

# St. Joseph's School

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Kia ora koutou,

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding term, I'd like to thank you all for your continued support and partnership in your tamariki's learning journey. Tomorrow marks our last day of term, and with it, mid-term reports will be sent home alongside the school newsletter.

These reports provide a snapshot of your child's progress so far, and we encourage you to take the time to read and discuss them together. If you have any questions or would like to talk further, please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's teacher early next term.

Wishing you all a safe, restful and joy-filled holiday break with your tamariki. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another great term of learning and growth.

Ngā mihi nui,

Angela Muncaster  
Principal



## Aroha and Prayers for Te Atawhai

Our thoughts, prayers, and warmest wishes are with Te Atawhai Davis as she continues her recovery in hospital. We send our aroha and strength to her and to her whānau during this time, as they navigate this part of their journey together. May God's healing presence bring comfort and peace, and may you all feel the love and support of our school community wrapped around you.

Kia kaha, kia māia, kia manawanui.

## ERO Visit

We have been privileged to host Marieke Whitwell from the Education Review Office (ERO) at our school over the final two days of this term. Marieke's visit is part of our regular engagement with ERO, which supports our ongoing journey of reflection, growth, and continuous improvement in teaching and learning.

During her time with us, Marieke has been meeting with staff, visiting the classroom, and engaging with our school's vision, values, and practices. Her presence has been a positive and affirming opportunity to showcase the unique strengths of our school community, and to gather valuable insights that will help guide our future direction.

We are grateful for the professional and collaborative approach Marieke has brought to her visit and look forward to the feedback that will support us in continuing to provide the best possible learning environment for our tamariki.

## Puanga / Matariki Celebration with Whenuakura School – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June

We were proud and grateful to celebrate Puanga / Matariki alongside our friends at Whenuakura School in what was a truly meaningful and joyful day. Guided by the theme Te Hongia o Puanga – Embracing the Spirit of the Season, the day was filled with connection, learning, laughter, and shared experiences as we came together to mark the Māori New Year.

*Te Hongia o Puanga* reminds us to greet the new season with open hearts, to embrace its spirit, and to appreciate the gifts it brings — from the abundance of the land to the strength of our relationships and history. This message was deeply felt throughout the day as tamariki, kaiako, whānau, and community shared in storytelling, waiata, kai, and celebration. A very special thank you to Whaea Jan Nicholas, our Board member, who gave her time and expertise to support the day — particularly

with organising the boil-up and Fry bread, which was a highlight for many! Jan's contribution helped make the celebration a success, and we are grateful for her aroha and dedication.

He mihi nunui to everyone who played a part in this special day. We look forward to continuing to honour and grow our Puanga / Matariki traditions together in the years to come.

### **Government Book Week – Book Distribution Assembly**

We are excited to be taking part in Government Book Week, which runs from Monday 23rd to Friday 27th June. As part of this initiative, each child has received two books to take home and enjoy — a gift to encourage a lifelong love of reading.

### **School Closure – Friday 1st August**

Please be advised that school will be closed on Friday 1st August as all teaching staff will be attending a Ministry of Education Mathematics Professional Learning and Development (PLD) Day, coordinated by our Kāhui Ako.

This important day will focus on supporting teachers with the implementation of the new mathematics curriculum being rolled out by the Government. It's part of a nationwide effort to strengthen teaching and learning in maths, ensuring all students are well-equipped with the skills they need for the future.

We thank you for your understanding and support. Please make alternative arrangements for your child's care on this day, as there will be no classes running.

### **Attendance**

One of the things we are continuing to focus on in 2025 is student attendance. You will hear us talking about this with you, with our students and it remains a strong subject of conversation in our school.

If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss more than a whole year of school by 16 years of age. As a parent or caregiver, you, alongside our school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance.

All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school.

You must let the school know if your child is going to be absent or intends to be absent for a portion of the school term for whatever reason, like a tangi or medical procedure. Family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent.

Knowing if your child is well enough to go to school can be tricky. Health guidance to support you to decide is available here. If you are still unsure, get in touch with us and let's work together to support your learner.

If you're struggling at home with getting your child to school, talk to us.

If you are finding it hard to get your child to school, please talk with us so we can work together. Our school is committed to supporting your child to attend school.

Our school continues to build a culture that fosters attendance every day by having:

- School staff who have strong relationships with students and family.
- A school culture that recognises your child and your family for who you are, where you come from and what you value.
- A school whānau that takes all practical steps to make sure your child is at school and progressing in their learning.
- A school that is safe and welcoming for everyone in our school community.

If you have any attendance queries and issues, please contact us so we can work together.

# HAVE A SAFE HAPPY HOLIDAYS WITH WHANAU AND FRIENDS 😊



## PUANGA CELEBRATIONS AT WHENUAKURA SCHOOL



## PUANGA CELEBRATIONS – STAR COOKIE DECORATING

