

06 December 2024

Principal's Message

This is the last newsletter for the school year and I would like to wish all our families a safe and peaceful Christmas.

We have had an action packed week with the PTA organised colour run yesterday, our whole school waiata performing on the field this morning followed by junior sports day.



The colour run was an outstanding success and a huge effort by the PTA turned this into a joyful day for students and parents who attended. The St Heliers Fire Brigade appearance was a highlight for many of our students.

Our waiata group performed at 7:45am and were then joined by the whole school who sang our special waiata which was composed for us and the three other schools in our Kāhui Ako. A video of all four schools singing will now be created and shared with our community when completed.

Important Safety Notice

During the term break we have builders on site modernising two toilet blocks in the junior area and the school grounds will be closed to the public at different times. We also have electricians working on our pedestrian entrance gates installing automatic openers. If you are on the school grounds after school hours it is really important that you leave before the time indicated on the signage as these gates will close automatically. If you are locked in then phone the security company to unlock the gates. This will take time and you will be unable to leave until they respond.

Michael Maher
Principal



To all the students and families who are leaving the school this year.

Upcoming Dates

December

- 09 Prizegiving Practice – B&T Stadium
- 10 2024 Prizegiving – B&T Stadium 10.00am
(arrive from 9.30am, 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
- 04 First Day of Term 1
- 06 Waitangi Day Holiday
- 21 PTA Picnic (4.30pm to 7.00pm)
- 25 Board of Trustees Meeting
(6.30pm staffroom)

March

- 5-7 Year 6 Camp at Carey Park
- 20 Yr5-8 Swimming Sports

Photos From The Colour Run



Farewell From This Year's House Captains

McQuade Ingram - Hauraki House Captain

Being the Hauraki House Captain, this year has been something that I have really enjoyed and I definitely recommend this leadership position over all the others. You can get involved in lots of different things around the school like the house relay which you are guaranteed to be in if you are a House Captain. In my opinion Hauraki is the best all round house. One thing that you have to take into consideration if you are hoping to be a House Captain is the expectation and how you are looked up to by younger students. I hope that the next Hauraki House Captain carries on the legacy of Hauraki being the best house and enjoys it as much as I do.



Senuki Rehansa - Kohimarama House Captain

House Captain is a really important role in our school and being the Kohimarama House Captain led me to so many unforgettable opportunities. Being a House Captain comes with many responsibilities but one of the most important things is balancing your schoolwork and duties during your time as a leader. It is also very crucial to always follow the school values as the younger kids in the school look up to you. House Captains also get to do fun activities such as taking part in the house relay, planning important events and organising fun events for the school. I hope that the next Kohimarama House Captain will carry on to do an amazing job and enjoy it just like I did this year.



Anastasia Prins - Pohutukawa House Captain

I have really enjoyed being House Captain for Pohutukawa this year. I have learnt so much while being a House Captain because it really teaches you the responsibilities you will need for the rest of your life. This year was great and I will be cheering for the people who have been selected as House Captains 2025.



Christian Colebourne - Rangitoto House Captain

Being House Captain has been an interesting experience and an amazing exercise. I loved to share some of my ideas and sometimes make them reality. I hope that the next Rangitoto House Captain loves the job as much as me.



House Sprint Finals

Year 1 Girls	1	2	3
	Eileen Rangitoto	Natalie Pohutukawa	Tessa Hauraki
Year 1 Boys	1	2	3
	Louie Kohimarama	Nidarn Pohutukawa	Alfie Pohutukawa
Year 2 Girls	1	2	3
	Fleur Rangitoto	Julietta Pohutukawa	Fakaola Kohimarama
Year 2 Boys	1	2	3
	Thierry Pohutukawa	Aarib Kohimarama	Jaxon Hauraki

Year 6 Kea Crossing Rainbow's End Trip

The wonders of Rainbows End.



My favourite ride was the stratosphere 360. First, we started swinging from side to side, then it went completely upside down! It did a 360 spin in the air. Second in line for me was the Fearfall. When I was at the top I didn't know how to feel. Rafael tried to scream but since we were falling down so fast no noise was even able to come out! *Lincoln S11*

My favourite ride was the death drop (also known as the Fearfall). It dropped you from a crazy height! When I suddenly fell, it felt like my guts were coming out of my body! *Alex S10*

I had lots of fun going to Rainbows end on Thursday for the Kea Crossing Trip. It was my first time going on the Stratosphere and Fearfall, which I loved! I also played Lazer Tag with my friends where I got third in the first round and first in the second round. It was the best birthday present ever! *Luke S12*

My favourite ride was the log flume because water was splashed on you at the end of the ride which made me cool down. I also went on the Invader which was very fun because you spun around and around and it felt like I was going to fall off the edge! I felt like this was the scariest moment of my life! *Hiroto S11*

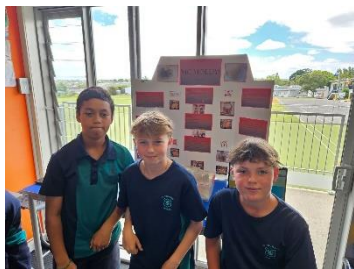
The Corkscrew was my favourite ride because it was SUPER fast and it looped around and down and up and all over the place! Ren made me laugh the whole time during the ride which was so funny. At the end of the day I got an ice block because it was so hot! We played a whole game of Lazer Tag with most of the other students and Miss Davis. We played boys vs girls but everyone just ended up going for each other. I had an amazing time. *Jordi S9*

Year 6 Science Fair

On Wednesday of Week 7, Year 6 invited their whānau and the students of St Thomas's School to see their science fair. Students worked in groups or individually to complete an investigation using the scientific method. Over the course of the past few weeks, the Year 6 students conducted experiments and designed their science fair boards to share with the school community. Here are some photos and reflections from the day:



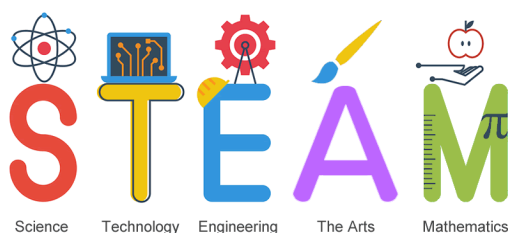
From Week 3 all the way to Week 7 Year 6 were working on a science fair project. We were able to work in groups of 1-3 and we could pick any topic we wanted from slime to gummy bears. We were working nearly everyday during class and everyone put in so much effort. In the end we all had amazing projects and got to present them to the entire school. - *Sofia S12*



We were very happy to see everyone's smiles and excitement when they came in on Wednesday to see what the Year 6 students had done for the Science Fair. We faced insane odds of trying to complete our board in time but managed to pull through and presented something which we were both really proud of. We thank everyone who came along to make this a special day! - *Robbie and Tony S11*



STEAM



STEAM at our school is all about hands-on, meaningful learning that excites and engages students.

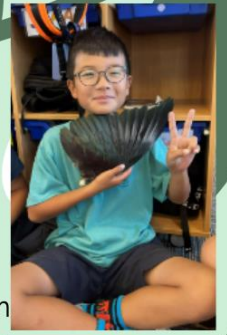
Collaboration is key in STEAM, as students work together to brainstorm, share ideas, and combine strengths to tackle challenges. Beyond the classroom, STEAM equips students with valuable skills like creative thinking, coding, and real-world problem-solving, preparing

them for the innovative, collaborative jobs of the future.

We've had another fantastic year of STEAM, and we're proud to see their creativity and teamwork shine!

Take a small glimpse into some of the learning experienced this year by all students in Years 1 - 8 in [THIS VIDEO.](#)

Environmental Science 2024



This year all students participated in an Environmental Science classroom curriculum. We learnt about what our local area was like before and after the arrival of humans, what our local environment is like now, and what we would like our local environment to be like in the future.



Some classes have created positive actions to improve our local environment. These included: planting trees, building homes for insects, creating artwork, and writing letters about environmental issues in our area.



Classes across the school have had experts come in to extend the learning. Year levels went on school trips that related to this learning such as visiting the Botanical Gardens, The Zoo and Tiritiri Matangi.

What did the students think of the Environmental Science learning ...?



Insects are now one of my favourite things because of the learning - Year 1 Student

The microscopes we used to make insects bigger when we saw them on the kawakawa leaves are cool - Year 3 Student



Going to Tiritiri Matangi was amazing!- Year 3 Student

I think it was really cool learning about all of the different birds, how long they've been alive, and how many there are. I learnt a lot more about native birds than I would have thought! - Year 4 Student



The learning has made me appreciate where we live - Year 6 Student

Learning about the different animals at the zoo was really fun and learning about predators and why we should trap to save native species- Year 6 Student



I enjoyed learning about environmental DNA through the House of Science Kit. We learnt about predators and their impact on our native flora and fauna - Year 7 Student



Term Four Sports Wrap-Up

Eastern Zone Volleyball

Two teams representing St Thomas's competed in the EZ Volleyball tournament on Thursday 24 October. These three teams made up of Year 7&8 students gave up many lunchtimes to work hard and train for this tournament. For a number of students, this was their first time playing Volleyball. All teams played extremely well over the course of the day and produced some great results.

Our Year 7&8 Girls team placed 8th, and the Year 7&8 Boys finished up 9th place after a great win against Churchill Park. A massive thank you to Mr Whitaker for all his hard work preparing these teams for a tournament.



Eastern Zone Touch

Our Year 7&8 students also got a chance to represent their school in Touch. Three teams competed in the EZ Touch tournament at Madills Farm in Week 4. These teams trained hard over various lunchtimes in preparation for the tournament.

All teams progressed well during pool play of the tournament and finished up with some fantastic results. Our Mixed team won 3 games against Point England, Bailey Road & Stanhope. Our Girl's team's highlight of the day was a draw against Ellerslie. The Boys team finished the day strong with a win against Kohimarama. All of our students represented our school extremely well. A huge thank you to Miss T & Miss C for giving up their time to coach these teams. Thank you also to our parent helpers for managing our teams during the day.

Bay Suburbs Touch

Our Year 5&6 Students also got a chance to represent their school in Touch. Four teams competed in the Bay Suburbs Softball tournament on Tuesday 12 November. These teams trained hard over various lunchtimes in preparation for the tournament.

All of our teams played well over the tournament and finished up with some fantastic results. Our Year 6 Boy's team finished second place and our Year 6 Girl's team took home second place also. The Year 5 Girls team went undefeated the entire day to take out first place in their grade. All of our students represented our school extremely well.

"Changing Learning for a Changing World"

A huge thank you to our parent coaches Kim and Emily and to Miss C and Mr Whitaker for giving up their time to manage these teams. Another big thank you McQuade, Ali, Summer, Simione and Makayla for helping out with refereeing.



Bay Suburbs Athletics

On Tuesday 19 November, a talented group of Year 5&6 athletes travelled to Glover Park to participate in the BS Athletics competition. Our students competed in a variety of different events across the day, representing our school extremely well. A big thank you to all the parents who came down and cheered the school on as well as the teachers who supported with organising the students for all their events. Below are some of our most impressive results from the day:

- Year 5 Girls High Jump: 3rd Sofia Reyes
- Year 5 Boys Shotput: 2nd Leo Liu
- Year 5 Girls 200M: 3rd Mica Sutherland
- Year 5 Girls Relay: 3rd Mica Sutherland, Manon Jannin, Yu Tsubota & Harper Nguyen
- Year 6 Boys Discus: 3rd Jack Pomeroy
- Year 6 Girls Discus: 2nd Cathy Yao-Liu
- Year 6 Boys High Jump: 2nd Ethan Hammond
- Year 6 Boys Shotput: 1st Dante Salinger, 3rd Zack Hodges
- Year 6 Girls Shotput: 1st Flo Bowker
- Year 6 Girls 100M: 1st Flo Bowker
- Year 6 Boys 100M: 1st Bailey Wafer
- Year 6 Boys 200M: 1st Bailey Wafer
- Year 6 Boys 400M: 1st Bailey Wafer
- Year 6 Girls 800M: 3rd Sofia Clayton



Eastern Zone Athletics

28 of our Year 7&8 athletes made the trip out to Lloyd Elsmore Park on Thursday 21 November to take part in Eastern Zone Athletics. Our students gave their best across many track and field events with some of their own personal records being broken.

Some notable results from the day included Ali Morrison placing 3rd in High Jump for Year 7 Boys and Henry An finishing 3rd in the 200 Meters for Year 7 Boys. Axel Farr had an extremely successful day in the Year 7 Boys grade, placing 2nd in the 100 Meters, 2nd in Discus and 1st in the 400 Meters. Congratulations to all our students who participated in this event. Thank you to Miss Browne and Mr Whitaker for managing the students on the day.



Auckland Interzone Athletics

The three Year 7 Boys who placed at Eastern Zone Athletics booked their spots in the Auckland Interzone Event. This was held at Go Media Stadium on Thursday 28 November. At this event, the boys competed against all the best intermediate aged athletes in Auckland. All 3 boys performed extremely well on the day and made the school proud.

Henry An finished 17th in the 200 Meters. Ali Morrison placed 11th in High Jump. Axel Farr ended up 8th in the 100 Meters, 2nd place in Discus and ran an amazing time of 1:02 to win the 400 Meters. This was a fantastic effort from all the boys involved. Thank you to Karen and Jan for managing these boys during the day.



Thank You From The Environment

A huge thank you to all our students who have learnt about and contributed to the environment this year and helped to make our part of the world a little bit better. So many of you have played a part in helping the environment this year – whether as part of a class activity or as a member of our Nature Ninjas, stream monitoring project, Enviro Leaders, bee keepers, and so much more. You are all awesome -thank you for your mahi.



STS News

To watch the 13th episode of the series, click [HERE](#).

To watch the 14th episode of the series, click [HERE](#).

See today's Christmas news episode [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/>



Recyclables Needed

WE ARE REPLENISHING OUR ART SUPPLIES AND ARE SEEKING DONATIONS OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS YOU MAY HAVE LYING AROUND AT HOME.

IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS-

PLEASE DROP THEM OFF IN THE LABELLED LARGE BOX AT THE SCHOOL RECEPTION, OVER THE NEXT 2 WEEKS.

- *NEWSPAPER & MAGAZINES**
- *2L ICECREAM CONTAINERS WITH LIDS (MUST BE CLEAN)**
- *SCRAPS OF MATERIAL & WALLPAPER**
- *SCRAPS OF WOOL**
- *OLD WRAPPING PAPER/TISSUE PAPER**
- *PAINT TEST POTS WITH PAINT**
- *LONG SLEEVE OLD ADULT SHIRTS**
- *ANY ART PAPER SCRAPS**
- *SLR CAMERA (SD CARD) - SITTING IN YOUR CUPBOARD**

THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR KIND DONATIONS.

ST THOMAS'S ART DEPARTMENT



A FUN PROGRAMME
THAT KIDS LOVE!

Friday 13 December
**HALF DAY
PROGRAMME**

**OSCAR
PROGRAMME
SUBSIDIES
AVAILABLE!**

*Conditions apply

ST THOMAS SCHOOL

Let's make unforgettable memories together on our last day of school for 2024! School is finishing early today so let's have a cool afternoon with some icy fun. There will be lots of exciting activities with games like freeze tag and statues, cool arts and crafts, and some icy treats. An afternoon filled with laughter, games, and exciting activities for kids to enjoy with their friends. Book online and we will see you there!

School Day: \$20
12:30pm-3pm

4:30pm Pick Up: \$39
12:30pm-4:30pm

6pm Pick Up: \$45
12:30pm-6pm

Contact: Ian Palmquist

Email: stthomas@kellyclub.co.nz

Phone: 021 0803 3666

Facebook: @KellyClubStThomas

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz



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Website: kellyclub.co.nz/st-thomas



KELLY CLUB ST THOMAS'S UPDATE

What's been happening...

During crafty creations week, we were busy making slime, playing human hungry hungry hippos and crafting up rice crispie treats. We also got started on our new birthday wall and it's going to look awesome.



KELLY CLUB
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!

KELLY CLUB
DECEMBER 2024 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME
 ST THOMAS SCHOOL

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

Pricing: FULL WEEK: \$295 FULL DAY: \$58 <small>7am-6pm 7am-6pm</small> SCHOOL DAY: \$48 EVENT DAY: Extra \$20 <small>8:30am-2pm (Included in Full Week)</small>	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 Further information: www.kellyclub.co.nz/hp#info	
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BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz



KELLY CLUB

JANUARY 2025 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

ST THOMAS SCHOOL

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OSCAR PROGRAMME SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!

WEEK 1	<p>Mon 6 January</p> <p>WE ARE BACK! Join us as we celebrate being back together with new friends, new experiences, and endless smiles!</p>	<p>Tues 7 January</p> <p>H2GO 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>KIDS VS STAFF This is your chance to run 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>SKATE SCHOOL 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>FARMYARD FRIENDS 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>THE HUMAN BODY 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>WHEELS DAY 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>DINOSAURS OF PATAGONIA Join us for an awesome trip day to the Dinosaur 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>ISLAND BEACH BASH Swing by Kelly Club for a splashy good time at the Beach Bash! We'll have endless fun under the sun as the kids create unforgettable memories.</p>	<p>Fri 17 January</p> <p>DR. CARTOON Determination, kindness & creativity. This is what it takes to be a doctor of cartoons. How do you feel about your eggs and ham being green? Join us as we try this treat.</p>

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Further information:
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KELLY CLUB

JANUARY 2025 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

ST THOMAS SCHOOL

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OSCAR PROGRAMME SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!

WEEK 3	<p>Mon 20 January</p> <p>CRAZY DAY 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>SLIMETASTIC 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>OKAHU BAY 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>KELLY CLUB CARNIVAL 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>USA DAY Today we try out the American dream! Did someone say baseball or hotdog chesnuts, or DIY cheerleader pom-poms? Let's do it!</p>	
	WEEK 4	<p>Mon 27 January</p> <p>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</p> <p>Auckland Anniversary!</p>	<p>Tues 28 January</p> <p>SUN & FUN Calling all the kids who love sun & fun! We are going to combine water and bottles to make the greatest water bottle of all time.</p>	<p>Wed 29 January</p> <p>HUNGER BALL 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>RED & GREEN BROS. Let's jump into our cardboard cars and go on a wild drive. I wonder where the boss will take us today!</p>	<p>Fri 31 January</p> <p>BACK TO SCHOOL PARTY We'll be sending the school holidays all in style with games, face painting, and big goodbye waves to the new friends made.</p>

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