



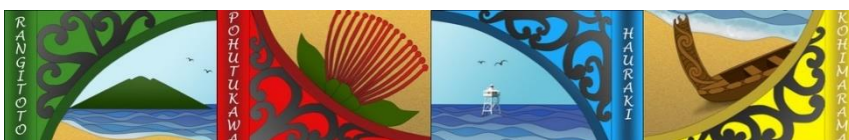
Principal's Message

I can't quite believe that the students have nearly ticked off two terms at school and that we are halfway through the school year. Time sure flies when you are having fun. 😊 On that note I want to say a huge thank you to the PTA for all the effort they put in behind the scenes to make the Quiz Night a great success. It was an amazing event and I thank everyone that was involved whether that be the PTA, the sponsors, the companies that donated prizes and the staff band. It sure does show that we have an amazing school community.

We have all probably noticed that over the last few weeks we have experienced the joys of Auckland's 4 seasons in one day or in one week with some days being quite crisp, cold and or wet. So, if your child could make sure that they have what they need to keep dry and warm on these days that would be great. Also, probably a good little reminder to make sure that your child knows how to blow their nose and what to do when needing to cough. As actually these can be quite a challenging concept speaking from experience with my own two children.

Next Friday is Matariki which is celebrated across New Zealand in many different ways. We will be hosting our annual Matariki morning on Thursday 27 June at 8.15am in the school library and we welcome our school community to join us. Please see below for further information about the morning and a few extra events that you are welcome to attend.

Ingrid May
Acting Principal



To the PTA for all the effort they put into organising Quiz night.

Upcoming Dates

June

- 24 Eastern Zone Hockey
- 27 Matariki Open Morning
- 28 Matariki Holiday

July

- 01 Bay Suburbs Netball
- 02 Ki o Rahi Tournament Y7&Y8
- 04 Pizza Lunch & Red Nose Mufti Day
- 05 Junior Formal Assembly
10.00am – 10.30am (school hall)
Senior Formal Assembly
12.00pm – 12.30pm (school hall)
- 05 Last Day Term 2
- 22 First Day of Term 3
- 24 Cross Country Costume Carnival
- 26 Eastern Zone Netball
- 26 Last Day for ICAS Registrations

August

- 09 Junior Assembly (J7&8 hosting)
9.45am – 10.30am (school hall)
Senior Assembly (Y7 hosting)
11.45am – 12.30pm (school hall)
- 13 Eastern Zone Girls Basketball
- 15 Eastern Zone Boys Basketball
- 22 Student Led Learning Conferences

2025 St Thomas's School Term Dates

	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
Term 1	Monday 3 February	Friday 11 April
Term 2	Monday 28 April	Friday 27 June
Term 3	Monday 14 July	Friday 19 September
Term 4	Monday 6 October	Tuesday 16 December

2025 New Zealand Public Holidays

Waitangi Day	Thursday 6 February
King's Birthday	Monday 2 June
Matariki	Friday 20 June
Labour Day	Monday 27 October

Matariki Whānau Morning

Nau mai, haere mai. We would like to extend a warm welcome to whānau for our Matariki Whānau Morning on Thursday 27 June from 8:15am, ahead of the public holiday. We have some senior learners as kaikōrero, sharing karakia o Matariki. After which our very talented waiata crew will be presenting some waiata. After our acknowledgement of this special time in Aotearoa, you will be invited to have a couple of biscuits and a hot drink from the Coffee Cart.

Coffee and Hot Drinks will be available for the community to purchase from the coffee van which will be on site as part of our Matariki celebrations.

Small	\$4.00 for tea, long black or child's hot chocolate \$4.50 for coffee
Medium	\$5.00 per cup
Large	\$6 per cup

New Board of Trustees Member Arapeta Albert



E ngā mana, e ngā reo, e ngā hau e whā
Kia orana koutau katoa,

Ko Arapeta taku ingoa,
Nō Te Whānau-ā- Apanui, Whakatōhea, Aitutaki ahau.

I am the father of two young girls at St Thomas's. I am excited to help drive sustainable growth through the STS Board. With over 25 years of experience in banking and finance, I pursued my dreams and established my own Financial Advice Business in 2016. I am passionate about sports, travelling, new experiences, and educating my community on financial literacy. What I love about STS is its diverse culture, close-knit community, and the range of opportunities it provides.

I hope every student, staff member, and family at STS can fill their cups with passion, drive, dreams, and core memories.

Nō reira, tēnā tātau katoa.



544 School Bus Update

Please see the response from Auckland Transport re the **544 School Bus**

Our Bus Operations team is aware of school buses that need extra space. However, it is unlikely that any changes will be made in 2024 because there aren't enough buses or drivers.

The team is committed to providing safe bus services for students. They are constantly monitoring passenger numbers on school buses to make sure that they aren't overcrowded. Bus drivers are responsible for making sure that the number of students onboard is within the Student Certificate of Loading (COL) limit. This is the maximum number of passengers which can travel on a bus. There are different maximum passenger numbers on buses for adults, secondary school students, intermediate school students and primary school students.

I understand that this will be disappointing, but I hope this explains why Auckland Transport can't offer any extra services at this time.

National Young Leaders Day Trip

On Thursday 23 May, the Year 8 student leaders went to Due Drop Events Centre, for the National Young Leaders Day (NYLD).

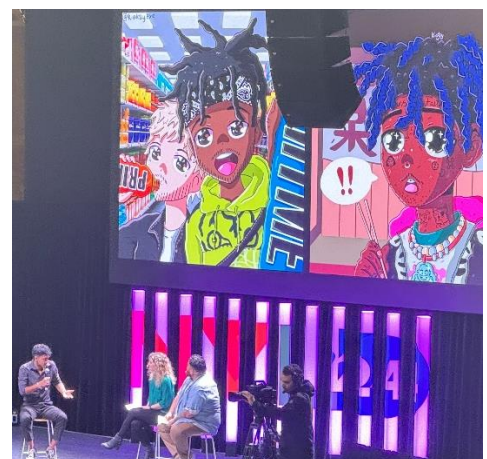
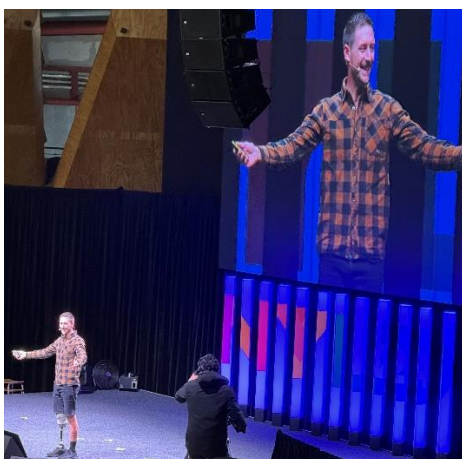
At the NYLD trip we learnt a lot of things. When we arrived the place was huge, there were around 40+ schools there and so many people! At the start they were playing music to get us excited until the show started. There was a big long camera filming each school dancing randomly and every school wanted to get on to the big screen. Then the show started and the two hosts Emma and Nate came to introduce the speakers.

There were 6 people who presented about how they became a leader and their story. The people who spoke to us were: William Pike, Brooke Neal, Māori Millionaire, Nate Wilbourne & Klasky.

One of our favourite's was William Pike. He is the creator of the famous programme the William Pike Challenge. He told us to jump out of our comfort zone and challenge ourselves in adversity. Even when you face problems (like when his leg was amputated) you can still have hope and achieve a lot.

In this trip we learned so much and we all found our direction of how to be a good leader. Our experience going there was amazing, and we hope we can go to more events like this one day!

By *Stella O'Brien and Cicilia Liu, S2*



'Inspiring the Future' Careers Morning



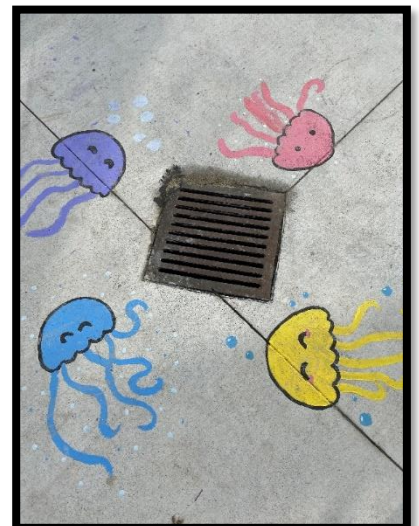
On Monday 17 June, nine people with different jobs came into our school and educated us on their separate jobs, such as advertising and being a doctor. The teachers had organized twenty questions for us to ask them and with that information we then guessed their jobs while they got changed into their uniforms. There were a lot of different occupations such as an arborist, doctor, pro scooterer, a biosecurity worker, a forensic scientist, a zoo keeper, a tourism operator, an advertisement maker and an IT worker. After that we got into groups and visited each of them and asked a variety of questions like, "would you keep working if you had enough money to live comfortably for the rest of your life?" and much more. It was a fun, educational and overall interesting experience.

By *Lars Wivell, James Nutton, Alex Floka, and Finn Lewis* from S3

Drain Art



You may have noticed that drain art has recently appeared around some of our school drains. This is the work of some of our talented senior art students; Emily Scott, Mikaela Lowe, and Mia De Greve, who were keen to promote awareness around the issue of rubbish falling into drains and being washed out to sea, and the danger this poses for marine animals. We hope this art sparks conversations about water pollution and waste management. Well done girls for being Kaitiaki and taking action over such an important issue!



Community Notices

Please see our website for details about:

School Holiday Programmes: <https://www.stthomas.school.nz/school-holiday-programmes/>

Clubs and activities: <https://www.stthomas.school.nz/clubs-and-activities/>

Community notices: <https://www.stthomas.school.nz/community-notices/>

Shine Speech & Drama classes

Shine Speech & Drama classes inspire confidence and imagination, helping students communicate effectively and build self-belief that helps them succeed in life.

SHINE SPEECH & DRAMA covers:

- public speaking
- acting skills
- voice (projection and articulation)
- reading aloud skills
- positive body language
- storytelling
- relationship skills
- option to enter exams through Speech NZ and Trinity.
- Shine Achievement Awards available for all students.



Mark trained in drama and theatre arts at the University of Birmingham and University of Canterbury, all the way through to his doctorate. Mark has created TV shows and performances for international touring. He has taught all age groups, from pre-school to adults, with a special focus on supporting people to express their creativity and build their confidence. Mark has worked in many different cultural contexts and celebrates everybody's uniqueness.

Register [here](#) for term 3 lessons, beginning Thursday 1st August 2024. Term fees are \$260 for group class or \$320 for small, exam focussed group class. 8 lessons guaranteed per term. Sibling discount of 10% for any siblings enrolling.

Any questions please don't hesitate to call Nina on 021-160 9197 or Emily 0204-022 8578



St Thomas's School is excited to partner with Eastern Suburbs AFC to offer an after school football programme.

These sessions are:

- High energy, fun and age appropriate;
- Designed to improve football skills and promote teamwork in a safe environment;
- Coached by NZ accredited coaches and ESAFC Senior players.

PROGRAMME DETAILS

When:
10 week programme,
Mondays 3:15 - 4:15pm,
22nd July - 23rd September




Cost: \$160

Book Online:
easternsuburbs.org.nz/community/suburbs-in-schools/

Any queries, contact:
community@esafc.org.nz





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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR QUIZ NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all those who supported our Mid-Winter Christmas Quiz Night Fundraiser. What a great night.

Whether you attended on the night or placed a bid on one of our many silent auctions, you helped make our fundraiser a huge success.

A big Thank you to our MC, Alex, and the wonderful band – Lost Property (Lead singers Ms Titchener & Ms Gwin, Guitarist Mr Whittaker, and Drummer Mr D). You ROCK!

We would also like to thank our main sponsors, Saint John's Butchery, Coimex & PAKnSAVE Glenn Innes.



WATCH OUT FOR UPCOMING EVENTS IN TERM 3

- **Ice Block Fridays** - every Friday (weather permitting) \$2 each or 3 for \$5.
- **Musical Showcase** – 7th August
- **Family Photos** - 17th & 18th August
- **PTA Disco** - 30th August

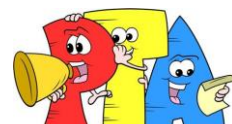
REMINDERS

Second Hand Uniforms:

Donate your preloved uniform for us to on-sell. Please drop off at the school office.

Yummy Stickers

Remind your children to stick their Yummy stickers from their fruit to the class sticker sheet.



Why not consider joining the PTA in 2024? It's fun, rewarding and most of all, benefits the school and our Tamariki. Contact us on the email below or come along to our next monthly meeting to find out what we do. Next meeting **7pm, Wednesday 31st July** in the school Staffroom.

We encourage you to contact us with your thoughts & suggestions any time at stthomasschoolpta@gmail.com and don't forget to Like us on Facebook!



Facebook/StThomasSchoolPTA