

Welcome!

Room 16 – Dr Ivy Abella

Room 17 – Mrs Freya Coote
(*Syndicate Leader*)

Room 18 – Miss Jenna Dyson

Release Teacher - Miss Victoria
McHalick

Haere mai to all our whanau. A
special welcome to all families
that are new to Ss Peter & Paul
School

Our Vision

*“To nurture independent and collaborative learners who
are
creative, critical and caring in their thinking,
strengthened by their Catholic Identity.”*

In Rata area we believe in providing a safe, challenging and enjoyable learning environment for our students. As our students grow, we encourage them to become more self driven and aware of their strengths and needs as learners.

Please read through the following presentation to familiarise yourself with our expectations and how our Area works.

School Values

At the heart of our school
lies our values of...

AROHA
STEWARDSHIP
JOY
FAITH



These values guide us in the
classroom, playground and as we
live our special Catholic character.

Students are encouraged to reflect
on how they can live our values and
how they enable us to make the
most of our opportunities.

2026

We look forward to a full and fun year of learning in Rata.

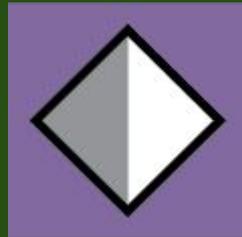
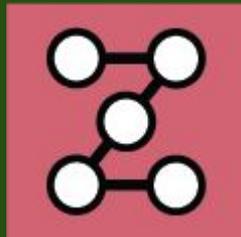
Our area has a strong focus on building our students ability to have a go at new things and develop as independent and resilient learners. We aim to grow their communication and collaboration skills, while working with a variety of people. It is always great to see students grow in confidence and self belief as they become more adventurous and capable.

We particularly look forward to tamariki being able to take full advantage of leadership opportunities as senior students in our school.

Universal Concept

The Universal Concept across Ss Peter & Paul School for 2026 is **CHANGE**. This concept will be threaded through our learning across curriculum areas and throughout the year.

CHANGE and the use of the Depth & Complexity thinking tools are combined so that students can enhance and extend their learning this year.



Term 1 Curriculum

Religious Education

This term, we're learning about Te Rongopai - Good News. We will focus on the Bible as a collection of books consisting of different types of writings, each with its own purpose and shaped by distinct cultural and historical settings and context.



Mathematics

This year we are continuing to work with the new 'Maths No Problem' resource. Students will be provided with workbooks and textbooks to support their learning and understanding.

We will begin the term with a focus on whole number and decimal place value. We will then move into rounding, followed by multiplication, division and problem solving.



Writing

We begin our writing in 2026 with a look at poetry, recounts and language features. In years 7 & 8, there is a focus on students becoming more aware of their audience and more effective when following the writing process. Students develop strong reflective skills and use editing to enhance the quality of their written work.

Reading

In Rata area we develop our reading skills through mixture of reading by, with, and to our students using a variety of fiction and non fiction texts. We encourage a love of reading in our students and recommend some time spent at home enjoying books each day. Through language based activities we are also learning about punctuation, grammar and spelling.

Physical Education

Students change into PE gear Monday to Thursday for either morning fitness sessions or PE lessons. This term students will experience team building games, gymnastics and fitness sessions aimed at building preparedness for the school cross country in term two.



Technology

Our year 7 & 8 students enjoy technology learning at Avalon Intermediate School. We travel to Avalon Intermediate by bus every Friday for the duration of the year. Students experience food, fabric, visual art, hard materials and woodwork technology classes.



2026 RATA CAMP

In term two we are lucky to be heading off on an area adventure to camp Kaitoke. This is always a highlight of our students time at intermediate, with life long memories made and students building new friendships while growing in confidence and independence.

Please fill this form in:

[CAMP GOOGLE FORM](#)

so that we can confirm our numbers and to assist with our planning.



In Rata ...

We encourage students to join in, have a go and take responsibility in being organised for their day.

- **PE Uniform** (Required daily Monday - Thursday)
- **Electronic devices** — phones/smart watches to be handed in every morning
- **Leadership Opportunities** - Christian Service, House leaders, Cultural Leaders, Road Patrol, Sports Ambassadors & Librarians.
- **Extra Opportunities** - Choir, Sports Teams, Tournaments, STEM Challenge, Kapa Haka, Camp, Production, Otago Maths, Technology at Avalon Intermediate School.

General Information

Reporting to Parents

School reports will be sent home at the end of terms two and four. School reports will include information on achievement, work ethic and attitude towards learning. Reports also cover attendance.

Learning Conferences

At the end of terms 1, 2 & 3 whanau will be invited to book and attend learning conferences with their child and their child's teacher. These are an opportunity to share assessment results, share learning illustrations and discuss your child's interests, goals and learning. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Behaviour Management

At Ss Peter & Paul School we have an effective and consistent behaviour management plan. We believe in a restorative practice approach. This encourages students to explore any issues that may arise at school in the classroom or playground, take responsibility for their own actions and then repair any harm. We look to empower students with strategies and tools to help them moving forward.

- *We ask that you please encourage your child to let their classroom teacher or a duty teacher know if they have any issues in the class or playground. This enables us to help out in a timely manner.*

How do we keep up to date with what's happening at school?

- **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

All whole school and Rata events and activities can be found on our school calendar. We ask families to keep an eye on this. The [school calendar](#) can be found on our website.

- **PARENT PORTAL**

The [parent portal](#) is available as an app and can also be found on our school website. This is useful for parents to report absences and has links to the school website and has account information.

Social Media

- In recent years this has been a consistent trap for some of our students causing social and self esteem issues.
- Young people under the age of 13 are not permitted to be on many social media platforms. Those who are, often need support with managing social media.
- Children do not always understand the long term implications and the permanence of photos, videos and messages that are on the internet.
- Issues/conflicts that arise from social media activity occur outside of school hours on private social media accounts. Responsibility for online behaviours lies with students and their parents. When the school has to intervene, it takes many hours or days of staff time, and, it pulls us away from our core job of teaching.

It is essential to monitor your child's use of social media and spend time discussing their responsibilities online. For further support and advice you may find the following links helpful:

[Netsafe Parenting Advice](#)

[A recent interview between Jessie Mulligan \(RNZ\) and pediatrician Michael Rich](#)

[Digital Wellness Guide for Parents & Families](#)

Uniform Expectations

We appreciate your support in maintaining our uniform standards at Ss Peter & Paul School. For specific details around uniform expectations please see the [school website](#) for guidelines.



Making contact

- Appointments/phone calls - request through the office admin@stpeterpaul.school.nz
- Alternatively you can contact the area leader through rataal@stpeterpaul.school.nz
- **All absences must be reported through the school office or in the parent portal with reasons for your child's absence given.**

- Your support is valued and much appreciated.
- If you have any further questions about your daughters' classroom programmes please contact your daughters' teacher.
- We look forward to meeting you all later in the term at our learning conferences.

**Thank
you!**