

Aumāngā / Resilience

Whakāute / Respect

Takohanga / Responsibility

22 November 2024

## Principal's Message

As we approach this busy and often stressful time of year, I want to take a moment to thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in your child's education.

This season can bring extra challenges for everyone - schedules are full, emotions can run high, and there's a lot to manage in the countdown to the end of the year. With this in mind, we remind everyone to approach all interactions with our teaching staff with kindness and respect. Our teachers are dedicated to supporting your children and work tirelessly to create a positive learning environment. Polite and constructive communication goes a long way in fostering a collaborative and supportive atmosphere for everyone.

Thank you for being an integral part of our school community. Let's continue to support one another and model the kindness and respect we wish to see in our children.

**Michael Maher**  
Principal



**Thanks to all our road patrol and Kea Crossing leaders who have kept our students safe this year.**

## Upcoming Dates

### November

- 25 New Entrant Photos
- 25 Y3 & Y4 Ukulele Jam Dilworth College
- 26 Y8 Trip to Rangitoto Island
- 27 Y6 Science Fair
- 28 Y6 Kea Crossing Trip to Rainbows End
- 29 Y3 & Y4 Athletics Day
- 29 Y5 Blake Virtual Reality

### December

- 03 Board of Trustees Meeting (6.30pm staffroom)
- 04 Y6 Project Jonah
- 04 2025 Road Patrol Training
- 05 PTA Colour Run 1.30pm
- 06 Y1 & Y2 Athletics Day
- 06 Y3 Trip to Madills Farm
- 09 Prizegiving Practice – B&T Stadium
- 10 End of Year Prizegiving – B&T Stadium 10.00am (arrive from 9.30am, please be seated by 9.50am)
- 11 Meet your 2025 Teacher
- 11 Y8 Leavers Dinner (5pm to 7pm School Hall)
- 12 Y8 Leavers Assembly (1.45pm School Hall)
- 13 Last Day of School (School closes at 12:30pm) (no school bus running at this time)

### 2025

#### February

- 03 Meet the teacher day (times to be arranged)
- 04 First day of Term 1

## 2025 St Thomas's School Term Dates

	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
<b>Term 1</b>	Monday 3 February	Friday 11 April
<b>Term 2</b>	Monday 28 April	Friday 27 June
<b>Term 3</b>	Monday 14 July	Friday 19 September
<b>Term 4</b>	Monday 6 October	Tuesday 16 December

## 2025 New Zealand Public Holidays

<b>Waitangi Day</b>	Thursday 6 February
<b>King's Birthday</b>	Monday 2 June
<b>Matariki</b>	Friday 20 June
<b>Labour Day</b>	Monday 27 October

## End Of Year Information

Our annual school Prizegiving is coming up on Tuesday 10 December 2024. This is a formal event celebrating the demonstration of our school values and also an opportunity to celebrate the success of our senior students, many of whom who are moving on to college in 2025.

The Prizegiving is projected to be up to 2 hours long. Students walk to and from Barfoot & Thompson Stadium for the event. As well as having Prizegiving on Tuesday 10 December (9.30am – 12.30pm), we also have a full rehearsal/practice on Monday 9 December (9.30am – 11am).

All families are invited to come along to the Barfoot and Thompson Stadium at Selwyn College for the Prizegiving event which starts at 10 am. Doors open at 9.30am, please be seated by 9:50.

**All students must return to school with their class.  
Students MAY NOT leave from the stadium with a parent or caregiver.**

If you wish to take your child home after prizegiving, you will need to formally sign your child out of school then collect them from school AFTER they have returned from Prizegiving with their class.

## BYOD Programme 2025

St Thomas's School's BYOD programme for students in Years 4-8 has been running for 10 years and our students have benefited in so many ways. BYOD ensures:

- Enhanced learning beyond the classroom walls, through the many possibilities technology enables.
- Seamless completion of learning between school and home including learning outside school hours.
- Access to learning and files even when offline.
- Personalised and self-paced learning.
- Digital skills and confidence that ensure college readiness.
- Access to e-books and a wider range of learning resources.
- Easier collaboration with peers.
- An additional method of communicating with teachers.
- Parents have greater visibility and control over their child's interactions online.
- Students are organised and responsible. They show respect for their own devices.
- Device familiarity – customisable to cater for a range of needs, always logged in so less wasted time.
- Students don't have to wait for a shared device to become free to complete their learning tasks.

**In 2025 ALL students in Years 5-8 will need to bring their own device to school each day.** Students in Year 4 are encouraged to bring their own device if they have one, but it is not compulsory at this year level.

To assist parents with selecting a suitable device, and to provide a range of options for financing devices, we have worked with The Warehouse Group to set up this website.

[St Thomas's School BYOD Device Options](#)

Please note that BYOD devices can be purchased from anywhere, this is just a resource for those who would like to use it.

### More About our St Thomas's BYOD Programme

Our programme is flexible. Any internet capable device, be it a laptop or a Chromebook will be a huge advantage for your child. iPads/tablets can also be used, but we find these are difficult for writing and lack some of the features that make them suitable for all school related tasks.

## *"Changing Learning for a Changing World"*

The use of BYOD devices in class gradually increases from Year 4 to Year 8. By Year 7&8 our students are predominantly learning using devices so that they are well prepared for their college transition. **From 2025 onwards, ALL students in Years 5-8 will need a device to participate in our BYOD programme.**

When selecting a device to provide your child, there are several things to take into consideration:

- Any device will be great - an old family laptop, a Chromebook, or even a high end convertible laptop like a Microsoft Surface Pro or similar. Let your budget dictate which option will work best for you. Keep in mind that technology changes at such a rapid rate that most devices are now becoming outdated after 3-4 years.
- Look into the device recommended by the college you intend to send your child to. If your child is in Years 6, 7 or 8 we suggest you make sure their device meets the needs of school they will next attend.
- St Thomas's School is dual platform. This means that we utilise both Office 365 and Google Suite. A Chromebook will only enable your child to use the web versions of both software types. This won't limit your child in any way, but it will mean that they can't work 'offline' for later syncing. A full laptop will give them the desktop functionality of Office 365 which means they can work offline and they can access more features that aren't contained in the web versions.
- Our Microsoft for Education licencing agreement means that all students have access to a free Office 365 account during their time at St Thomas's School. They can download Microsoft 365 onto their own device and use desktop versions of all the office software. This can save you quite a bit of money on purchasing software. Please note that 365 cannot be downloaded onto Chromebooks. Also note, that the 365 licence is for STS Students, using STS student email addresses only.
- The staff at retail stores are fantastic at recommending devices that will suit your budget and the purpose of BYOD. Take your time and use their knowledge to guide you in a direction that you are comfortable with.

We hope this information helps you with your decision about which device to purchase for your child's BYOD in 2025.

### **Year 8 Road Patrollers - Rainbow's End Trip**



To say thank you to the Year 8 Road Patrollers we spent Friday of Week 4 at Rainbow's End. We had a super fun day. Thank you to our parent helpers for coming along and making this trip possible.



## **ESOL Market Day**

### **A MORNING FULL OF SHOPPING, GAMES AND FUN**

Term 4 is an exciting time for the ESOL students at St. Thomas's School because they celebrate the end of the year by holding a market day.

### **Student contributions**

On Wednesday 6 November after morning tea, there was an ESOL Market in the ESOL room. I saw toys, cakes and so many people. I bought a cheese muffin. I had a stall and I did face painting for 9 customers. My favourite part was when I won a My-Pet-Unicorn raffle. I had a great time, and it will become a cherished memory of this school as I am leaving at the end of this year. I think I will never forget the good times I had here.

*By Anna Y7*

Market Day was so fun. There were lots of students waiting outside of the ESOL room. We started going in by Year level. Me and my friend Tim were looking after the "Bean Bag Toss", so we had to go in first. After a while, the room was crowded with students from different classes. There were lots of ESOL students who came and played the game. While I was helping the students with the game, one of the teachers pulled out a handball from a bag. When I saw that, I quickly ran and asked for the price. I also bought a cupcake which was great and delicious. Market day was the best day ever. I wish I could spend another year at St Thomas's school.

*By Andrey Y8*

All the ESOL students came to the market. There were food, books, toys, and clothing stalls. There were also raffles, a guessing challenge, and face painting. I set up my own stall with origami and soft toys. Miku bought a soft toy bear from my stall and I was relieved that the bear had found a new owner. I purchased a mini measuring tape and earphones, candies, and a toy gun and spent a lot of my Buzz money on raffles and guessing challenges. My highlight was winning two guessing challenges and receiving two soft toys. I can't wait for another ESOL Market next year!

*By Max Y6*

Over 70 people were at last week's ESOL market day in the ESOL room. There were many games, for example, Table Football, Fishing, Bean Bag Toss, and Target Shooting, but I played only Bean Bag Toss. Bean Bag Toss cost two Buzz dollars to play. The goal was to throw three little bags into the bucket to get a ticket for candy. I played only two games because you could get a cup of popcorn for two Buzz dollars, and I thought this was a better way to spend my money. I bought some food, a backpack, a bowl, a Rubik's cube and some other things. I spent about \$150 Buzz dollars. It was a very fun day.

*By Stepan Y6*

I had a store with my friend Martin. We were selling a toy saw, a cup, a magnet, a rainbow ball, two rubbers, a toy gun, a helicopter and a hotdog. I bought origami, a pack of loom bands, popcorn, cheese muffins and a Nike bag. I tried the bean bag shooting. I bought three bags. One of them I bought for my mum. It was a handbag with a zip and it was rainbow coloured and brown. I love market day!

*By Eden Y3*

I went with my brother Hardik. We had our market in the ESOL room. We had things for sale like a bag, a book, headphones, a pencil case and a butterfly and flower. I saw lots of happy faces. I spent lots of Buzz dollars. I bought a Nike hat, markers, a plate and a Lego Champion game. It was so much fun. *By Aaruhi Y3*

They were three plushies, some fake US play money, some Disney cards and Pokémon cards. One of them was a rare one worth \$16 dollars. Me and my friend Jaeden had a stall we shared. I owned 98% of the stall. Somebody bought my rare card for 20 buzz dollars, a currency in ESOL, but my friend Jaeden later said he would have bought it for 100. He saw the regret in my face. ESOL market day was an event for learning Maths and English in a fun way. Quick fun fact: ESOL market day had over 70 people.

*By Samir Y4*

## ESOL Market Day Photos



## **Generous Lego Donation**

We have been offered a very generous donation of a LEGO set for every student in our school. These will be given to students at some stage in the last couple of weeks of this term as a celebration of the fantastic learning that has taken place this year. Teachers may choose to hold onto the sets and use as a classroom activity during the last week of school, but students will be able to take their set home with them when this is finished.

The donor would like to remain anonymous, but we are truly grateful for their generosity, and we know all our students will love this end of year surprise.



## **STS News**

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

## **Public Notices**

Please see our website for details about:

Clubs and activities:

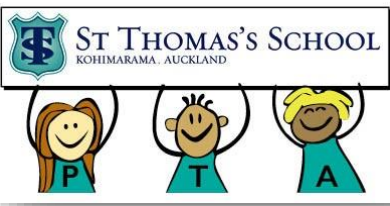
<https://www.stthomas.school.nz/clubs-and-activities/>

Community notices:

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

School holiday programmes:

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



# PTA News

## Issue #35 2024



## Christmas Hams & Turkeys Fundraiser

As the holiday season approaches, we are excited to offer quality hams and boneless frozen turkeys for pickup before Christmas.

By purchasing these delicious goodies, not only will you be enjoying a wonderful holiday meal, but you will also be supporting our school's fundraising efforts.

- Quality Bone-in Hams 4.45kg for \$80ea
- Boneless Rolled 2.5kg Turkey Roasts (Frozen) for \$95ea



### How to place your order:

- Book online through Kindo today or for any inquiries or assistance with ordering, please contact the PTA at [stthomasschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:stthomasschoolpta@gmail.com)

Last orders in by Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December.

Pick up from Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Pick from Saint John's Butchery, Corner of Felton Mathew Ave and Merton Rd, St Johns

SAINT JOHN'S  
BUTCHERY



## Remember to book your child's Colour Run through Kindo Now!

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 1.30-3pm, On the school field

White cotton T-shirt's can be purchased from Kmart for \$3 - \$6



### WATCH OUT FOR UPCOMING EVENTS IN TERM 4

**School Colour Run** - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 1.30pm – 3pm on the school field. \$5 pp (You can pick up white T-shirts from Kmart for \$6) – Book through Kindo now!

**Christmas Hams & Turkeys** – Book through Kindo from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November

**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 2025? 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 27<sup>th</sup> 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

Back by popular demand, the PTA presents....

ST THOMAS'S PTA

# COLOUR RUN



**\$5pp  
Entry**

**THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
**1.30pm**  
**On the school field**

This is a school wide PTA and teacher run event where all money raised will go back to the school.

It's a ton of fun where parents and teachers get to throw colour powder at the kids while they embark on a hugely fun and wet obstacle course.

Students will have separate time slots depending on their year level.

**\$5 Entry Per Child**  
**BOOK THROUGH KINDO TODAY!**

### What to bring:

- T-shirt (preferably white and made of cotton)
- Towel
- Change of clothes, including something warm
- Goggles (optional)



Nontoxic powder is made from maize starch and vegetable colours, goggles are recommended to avoid eye contact





## St Thomas's School PTA Christmas Hams & Turkeys Fundraiser

- Quality Bone-in Hams 4.5kg for \$80ea
- Boneless Rolled 2.5kg Turkey Roasts (Frozen) for \$95ea

PLACE YOUR ORDER ON KINDO  
TODAY

Last orders Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December.

Pick up from Saint John's Butchery  
from Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

**SAINT JOHN'S  
BUTCHERY**





**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...

During our epic wheel's week, we created number plates, decorated our own license and raced in our car & spoon race. However, nothing was better than eating our delicious wheel pizzas on Wednesday.



**KELLY CLUB**

**FUN & EXCITING HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES!**

We give your kids the opportunity to do the things they enjoy in a supportive and encouraging environment.

**OSCAR PROGRAMME SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!**

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

### What's happening in the Holidays!

**KELLY CLUB** **DECEMBER 2024 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME**  
ST THOMAS SCHOOL

**OSCAR PROGRAMME SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!**

	Mon 16 December	Tues 17 December	Wed 18 December	Thurs 19 December	Fri 20 December
<b>WEEK 1</b>	<p><b>SMASH HITS!</b> If you like singing and dancing, today's the day for you! Let's make music and party to it.</p>	<p><b>SURF CLUB TRAINING</b> Have you ever wanted to be a lifeguard? Learn what it takes to patrol the beach and practice your new skills! Don't forget to slip, slap, wrap.</p>	<p><b>KIWI CAMPING GAMES</b> Nothing beats classic Kiwi camping fun! Join us for everything that will fill your tummies and run you ragged.</p>	<p><b>MYTHS AND LEGENDS</b> Enter a mythical world and learn what legends are made of. Uncover fantastical stories from all over the world.</p>	<p><b>CHRISTMAS PARTY</b> Join the party to celebrate Christmas! There'll be festive games, crafts, and treats galore so come along with plenty of Christmas cheer!</p>
<b>WEEK 2</b>	<p><b>PROGRAMME NOT ON TODAY</b></p> <p>2 more sleeps 'til Christmas.</p>	<p><b>PROGRAMME NOT ON TODAY</b></p> <p>1 more sleep.</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b></p> <p><b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b></p> <p>Merry Christmas from Kelly Club!</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b></p> <p><b>BOXING DAY</b></p> <p>Boxing Day!</p>	<p><b>PROGRAMME NOT ON TODAY</b></p> <p>Join us in January for some more epic fun and games! Head to your local venue page and sign up to our January event.</p> <p>See you there!</p>

**Pricing:**  
**FULL WEEK:** \$295 **FULL DAY:** \$58  
 7am-6pm 7am-6pm  
**SCHOOL DAY:** \$48 **EVENT DAY:** Extra \$20  
 8:30am-3pm (Included in Full Week)

**Contact:** Ian Palmquist  
**Email:** stthomas@kellyclub.co.nz  
**Phone:** 021 0803 3666  
**Facebook:** @KellyClubStThomas  
**Address:** 113 Allum St, Kohimarama

**BOOK NOW AT** [kellyclub.co.nz/st-thomas](http://kellyclub.co.nz/st-thomas)

Further information: [www.kellyclub.co.nz/hp#info](http://www.kellyclub.co.nz/hp#info)



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# KELLY CLUB

## JANUARY 2025 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

ST THOMAS SCHOOL

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**OSCAR PROGRAMME SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!**  
\*Conditions apply

WEEK 1	<p>Mon 6 January</p> <p><b>WE ARE BACK!</b> Join us as we celebrate being back together with new friends, new experiences, and endless smiles!</p>	<p>Tues 7 January</p> <p><b>H2GO</b> Get ready to make a splash at the water fight and enjoy all sorts of other wet and wild fun! Keep cool with water relays, water challenges and more!</p>	<p>Wed 8 January</p> <p><b>KIDS VS STAFF</b> This is your chance to turn the tables and show the staff who really is the boss! Compete against the Kelly Club staff to prove that kids rule!</p>	<p>Thurs 9 January</p> <p><b>SKATE SCHOOL</b> The team from Skate School will be joining us today for some wheely good fun! Please remember a big lunch, drink bottle, shoes and a hat. \$20 extra for the day.</p>	<p>Fri 10 January</p> <p><b>FARMYARD FRIENDS</b> Immerse yourself in a delightful day filled with the warmth of the countryside and the joy of adorable farmyard animals.</p>
	WEEK 2	<p>Mon 13 January</p> <p><b>THE HUMAN BODY</b> Bodies can do some incredible things! Test your body's limits to see what you are capable of!</p>	<p>Tues 14 January</p> <p><b>WHEELS DAY</b> Bring along your bike, trike, scooter, or skateboard and join us for a fun and exciting event that celebrates anything and everything with wheels. Don't forget, no helmet, no ride!</p>	<p>Wed 15 January</p> <p><b>DINOSAURS OF PATAGONIA</b> Join us for an awesome trip day to the Dinosaurs of Patagonia. Please remember a big lunch, drink bottle, shoes and a hat. \$20 extra for the day.</p>	<p>Thurs 16 January</p> <p><b>ISLAND BEACH BASH</b> Swing by Kelly Club for a splashing good time at the Beach Bash! We'll have endless fun under the sun as the kids create unforgettable memories.</p>

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# KELLY CLUB

## JANUARY 2025 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

ST THOMAS SCHOOL

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**OSCAR PROGRAMME SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!**  
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WEEK 3	<p>Mon 20 January</p> <p><b>CRAZY DAY</b> Unleash your imagination as we dive into a day filled with wacky games, zany challenges, and mind-boggling activities that will leave you laughing and amazed.</p>	<p>Tues 21 January</p> <p><b>SLIMETASTIC</b> Let's have a slimetastic time making all kinds of slime! Experiment with bubble slime, make some edible slime, and play some silly slime games.</p>	<p>Wed 22 January</p> <p><b>OKAHU BAY</b> Join us for an awesome trip day to Okahu Bay. Please remember a big lunch, togs, drink bottle, shoes and a hat. \$20 extra for the day.</p>	<p>Thurs 23 January</p> <p><b>KELLY CLUB CARNIVAL</b> You're invited to one of the biggest parties in the world! Are you excited? Come on let's go to Brazil and experience the KC festival of Carnival.</p>	<p>Fri 24 January</p> <p><b>USA DAY</b> Today we try out the American dream! Did someone say baseball or hotdog cheesies, or DIY cheerleader pom poms? Let's do it!</p>
	WEEK 4	<p>Mon 27 January</p> <p><b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b></p> <p>Auckland Anniversary!</p>	<p>Tues 28 January</p> <p><b>SUN &amp; FUN</b> Calling all the kids who love sun &amp; fun! We are going to combine water and bottles to make the greatest water battle of all time.</p>	<p>Wed 29 January</p> <p><b>HUNGER BALL</b> Join us for an awesome day of Hungerball. Who will score the most goals? Please remember a big lunch, drink bottle, shoes and a hat. \$20 extra for the day.</p>	<p>Thurs 30 January</p> <p><b>RED &amp; GREEN BROS.</b> Let's jump into our cardboard cars and go on a wild drive. I wonder where the bros. will take us today!</p>

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