



## IMPORTANT DATES

- Assembly – Friday 9 am  
- Room 5 – 5 June
- Room 5 Technology – Mondays
- Teachers Only Day – Fri 29 May
- Kings Birthday Holiday – Mon 1 June
- Home & School AGM – Wed 3 June
- Board Meeting – Mon 15 June
- End of Term 2 – Fri 3 July
- Start Term 3 – Mon 20 July



## PRINCIPALS NOTE

Kia Ora

It has been wonderful to see Stage 1 of our refurbishment completed and looking amazing. The newly refreshed spaces are now ready for Rooms 1 and 3, with students returning to work in these classrooms from Tuesday when school resumes.

Room 2 will relocate to the staffroom and resource room for the next term and a half while Stage 2 of the project takes place. Access to this temporary learning space will be via the deck or staffroom doors only — please do not enter through the office. Stage 2 will begin next week, and fencing will be adjusted beforehand to ensure everyone's safety throughout the next phase of the refurbishment.

Unfortunately, we are currently experiencing some ongoing issues in the boys' toilets. There have been instances of students standing on cisterns, a wall support has been broken from the floor, and a mirror has also been damaged. In addition, there is frequently a large amount of toilet paper left on the floors, or soaked with water and stuck to the walls and windows. This is very disappointing, especially as the toilets were renovated less than two years ago. We have spoken with students and put systems in place around toilet use during class time, but we would really appreciate your support in reinforcing respectful and appropriate bathroom behaviour at home.



## ATTENDANCE

86%

of our students are currently attending more than 90%, an average of 9 days a fortnight, for this term.

St Joseph's target aligns with the Government's, 80% of students to attend regularly, that is to attend school more than 90% of the time.

## PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS



Awesome work in Literacy!

## HOME & SCHOOL

AGM  
Wednesday 3 June at 3.15am  
All Welcome

We will be holding a **pōwhiri on Tuesday 2 June at 9.00am** to formally welcome Mithula, her husband, and son, who arrive this weekend.

All are warmly welcome to attend, and it would be lovely to have whānau there to support and help us make them feel part of our school community.

Mā te Atua koutou e manaaki i ngā wā katoa  
May God always bless you.

*Megan*

## WHĀNAU HUI

Thanks to those who came to the whānau hui last night or sent through their apologies. We had some great discussions and shared ideas about how we can continue to build our school into a strong, culturally inclusive environment where every child and whānau feels valued, connected, and supported. We appreciate everyone's ideas, contributions and ongoing commitment to our kura.

Topics discussed included:

- Ways in which the school can continue to communicate effectively with whānau
- Kapa Haka update
- Discussion questions – Summary below.
- Building strong partnerships between home and school through open communication and positive relationships
- Creating more opportunities for whānau to be involved in learning and community activities
- Supporting a culturally inclusive environment where all cultures are celebrated and represented
- Increasing the visibility of Māori culture, identity, and Aotearoa New Zealand history throughout the school
- Hosting community-building events that are accessible and welcoming for all families
- Providing more opportunities for parents and community members to share skills, occupations, and experiences with students
- Exploring ideas such as careers days, nature-based learning, reading initiatives, and flexible celebration events for working families
- Exploring ways to further develop and share information about the new student reports to support clearer communication about student learning and progress
- Developing a greater understanding of pōwhiri protocols and expectations so all whānau feel confident, welcomed, and connected during school events

Our next whānau hui will be held on **Tuesday 18 August 6pm** — please mark it on your calendar. We would love to see you there.

**Teachers Only Day – tomorrow Friday 29 May**

**Kings Birthday Holiday – Monday 1 June.**

**See you all on Tuesday 2 June**

## SPORT REPORT

### Player of the Day



Congratulations...

Wonderful — so many of our SJ students are earning Player of the Day awards!

## CATHOLIC CHARACTER

### Why We Do the Things We Do

#### Why do we bless things?

Catholics bless many things — people, homes, food, medals, statues, vestments, and even everyday items like computers. In Scripture, a blessing is a prayer that calls down God's favour and care.

When we bless objects, we recognise that all creation is a gift from God. We ask that these things may be used wisely, for good purposes, and for the service and glory of God. Blessings remind us to place every part of our lives under the love and guidance of Christ.



Father Ralph blessed our two new classrooms yesterday before students moved in. Tomorrow morning, Ellen Gray will also lead a Māori blessing, recognising the importance of acknowledging the space, the people who use it, and the new beginnings it represents.

An official blessing for the entire block will be held once the full refurbishment is completed.

*Helen Collier*

DRS