



Principal's Message

Tēnā Koutou Katoa

Exciting Development

At our Board meeting this week we moved our proposed basketball court development to the next stage and it is now going to tender. With our aim to provide all weather and sun protection for our students we have also included a canopy cover for the courts. The addition of a court and canopy cover will be a huge boost for our school and not only allow sports to take place in the winter but also provide the opportunity to hold outdoor assemblies and community events. We will continue with our fundraising events to ensure that we can get this project across the line and look forward to your ongoing support to make this happen.

Budget Announcement

Schools and parents will welcome the injection of funding into special needs support in yesterday's budget announcement. In recent years the Board of St Thomas's School has placed hundreds of thousands of dollars into supporting the diverse range of special needs students in our school. This has helped those students to achieve to the best of their abilities while ensuring all other students also achieve. As always with government announcements, what is promised and what is delivered can be different, however, we support and welcome the Minister's announcement and look forward to 2026 and the additional support for our students and families.

Unwelcome Visitors

Schools around Auckland have an increasing number of unwelcome visitors after school hours and St Thomas's is no exception. We have seen an increase in vandalism including plants stolen from our gardens, bottles broken in the playgrounds and using our grounds as toilets. Our latest visitor ripped one of our CCT cameras off the wall and stole it, which provided a wonderful picture of him which was forwarded to the police. As a school we are keen to keep the grounds open for the community at the weekends, however, this will depend on the level of vandalism that we are experiencing and whether it is posing a risk to our property and students.

Ngā mihi nui

Michael Maher
Principal



***To all our Teacher Aides
for their dedication,
commitment and care to
all our students.***

Upcoming Dates

May

- 26 Junior Formal Assembly
9.15am – 9.45am (school hall)
Senior Formal Assembly
10.00am – 10.30pm (school hall)
- 29 Yr 3 Trip to Stardome
- 30 Teacher Only Day
(School closed to students)

June

- 02 King's Birthday Holiday
- 09 Junior Assembly (J5 & J6 hosting)
10am (school hall)
Senior Assembly (S7 & S8 hosting)
11.45am (school hall)
- 10 Bay Suburbs Rippa Rugby
- 11 Yr 4 - 6 Parent Better Start Literacy
Workshop 8.15am to 8.45am
(Library)
- 14 Working Bee (Native Garden area)
9.00am to 1.00pm
- 16 Eastern Zone Hockey
- 17 Board of Trustees Meeting
(6.30pm staffroom)
- 19 Matariki Open Morning
(8.30am – 10.30am)



Change of Date for Garden Working Bee

We have changed the date of our school garden working bee to Saturday 14 June. The time remains the same 9.00am - 1.00pm (or whatever part of that timeframe you can spare). Come along and help to develop this bottom corner of the field into a nature learning space. Many hands make light work, and we would love to see as many of you there as can make it. Children are welcome but must be in the care of an adult. Any queries please contact Alison Snell at asnell@stthomas.school.nz.

2026 Term Dates

Term One: 9 weeks

Monday 2 February - Thursday 2 April
(Waitangi Day - 6 February)

Term Two: 11 weeks

Monday 20 April - Friday 3 July
(ANZAC Day Observed, - 27 April, Kings Birthday 1 June)

Term Three: 10 weeks

Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September

Term Four: 9 weeks and 1 day

Monday 12 October - Monday 14 December
(Labour Day 26 October)

Illness

You should keep your child at home if they have any symptoms of concern, such as:

- Infectious disease e.g. chicken pox
- Fever
- Vomiting or diarrhoea
- Sore Throat
- School sores or other skin infections
- A new rash or itches
- Head lice (nits)
- Wheezing or difficulty breathing

If your child has had vomiting or diarrhoea, they can return to school after 48 hours (2 days) have passed since the last time they vomited or had diarrhoea. Please do not send them back earlier.

Teacher Profile – Nikki Gosden



Kia ora, I'm a Year 6 teacher and the Team Leader for the Year 6 cohort. I'm passionate about designing hands-on, meaningful learning experiences that both challenge and engage my students. Prior to teaching in Tāmaki Makaurau/Auckland, I lived and taught in Ōtautahi/Christchurch.

I grew up in conservation areas across New Zealand, including Franz Josef and Nelson Lakes. I was fortunate to spend the majority of my childhood surrounded by nature. Caring for the environment is something I deeply value, and I enjoy sharing this passion with my students. Outside of school I love to spend time in the outdoors hiking, camping, and swimming as well as reading and travelling.

Board of Trustees Member – Myriam Gros



Kia ora koutou, it's a real privilege to be joining the Board of Trustees at St Thomas's School. My daughter is in Year 3, and it's been a joy watching her grow and thrive in such a warm and dynamic learning environment.

I'm an audit partner and work closely with a number of schools and education organisations across Aotearoa. That experience has given me a strong appreciation for the governance and care that support great teaching and learning — and I'm looking forward to contributing that perspective to our Board.

I'm passionate about ensuring all students have access to a rich and balanced education and supporting the mahi that makes St Thomas's such a special place for our tamariki and whānau.

Year 7 Boys Eastern Zone Football Tournament

On Tuesday 13 May, the Year 7 Boys Eastern Zone Football Team headed out to Michaels Ave for an exciting day of competition. Spirits were high as the boys represented our school with pride, energy, and determination.

Throughout the day, the team played with incredible enthusiasm and teamwork, showing great sportsmanship and resilience in every match. Their positive attitudes and commitment on the field were impressive to watch.

After a series of tough games, the boys finished in 5th place overall - a fantastic result against strong competition! We're so proud of the effort and heart they showed throughout the day.

A big thank you to all the parents and supporters who came along to cheer them on - it truly made the day even more special.

We can't wait for more sporting events ahead!



Eastern Zone Football Tournament – Year 8 Boys

On Thursday 15 May, our Year 8 boys competed in the Eastern Zone Football Tournament held at Madills Farm. It was a fantastic day filled with high energy, great teamwork, and impressive sportsmanship.

The boys played four games in total, finishing the day with one win, two draws, and one loss - earning them a very respectable 5th place overall. They showed determination, skill, and a positive attitude in every match, representing St Thomas's with pride.

We are so proud of their efforts and the way they supported each other on and off the field. A big thank you to the parents and supporters who came along to cheer the team on - it was wonderful to have you there.

Well done, boys!



Whānau Friday

On Fridays, whānau are welcomed onto the school site in the morning while our school gates are open. You can use this time to explore your child's classroom with them, look at work they have been doing or have a quick chat with their classroom teacher and other parents.

We request that all parents leave the school site before the 8.55am bell goes, so that we can begin our teaching and learning programme. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, parents drop off their children at the school gate. This helps with traffic flow outside the school and builds resilient and independent students.

Notices

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 programmes:

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

Thursday 19th June

Matariki Open Morning

You are warmly invited to visit your child's classroom to celebrate Matariki with us

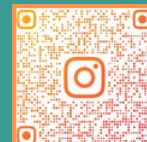
Visit anytime between 8.30am -10.30am

Organio Coffee Van will be on site for you to purchase a hot drink before, during or after our Matariki morning. Prices are as follows: Small: \$5.00, Medium: \$5.50 and Large \$6.00



St Thomas's School PTA NEWS

Connect
WITH US



Instagram



Facebook

QUIZ NIGHT - DONATIONS FOR AUCTION NEEDED!

We need your help getting prize donations for our auction to make our quiz night even more exciting and raise funds for the school's STEAM program. If you can contribute or know of businesses that might be interested, please get in touch with the PTA.



SPACE-ATHON

There's still time to sign up & collect donations!

Head to: <https://stthomasspaceathon.raiseit.co.nz>



UPCOMING EVENTS

EVERY
FRIDAY

ICE BLOCKS

From 3pm, under the tree outside the office.
(weather allowing)

MAY
26

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

Starting at 3pm

MAY
26

SPACE-A-THON

Register & collect donations: now till 30 May
Testing date: 26 May

JUNE
11

PTA MEETING

7pm in the school staff lounge

JUNE
13

PTA DISCO

Juniors: 5 - 6:30pm. Seniors: 7-8:30pm

AUG
9

QUIZ NIGHT

Collecting donations for the auction now!

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE!

Monday
26 May, 3pm

Our term 2 uniform sale will be held on Monday 26 May from 3pm. Look for us on the netball/basketball courts.

The next opportunity to purchase uniforms via the PTA will be in term 3.

If you have uniforms to donate, please drop them off at any time to the office!



SCHOOL DISCO - FRIDAY, 13 JUNE



ICE BLOCK FRIDAYS

From 3pm every Friday
(weather permitting)

\$2 each or 3 for \$5

Under the tree outside the office



HELP THE PTA!

We'd love for you to join us!

Whether it's helping at events or sharing ideas, every bit helps. No big commitment - help as much as you're able.

Our fundraising efforts for 2025 will go towards enhancing the STEAM programme with new equipment & resources.

If you're interested in getting involved or learning more, come along to the next PTA meeting or get in touch.



Email us at: stthomasschoolpta@gmail.com



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 loved making some tasty pizzas and sharing about our families that we love so much. The juniors learned about family crests and using symbols to share stories or cool things that our families love to do together.



KELLY CLUB

FUN PROGRAMMES THAT KIDS LOVE!

Our programmes are focused around various activities including arts & crafts, cooking, sports and discovery!

BOOK NOW www.kellyclub.co.nz

What's happening next week!

		THEME: A Sea of Royals Term 2 Week 5, 26th May 2025				Weekly Activities Plan Kelly Club St Thomas
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
7:00 - 8:15 am	Card Games & Structured Free Time	Ocean Animals Art & Structured Free Time	Playdough Sea Creatures & Structured Free Time	Charades & Structured Free Time	Homemade Cupcakes & Structured Free Time	
8:15 - 8:30 am	Game: Bean Bag Toss	Game: Balloon Stomp	Game: Boss of the Balls	Game: King of the Hill	Game: Line Defense	
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 Corn Thins & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Cheerios & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Homemade Cupcakes & Fruit	
3:30 - 3:45 pm	Game: Staff Choice	Game: Master	Game: Space Invaders	Game: Scatter Ball	Game: Lonely Ghost	
SENIORS 3:45 - 4:30 pm	GAME Cannon Ball Pop 	DISCOVERY Ocean Slime 	SPORT Hot Cannonball 	COOKING Under the Sea Jelly 	CRAFT Scepter 	
	CRAFT Paper Cup Boats 	GAME Queen Bee 	DISCOVERY Oil vs Water 	COOKING Under the Sea Jelly 	SPORT Hot Cannonball 	
JUNIORS 3:45 - 4:30 pm						
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	Snack Time Vege Chips	Snack Time Popcorn	Snack Time Biscuits	Snack Time Baking	Snack Time Crackers	
5:30 - 6:00 pm	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	

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



BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz



A FUN PROGRAMME
THAT KIDS **LOVE!**

Friday 30 May **TEACHER ONLY DAY PROGRAMME**

**OSCAR
PROGRAMME
SUBSIDIES
AVAILABLE!**

*Conditions apply

ST THOMAS SCHOOL

Come and compete against the other warriors in our Ultimate Kelly Club Warrior contest! We will test your strength, speed and bravery!
Book online now for our fun-filled one day holiday programme. See you there!

Full Day: \$59
7:00am – 6:00pm

School Day: \$49
8:30am – 3:00pm

Half Day: \$41
7:00am – 12:30pm or 12:30pm – 6:00pm

Contact: Ian Palmquist
Phone: 021 0803 3666

Email: stthomas@kellyclub.co.nz
Facebook: @KellyClubStThomas

**OSCAR
PROGRAMME
SUBSIDIES
AVAILABLE!**

*Conditions apply

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz