St Thomas's News

Whakaute / Respect Auwhangaa / Resilience Takohanga / Responsibility

06 November 2026

Principal's Message

I am pleased to share that construction of our new Middle School Playground will begin once school finishes on 15 December. The project is expected to be completed by the end of February and ready for students to enjoy from the start of Term 1.



At the same time, we will be redeveloping the fenced area between the office and junior classrooms. This space is often unusable during the wetter months, so the installation of astroturf and new seating will create a more practical and welcoming environment for students throughout the year. The seating will also feature the names of our four school houses, helping to strengthen house pride and student connections.



These projects are part of our ongoing commitment to improving our school environment and providing spaces where students can play, socialise, and learn together.

We look forward to seeing these exciting additions come to life over the summer break.

Ngā mihi nui
Michael Maher
Principal



St Thomas's Shout Out

Congratulations to our Year 3 and Year 4 students for their excellent effort and sportsmanship at Athletics Day.
Well done!

Upcoming Dates

November

10	Yr 5&6 STS Athletics Day
11	Bay Suburbs Touch Rugby
12	ESOL Market Day (J1)
13	Yr 1-3 Assembly 9.15am (School Hall)
16	Yr 4-6 Assembly (S9&S10 Hosting) 11.45am (School Hall)
17	Board of Trustees Meeting 6.30pm (Staffroom)
19	Eastern Zone Athletics
24	Bay Suburbs Athletics
25	Year 3 Trip to Corban Estate
26	Year 3 Trip to Corban Estate
26	Year 7 Youthtown
27	Yr 1-3 Assembly 9.15am (School Hall)
30	School Photo for New Entrants

December

4	Year 7&8 Social (School Hall)
8	Year 8 Trip to Rangitoto Island
8	Board of Trustees Meeting 6.30pm (Staffroom)
10	Prizegiving Practice
11	Prizegiving Day (Barfoot & Thompson Stadium)
14	Colour Run

Road Safety Learning for Year 2

Over the last two weeks, our Year 2 students have been working hard alongside a special visitor to our school. Constable Gordon visited to teach us all about staying safe around roads, cars, and driveways.

We began by learning important road safety skills in the classroom, discussing why it is important to stop, look and listen before crossing the road. Students also learnt how to identify "sneaky driveways", where it can be difficult to see an approaching vehicle.

Once we had practised these skills in class, it was time to put them into action. Students walked around the streets near the school, using the footpath and applying their road safety knowledge in real-life situations. Along the way, they identified a range of features and signs that help keep pedestrians safe.

On Friday, our learning focused on car safety. We discussed the importance of car seats and seatbelts and how they help protect us when travelling in a vehicle. The highlight of the day was having the opportunity to sit in a police car, practise fastening our seatbelts correctly, and enjoy a drive around the field!

A big thank you to Constable Gordon for sharing his knowledge and helping our students learn valuable road safety skills that will keep them safe every day.



Mitey Learning Across Years 1-3

Mitey continues to play an important role in helping our students develop self-awareness, empathy, resilience and positive relationships. Across Years 1 to 3, our tamariki have been exploring a range of learning experiences designed to support their mental health and wellbeing while strengthening their understanding of themselves and others.

Year 1 Mitey Learning Journey



Our Year 1 tamariki had a wonderful Term 3 as they continued their Mitey learning journey. They explored the important idea that people do not always feel the same way at the same time, and that different situations can create different feelings for different people.

By weaving Mitey into our Environmental Science learning, the tamariki enjoyed thinking about how animals might feel in different habitats and discussing the reasons why. They also reflected on how they might feel if they lived in those habitats themselves. These thoughtful conversations helped our learners build empathy, understand different perspectives, and recognise that everyone's experiences and feelings are unique.

This term, we are excited to continue our Mitey journey as we explore:

Whānau and Aroha

Learning about what makes our whānau special and celebrating the many ways we show love, care and kindness to one another.

Feeling Lost

Developing an understanding of more complex emotions and situations and learning how to ask for help when things feel challenging or uncertain.

We are proud of the way our tamariki are growing their understanding of themselves and others. Through Mitey, they are building valuable skills that help them form positive relationships, show compassion and navigate life's ups and downs with confidence.

Year 2 Mitey Learning Journey



Our Year 2 students have been working hard on their Mitey journey.

Our focus has been on identifying our own emotions and understanding how they can influence our behaviour, while also recognising that other people may feel differently about the same situation. This learning has helped us express our emotions more effectively and support one another both in the classroom and on the playground each day.

As part of our inquiry, we have been learning about different jobs within our community and how everyone plays an important role in their own special way. We have discussed what makes each of us unique and celebrated the strengths and qualities that make the people around us special too.



We are excited to continue our Mitey learning this Term as we explore more about the different jobs in our community and discover how everyone's unique skills and talents contribute to helping others.

Through Mitey, our students are continuing to develop empathy, self-awareness, and positive relationship skills that support their wellbeing and learning every day.

Year 3 Mitey Journey

Our Year 3 students have had a very busy time developing their Mitey skills. One of our main focuses in Term 3 and Term 4 has been learning to be more present by slowing down, using our senses, and noticing the world around us. We have especially enjoyed connecting with nature as we prepared for our big trip to Tiritiri Matangi Island.

As part of our Mitey learning, we have been exploring our inner voices using our very own whispering tunnel. Through this activity, students are learning to recognise the voices that encourage them and practise ignoring those that discourage them. These valuable skills are helping our tamariki build confidence, resilience and a positive mindset.

In our everyday classroom routines, we regularly check in with our feelings and use our feelings barometer to help us recognise, understand, and talk about our emotions. These regular check-ins are helping students become more emotionally aware and better able to understand themselves and others.

It was wonderful to have so many of our families join us for our first Mitey Day. Parents demonstrated excellent teamwork and problem-solving skills during our "The Floor Is Lava" challenge, making it a fun and memorable experience for everyone involved.



We are proud of the way our Year 3 students are growing into thoughtful, confident Mitey Kids. Through Mitey, they are developing important skills that support positive relationships, emotional wellbeing, and resilience both at school and beyond.

Together, our Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3 students are developing the knowledge, attitudes, and skills that help them understand themselves, care for others, and thrive both in and out of the classroom. Through Mitey, we are nurturing confident, compassionate learners who are well equipped to meet life's opportunities and challenges.





Mitey in the Intermediate School

"Kia whakatōmuri te haere whakamua." (I walk backwards into the future with my eyes fixed on my past).

Recently, our intermediate students have been busy exploring Mitey learning outcomes through their PE classes and our latest inquiry, Moment in Time. It has been wonderful to see Mental Health Education woven so seamlessly into our more traditional school subjects.

Learning from the Past

Mitey Focus: *Share ideas about how our classroom environment contributes to the mental health and wellbeing of class members.*

Guided by the beautiful whakataukī above, students explored a diverse range of historical milestones, from the French Revolution and the Salem witch trials to the birth of the internet and the US civil rights movement. They were challenged to make connections between the big ideas underpinning these events and the everyday environment of our own classrooms.

By looking to the past, our students identified key concepts that contribute to a healthy school culture, such as respect, trust and kindness and brainstormed practical ways to demonstrate these values at school every day.





Rising to the Challenge

Mitey Focus: *Develop problem-solving strategies for dealing with emotions, challenges and change.*

Preparing for Athletics Day provided the perfect real-world opportunity for students to practise navigating challenges. We focused on key messages around resilience, especially the importance of "giving it a go", even when facing an event outside their comfort zone.





It was also a great opportunity to discuss processing emotions and coping with disappointment when an event does not finish quite as one might hope. We are incredibly proud of the maturity and resilience our students showed.

Sun Safety - School Hats Required

As we move into the warmer months, a reminder that school hats are compulsory for all students during Terms 4 and Term 1. This is an important part of our SunSmart policy and helps protect students from harmful UV exposure while participating in outdoor learning, sport and play.

Students who do not have a school hat will be required to remain in shaded areas during break times. To ensure your child can fully participate in outdoor activities, please make sure they bring their school hat to school each day.

If your child does not yet have a school hat, these are available for purchase from the School Office for $15.50.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep our students safe in the sun throughout the summer months.

STS News

To watch the 61st episode of the series, click HERE.

To watch the 60th episode of the series, click HERE.

To watch the 59th episode of the series, click HERE.

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-notices/

School holiday programme:
https://www.stthomas.week.nz/school-holiday-programmes/

Music lessons right at school 🎶 Complement your child's school experience with music lessons! Piano, guitar, bass, drums, and violin lessons available at school, helping students build confidence, creativity, and lifelong skills. 👉 **Enrol here:** https://musiceducation.co.nz/pages/mis-enrolment

ST THOMAS'S INTERMEDIATE

What's been happening in our Intermediate School

INSPIRE THE FUTURE

On Thursday 29th October, Year 8 were lucky enough to take part in the 'Inspire the Future' programme. We were visited by 8 people with a very interesting variety of jobs. The students had the opportunity to ask questions and guess their jobs, then were able to rotate around the professionals to ask questions and discuss what their role entailed. The students heard from:



- Financial crime investigator at Westpac
- Rocketlab,lead environmental team
- Forensic scientist, victim identification
- Clinical research scientist for medical devices
- Civil engineer
- Food technologist working for a dairy company
- Zoo Keeper
- Software developer

The students got a huge amount out of this and they reflected on the variety of roles that are out there, it is important to love what you do, not all jobs are based in offices, if you just believe you can accomplish your dreams and things take time and that you should commit to the things that you want to do. Fantastic morning - many thanks to Mrs Snell for organising.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL ATHLETICS

On Monday 2nd November, all of the Year 7 and 8 students competed in our annual St Thomas's Intermediate Athletics Day.

All of the students demonstrated our school values of Respect, Responsibility, and Resilience in every event, and displayed great sportsmanship throughout the day. It was fantastic to also see everyone showing house pride, coming dressed in their house colours and earning house tokens.

The day ended with the rest of the school coming out to cheer the students on in the sprint finals, and their houses in the house relay plus a few brave teachers to help represent their house!

Well done to every student, and well done to those who placed in their events! It was a fantastic day, and all of the students earned well-deserved ice blocks at the end of the day.













STS NEWS

STUDENT VOICES. SCHOOL STORIES. OUR COMMUNITY.





CREATED BY STUDENTS FOR STUDENTS

Your paragraph text

ON AIR

INFORM | INSPIRE | CONNECT

2025 PLAYLIST ON YouTube

CLICK HERE

2026 PLAYLIST ON YouTube

CLICK HERE

ST THOMAS'S SCHOOL KOHIMARAMA AUCKLAND

PTA NEWS

The PTA is on Facebook & Instagram @ StThomasSchoolPTA

Mark Your Calendar: Term 4

DEADLINE EXTENDED!

CALENDAR ART
order by 23 Nov

CHRISTMAS MEATS
now - 10 Dec

COLOUR RUN
Mon 14 Dec

Colour Run

Available on Kindo soon!



Calendar Art

DEADLINE EXTENDED!

CALENDARS
DIARIES
SKETCH PADS
MOUSE MATS
GREETING CARDS

LAST CHANCE!
FINAL ORDERS: 23 NOV

Visit: **KIDSARTWORKS.COM**

Entrance Code: **KZ1056**

Enter: **CHILD'S ROOM & NAME**

Mapari Meats Fundraiser

Get your Christmas meals sorted with Mapari Meats! Not only do you get award-winning food, but you support our PTA at the same time!
It's easy:
Lock in your order by paying a deposit via Kindo by 10 December. Head to Mapari Meats (on Lunn Ave) between 18-24 December, pay the remaining amount there!

Uniforms Needed

Kid's outgrown their uniforms? Donate them to the PTA! You can drop them off anytime to the school office.

Have yourself a very
MAPARI CHRISTMAS

A delicious fundraiser with Mapari Meats and the PTA

MAPARI-MADE HAM



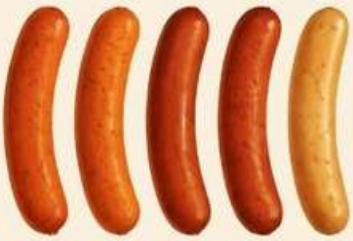
WHOLE CHAMPAGNE approx 10kg	$240
HALF CHAMPAGNE approx 5kg	$125
HAM GLAZE delicious glaze for your ham	$10

MEAT BOX — $145



1 whole chicken
1kg marinaded buffalo wings
1kg pork loin roast
10 satay chicken kebabs
5 smokey bacon maple sausages
5 gourmet beef sausages

SAUSAGE BOX — $95



Variety of 5 delicious flavours,
6 sausages per flavour

ORDER

- Pay deposit* via Kindo

**deposit is non-refundable*

Last orders:
Thurs, 10 Dec

PICK-UP

- Go to Mapari Meats
- Pay remaining amount

Must collect between:
18-24 Dec

FARM GATE TO YOUR PLATE
EST 21
MAPARI MEATS

Auckland's premium butcher.
Quality cuts, local flavour & expert service.
And proud supporter of St Thomas's School PTA.
101 Lunn Ave, Stonefields

ST THOMAS'S SCHOOL PTA

Contact: Ian Palmquist
Phone: 021 0803 3666
Email: stthomas@kellyclub.co.nz
Website: kellyclub.co.nz/st-thomas

KELLY CLUB ST THOMAS'S UPDATE

What's been happening…

We had such a good time during our Monster Mash themed week at Kelly Club. The kids had heaps of fun brewing their own bubbling monster potions and testing their skills during a game of monster bowling. We also got creative making our very own spooky monster slime that the kids got to take home.





What's happening next week!

KELLY CLUB

THEME: Diwali Delight!
Term 4 Week 5, 9th November 2026

Weekly Activities Plan
Kelly Club St Thomas's

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:00 - 8:15 am	Fort Building & Structured Free Time	Origami Lanterns & Structured Free Time	Cup Towers & Structured Free Time	Kids Choice & Structured Free Time	Homemade Cookies & Structured Free Time
8:15 - 8:30 am	Game: Chicken Tag	Game: Staff Choice	Game: 2 Truths, 1 Lie	Game: Head it Catch it	Game: Captains Coming
3:00 - 3:10 pm	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time
3:10 - 3:30 pm	Intro & Afternoon Tea Yoghurt & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sausages Rolls & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Homemade Cookies & Fruit
3:30 - 3:45 pm	Game: Zip Zap Boing	Game: Rainbow Rush	Game: Crab Football	Game: Bang	Game: Musical Statues
SENIORS 3:45 - 4:30 pm	SPORT Cricket	COOKING Fruit Custard	CRAFT Rangoli Art	GAME Put the Flame on the Diya	DISCOVERY Diwali Diya
JUNIORS 3:45 - 4:30 pm	CRAFT Colourful Jewellery	COOKING Fruit Custard	GAME Musical Statues	DISCOVERY Diwali Diya	SPORT Cricket
4:30 - 4:40 pm	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up
4:40 - 5:15 pm	Playground	Playground	Playground	Playground	Playground
5:15 - 5:30 pm	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time
5:30 - 6:00 pm	Snack Time Popcorn	Snack Time Baking	Snack Time Crackers	Snack Time Vege Chips	Snack Time Raisins

E: stthomas@kellyclub.co.nz kellyclub.co.nz/stthomas P: 021 080 33666

OSCAR PROGRAMME SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE! *Conditions apply

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz

Calling all tamariki, whānau and bike-lovers: Kidical Mass is back on Saturday 28 November!



Picture a parade on two wheels. A big, colourful crew of kids and their families riding together along the waterfront, with fun, prizes and treats along the way. Kidical Mass isn't a regular group ride, it's a celebration of the joy and independence found on two wheels. All FREE – all bodies on all bikes welcome!

Fancy dress is encouraged - capes, colours, onesies, pyjamas, anything goes!

The afternoon will run as follows:

📍 Meet at Bike Hub Queens Wharf from 1pm for pre-ride activities and bike decorating.

🚲 At 2pm we will gather together and ride as a group towards the Base Spaces next to Silo Park.

🏙️ We will arrive at the Base Spaces around 2.45pm for healthy snacks, activities and more whānau-friendly fun.

🏁 The event finishes at 4pm.

Find out more by joining the Facebook event:
https://www.facebook.com/events/1388292329786965

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

Looking for an exciting way to keep the kids entertained these school holidays?





DECEMBER PROGRAMMES

Programmes: MultiActivity

Dates: Thu 17 Dec - Tue 22 Dec

Venues: St Johns only

JANUARY PROGRAMMES

Programmes: MultiActivity
MultiSport
Netball Skills
Advanced Skills
Combination
Kokkino Cooking

Dates: Mon 11 Jan - Fri 29 Jan

Venues: St Johns & Windmill Park

Scan the QR code for more information

Scan the QR code carefully and ensure it directs to Auckland Netball's official website www.aucklandnetball.co.nz.
Beware of scams - Auckland Netball will never request sensitive information or payments via unofficial links.

To book or for more information please contact:
Caitlin Smardon, Development Programme Officer
T 09 280 4129 or M 021 577 105
E development@aucklandnetball.co.nz
www.aucklandnetball.co.nz

Auckland Council
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau

AUCKLAND NETBALL



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Auckland Table Tennis Association

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