

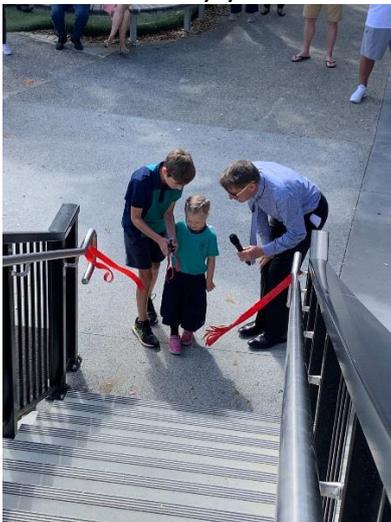
20 November 2020

Opening of New Building

It was with great pleasure that we opened our new classroom block last Friday and thank you to all those parents who could attend.

With beautiful weather, clear views across the water to Rangitoto and our amazing Kapa Haka performing we had new entrant student Anna Bibko and a year eight student Alex Heaton cut the ribbon and officially declare the building open.

Our invited guests and parents who went through the new block provided positive feedback about how spacious and well laid out the new block is and everyone loved the view from the second story! It was wonderful to have our community back on our site to celebrate something that we have all waited a long time for and this sets up St Thomas's School with excellent facilities for many years to come.



Kapa Haka and Whaea Vikki for the outstanding performance at the Opening of the New Building

Upcoming Events

November

- 21 PTA Quiz Night
- 23 Y3,4,7&8 Cricket Tournament
- 24 Y5&6 Cricket Tournament
- 26 Y2-4 Athletics Day

December

- 4 House Relay
- 8 Board of Trustees Meeting (6.30pm in the Staffroom)
- 9 PTA Meeting (7.00pm in Staffroom)
- 11 Prizegiving at Barfoot & Thompson Stadium
- 14 Tabloid Sports Day
- 15 2021 Class Visits
- 16 Last day of school (School finishes at 12.30pm)
NB. After school bus will not be running

February 2021

- 2 Meet the Teacher Day
- 3 First Day of Term 1

Principal's Awards

Excellence

Naairah Bashir – J1
Siddharth Panamoottil – S12

Passion

Axel O'Connor – J5
Raegan Campbell – M8
Leith Harris – S6

Connections

Anishverr Sorriyakumar – S1

Education Perfect Microplastics and COVID Challenge - Winner

Hi, my name is Siddharth, I'm 12 years old and I'm Year 7. I am delighted to be the WINNER of this challenge!



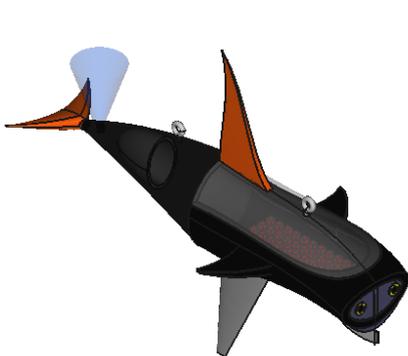
It all started around Term 3 when there was another lockdown. I was on Education Perfect (EP) about to do some maths when I saw something called the EP Microplastics and COVID... So I decided to follow the link to see what it was. I found out that you had to create a 2d and 3d design of a robot which collected microplastics in the ocean and looked at the judging criteria. I was excited about this and looked at the prize, I was surprised to see a prize of \$500 for the winner so I asked my mum If I could give it a try.

The Education Perfect Microplastics and COVID challenge was something interesting I could do when I was stuck at home during the second lockdown. It was about creating a robot that could collect and clear ocean waste. We had to study about the microplastic problem, how it was affecting our ocean life. The images of birds and animals' dead after eating plastic were horrifying. We also had to research oceans, plastic garbage patches and robots.

Because of the lockdown, I worked on this project alone, I discussed the project with my parents, especially my dad who is a mechanical engineer. They also questioned me on many features or functions of the robot like what it will be made of, how will it move, will it be eaten by other creatures, what happens once it is full etc.

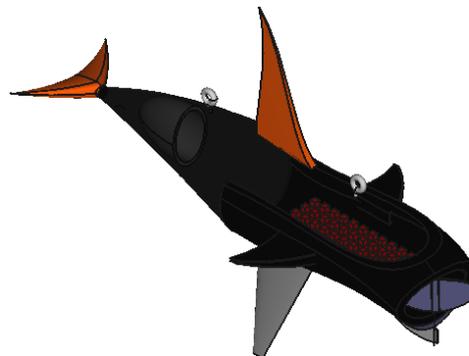
My first idea was for the robot to be a cylinder which sunk into the water, collects microplastics and propels itself to a mothership, or to a nearby beach etc. But I realised that one, the robot might get eaten, two, the robot might scare away some marine life and manipulate marine life into doing things that they do not normally do by accident. So, another design was a sea turtle, but we eliminated that idea immediately as Sea Turtles might be eaten. Then I came up with a third idea, an apex predator, an orca. So when I thought about this idea I did some research about Killer Whales, and I found out Killer whales are 5 - 8 metres long and weigh 1,400 - 5,400 kilograms (This is lowest and highest from both genders of Orcas), so they're pretty big! My dad helped me visualise the design and with the main assembly of the 3d model. We worked on each part and each function and kept adding more features to the robot and created **OWL - E** (Ocean Waste Load Lifter - Earth class) , inspired by WALL E. He looked pretty cool, but I had no idea that I would get picked as the winner. It was the second-best thing that ever happened to me this year (first being my birthday gift).

OWL E PHOTOS



PUMPING WATER OUT

ESOL Market Day 2020



LID OPENING (To collect rubbish)

"Changing Learning for a Changing World"

Term 4 is an exciting time for the ESOL students at St. Thomas's School because they celebrate the end of the year by holding a market day.

Market day is a fantastic event and could not happen without the generous donations from the school community and the support from parent helpers on the day. Thank you!

On Thursday, 5th of November all the ESOL learners went to the Takahe room. Before we went to the Takahe room, we met in the ESOL room to take a group photo and to get our Buzz money. *Tuipulotu Y2*



I saw lots of stalls selling origami, puzzles, cupcakes, popcorn, teddy bears, and some bags. My stall was selling two types of sushi and rainbow jelly. Inside the sushi, there was rolled egg, crab, cucumber, and some lettuce. Another type of my sushi had avocado, sour cream, and salmon. My rainbow jelly was made from water and jelly crystals with many different colours. *Yuma Y5*



I gave a bit of money to my brother. My brother played many games, so he got lots of lollies. I bought some stuff for my Mum. I got her a mug with cows on it, a wallet with geometrical shapes, a rainbow pencil case and a small wooden picture of the world. Then I bought a raffle ticket. It was expensive. I was very happy, and I would like to do this again! *Haim Y5*

There were many guessing games. One was how many candies are in a box and my brother got it. It was twenty-five. *Mia Y2*



"Changing Learning for a Changing World"



The I bought two cupcakes. The cupcakes had blue squiggles and a face. I gobbled up the cupcake. *Abirah Y2*

I was holding buzz money and I bought chocolate cookies. They were my best cookies ever. *Hiroto Y2*

I tried target shooting. I used the small gun and I missed. Then I went to the fishing game. I won a lolly! *Tanaki Y2*

I spent \$2 buzz money on dino shooting. If you shot one small dino you got five candy tokens, but I saved up all my candy tokens. I spent almost all of my money on the boys' raffle, so I didn't have much buzz money left at the end. I asked for more buzz money at the buzz bank then I spent it on the boys' raffle. Because I didn't know where to spend my last dollars, I walked around the market, looking at items. *Chris Y4*



I set up an origami stall to sell paper boomerangs, balloons, and cranes. My mum came to the market to help me and we sold them all. *Yuzuru Y3*

I bought origami. It was fun and I bought too much. I gave some to my friends. They said, "Thank you." *Michael Y1*

At the market I painted my nails, and I bought some things. *Amaya Y1*



Year 2 Sailing Regatta

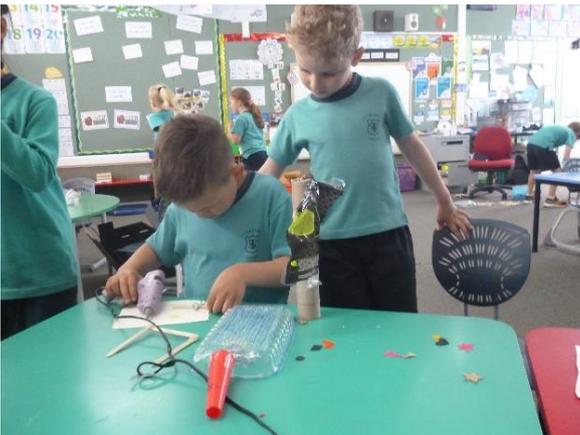
The Year 2 students have been tasked with designing a boat for the 2021 America's Cup. They went through the design process, developing their ideas, sourcing, and testing materials, testing the boat on the water and making improvements if necessary. Here are a few photos of their journey as well as the sailing boat champions for Year 2!



Testing materials to see if they will float



Sourcing the Materials



Making the boats



Testing the boats



Race time!



"Changing Learning for a Changing World"

4th place

Qingxin

J5



3rd place

Henry,
Tyla &
Leonardo

J8



2nd place

Delilah,
Bradley
and
Ryan

J8



1st place

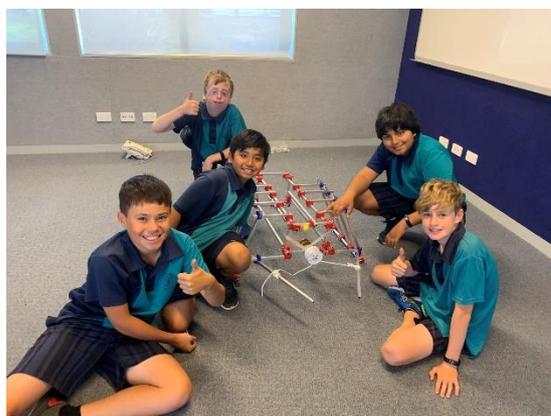
Tankai &
Leo

J6



EPro8

Hi, we are Lola and Youvraj and we're here to tell you about EPro8! EPro8 is an engineering and problem-solving challenge where you compete in groups of 4-5. On Friday 13th of November, we did a little in-school competition. Our brief was to make a robotic animal with a moving part. There were lots of animals created, from spiders up to the furious bear. We spent all day doing it and we worked through lunch time. Along with creating the animal we all had to write a report and make a video. We were given a special EPro8 kit which had lots of cool tools like aluminium poles, pulleys, wheels, and lots more plus a box of lots of interesting supplies to use. Overall, it was a fun day, and we think that all kids will enjoy using this kit in our new STEAM centre next year.



Year 7 & 8 Social

On November 10th, 2020 Year 7 and 8 held their annual social in the school hall. This year's theme was Enchanted Forest, the Social Committee spent a lot of time making sure that everyone would enjoy themselves and that they could easily dress to the theme. There was a Photo Booth to take pictures as well as a large array of food brought in from the students. On the night we handed out some awards for best dressed and best dancers, we all had a super fun night.

It was great seeing everyone get together and we are extremely grateful that we can hold events like these even during this crazy year. I am sure it was a great last social for the Year 8s and a brilliant first for the Year 7s. We would like to thank the Year 7 & 8 teachers, the social committee and other students who helped out. A special thank you to Emma O'Brien for organising the decoration of the hall and everyone who came to the social that night, we couldn't have done it all without you.

The Social Committee



Yr 5&6 Zones Athletics Day!

On Tuesday 17 November a group of 32 Year 5 & 6 students headed down to Glover Park for Bay Suburbs Athletics Day. The day was really enjoyable, and the competition was tough, but we all tried our best. We had fun doing sports as well as watching our friends try their hardest. We jumped, threw, or ran striving to the best of our ability and we had some excellent results on the day. Overall, it was a great experience to be a part of 2020 Bay Suburbs athletics day!

Mia de Reuck, Sofia Handley, Freya Burke, Year 6

Our outstanding FINAL Results:

- Isabella Ngata – 1st High Jump Year 5
- Jesse Duggan – 1st High Jump Year 5
- Carthew Snowden – 1st 100m Year 5; 1st 400m Year 5; 2nd High Jump Year 5
- Maddie Green – 1st 800m Year 5
- Messina Hand – 3rd 100m Year 5
- Blayke Gallagher – 3rd 200m Year 5
- Marcus Bethell – 2nd Long Jump Year 6
- Relays: Year 5 Girls 2nd; Year 5 Boys 3rd

The day was super fun! I competed in the discus and it was so cool to verse other schools. Hopefully I get to go again next year. Amelia B, Year 5

I competed in discus, but I didn't come a place. I also was in the relay race team and we came 2nd for the Year 5 girls. Coco M, Year 5

It was exciting. I came first in the 400m heat and I was in the relay. Fumika K, Year 5

I loved the day and cheered as loud as I could for everyone. I competed in shot put and although we didn't get any placing, I still tried my best. Emma S, Year 5

Eastern Zones Athletics Day

Yesterday a group of Year 7 and 8 competed at Eastern Zones Athletics at Lloyd Elsmore Park, Pakuranga. It was a super-hot day and overall, we competed in more than 9 events, including long jump, high jump, discus and shotput, and track events including the 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and 1500m. At the end of the day was the much-awaited relays where a team of 4 competed in one fast lap of the track against all the other schools. Wow, what a finish. We had some successful results with the following students heading to Interzones next week:

Year 8 Girls – 1st Relay Team

Year 7 Girls – 1st Relay Team

Zara Pomfret – 1st Year 8 Girls 1500m; 1st Year 8 Girls 800m

Sami Lawler - 1st Year 8 Girls High Jump

Molly Willis – 2nd Year 8 Girls 400m

Sophie Barry – 3rd Year 8 Girls 800m

Lily Pastiroff – 2nd Year 7 Girls 400m

Ellen McLachlan – 3rd Year 7 Girls 200m

Semesi Fakafu – 2nd Year 7 Boys 400m



Second-Hand School Uniform

If you have any outgrown uniform that you would like to donate to the school can you please drop this off at the office.

Congratulations to Jack Lienert

Jack, was representing St Thomas's, placed second in the Slope style Year 7&8 Auckland Intermediate schools' competition.



ORAKEI SCHOOL
PRESENTS...

RAISING BODY CONFIDENT KIDS

SPECIAL PARENT EVENING



**Emma
Wright**
Family Body
Confidence
Consultant

NOVEMBER 24TH
ORAKEI SCHOOL HALL
7.30 - 9PM
FREE ENTRY

Please RSVP to katiemeganoaks@gmail.com or
text 027 781 3065

Join us for a night with Emma Wright, discussing
RAISING BODY CONFIDENT KIDS.

In 90 minutes you'll learn:

- *The 10 Principles of BODY CONFIDENCE
- *How to deal with SUGAR CRAVINGS
- * PROTECTING your kids from damaging SOCIAL MEDIA MESSAGES
- * How to talk about FAT and WEIGHT without AWKWARDNESS or fear you're causing issues
- * PRACTICAL TOOLS that will teach respect, resilience and self care
- *Set your kids up to have a good relationship with food and their body for life

ALL WELCOME!!