



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The upcoming teachers' strike on Wednesday 15th August means that it will not be possible to provide normal teaching for students on that day, but the school will be able to offer supervision during normal school hours.

The NZEI (Union) has advised the St Thomas's Primary School Board of Trustees that the Acting Principal and teachers at our school will be taking strike action on Wednesday 15th August 2018.

Due to the number of NZEI union members at St Thomas's, the Board has decided that we cannot provide normal teaching services during the strike. However, we feel that with the remaining non-union members and support staff, we have sufficient staffing levels to be able to offer supervision during the strike.

The students will be supervised on the day in their year groups where they will partake in a variety of activities, such as board games, outdoor activities, arts and crafts and watching movies. This day will not run like a normal school day – no curriculum will be covered.

However, we would appreciate that if practical, you keep your child(ren) at home, as we will be operating with limited numbers of teachers and support staff.

For Ministry requirements all students will be marked as 'Absent - justified' for this day whether they are in attendance or not. On the day, paper rolls will be taken for Health and Safety purposes only.

We are pleased to be able to provide our community with a workable solution that hopefully minimises any disruption to you and your family.

If you have any further questions, please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Edwards
Chair Board of Trustees



ICAS Science Results

Distinction

Emily Lienart – Year 7
Maxximo Ly – Year 7

High Distinction

Blake Holmes – Year 5

Upcoming Events:

August

- 4 PTA – Casino Night
- 10 – 17 Maori Language Week
- 13 Yrs 3 – 8 Cross Country Event
- 15 Keeping Ourselves Safe – Parent Evening 7pm – 8pm

September

- 10 – 14 AIMS Games Week
- 19 Tiritiri Trip Year 3
- 20 Tiritiri Trip Year 3
- 21 PTA Sausage Sizzle
- 28 Last Day of Term

Keeping Ourselves Safe and Choices Programme

St Thomas's School will be delivering this term the "Keeping Ourselves Safe" programme for Years 1-6 and the "Choices" programme for Year 7-8 which is aligned with NZ Police and taught every two years.

Before this programme is delivered we will be holding a parent evening which will be run by our Community Constable Gordan Campbell. He will explain to the parents what key aspects of the programme will be delivered and what his role is within the programme.

Parent Evening: Wednesday 15th August 7.00pm in the Staff room

This programme will be taught by your child's classroom teacher and Constable Gordon will be running two sessions with each of the classes across the school.

Below are some links that will give you further information about the programmes:

KOS

<https://www.police.govt.nz/sites/default/files/publications/kos-generic.pdf>

<http://www.police.govt.nz/advice/personal-and-community-advice/school-portal/resources/successful-relationships/keeping-1>

Choices:

<http://www.police.govt.nz/advice/personal-and-community-advice/school-portal/resources/healthy-body-healthy-mind/choice-year-0>

Parent Communication

If you have any concerns or queries relating to your child's learning or incidents that occur at school, please follow the procedure outlined below:

- In the first instance, contact your child's classroom/home room teacher.
- If you feel you need to discuss the matter further, please make an appointment to see the appropriate Team Leader.
- If you feel your concerns are still unresolved or you wish to seek further advice, please make an appointment with the appropriate Deputy Principal.
- Matters still unresolved after following this process will be escalated to the Principal by the Deputy Principals.

We are all here to work co-operatively towards the best possible education for your child, so please do not hesitate to contact us.

Team Leaders

- Year 0/1 – Carmen Wood
- Year 2 – Rachelle Bright
- Year 3 – Maria Kroonenberg
- Year 4 – Amy Thurston
- Year 5 – Matt Tamariki
- Year 6 – Melissa Gainsford
- Year 7&8 – Nicky Brickland

Deputy Principals

- Years 0, 1, 2, 5 and 6 – Gina Hemmingsen
- Years 3, 4, 7 and 8 – Claire Fromow

Kea Crossing

The Kea crossing was put in place after years of lobbying and planning to ensure that our children were safe coming to and from school. Unfortunately, there are parents and caregivers who are not using the crossing with their children, despite heavy traffic before and after school.

It is important that we all take responsibility for showing children how to cross the road safely. When we are not around our students will do exactly what we have modelled to them. While our roads might seem safe to cross for an adult, children are not able to work out speeds of oncoming traffic when they cross a road. This is why we want our student to cross the road at the Kea Crossing or traffic lights. Please encourage your children to use the crossings and please park in a place that enables your child to cross the road safely. Remember, a motorist may not see a small child leave a vehicle or stop in time if they are not using a crossing where they are visible.

Walking School Bus

As the days are growing longer and the weather is hopefully getting warmer, perhaps you would like to consider joining a walking school bus. We currently have two bus routes, but if there is enough interest more routes can be added, just enquire and see.

WSB: Cnr Gowing Drive (2 stops)

Bus Stop 1 is at the bus stop opposite 255 St Johns Road and will be leaving at 0815

Bus Stop 2 is outside 311 St Johns Road and will be leaving at 0825

The bus is currently running Tuesday and Wednesday mornings

Route administrator: Kim Chapman kim@chapman.gen.nz

If you are interested in joining please go to the office and fill out the following forms:

1. the walking school bus consent form (parent)
2. my walking school bus pledge (child)

and/or contact the route administrator for more information.

If you would like more information about the programme in general, please go to <https://at.govt.nz/cycling-walking/school-travel/walking-school-bus/>

St Thomas's School Out of Zone Ballot

OUT OF ZONE BALLOT

Reminder to parents who are living out of zone and who have children currently attending St Thomas's School:

If you have pre-schoolers who are due to start school at any time during 2019 you need to notify the school office and arrange to collect an out of zone **application** form.

Children (who live out of zone) who have not participated in the ballot will not be eligible to enrol next year.

Eastern Zone Netball Tournament

On Thursday 2nd August, 6x St Thomas's School Year 7&8 Netball Teams participated in the Eastern Zone Netball Tournament at Auckland Netball Centre in St Johns. Despite a foggy morning start, it ended up being a cracker day with the sun gracing us with its presence.

All of our teams were amazing, playing up to 6 games of netball throughout the day. Several people, not involved with our school, commented on the fantastic sportsmanship, manners and spirit displayed by our students.

Our Year 7 Boys team lost just 1 game all day to come 2nd overall, earning them a spot at the Auckland Interzone Championships to be held on August 22nd. Our Year 7 girls A Grade team also made the semi final rounds, and ended up placing 4th – a huge achievement given the number of teams in that grade.

A huge congratulations to all students who participated in the tournament.



Volunteers to Cover Library Books

We require some volunteers to cover some library books. If you are interested in helping out please email office@stthomas.school.nz and let us know when you are available.

Volunteers in School During the School Day

If you are doing volunteer work at school during the school day can you please sign in and out at the office. This is so that if we are required to evacuate the school or go into lock down we know that you are on-site.

"Changing Learning for a Changing World"

St Thomas's School PTA presents

CASINO ROYALE

Casino & Auction Night

Saturday 4th August 7.30pm



Tickets available on
Flexibuzz \$40 each



RayWhite.

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KOHIMARAMA, ST HELIERS

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