

05 July 2024

Principal's Message

What an action-packed term we have had at school with students achieving personal bests, teams winning competitions, students recognised for demonstrating the school's values and many successful community events. The list could just go on, but when you put this all together, its sure does show that we have a fabulous school community.

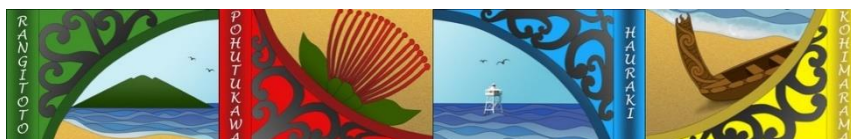
I would like to thank all our staff for the time, dedication, energy and commitment that they have given this term. They have created an environment that has allowed the students to flourish socially, emotionally and academically.

To our parents and whānau, thank you for continuing to strengthen your partnership with the school. Positive connections between parents and teachers have been shown to improve children's academic achievement, social competencies and emotional well-being. I think we can all say we have seen this in Term 2 for sure.

To our students, you have been awesome this term. There is nothing like the sound of laughter, seeing big smiles and hearing the voices of happy kids. You have all achieved your personal best in something and in some way this term and I know that your teachers and families are very proud of you.

Please make sure that over the holidays you find time to recharge those batteries, spend time with family and friends and do the things you love. To our students, I set you one challenge these holidays and that is each day to try and do one thing to help someone, no matter how big or small it is.

Ingrid May
Acting Principal



To our Waita group for their lovely singing last Thursday!

Upcoming Dates

July

- 22 First Day of Term 3
- 24 Cross Country Costume Carnival
- 26 Eastern Zone Netball
- 26 Last Day for ICAS Registrations

August

- 09 Junior Assembly (J7&8 hosting)
9.45am – 10.30am (school hall)
Senior Assembly (Y7 hosting)
11.45am – 12.30pm (school hall)
- 13 Board of Trustees Meeting
(6.30pm staffroom)
- 13 Eastern Zone Girls Basketball
- 15 Eastern Zone Boys Basketball
- 21 School Cross Country Event (Y3-8)
- 22 Pizza Lunch Day
- 22 Student Led Learning Conferences
- 23 Junior Formal Assembly
10.00am – 10.30am (school hall)
Senior Formal Assembly
12.00pm – 12.30pm (school hall)
- 29 Bay Suburbs and Eastern Zone
Cross Country
- 30 Junior Assembly (J9&10 hosting)
9.45am – 10.30am (school hall)
Senior Assembly (M5 hosting)
11.45am – 12.30pm (school hall)

Matariki Day

It was wonderful to see our community come together last week as we celebrated Matariki. The singing was fantastic and the karakia that were read by our Year 7 and 8 students were very special. Thank you to those who came and joined us. Special thanks to Nikki Gosden and Amy Thurston for organising this special morning.



You are welcome to visit Orakei Village to see our Matariki star artwork displayed.



As part of our Matariki celebrations J7 made star shaped cookies today. Four wonderful parent volunteers joined the class and helped the children measure out the ingredients and follow the recipe. As well as celebrating Matariki this was a great introduction to the maths strand of measurement that we will be covering in Term 3. The children then got to decorate their cookies and take them home to enjoy!



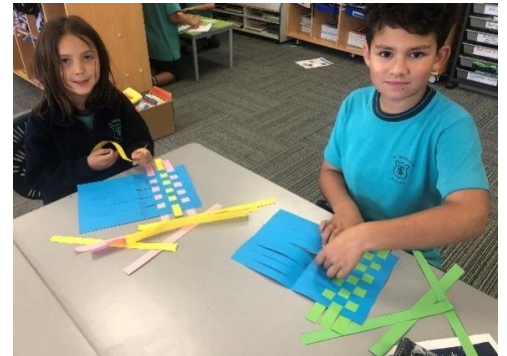
Year 3 Update

Congratulations M1, for hosting an outstanding junior assembly in Week 7! The students did an excellent job singing waiata about Matariki and our school value of whakaute (respect). We also extend our heartfelt thanks to all the families who came to support the assembly and contributed to our shared morning tea. Ka pai M1!



Celebrating Matariki

As part of our learning about Matariki we enjoyed storytelling, weaving and a lovely, shared kai. Thank you to all the parents for the delicious treats!



Year 7 and Year 3 Buddy Class – celebrating Matariki together with Māori games, crafts, waiata and laughter. Thank you to our buddies for performing the Matariki Macarena with us!



Matariki in S11 and S12

Matariki Stars

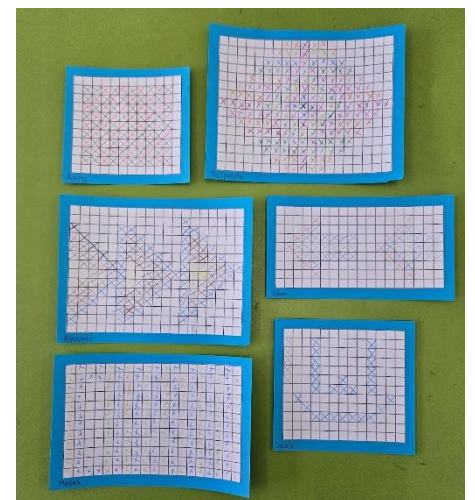
Matariki is all about celebrating the New Year. It is a time to reflect on the past year, celebrate the present and plan for the year ahead.

Students created a Matariki star and then wrote either a wish for the year ahead or a memory that they enjoy with their family or friends from the past year.



Tukutuku Patterns in Math

Tukutuku patterns are traditional Māori designs used to decorate the walls of meeting houses in New Zealand. Made by weaving reeds and wooden strips, these patterns often tell stories or represent important concepts. During Matariki, the Māori New Year, tukutuku panels can reflect themes of renewal, growth and remembrance, aligning with the celebration's focus on family, history, and the future.



Positive Behaviour for Learning School Wide (PB4L)

We are excited to announce that the PB4L team at St Thomas's School has been actively collaborating to set the foundation for meaningful changes ahead. One of our major initiatives is to enhance the house points system and invigorate house spirit, fostering a culture of positive behaviour through recognition and rewards.

PB4L is part of a larger effort embraced by numerous schools across New Zealand, aimed at improving the wellbeing, behaviour, and educational achievements of students. We want to create a positive and supportive school culture for our whole school community where everyone can achieve success. This includes students, staff, and all of our whānau.

To reinforce our school values, we are introducing several new activities and rewards. Moving forward, as house points are announced, the winning house will now have the opportunity to celebrate their victory during assembly announcements. These celebrations will include performing a house chant to promote unity and togetherness. Additionally, we are focusing on amplifying student voice, ensuring that students understand why they are receiving rewards and how their positive behaviour contributes to our school culture.

We are looking forward to a great year of change and growth at St Thomas's School, reflecting our community's values and identity. Stay tuned for more updates as we embark on this exciting journey together!

For more information about PB4L School Wide, please visit [PB4L TKI](#).

Year 5 Topic Collaboration Day

On our recent Year 5 Topic Collaboration Day, students engaged in a vibrant array of activities designed to foster teamwork, hands-on learning and having time away from devices. Divided into groups, the students explored the joys of playing the ukulele, revived the fun of old school games, delved into the art of gardening, crafted traditional poi, and created eco-friendly beeswax wraps. Each activity not only taught valuable skills but also highlighted the importance of collaboration and creativity. The day was a fantastic success and tamariki enjoyed working together to create something special.



Journey into the Plant Kingdom: Year 6 Students' Trip to Arataki Centre



The Year 6 students went on a trip on 19 June. They checked their school attendance and talked about the groups. There were 3 groups. The bus arrived at 8:55am. It was a 1-hour drive from school in a fancy bus with air conditioning, curtains, and leg rest. A student from S11/S12 said "It was spotless and cozy". When we arrived at the wildlife sanctuary, there were statues of the ancestors who were here.

We sat in the education area, where we were greeted by the guides who led us on a fun and educational trip, and the guide narrated tales about the ancestor sculptures from the Te Kawerau-a-Maki sub-tribe.

Next, we entered a small hall where we discussed biodiversity, what differences were made, how it sounded back then, and how biodiversity's evolution changed over time. A couple of the rangers who worked there did a role-play like they were from the past and did a small dress-up. The students said, "It was really funny to watch". After that, we started sowing flax seedlings (Harakeke). We also went out to learn quite a few things, like how to set bait for pests and how each trap works. After a lot of walking through a bush area with paths, we ate our lunch and did another bush walk where we talked about the plants. We even spotted a tui and a couple of fantails. We picked up a few coconut seeds and tossed them in the bush, and a student said, "It was pretty yucky because a bird pooped in it." Our last activity involved measuring the diameter of the biggest kauri in the Waitakere Ranges, the diameter of Tane Mahuta, which is much bigger, and the other kauri tree named Tutamoe, which had caught on fire. Finally, we met in the education area, where we bid farewell to the park rangers and got on the bus back to St Thomas's School. It was a worthwhile, useful, and important trip to the Arataki visitor centre that we will never forget.



Juan S11



Garden to Table Programme Kicks Off

We are excited to announce the start of our Garden to Table programme. Our students have been busy in the kitchen, making delicious roast potatoes from our garden and baking kawakawa biscuits. In the garden, we've been weeding, checking on the worm farms, and planting new vegetables that we look forward to harvesting later in the year. This hands-on programme is teaching our students valuable skills and the joy of growing and preparing their own food. We have also been supported by the wonderful Nature Ninja's who have been looking after our native bush area at the back of the field and helping with some very important composting and pest control. Stay tuned for more updates as we continue this exciting journey and please get in touch if you would like to help out in any way.



Term Two Sports Wrap-Up

Bay Suburbs Football

Four teams representing St Thomas's competed in the BS Football tournament at Glover Park on Tuesday 21 May. These four teams made up of Year 5&6 students gave up many lunchtimes to work hard and train for this tournament. All teams played extremely well over the course of the day and produced some great results in very challenging weather conditions.

Our Year 5 Girls team placed 2nd, our Year 6 Boys finished 3rd and the Year 6 Girls finished up 1st place after winning 5 games and drawing one. A massive thank you to Miss Churches & Mr Whitaker for all their hard work preparing these teams for a tournament. An added thank you to our Year 7&8 students Axel, Ali, Zikria & Huxley for giving up their time to ref for these teams.



Eastern Zone Football

Our Year 7&8 students also got a chance to represent their school in Football. Two teams competed in the Eastern Zone football tournament at Crossfield Reserve in Week 5. These teams trained hard over various lunchtimes in preparation for the tournament.

Both teams progressed well during pool play of the tournament and finished up with some fantastic results. Our Year 8 Boys finished the day strong with a draw against ACG Parnell and our Year 7 Boys team took home 3rd place beating Churchill Park. All of our students represented our school extremely well. A huge thank you to Miss Titchener for giving up her time to coach these teams.



Bay Suburbs Rippa Rugby

On Wednesday 5 June, a talented group of Year 5&6 students travelled to Colin Maiden Park to participate in the Bay Suburbs Rippa Rugby Tournament. Our students displayed outstanding rugby skills and represented our school extremely well. A big thank you to all the parents who came down and cheered the school on as well as the parents who supported with organising the teams for all games.

The Year 5 teams played hard and came away with some good results. Our Year 6 Boys team took out 3rd place and our Year 6 girls ended up winning their grade. It was a fantastic effort for all teams involved. A big thank you to Miss Churches, Mr Whitaker & Mr Nichols for coaching during lunchtime to prepare the students for the tournament.



Inter Zone Handball



On Friday 7 June, two teams of Year 7&8 students tried their hand at the largely unfamiliar sport of Handball at Barfoot & Thompson Stadium. Handball brings together a combination of football, basketball and netball. The game is contested by two teams of seven players and involves one team invading another team's territory with the aim of throwing a ball into their opponent's goal.

The teams picked up the game really quickly and at the conclusion of the day were beginning to challenge some of the other schools they were playing against. STS Blue finished up in 4th place and STS Yellow finished in 7th after a thrilling penalty shootout. Year 8 student Sherveen also received the Most Impressive Winger award. Thanks to Mr Whitaker for taking these teams down to the tournament and allowing them to try out a new sport.



Eastern Zone Hockey

Our Year 7&8 students also got the opportunity to represent the school in Hockey. A boys team competed in the Eastern Zone Hockey tournament on Monday 24th June. This team trained hard over various lunchtimes in preparation for the tournament. For many of these boys, it was their first time playing Hockey.

The team played two games during pool play. The first game against Kings was a tough one for the team losing 11-1. In the second game, the team bounced back and secured a 2-2 draw with Ellerslie. All of our students represented our school extremely well. A huge thank you to Mr Whitaker for giving up his time to coach these teams.



Bay Suburbs Netball

On Monday 1 July, 8 Netball teams made up of Year 5&6 students attended the Bay Suburbs Netball tournament. The tournament featured a total of 46 teams competing from the Bay Suburbs cluster. Our 8 teams had trainings over various lunchtimes to get ready for the tournament. It was a day of non-stop Netball action with 16 courts running over the course of the day.

It was great to have so many teams from St Thomas's representing their school with passion and pride. Some of our results from the day included our Year 5 Boys Shooters team finishing 3rd, the Year 5 Girls Lightning team finishing 3rd and the Year 6 Girls Stars team taking out 2nd place. A big congratulations to the Year 5 Flames team for winning their grade as well as the Year 6 Boys Storm team finishing first equal in their competition. Thank you to Miss Hiskens and Miss Cordelle for managing these students on the day. A massive thank you as well to the parents who came down and coached our teams. We hope to continue to grow the sport of Netball and take even more teams next year.



Ki o Rahi

Two Year 7&8 teams competed at Ki o Rahi to celebrate Matariki.



Community Notices

Please see our website for details about:

School Holiday Programmes: <https://www.stthomas.school.nz/school-holiday-programmes/>

Clubs and activities: <https://www.stthomas.school.nz/clubs-and-activities/>

Community notices: <https://www.stthomas.school.nz/community-notices/>

Shine Speech & Drama classes

Shine Speech & Drama classes inspire confidence and imagination, helping students communicate effectively and build self-belief that helps them succeed in life.

Register [here](#) for Term 3 lessons, beginning Thursday 1st August 2024. Term fees are \$260 for group class or \$320 for small, exam focussed group class. 8 lessons guaranteed per term. Sibling discount of 10% for any siblings enrolling.

Any questions please don't hesitate to call Nina on 021-160 9197 or Emily 0204-022 8578



St Thomas's School is excited to partner with Eastern Suburbs AFC to offer an after school football programme.

These sessions are:

- High energy, fun and age appropriate;
- Designed to improve football skills and promote teamwork in a safe environment;
- Coached by NZ accredited coaches and ESAFC Senior players.

PROGRAMME DETAILS

When:
10 week programme,
Mondays 3:15 - 4:15pm,
22nd July - 23rd September

Cost: \$160

Book Online:
easternsuburbs.org.nz/community/suburbs-in-schools/

Any queries, contact:
community@esafc.org.nz



You are invited

ORAKEI BAY VILLAGE

Matariki in the Village

Orakei Bay Village is proud to be hosting our Community of Learning, Te Rōpū Pourewa, in their celebration of Matariki 2024

Showcasing a cluster of talented learners - our tamariki!
Bring your whānau along to this special installation.

→

24 June - 21 July 2024



228 Ōrākei Road, Remuera

Lots to see and do at Orakei Bay Village / Open 7 days / Extra parking in the bottom carpark near Kings Plant Barn & at the train station.



General Information: We believe in giving children opportunities to do the things they love and enjoy in a supportive and encouraging environment. We provide quality childcare in safe and fun surroundings for children out of school. Our holiday programme is focused around sports, games, and outings to local attractions. Our friendly staff are passionate about working with children. They are provided with training on behaviour management techniques, first aid and activity planning/delivery.

Who can attend: Children aged 5-13 yrs

What do you need to bring: Shoes and appropriate clothing, jacket or sweatshirt, hat, drink bottle and food.

Food: Please bring plenty of packed food and drink for morning tea/lunch/afternoon tea. Lunch will be from approximately 12:30pm to 1:00pm each day.

Programme activities: Programme activities are adapted to suit children of all ages and children may be grouped by age depending on numbers. Programme activities may vary without notice dependent on weather conditions and programme numbers.

Payment details: Payment is required before the holiday programme begins. An invoice will be issued when a completed booking is received. All payment details will be included on the invoice.

Work and Income OSCAR Subsidy: Parents / caregivers that meet certain criteria will be able to access a WINZ subsidy to help cover the cost of our programme. For more information visit www.workandincome.govt.nz.

Please note: Every care will be taken to ensure the safety of your child/ren and their property. However, organisers of Kelly Club accept no liability for any injury sustained to your child/ren or any loss or damage to his/her property whilst at a programme. If your child/ren are collected late after the conclusion of the programme you will be charged \$20 per 15 minutes or part thereof.

Website: kellyclub.co.nz/st-thomas
Contact: Ian Palmquist
Email: stthomas@kellyclub.co.nz
Phone: 021 0803 3666
Facebook: @KellyClubStThomas
Address: 113 Allum St, Kohimarama

JULY 2024 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

ST THOMAS'S SCHOOL

WEEK 1

Mon 8 July



ENVIRO-DAY

The Earth is our home so let's look after it! I wonder what we will see when we look closer with an epic outdoor scavenger hunt.

Tues 9 July



TREASURE QUEST

Every pirate needs some treasure! Wear your best pirate costume and hit the deck in a race against your pirate pals to build the best ship!

Wed 10 July



MOVIES

Join us for an awesome trip day to the movies to see Despicable Me 4. Please remember a big lunch, drink bottle, shoes and a hat. \$20 extra for the day.

Thurs 11 July



COLOUR BLAST

Wear your favourite colour and step inside the rainbow with prism science. If you're lucky you might just find a pot of gold.

Fri 12 July



BRILLIANT BRAINS

Put your IQ to the test and flex your mental muscles to solve brain teasers and take part in some wicked experiments.

WEEK 2

Mon 15 July



DODGEM'

It's a day full of dodging! Will you be the moving target or can you dodge your way out of this one?

Tues 16 July



NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

When the sun sets, the museum comes to life! There'll be dinosaurs & mummies roaming around. We'll whip up a midnight snack with our newfound friends.

Wed 17 July



ICE SKATING

Join us for an awesome trip day to Paradise Ice Skating in Botany. Please remember a big lunch, drink bottle, shoes and a hat. Please bring a helmet if you own one. \$20 extra for the day.

Thurs 18 July



ULTIMATE CHALLENGE

Work as a team to overcome all sorts of fun challenges then re-energise with some nutritious grub.

Fri 19 July



PJ PARTY

Put on your snazziest PJs and rock up to Kelly Club today for an epic slumber party. There'll be no time for sleep between pillow fighting, a movie with popcorn, and a midnight snack!

FULL WEEK: \$295
7am-6pm

FULL DAY: \$58
7am-6pm

SCHOOL DAY: \$48
8:30am-3pm

EVENT DAY: Extra \$20
(Included in Full Week)

**OSCAR
PROGRAMME
SUBSIDIES
AVAILABLE!**

*Conditions apply

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz



**KELLY
CLUB**

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Mon 8 – Fri 19 July



Join us for a fun-filled School Holiday Programme including a Treasure Quest Day, craft and cooking activities, awesome games & **MUCH MORE!**

*Some activities may need to be swapped for other exciting ones!
Go online to check out a full, up-to-date timetable for your school.*

**OSCAR
PROGRAMME
SUBSIDIES
AVAILABLE!**

**Conditions apply*

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT
www.kellyclub.co.nz

JULY 2024 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

ST THOMAS'S SCHOOL

A timetable and full programme information is available online or at the programme venue.

Who can attend: Children aged 5-13 yrs

General Information: We believe in giving children opportunities to do the things they love and enjoy in a supportive and encouraging environment. Our friendly staff are passionate about working with children. They are provided with training on behaviour management techniques, first aid and activity planning/delivery.

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Prices & Session Times:

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7am-6pm 7am-6pm (Included in Full Week)

School Day: \$48
8:30am-3pm

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