St Thomas's News

Whakaute / Respect · Aumangea / Resilience · Takohanga / Responsibility

13 March 2026

Principal's Message

Tēnā Koutou Katoa

Student and Family Support
As part of our ongoing efforts to support families we have provided a space for a psychotherapist to operate out of our school. Christian Bolland is a qualified psychotherapist who works with children and young people using a supportive, relationship-focused approach. Committed to cultural responsiveness, understanding neurodiversity and trauma-informed care. Christian is experienced working with neurodivergent children and their whānau to support regulation, communication and engagement.

Families have shared with us the difficulty of accessing professional care in the community and this goes someway to addressing this. The service will be 'user pays'. If you are interested in engaging with Christian, please contact the Deputy Principal in charge of your child's year level to find out more.

- Years 1-3 Ingrid May imay@stthomas.school.nz
- Years 4-8 Claire Fromow cfromow@stthomas.school.nz

Bike and e-scooters
A reminder that bikes and e-scooters are not to be ridden through the school grounds before and after school. No student is to carry another student on an e-scooter and parents need to be confident that their child is going to safely and sensibly ride their e-scooters to school. No helmets, no riding.

School Community
We continue to place a strong emphasis on building a connected and supportive school community. We know that when school and home work closely together, students are better supported to thrive both academically and personally. Thank you to the many whānau who continue to engage with classroom learning, attend school events, and communicate regularly with our staff. Your partnership plays a vital role in creating the positive and inclusive environment that makes our school such a special place for our children. We look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming Student Led Learning Conferences

Ngā mihi nui
Michael Maher, Principal

St Thomas's Shout Out

A huge thanks to the parent volunteers who helped at our Year 6 Camp.

Upcoming Dates

March

16	Y8 Mountain to Sea Theory
17	Bay Suburbs Softball
17	Yr 7-8 Immunisations
17	Board of Trustees Meeting (6.30pm staffroom)
18	AAIMS Interzone Softball
18	PTA AGM and Meeting (7.00pm staffroom)
19	M6 Howick Historical Village Trip
19	Eastern Zone Swimming
20	S7 & S8 Howick Historical Village Trip
20	PTA Parents' Afternoon Tea 2.30pm
23	Eastern Zone Orienteering
25	Y8 Mountain to Sea Local Marine Investigation (St Heliers)
26	Student Led Learning Conferences
27	Bay Suburbs Swimming
27	Y1-3 Assembly 9.30am to 10.00am (school hall)
30	Y8 Mountain to Sea Trip to Goat Is.
30	Yr 7-8 House Assembly (Hauraki) 12.00pm to 12.30pm (school hall)

April

2	Last Day of Term 1
3	Good Friday Holiday

Year 6 Camp

On Wednesday 25 to Friday 27 February the Year 6 students went to Camp Adair. The activities at camp were: The Super Fox, High Beam, Confidence Course, Team Challenges, Rock Climbing, Archery, Kayaking, Mud Slide, Burma Trail and the Camp Fire. Students had an excellent time and we were impressed by how well all students participated in the activities. Thank you to all the parents and teachers who were involved with helping out at camp.

Eastern Zone Softball Tournament

On 5 March, our St Thomas's softball teams headed out to compete in the Eastern Zone Softball Tournament, and what a fantastic day it was. We took two teams along and we were incredibly proud of the way our students represented the school both on and off the field.

Across the day, both teams played some great softball, showing strong teamwork, determination and a willingness to support one another in every game. The level of effort and positivity from our players was awesome to see and it made for a really enjoyable day of competition.

One of the highlights of the tournament was the number of compliments we received from other schools and officials about our students. Many commented on how respectful, positive and supportive our players were throughout the day. Their sportsmanship and attitude truly reflected the values we aim to show at St Thomas's and we couldn't be prouder.

A special congratulations goes to our boys' team, who have qualified for the Auckland Championships, which will take place next Wednesday. This is an amazing achievement and a testament to the hard work and commitment they have shown.

Thank you to all the parents and supporters who came along to cheer from the sidelines. Your encouragement and support make such a difference and help create such a positive experience for our students.

Ka pai to everyone involved - we're incredibly proud of all our players!

STS News

To watch the 36th episode of the series, click HERE.

To watch the 37th 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.school.nz/school-holiday-programmes/

Music lessons right at school 🎶 Personalised lessons designed to support your child's confidence, focus, and learning — with no extra travel for families. 👉 **Enrol here:** https://musiceducation.co.nz/pages/mis-enrolment

DANCE CURRICULUM
FALL IN LOVE WITH LEARNING

Dance Curriculum at St Thomas's School

In Term 2, we're excited to have Manny from Dance Curriculum visiting your school!

Manny has taught thousands of students across Aotearoa and can't wait to show you what your children are capable of through the program.

Our program works in groups of similarly aged students for 30-40minutes each day. Lessons focus on structured learning of challenging dance routines, improvisation skills, and performance techniques.

We're working towards a dance concert on **Friday 1st May**, which you're warmly invited to attend. There's no charge for the concert, so feel free to bring along family and friends to celebrate your child's learning.

The cost of the program is $22 per student, covering all lessons and rehearsals.

Explore Dance Curriculum YouTube channel!

DANCE CURRICULUM
FALL IN LOVE WITH LEARNING

Dance Curriculum Visit

We're excited to have a visit from the Dance Curriculum Team!

Dance Curriculum is passionate about providing schools with positive male role models who deliver world-class arts programs that engage and inspire students.

Founded in 2014, Dane Curriculum is now the fastest-growing face-to-face dance provider for schools across Australia and Aotearoa.

We're on a mission to help as many children to fall in love with learning and see challenges as 'on the way', not 'in the way'.

These concerts have become the highlight of the year for so many parents, children, and staff. Sit back and watch as your students Fall In Love With Learning!

Explore Dance Curriculum YouTube channel!

ST THOMAS'S INTERMEDIATE

What's happening in our Intermediate School

THE ST THOMAS'S INTERMEDIATE EXPERIENCE

This year we are focusing on making the Intermediate Years at St Thomas's a special experience for all of our students. The Teachers have designed the timetable and learning experiences to mirror the structure and expectations of a College setting, in an effort to best prepare the students for Year 9. This includes:

- A 6 period timetable
- Movement around classes for different lessons
- Weekly Science and Social Studies lessons
- Discovery Lab lessons giving students an even wider range of learning opportunities
- Extra leadership opportunities
- A big focus on School Houses

We look forward to sharing some of the exciting opportunities our Intermediate students are offered this year through our School Newsletter.

Extracting DNA from bananas during our Week 4 Science Experiment

DISCOVERY LAB

Through our Discovery Lab lessons, which happen three afternoons per week, students are offered the opportunity to learn something new. We offer:

- **Sport Science:** students learn about how their bodies work through movement and analysis. They learn about the muscles, bones, and movement through both in-class learning and practical activities.
- **Media Studies:** students explore how media messages are created, shared, and interpreted, helping students understand how media influences opinions, behaviour, and society.
- **Coding:** students learn how coding works by designing games, solving problems, and bringing ideas to life.
- **Service:** students learn about the importance of service within a community. They learn about servant leadership and how to bring the best out in others.
- **Extreme Weather:** students learn about the different types of extreme weather we experience on Earth; how the weather works and the impact it can have on people and the environment.
- **Debating:** students learn the skills involved in debating, from researching the topics to engaging in a debate.

Labelling the bones of the human body on a life-size image in Sport Science

EXCITING UPCOMING EVENTS

Students are offered a wide range of opportunities in our Intermediate School such as:

- Skiing: students will be attending skiing/snowboarding lessons at Snowplanet once a week for 5 weeks this term.
- Mountains to Sea: Year 8 students have the opportunity, as part of their Moutains to Sea programme to go snorkelling at Goat Island.

We look forward to updating you all on these exciting events in our upcoming newsletters!

Thankyou to our Ramadan Activity Helpers!

PTA NEWS

The PTA is on
Facebook & Instagram
@ StThomasSchoolPTA
stthomasschoolpta@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendar

EVERY FRIDAY

ICE BLOCKS
From 3pm, under the tree by the main gate

MAR 18

PTA MEETING & AGM
Starting @ 7pm
in the school staff room
Anyone is welcome to join!

MAR 20

'CUPPA-AT-PICKUP'
2:30-2:55pm
pop up to the staff room for a free coffee, tea & biscuit

AGM & PTA Meeting

PTA's AGM

The Annual General Meeting is held once a year where the PTA officially reviews our previous annual review and financial report. We will also vote on the Executive roles.

What Happens at the AGM?
- Minutes of the last annual meeting
- Chairperson's annual report
- Annual Financial report
- Election of Executive Committee
- General business

Who can attend the AGM?
Anyone is welcome to come along to our AGM and PTA meetings, even if you don't want to take on an official roll.

What roles can Members stand for?
- Chair/co-chair: provides leadership for the PTA
- Treasurer: manages the funds raised by the PTA
- Secretary: takes minutes at the PTA meetings

What date is the AGM/PTA Meeting?

MARCH 18 | 7PM | STAFF ROOM

Cuppa at Pickup

Join us for free tea, coffee & biscuits before school pickup!

CUPPA
AT PICKUP

Friday, 20 March 2:30 - 2:55pm

No need to RSVP, just follow the signs to the staff room.

Join the PTA

Be a super role model! We all know that being involved in your child's education has a HUGE impact. The PTA is the perfect place where your presence, experience and ideas can help. Imagine the difference you can make!

2026 Meeting Dates:

18 MARCH	29 JULY
6 MAY	28 OCT
10 JUNE	25 NOV

Not ready for a full commitment?
Join "Friends of the PTA". Joining means you can lend a hand when you can without the full commitment. You'll still be making a big difference at our events.

Email us!

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…

Kelly Club headed to the Wild West this past week. Activities included Panning for gold and hobby horsing, and today we will finish the week by making some cornbread. We also battled the wind in the hall and herded sheep on Wednesday. It was extremely tricky because the sheep (balloons) were going everywhere!

What's happening in the Holidays!

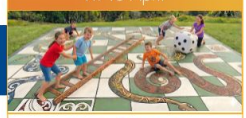
WEEK 1

Mon 6 April — PUBLIC HOLIDAY
PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Easter Monday!

Tues 7 April
EGGSTRAVAGANZA
Hop along for our Easter 'Eggstravaganza'! Bring your looking eyes for our Great Easter Egg Hunt. Who knows what kind of goodies you may find!

Wed 8 April
GAME ON!
Get ready to kick, pass and dodge! Come along and join in games of Football, Touch and Dodgeball.

Thurs 9 April
THE 5 SENSES
Experience the wonders of taste, smell, sound, touch, and sight through fun, discovery, and adventure.

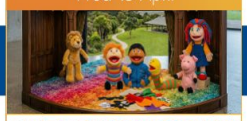


Fri 10 April
FEE-FI-FO-FUN
Fee-fi-fo-fum! Giant board games, giant ball games and giant fun. Are you up for the giant challenge of today?

WEEK 2

Mon 13 April
FIDGET FRENZY
Spin and twist your way through the day! Make your own fidget spinners, play hula hoop twister and even cook yummy fidget pizza.

Tues 14 April
BOLLYWOOD FUN
Step into the colourful world of Bollywood as we dance, craft, cook, and play! Enjoy Bollywood beats, colourful crafts, tasty Indian treats, and play Cricket and Hockey.



Wed 15 April
PIRATE PICKLE'S PUPPET PARTY
Join us for a magical live show at TAPAC as Pirate Pickle and friends bring stories to life, followed by a fun playground stop. Please bring lunch, drink bottle, shoes and a hat.
Extra $20 for the day.

Thurs 16 April
KELLY CLUB SURVIVOR
Out-smart, out-laugh, out-think. Build a fort, play Capture The Flag and take part in our team challenges!

Fri 17 April
FOODIE FRIDAY
Whip up delicious creations, bake sweet treats, and help us build our very own Kelly Club recipe book full of yummy ideas.

Pricing:
FULL WEEK: $290 — 7:00am – 6:00pm
FULL DAY: $61 — 7:00am – 6:00pm
HALF DAY: $42 — 7:00am – 12:30pm or 12:30pm – 6:00pm
SCHOOL DAY: $51 — 8:30am – 3:00pm
EVENT DAY: Extra $20 (Not Included in Full Week)

Contact: Ian Palmquist
Email: stthomas@kellyclub.co.nz
Phone: 021 0803 3666
Facebook: @KellyClubStThomas
Address: 113 Allum St, Kohimarama

BOOK NOW AT
kellyclub.co.nz/st-thomas
Further information:
www.kellyclub.co.nz/hp#info

OSCAR PROGRAMME SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE! *Conditions apply

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz