

# Ss Peter and Paul School

Tuesday, 8 August 2023



## Kia ora Parents and Caregivers,

### Welcome

A very warm welcome to our new students and families who have joined us this term. **Kōwhai** welcomes Felix and **Nikau** welcomes Irene. **Pōhutukawa** has two new additions to their Area - Edwin and Flora. We hope you have all enjoyed your start to school and feel very much at home here.

### Internet safety evening for parents

We are very aware of the challenges that parents face in the ever-changing digital world. With this in mind we have organised a parent information session run by **Netsafe** on Thursday 31 August at 7pm in Rooms 13 and 14 (Pōhutukawa Area). We encourage all our families to take advantage of the advice and guidance that will be shared. For more information on who Netsafe are and what they offer parents, please click [here](#).

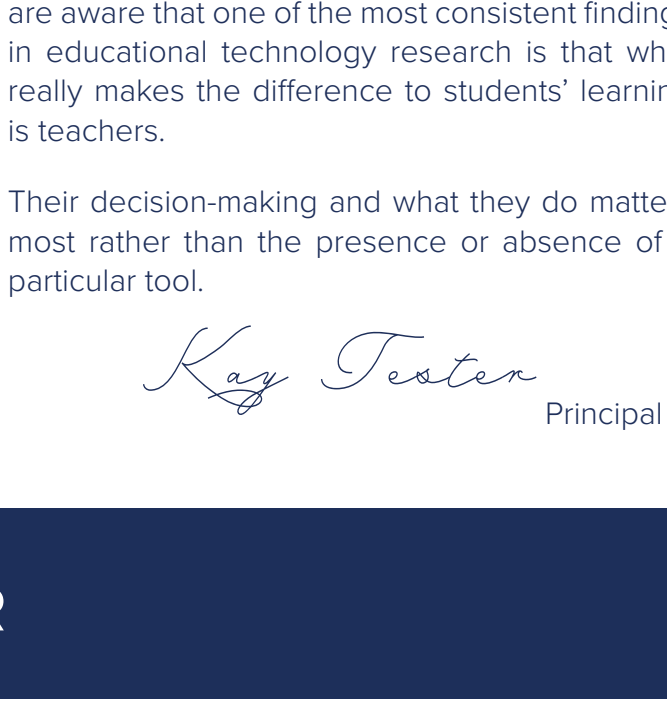
### Health and well-being

The importance of exercise for children's growth and development cannot be understated; both for the physical and mental benefits. Numerous research studies show that children who develop healthy lifestyle patterns at a young age are more likely to carry them into adulthood, promoting lifelong health benefits.

These benefits are not only physical but can improve mental well-being as well. Here is an interesting piece from SportNZ where they outline the importance of play [Sport NZ Principles of Play](#).

### Using technology in the classroom

Technology can be used to promote an engaging learning environment. Last week we were pleased to add a further 6 smart TVs to classrooms, bringing our total to 8. Your children may have mentioned this if they have one in their classroom or attended an Area gathering.



We spend a lot of time reflecting on the type and amount of technology that we use at school. We are aware that one of the most consistent findings in educational technology research is that what really makes the difference to students' learning is teachers.

Their decision-making and what they do matters more rather than the presence or absence of a particular tool.

*Kay Teator*  
Principal

OUR WEBSITE

PARISH WEBSITE

## Contents

From our Principal

- Kowhai
- Nikau
- Pōhutukawa
- Rata
- Kura Ahurea
- Sport
- Reminders & Updates
- PTA

## Events

- Saturday 12 August  
PTA Quiz Night
- Tuesday 15 August  
Feast of the Assumption Mass - all whānau welcome (130pm)

## SPECIAL CHARACTER

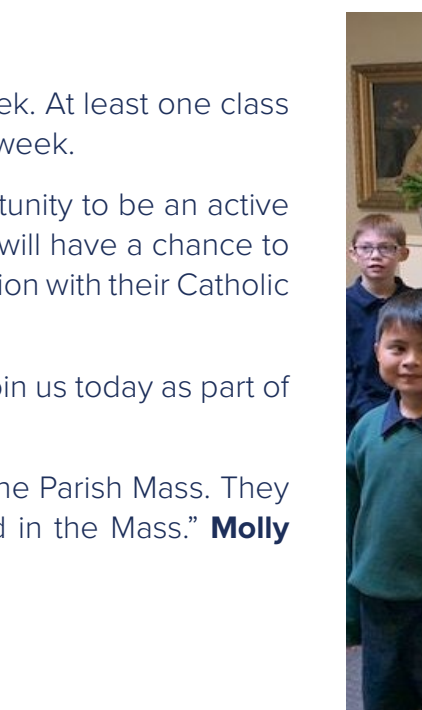
### Grandparent's Day Celebration

What an amazing celebration we have had!

A big **thank you** to all the grandparents, special friends and families who came and joined Nikau students for St. Joachim and St. Anne's liturgy.

We received a lot of positive and encouraging comments from our school community. It was also a great opportunity for the grandparents and families to visit our classes.

Nikau students were so proud to have shared their class learning and some artwork with them.



### Middy Mass

Our school has begun participating in the Middy Mass this week. At least one class from our Year 3-8 students will attend the weekday Mass each week.

This initiative aims to provide our students with a unique opportunity to be an active part of the parish community. By joining the Middy Mass, they will have a chance to engage with the church congregation and deepen their connection with their Catholic faith.

"It is really lovely that the students from our school are able to join us today as part of their faith journey." **Father Patrick**

"What a wonderful idea to see some of the children joining in the Parish Mass. They were very respectful in the way they listened and participated in the Mass." **Molly Hoffman - Te Awakairangi Parishioner**

**Aurea Casino**

Director of Religious Studies

Any questions, please email me at [dir@stpeterandpaulschool.nz](mailto:dir@stpeterandpaulschool.nz)



### Gymnastics

Kōwhai have been learning the shapes and movements of gymnastics. We have explored the basic shapes, how to travel, the different ways to roll and many ways of balancing. We are beginning to put all this together to create our own simple routines, so look out for this at home!

Thank you also to Sacred Heart for hosting us on Friday! We had an amazing time and enjoyed learning even more about moving our bodies and having fun doing so! A special thanks too to our helpers - we really appreciate your support!

