

25 October 2024

## Principal's Message

Welcome back to Term 4 and an especially warm welcome to our new families who joined us this term.

We now have a second bus picking up students in the morning however we do not have many students using it. I have asked AT to put the bus route on their app and also larger signage on the front of the bus so that families can easily identify the bus and route. I also asked if it could start the route later as it is arriving at school around 8:15am. I strongly encourage families to use this new bus otherwise it is likely that AT will cancel it and we will once again have only one overcrowded and dangerous school bus.

## Safety Message

### Kia Crossing

Please do not park your car, turn or reverse close to the Kia crossing as this poses a serious risk to our young students and is also illegal.

### Helmets

All students must wear correct fitting helmets to and from school whilst using scooters and bicycles, to minimise the risk of concussion or worse in the event of an accident.

### Sun Smart

All students are required to wear hats in Term 4. Please put your child's name on them as there is a hat monster loose in the school who eats hats without names.

Have a safe and enjoyable long weekend with your families and see you all on Tuesday.

**Michael Maher**  
**Principal**



**Thank you to all  
students, staff & parents  
for an amazing start to  
Term 4**

## Upcoming Dates

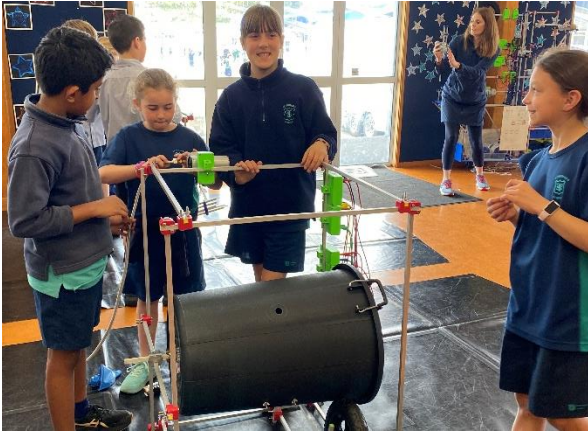
### October

- 28 Labour Day Holiday
- 29 Board of Trustees Meeting  
(6.30pm staffroom)
- 31 Youthtown Trip S5

### 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 Rugby
- 06 ESOL Market Day (ESOL only)
- 07 Y4 Trip to Madill's Farm
- 07 Youthtown Trip S6
- 08 Y8 Road Patrol Rainbow's End Trip
- 12 Bay Suburbs Touch Rugby
- 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)
- 19 Bay Suburbs Athletics
- 20 Yr2 & Yr3 Cricket Sessions
- 21 Eastern Zone Athletics
- 21 Y2 Trip to MOTAT

## EPro8 Learning Extension Programme



Last term several of our Year 5 and 6 students participated in the EPro8 Learning Extension Programme, resulting in a play-off for the top two teams in each year. Working as a team of four, students had to design and build items to specific criteria and achieve certain tasks. Our top Year 5 and 6 teams then competed in the EPro8 Engineering Inter-school Challenge at Churchill Park. Collaboration, mathematical problem solving, and thinking outside the box was the name of the game, all within a tight timeframe. All teams performed very well and can be proud of their accomplishments. Some of their design challenges were to build and motorise a roller coaster, a washing machine which agitated, and a 3 metre air conditioning unit!

## AIMS Games Video

Click [here](#) to watch what our AIMS Games students got up to during their recent trip to Tauranga.



## Bring On Term 4

We hope the kids had a wonderful and safe school holidays and just like that, there's another 2 days off. Lucky kids.

We would like to thank our community for supporting us by dropping off St Thomas's School uniforms to the office that no longer fit. We've had a fantastic response. A special Thank You to the parent who left a note to the PTA thanking us for our efforts. We really appreciate your kind words.

In the meantime, we do need more pre-loved uniforms, especially hats so we can hold a uniform sale early in the new year. So, get the kids to clean out their drawers and wardrobes and clear out a space to fill up.

Enjoy your long weekend.

### WATCH OUT FOR UPCOMING EVENTS IN TERM 4

**New Parents Afternoon Tea** – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2pm in the staff room.

**School Colour Run** - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 1.30pm on the school field.

**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 **TBC** in November, in the school Staffroom.

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



Facebook/StThomasSchoolPTA



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## KELLY CLUB ST THOMAS'S UPDATE

### What's been happening...

It was lovely seeing everyone back for the start of our final term of 2024.

We made secret notebooks, tested out our tasting skills and, most importantly, had a great time being together once again.



**KELLY CLUB**  
**DO YOU QUALIFY FOR CHILDCARE SUBSIDIES?**  
 More families now qualify for childcare subsidies and the rates have increased for those already qualified!  
**BOOK NOW** [www.kellyclub.co.nz](http://www.kellyclub.co.nz)

### What's happening next week!

KELLY CLUB		THEME: Radical Robots!				Weekly Activities Plan
		Term 4, Week 3, 29th October 2024				Kelly Club St Thomas's
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
7:00 - 8:15 am		Robot Blocks & Structured Free Time	Dance Battle & Structured Free Time	Origami & Structured Free Time	Homemade Muffins & Structured Free Time	
8:15 - 8:30 am		Game: Head It, Catch It	Game: Musical Statues	Game: Robot In The Junkyard	Game: Captain's Coming	
3:00 - 3:10 pm		Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	
3:10 - 3:30 pm		Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Spaghetti Bread Basket	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Homemade Muffins & Fruit	
3:30 - 3:45 pm		Game: Rainbow Rush	Game: Crab Football	Game: Tug o' War	Game: Jedi Dodgeball	
SENIORS 3:45 - 4:30 pm		<b>DISCOVERY</b> Racing Robots	<b>SPORT</b> Robot Tag	<b>COOKING</b> Cheese Bots	<b>CRAFT</b> Design A Robot	
JUNIORS 3:45 - 4:30 pm		<b>CRAFT</b> Design A Robot	<b>GAME</b> Musical Robots	<b>COOKING</b> Cheese Bots	<b>DISCOVERY</b> Lego Robots	
4:30 - 4:40 pm		Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	
4:40 - 5:15 pm		Playground	Playground	Playground	Playground	
5:15 - 5:30 pm		Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	
5:30 - 6:00 pm		Snack Time Raisins	Snack Time Muesli Bars	Snack Time Baking	Snack Time Corn Thins	

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**BOOK ONLINE NOW AT** [www.kellyclub.co.nz](http://www.kellyclub.co.nz)