



08 August 2025

## Principal's Message

Tēnā Koutou Katoa

### Board Elections 2026

As the election process gets underway to determine who will be on the Board for the next 3 years, I would like to acknowledge our current Board members, some who are leaving and some who are standing again for re-election. Annika Lim and Alistair Monk attended their last Board meeting this week and thank you both for the expertise and guidance you have contributed to the Board over the years.

Standing again is our chairperson Nick Chapman and fellow Board members Megan Wheeler, Arapeta Albert, Myriam Gros and Karl Landman who have brought an increased level of professionalism and quality decision making to the board. Their astute governance knowledge has enabled the school to move forward with clarity through the many changes which all schools deal with.



**Nick Chapman**



**Megan Wheeler**



**Arapeta Albert**



**Myriam Gros**



**Karl Landman**

Some schools have few candidates who put themselves forward for election, however we are fortunate to have 11 parents standing this time. Please vote in the election and good luck to the candidates who are standing.

### Out of Zone Ballot for 2026

Our 2026 Out of Zone Ballot will **only be open to the following**:

1. Families who have previously enrolled a child through an Out of Zone Ballot and have siblings to enrol for 2026.
2. Families that have moved out of zone while your child has been attending St Thomas's School and have another child that you would like to enrol for 2026.

Both 1 and 2 above **must apply through the ballot** if you want your child to attend in 2026.

**No other Out of Zone applications will be accepted.**

Link to application form: [Out of Zone Ballot 2026 Application Form](#).

- Closing date for applications is Wednesday 8 October 2025
- Ballot date is Wednesday 15 October 2025

Ngā mihi nui

**Michael Maher**  
**Principal**



## Upcoming Dates

### August

- 09 PTA Quiz Night 6.30pm (Ellerslie)
- 11 Junior Formal Assembly  
9.15am – 9.45am (school hall)  
Senior Formal Assembly  
10.00am – 10.30pm (school hall)
- 12 Bay Suburbs and Eastern Zone Cross Country
- 14 Eastern Zone Boys Basketball
- 14 Pizza Lunch & Mufti Day
- 19 Eastern Zone Girls Basketball
- 20 Y5 Museum Trip
- 21 Olympic Gold and Silver Medallist,  
Emma Twigg Visiting Y4 – Y8
- 21 Student Led Learning Conferences
- 22 Kids Lit Quiz
- 25 Junior Assembly (J13 Hosting)  
10am (school hall)  
Senior Assembly (S11 & S12 Hosting)  
11.45am (school hall)

### September

- 01 Y6 Tree Planting at Selwyn Bush
- 02 Board of Trustees Meeting  
(6.30pm staffroom)
- 03 M3 & M1 Tiritiri Matangi Island Trip
- 04 M2 & M1 Tiritiri Matangi Island Trip
- 08 Junior Assembly (M2 Hosting)  
10am (school hall)  
Senior Assembly (Y7 Hosting)  
11.45am (school hall)

## Staff Profile – Karen Bohan-Shaw



I have been a teacher for 18 years and I have taught at St Thomas's School for 7 of those years. Previously I worked at a school in South Auckland, teaching mainly new entrants and Year 1 and running the Reading Recovery Programme.

## Staff Profile – Fiona Rua



I've been part of the St Thomas's School community for five years and am grateful to be part of such a vibrant, supportive school community. My teaching journey here began as a Year 2 teacher, before I moved to Year 3, where I've enjoyed having the role of Team Leader. I was born and raised in Melbourne and after marrying a Kiwi, I soon found myself living on the other side of the ditch. Before becoming a teacher, I worked for many years at the University of Melbourne in the field of research science. I enjoy bringing that scientific curiosity into the classroom and encouraging a spirit of exploration and discovery. Outside of school, I'm a proud parent of three children who keep me just as busy and inspired at home!

## The Musical Showcase

The Musical Showcase was held in the school hall on 30 August. It was so fun and exciting to hear all the amazing performances and instruments. I was the host with Annaliese and introduced everyone before they came on. The instruments that the students played were piano, guitar, violin and even drums! Two people also sang while playing piano, and one of them was Rose Carpenter who actually wrote the song herself! It was really fun to hear everyone and listen to new songs. Overall, it was an incredible musical showcase and everyone did a great job.

By *Hollie Spillane (Year 7)*





## STS Cross Country 2025

Our annual Cross Country event was held this term, and what an incredible day it was! Despite the wind making its presence known, our students showed amazing resilience, determination and school spirit as they tackled the course.

It was especially heartwarming to see so many parents and whānau lining the track, cheering on our tamariki and helping create such a positive and encouraging atmosphere. Your support means so much and truly adds to the magic of days like this.

From our younger runners giving it a go with huge smiles, to our more experienced students pushing themselves to their limits, every race was filled with effort, perseverance and pride. Whether running for placing or personal bests, each student showed what it means to take part with heart.

A big thank you to our teachers and staff who helped on the day and ensured everything ran smoothly and to everyone who helped set up, pack down and support along the way.

Amazing work, St Thomas's! We're so proud of all of you.



## Year 5 & 6 Speech Finals

What a fantastic effort from all our Year 5 and 6 students who took part in the speech finals! A special shout-out also goes to the four Year 4 students who shared their speeches.

A huge congratulations to our first-place winners:

- Georgia Martin, who won first place for her moving speech about places that are important to her.
- Clara Bruce, who delivered a fantastic flash talk about the koala crisis.

Both Georgia and Clara will now move on to the interschool competition. Everyone who participated did an amazing job, and we wish Georgia and Clara the best of luck in the next round!





## Notices

# MUSIC LESSONS AT SCHOOL!

**Specialist music tuition for a range  
of instruments including Piano,  
Guitar, Drums and more!**

**IT'S CONVENIENT!**

Have your child's **music lesson right at their school** and give  
them the opportunity to develop their skills through our  
**individualised lessons that're both fun and educational!**

**Learning music supports all areas  
of learning through developing**



confidence



creativity



concentration



and so much  
more!

Please scan this QR Code  
to visit our website for  
more information.



**SCAN ME**

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/>

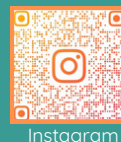
### **School holiday programmes:**

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



# PTA NEWS

Connect  
WITH US  
@StThomasSchoolPTA



## UPCOMING EVENTS

EVERY  
FRIDAY

### ICE BLOCKS

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

AUG  
9

### QUIZ NIGHT

Quiz Night tomorrow evening!! See you there!  
Auction finishes 10pm tomorrow.

SEPT  
5

### PARENTS AFTERNOON TEA

2:00 - 2:55pm in the school staff room

## Final Day of the Online Auction!

This is your final chance to bid on amazing items! Auction closes tomorrow @ 10pm (9 August). There's fantastic items, something for everyone! All money raised goes towards the 2025 PTA fundraising goal of upgrades & resources for the STEAM programme. Visit the website or scan the QR to check out the auction items; don't miss out! Even if you aren't coming to the quiz, you can still bid and win.

Auction Website:

**32AUCTIONS.COM/STSPTA**

Quiz Night is proudly sponsored by:



**COIMEX**

Thank you to the amazing businesses that donated auction items:



## 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](mailto: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...

The staff really know how to plan a fun week at Kelly Club. We decorated cupcakes, played football and also pulled out the parachute for some games.



**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](http://www.kellyclub.co.nz)

### What's happening next week!

		<b>THEME: 3...2...1 Blast Off!</b> Term 3 Week 5, 11th August 2025				Weekly Activities Plan Kelly Club St Thomas's
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
7:00 - 8:15 am	Colouring Comp & Structured Free Time	Lego Building & Structured Free Time	Dance Battle & Structured Free Time	Origami Rockets & Structured Free Time	Homemade Muffins & Structured Free Time	
8:15 - 8:30 am	Game: Chicken Tag	Game: Rocket Blast	Game: Musical Statues	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 Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Noodles & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Mac'n'cheese & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Homemade Muffins & Fruit	
3:30 - 3:45 pm	Game: Zip Zap Boing	Game: Rainbow Rush	Game: Crab Football	Game: Tug O War	Game: Jedi Dodgeball	
SENIORS 3:45 - 4:30 pm	<b>COOKING</b> Take Off Fruit Kebab 	<b>CRAFT</b> Straw Rockets 	<b>GAME</b> Spoon Launch 	<b>DISCOVERY</b> Balloon Rocks 	<b>SPORT</b> Space Iron 	
	<b>COOKING</b> Take Off Fruit Kebab 	<b>GAME</b> Going to the Moon 	<b>CRAFT</b> Footprint Rockets 	<b>SPORT</b> Space Iron 	<b>DISCOVERY</b> Balloon Rocks 	
JUNIORS 3:45 - 4:30 pm	<b>COOKING</b> Take Off Fruit Kebab 	<b>GAME</b> Going to the Moon 	<b>CRAFT</b> Footprint Rockets 	<b>SPORT</b> Space Iron 	<b>DISCOVERY</b> Balloon Rocks 	
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 Baking	Snack Time Raisins	Snack Time Muesli Bars	Snack Time Potato Sticks	Snack Time Corn Thins	

E: stthomas@kellyclub.co.nz

[kellyclub.co.nz/stthomas](http://kellyclub.co.nz/stthomas)

P: 021 080 33666



**BOOK ONLINE NOW AT** [www.kellyclub.co.nz](http://www.kellyclub.co.nz)