

27 September 2024

Principal's Message



Thank you to all our parents who came to see their children performing as part of our dance curriculum this morning. With a lucky break in the weather the first group of students showcased their dance moves on the netball court while the second group performed in the hall. This programme was really well received by the boys and girls and something we hope to revisit in the future. Though our core subjects are reading, writing and maths we also aim to educate the 'whole child' through exposure to areas such as the arts which are fundamental to human expression.

Attendance

There is much political and media attention on school attendance at the moment and some very confusing data as to how many students are absent from New Zealand schools on a daily basis and the reasons why. At St Thomas's School our average daily attendance for Term Two was 92% and the top two reasons for absences were illness (57%) and holidays (29%). Many of our families go overseas during the term to reconnect with their extended families or sometimes tag on an extra day to a weekend to escape the Auckland traffic leaving the city.

Yesterday Minister Seymour announced that families of students who are absent for more than 15 days will face prosecution. Details of how this will work have yet to be released and it will be interesting to see if the government intends to prosecute our families who travel overseas to visit grandparents and extended family members.

Michael Maher
Principal



To all the students who participated in the AIMS games.

Upcoming Dates

October

- 14 First Day of Term 4
- 18 Junior Formal Assembly
10.00am – 10.30am (school hall)
Senior Formal Assembly
12.00pm – 12.30pm (school hall)
- 24 Eastern Zone Volleyball
- 25 Teacher Only Day
(School closed to students)
- 28 Labour Day Holiday
- 29 Board of Trustees Meeting
(6.30pm staffroom)

November

- 01 Junior Assembly (J11 & J12 hosting)
9.45am – 10.30am (school hall)
Senior Assembly (Student Leaders)
11.45am – 12.30pm (school hall)
- 05 Eastern Zone Touch
- 08 Y8 Road Patrol Rainbow's End Trip
- 12 Bay Suburbs Touch
- 13 Y5 & Y6 Athletics Day
- 14 Y7 & Y8 Athletics Day
- 15 Junior Formal Assembly
10.00am – 10.30am (school hall)
Senior Formal Assembly
12.00pm – 12.30pm (school hall)

Dance Curriculum Video Links

[Year 1 Dance](#)

[Year 2 Dance](#)

[Year 3 Dance](#)

[Year 3 Partner Dance](#)

[Year 4 Dance](#)

[Year 4 Partner Dance](#)

[Year 5 Dance](#)

[Year 5 Partner Dance](#)

[Year 6 Dance](#)

[Year 6 Partner Dance](#)

[Year 7&8 Dance](#)

[Year 7&8 Partner Dance](#)

School Bus Service

The new school bus service in the morning will now be operating from the 1st day of Term 4 (14 October).

Please see [this link](#) or below for timetables:

549 : GOWING DRIVE AND PANAPA DRIVE TO ST THOMAS

Departs: 8:10am

Operator: NZ Bus

Serving: Selwyn College , **St Thomas Primary**

Route: 20 Norman Lesser Drive (stop 7722), Norman Lesser Drive, Panapa Drive (at the second intersection of Norman Lesser Drive and Panapa Drive – buses travel north on Panapa Drive and clockwise round the loop), Norman Lesser Drive, Truman Street, St Johns Road, Dorchester Street, Gowing Drive, St Johns Road, Kohimarama Road, Allum Street, 113 Allum Street (stop 1442).

Notes: Last updated 11 July 2018

550 : GOWING DRIVE AND GERARD WAY TO ST THOMAS'S SCHOOL

Departs: 8am

Operator: NZ Bus

Serving: **St Thomas Primary**

Route: Rosepark Crescent (stop 7720), Gerard Way, St Johns Road, Dorchester Street, Gowing Drive, St Johns Road, Kohimarama Road, Allum Street, St Thomas's School (stop 1442)

Notes: Last updated 16 September 2024

School buses from St Thomas Primary

549 : ST THOMAS TO GOWING DRIVE AND PANAPA DRIVE

Departs: 3:10pm

Operator: NZ Bus

Serving: **St Thomas Primary**

Route: Opposite 255 Kohimarama Road (stop 1422), Kohimarama Road, St Johns Road, Gowing Drive, Dorchester Street, St Johns Road, Truman Street, Norman Lesser Drive, Panapa Drive (at the first intersection of Norman Lesser Drive and Panapa Drive – buses travel south on Panapa Drive and anticlockwise round the loop), Norman Lesser Drive, 79 Norman Lesser Drive (stop 7725).

Notes: Last updated 11 July 2018

550 : ST THOMAS TO GOWING DRIVE AND GERARD WAY

Departs: 3:10pm

Operator: NZ Bus

Serving: **St Thomas Primary**

Route: Opposite 255 Kohimarama Road (stop 1422), Kohimarama Road, St Johns Road, Gowing Drive, Dorchester Street, St Johns Road, Gerard Way, Norman Lesser Drive, 56 Norman Lesser Drive (stop 1408).

Notes: Last updated 11 July 2018

Term Three Sports Wrap-Up

Eastern Zone Netball

Four teams representing St Thomas's competed in the Eastern Zone netball tournament at Auckland Netball Centre on Friday 26 July. These four teams made up of Year 7 & 8 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.

Our Year 7 boys team finished up 1st place after winning 5 games. A massive thank you to Miss Gosden & Miss Churches for all their hard work preparing these teams for a tournament.



Eastern Zone Basketball

In Week 4 this term, two teams represented our school at the Eastern Zone basketball tournament at Barfoot & Thomson Stadium. Both of these teams trained hard in the lead-up to their tournament. For a few students, this was their first time playing Basketball.



Our girls team had a successful day winning their first game against Ellerslie. Then to conclude the day, the girls won their final game in a free throw shoot-off against Glendowie. The boys recorded some big wins against Panmure District and Stonefields. Thank you to Mr Whitaker for helping coach these teams.

Bay Suburbs & Eastern Zone Cross Country

On Thursday 29 August, 72 Year 4 - 8 students participated in the Bay Suburbs / Eastern Zone Cross Country at Churchill Park. All of our students ran great races on a very tricky course. A big congratulations to our Year 5 girls team who placed 1st overall and our Year 6 girls team who finished second. Here are some notable individual efforts from the day:

Ashton West - 20th Yr 4 Boys
Iu Kamiya - 9th Yr 4 Girls
Nate Van Rij - 4th Yr 5 Boys
Abbie Tait - 4th Yr 5 Girls
Manon Jannin - 7th Yr 5 Girls
Mica Sutherland - 10th Yr 5 Girls
Musawwir Hamzaie - 14th Yr 6 Boys

Sofia Clayton - 2nd Yr 6 Girls
Mackenzie Lim - 3rd Yr 6 Girls
Georgia Mehrtens - 4th Yr 6 Girls
Axel Farr - 12th Yr 7 Boys
Makayla Sillik - 13th Yr 7 Girls
Zikria Sayed - 14th Yr 8 Boys
Chloe Gonzalez - 20th Yr 8 Girls



InterZone Boys Netball Champs

After winning the Year 7 boys grade at the Eastern Zone Netball tournament, our boys team qualified for the Auckland Champs held in Henderson. This tournament saw us come up against some of the best boys netball teams in Auckland. Our first two games of the day resulted in wins against Viscount and The Gardens School.

The team then moved on to a quarter-final against Remuera Intermediate which we won 12-8. Our semi-final against Kelston was a tense one but the team held their nerve and snuck away with a win. In the final, we played a tough Clendon Park team who got the better of us winning 12-5. Finishing second in Auckland for Year 7 boys netball is a fantastic effort. A huge thank you to Miss Gosden for all her hard work this term with the team.



Bay Suburbs Basketball

Two Year 5 & 6 teams attended the Bay Suburbs basketball tournament at the Panmure YMCA on Tuesday 10 September. These teams trained over multiple lunchtimes with Mr Young to prepare for the tournament. Both of our teams played well over the day and recorded some great wins.

Our girls team won two big games against St Ignatius and Churchill Park. For many of these girls, it was their first time giving basketball a go. Our boys team finished the tournament in 3rd place after some good wins against St Ignatius, Churchill Park, Glendowie & Parnell. Thank you to Mr Young and our parent helpers Lucy and Kerryn for coaching us at the tournament.



Bay Suburbs Hockey

This week, three Year 5 & 6 hockey teams attended the Bay Suburbs Hockey Tournament at Lloyd Elsmore Hockey Stadium in Pakuranga. Our hockey teams were a mixture of experienced players and newcomers. These teams worked hard with Mr Young over many lunchtimes to get ready for the tournament.

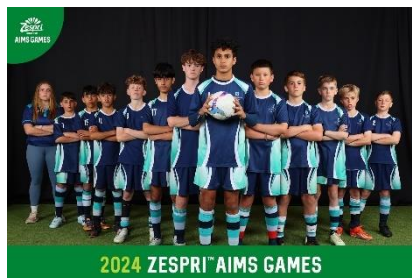
All 3 of our teams gave their best efforts and represented the school with pride. The White team had a couple of good wins and a draw to finish 4th in their pool. The Blue team had a very successful day and placed 4th in the development grade. Our Green team did exceptionally well in the competitive grade and finished up in 4th place after a thrilling match against Glendowie. A massive thank you to our coaches Amber, Lola, Roger and Mr Young for their help at the tournament.



AIMS Games

During Week 8, 34 students attended AIMS Games in Tauranga. These athletes trained over 7 months to prepare for the week-long tournament. St Thomas's School was represented extremely well by all our students. Our boys football team had a successful tournament and finished up 31st. Our boys basketball team won their final 3 games to place 73rd. The girls netball team finished up their tournament with a final placing of 120th.

Our Individual athletes also performed at a high level with Theo Zonneveld breaking many personal records in the swimming pool. Orienteering was included for the first time at AIMS and our school was represented well with Liam Gallagher placing 16th, James Nutton 44th and Christian Colebourne 47th. Thank you to Miss Titchener, Miss Churches and Mr Whitaker for coaching these teams over the last 3 terms.



Sports Special Mentions

The water polo team won silver in their grade at the North Island Waterpolo Champs last week. Such a massive achievement for a small school and a great way to finish water polo for our Year 8s. A big congratulations to Theo Zonneveld who was nominated as team most valuable player for the finals by NZ Waterpolo.



The Year 7 girls Shooting Stars netball team finished as runner-ups in their grade in the Auckland Netball Intermediate League. This was an outstanding achievement for the girls and a great way to end a fantastic season of netball. Thank you to Josh Taylor for coaching this team.



Learning Extension Programme - Lego Masters

This LEP engaged children in hands-on, creative-solving challenges that aligned with the Engineering Design Process. Through a series of fun and structured building tasks, children developed critical thinking, teamwork and engineering skills. Children built on their creativity and learnt foundational engineering concepts in a playful, interactive way!

Come Dine with Me Challenge

Build a meal to serve on a plate. You must have at least:

- *A main course with a side dish*
- *A dessert*
- *A drink (you must build a vessel to hold water).*



School Chess Championship 2024

The School Chess Championship for 2024 recently took place as part of our Chess Club. The results are as follows:

1st Shawn Juang

2nd Yoyo Liao

3rd equal Jack Holmes and Reddington Chen

Congratulations to the winners and well done to the rest of the players who took part.



STS News

To watch the eighth episode of the series, click [HERE](#).

To watch the ninth episode of the series, click [HERE](#).

Save the Date

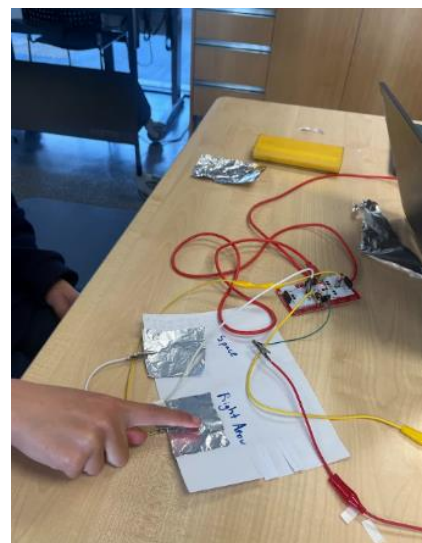
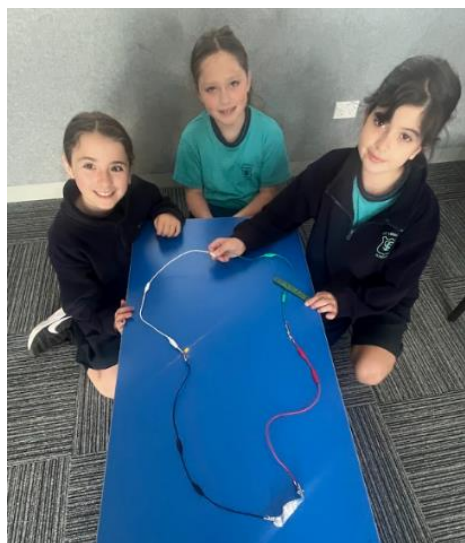
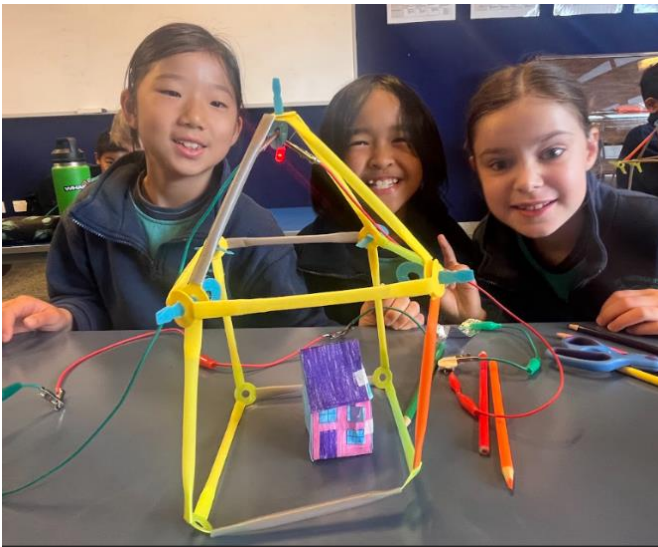
St Thomas's School Prizegiving
Tuesday 10 December 2024

STEAM - Term 3 - Inventions

We have been learning about interesting and important inventions in history this term. Children have collaborated in a variety of hands-on learning activities, which have encouraged creativity and problem solving, as well as inquiry of new concepts.

Our STEAM Missions have included learning about:

- Sound waves and vibrations and the invention of the telephone
- The history of robots and how they help humans
- The invention of the light bulb and how simple circuits work
- The principles of 3D innovations in movies and images
- The concept of and the evolution of flight
- The basic principles of satellite navigation and triangulation in GPS technology
- The evolution of the motor car



Waiata Group

In Week 9, four student leaders from our Waiata Group went to Ōrākei school to learn a new waiata. This waiata has been written by teachers from St Thomas's, Stonefields, Kohimarama and Orakei school for Te Rōpū Pourewa, the kāhui ako in the Ōrākei region. Our 4 student leaders; McQuade Ingram, Simone Telefoni, Shaun Papali'i and Cicilia Liu, learnt the new waiata amongst other student leaders from our local schools. This included Selwyn College, Orakei School, Stonefields School and Kohimarama School.

Thank you to Hone from Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei for composing the waiata and teaching it to our student leaders. We are looking forward to teaching this waiata school wide next term. To listen to a sneak peak of the waiata – see [this video](#).



Celebrating Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori/Māori Language Week



Week 9 was Te Wiki o te Reo Māori/Māori Language Week. We came together as a kura to sing Ngā Iwi E to celebrate and acknowledge the occasion!

Public Notices

Please see our website for details about:

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

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

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

THANK YOU FOR AN AMAZING TERM 3

We would like to thank our school community for all your support throughout term 3. The following events held this term were a huge success and we could not have made this happen without you:

- Spell-athon
- Quiz Night
- Musical Showcase
- Family Photo Day
- School Disco

We hope all those who attended these events had a great time, made new friends and caught up with old ones. We look forward to and appreciate your continued support.

Wishing you and your whānau a happy and safe school holiday. See you in Term 4!



WATCH OUT FOR UPCOMING EVENTS IN TERM 4

Christmas Hams & Turkeys – November

Colour Run – Date to be confirmed

Ice Block Fridays - Every Friday (weather permitting) \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Under the tree by the office.

REMINDERS

Second Hand Uniforms:

Donate your preloved uniform for us to on-sell. Please drop off at the school office.



Why not consider joining the PTA in 2024? It's fun, rewarding and most of all, benefits the school and our Tamariki. Contact us on the email below or come along to our next monthly meeting to find out what we do. Next meeting **Wednesday 23rd October** in the school Staffroom.

We encourage you to contact us with your thoughts & suggestions any time at stthomasschoolpta@gmail.com and don't forget to Like us on Facebook!



Facebook/StThomasSchoolPTA



Contact: Ian Palmquist
Phone: 021 0803 3666
Email: stthomas@kellyclub.co.nz
Website: kellyclub.co.nz/st-thomas



KELLY CLUB ST THOMAS'S UPDATE

What's been happening...

We had lots planned for our last week in term 3 and we enjoyed every bit of it. We designed our own board games and played Snakes and Ladders outside. Today, we will be enjoying some delicious ice cream sundaes!



KELLY CLUB
OSCAR PROGRAMME SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!
CELEBRATE THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH US!
 Our end-of-year half-day programme is full of exciting activities that will guarantee your kids have a great time!
BOOK NOW www.kellyclub.co.nz

What's happening in the Holidays!



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

OCTOBER 2024 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

ST THOMAS'S SCHOOL

	Mon 30 September	Tues 1 October	Wed 2 October	Thurs 3 October	Fri 4 October
WEEK 1	 WILD WILD WEST Howdy partner! Come on down for a good old-fashioned barn dance. There's something for every cowgirl and cowboy!	 SECRET GARDEN Today we embark on a leisurely stroll through the secret garden, taking in the beauty of the natural surroundings and discovering hidden treasures along the way.	 AUCKLAND ZOO Join us for an awesome trip day to the Auckland Zoo. Please remember a big lunch, drink bottle, shoes and a hat. \$20 extra for the day.	 DIY DAY Turning someone's junk into someone else's treasure. Design it. Construct it. And then test it!	 GALAXY DEFENDERS Time to save the world against the Empirical Transport yourself to a galaxy far, far away to see if you have what it takes!
WEEK 2	 ROARING SAFARI Keep your eyes peeled as we embark on a wild Safari. Trudge through the mud, climb over the trees, we wonder what you'll see! Don't worry, there'll be plenty of time for monkeying around.	 MAKEOVER VS MUDDY Sit back, relax, and pamper yourself with hair, make-up, and nails or get your hands dirty in a muddy adventure. The choice is all yours!	 BOTANICAL GARDENS Join us for an awesome trip day to the Auckland Botanical Gardens. Please remember a big lunch, drink bottle, shoes and a hat. \$20 extra for the day.	 VILLAINS & SIDEKICKS Calling all kids! Let's work together to stop the villains.	 FREAKY FRIDAY It's going to be a freaky kind of day with challenges that put your bravery to the test!
	FULL WEEK: \$295 7am-6pm	FULL DAY: \$58 7am-6pm	SCHOOL DAY: \$48 8:30am-3pm	EVENT DAY: Extra \$20 (Included in Full Week)	



BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz



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