www.sbc.school.nz or contact the office at 183 Waterloo Road Lower Hutt, ph 04 560 9250.