



School Newsletter
To Act Justly, Love Tenderly, and to walk humbly with God

Term 1 Week 7 - Monday 14th March 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Well it's safe to say that Omicron has arrived at school. We have positive cases in 5 classrooms at the moment - just Kairangi are holding out at this stage. It is especially prevalent in the senior classroom with 12 Tikanga students currently positive. We hope everyone gets the mildest possible version and can return to school after their 7 days. We are providing home learning and the option of chrome books for those who have tested positive or are isolating because of household contacts but we don't expect people to be doing school work if they are unwell. We will update the school community several times throughout the week on our totals via the Facebook Page.

Welcome to **Leo** who has just turned 5 and started school in Aroha. He received his Bible at assembly last week. We wish him all the best for his time at St Mary's.



Our goals for this year:

For our students to show continuous improvement in reading, writing and mathematics.

- We will run focus groups with priority learners in each classroom, employ Teacher Aides to help, run an integrated inquiry programme in senior classrooms.

To strengthen staff, students and whanau awareness of their Catholic faith

- We will teach Catholic language and vocabulary, make links to events in children's lives, develop the role of our Servant Leaders, involve families

To actively engage students and parents in the learning journey

- We will keep parents informed of progress and achievement throughout the year, students will set goals regularly, be acknowledged for their progress and contribute to their school reports

Thank you to Mr K and the Servant Leaders for a wonderful Ash Wednesday liturgy the other week.



How is everyone going with their Lenten promises?

- Has Miss Goodall been wearing pink? *(she had one little slip up with pink laces in her sport shoes but has sorted that out!)*
- Talk to your friends and families about sponsoring you for giving it up or taking it up!
- Remember the Friends committee is buying lunch and ice blocks for the class who raises the most money!



We are holding the **Wheelbarrow Race** as our end of term activity on the last day - Thursday 14th April. Students will be dressing up in their house colours for this so please start looking around for something to wear. Check with your child's teacher if they are not sure what colour their house is.

Thank you to everyone who is busy selling **bulbs** - please let us know if you need any order forms. They are due back to us by Thursday 31st March please. **Pie order** forms will then be coming home and orders can be collected over the holidays.

How awesome is this???

Grace and Evelyn identified an issue and sorted it out over the weekend!

They are both Student Ambassadors and a challenge we have set them is to include people in the playground who have nobody to play with.

Over the weekend they made a friendship bench to help with this.



How to work out your 7 days of self-isolation



Find out what you need to do if:

you are positive for COVID-19

you are a Household Contact (living with a positive case)*

Day 0

The day you test positive or start experiencing symptoms, whichever is earliest.

Your Day 0 is the same Day 0 as the first positive case in your household.

Day 3

-

Take a Day 3 test today, or sooner if symptoms develop. If it's positive, start a new 7 days of self-isolation.

Day 7

-

Take a Day 7 test today, or sooner if symptoms develop. If it's positive, start a new 7 days of self-isolation.

After

After 7 days, as long as you are free of COVID-19 symptoms, you will be free to leave self-isolation.

After 7 days, as long as you have a negative Day 7 test result and no COVID-19 symptoms, you will be free to leave self-isolation.

* Some people who are Household Contacts and critical workers may be able to still go to work through the Close Contact Exemption Scheme. See our website for more information.

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What type of contact are you?



Do you have COVID-19?

Yes

You are a **positive case**, you need to self-isolate for 7 days.

Do you live with someone who has COVID-19?

Yes

You are a **household contact**, you need to self-isolate for 7 days* and take a test on Day 3 and Day 7.

Did you recently spend time with someone who has COVID-19?

Yes

You don't need to do anything right now. **Monitor yourself for symptoms, and if they develop, seek a test.**

Do you live with someone who recently spent time with someone who has COVID-19?

Yes

You're all good, bro. Stay vigilant.

No

* unless you are eligible for the Close Contact Exemption Scheme.

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Household Contacts what you need to do



Do you live with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19? Visit [Covid19.govt.nz/household](https://www.covid19.govt.nz/household) and follow these steps:

Stay home* and isolate for 7 days from the day the person with COVID-19 tests positive (Day 0). Try to avoid contact with them if you can.

Take a test on Day 3 and Day 7 (or sooner if you develop symptoms).

Tested negative? You still need to finish your 7 days of self-isolation.

Did someone else in your house test positive? You don't need to restart your 7 days (unless you test positive).

Tested positive? You will need to start a new 7 days. Please follow the guidance on our website.

[Covid19.govt.nz/positive](https://www.covid19.govt.nz/positive)

You can complete your self-isolation at the same time as the first person in your house who had COVID-19 if your Day 7 test is negative, and you have no new or worsening symptoms. Tino pai!

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If your child/ren will be absent from school, please let us know by one of the following:

Call the office on 06 379 7171

Use the absentee tab on Skool Loop

Email to admin@saintmarys.school.nz

When you make contact to advise your child/ren are away please always give an explanation.

It is a requirement for the school to explain on each student's record why they are away, and unfortunately if you give no explanation it is recorded as "explained but not justified".

If we have no contact from the absent students' caregivers then the student is marked as "truant".

All our attendance information is automatically forwarded to the Ministry of Education and reviewed by them.

Parents are legally obligated to ensure that their children attend school every day the school is open for instruction. Many students are being taken out of school for family holidays - you need to ensure that you write an email to principal@saintmarys.school.nz asking for permission regarding this before it happens.

Karen Goodall - Principal



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Rita 19/3

Hona 19/3

Lewis 19/3

Piper 19/3



Estelle for excellent triathlon story writing.

Oliver S for amazing triathlon story writing.

Zed for fabulous triathlon story writing.

Malia for great story writing.

Jasper for great story writing.

Petessa for a wonderful story about the swimming carnival.

Sophie for a great story about her new puppy.

Sophie P for sensational homework

LUNCH OPTIONS:

Any day

Pies (Mince and Cheese OR Potato Top)	\$3.00
Butter Chicken Wrap	\$3.50
Mini Mince pies	\$1.00
Cookie Time cookie	\$1.00
Flavoured Milk	\$1.50

Friday lunches

Hot Chips	\$2.50
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JUICIES are available every day for \$1 from the office at second lunch break

Feel free to order school lunches via email and pay online into the school bank account as this will save you from coming into the office. admin@saintmarys.school.nz

Our school bank account details are 12 3478 0011124 00



International Story Telling day - Monday 21st March

We are lucky to have the mighty Kylie, our resident author and librarian extraordinaire to come and tell us some of her stories. We have also decided to have an optional dress up as your favourite book character on Monday 21st as well.

What could you come as? Start thinking and planning ahead now.



Sport

Girls Cricket vs St Matt's Wednesday 9 March

The girls played really well against a strong St Matt's team. Emily got a wicket first ball and Nieve got 2 in an over and was close to 3. Nieve got our high score of 18no, Indi hit her first 4 and Charlotte smashed two lovely boundaries. We scored 71 and St Matts scored 106.

This week Gladstone at Park sports-3:45pm start.

love

