

15 May 2026

Principal's Message

Tēnā Koutou Katoa

Parent Information Evening-this is for you!

We are looking forward to Rob Copes information evening for our parents on how to keep our kids safe online. Rob Cope is one of Aotearoa/New Zealand's leading parent educators in online safety, dedicated to keeping our tamariki and rangatahi safer in the digital world.

With his unique blend of humour and hard-hitting insights, Rob empowers parents and caregivers to navigate the complexities of the online landscape. Many attendees leave his talks saying, "This was everything I didn't know I needed to know - I feel empowered!"

Rob's presentations consistently draw crowds thanks to his engaging delivery and the life-changing information he shares. From packed school halls to record-breaking attendance, Rob provides parents with everything you need to know to help keep your child safe online. We look forward to seeing you in our school hall on Tuesday from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. You do not need to be a parent of St Thomas's School to attend, so feel free to bring a friend or neighbour.

Keeping our Children Safe in the Physical World

A reminder that all students must wear helmets to school if riding bikes/scooters. Students (and parents accompanying them) must use the Kea Crossing or cross at the traffic lights. Stay out of the bus stop area in the morning to allow the bus to safely drop off our students.

Ngā mihi nui

Michael Maher
Principal



Well done to everyone who took part in the Book Character Parade - your fantastic costumes brought so much joy to the day!

Upcoming Dates

May

- 18-19 School Photos
- 19 Our Kids Online - Cyber Safety Presentation 6.30pm (School Hall)
- 21 Pizza Lunch + Mufti Day
- 22 Yr 1-3 Assembly 9.15am to 9.45pm (School Hall)
- 22 AIMS Bake Sale
- 25-29 Yr 8 Camp (Kawau Island)
- 26 Board of Trustees Meeting 6.30pm (Staffroom)
- 29 Teacher Only Day (School Closed for Students)

June

- 01 King's Birthday Holiday
- 04 Yr 2 Zoo Trip
- 11 Māori Whānau Hui 3.15pm
- 13 PTA Quiz Night 7pm (Staffroom)
- 15 Yr 7&8 House Assembly (Kohimarama) 12pm to 12.30pm (School Hall)
- 16 Board of Trustees Meeting 6.30pm (Staffroom)
- 19 AIMS Movie Night 5.30pm to 7pm (School Hall)
- 22 Yr 4-6 Assembly (M4 Hosting) 11.45-12.30 (School Hall)

Our Book Week: Stories, Costumes and Smiles

Book Week was a great success! We raised a heap of reward points to purchase additional books for the library. Thank you to everyone who took part in the event. There was a wonderful atmosphere in the library throughout the week, and we loved seeing the amazing costumes at the parade on Friday.

Dogman, our very special guest, enjoyed visiting the classrooms and, with the help of our amazing Year 7 and 8 helpers, read stories to the children. Thank you so much to them for their support. Year 1 and 2 had a fantastic time in the hall with our resident author, Kate Talbot, who entertained them with her book *How to Draw a Dragon*.

Year 3 also had a special guest - Drip from Watercare - who visited to support them with their water topic. A very special thank you goes to our amazing PTA, who were incredibly hands-on throughout the week and contributed greatly to the success of the event. We hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we did!



Eastern Zone Boys Football - Year 7

On Tuesday, our Year 7 Boys Football team took part in the Eastern Zone Football Tournament held at Michaels Avenue, and what an incredible day it was. With perfect weather and an awesome atmosphere, the boys played some fantastic football from start to finish.

Across the day, the team showed great determination, teamwork, and resilience as they pushed through each match and worked hard for every result. There were some really strong performances and great moments of skill on display, making it a very successful and enjoyable tournament for all involved.

A highlight of the day was also our sausage sizzle fundraiser running alongside the event, helping raise funds for our AIMS Games teams. A huge thank you to everyone who supported this initiative. We are super proud of all our Year 7 boys for the way they represented St Thomas's both on and off the field.



Eastern Zone Girls Football - Year 7 and 8

On Thursday, our Year 7 and 8 Girls Football team headed down to Michaels Avenue for the Eastern Zone Football Tournament, and it was another fantastic day of football.

The girls gave it their absolute all across every game, showing great teamwork, determination, and school spirit. There were some outstanding goals scored throughout the day, along with impressive passing, strong defending, and brilliant communication on the field.

What stood out most was the way the team supported each other and kept pushing right until the final whistle of each match. Their effort and attitude made us incredibly proud, and they represented St Thomas's with real pride and positivity. It was a really enjoyable day of football, and a great opportunity for the girls to test themselves against strong competition.



Eastern Zone Boys Football - Year 8

On Friday, our Year 8 Boys Football team competed in the Eastern Zone Football Tournament at Michaels Avenue, rounding out an exciting week of football for St Thomas's.

The competition was incredibly tough, with some strong teams across the grade, but our boys rose to the challenge and worked hard in every match. They showed great resilience, determination, and teamwork as they battled through each game.

Despite the high level of competition, there were some fantastic results and strong performances throughout the day. The boys continued to push themselves, support one another, and represent the school with pride right to the end of the tournament.

We are extremely proud of the effort, attitude, and sportsmanship shown by the team in a very challenging but rewarding day of football.



Bay Suburbs Football Tournament

On Tuesday 12 May, our students took part in an incredible day of football at the Bay Suburbs tournament. With a huge 96 games played across 36 teams, the event was massive, and the atmosphere throughout the day was awesome. A huge credit must go to the organisers for running such a smooth and successful tournament.

Our St Thomas's teams represented the school with pride, showing fantastic teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship across every match. There were plenty of exciting moments throughout the day, with teams experiencing some great wins, a few tough losses, and many opportunities to grow and improve together.

A special congratulations goes to our Year 6 Girls team, who finished the day in first place overall - an outstanding achievement and a reflection of the hard work and effort they put in throughout the tournament.

What stood out most was the way all of our students supported one another, kept positive, and gave everything a go right until the final whistle. We are incredibly proud of every player who took part and represented St Thomas's so well.

Thank you as always to our wonderful parents, whānau, and supporters who came along to cheer from the sidelines. Your support makes days like these even more special for our students.



School Clean-up Initiative

The school clean-up was a huge success, with over 75 students contributing to the event across two lunchtimes! It was amazing to see so many students showing enthusiasm while helping clean up our school environment.

Overall, the competition was a really fun experience for all the students, and we managed to collect over 30 bags of rubbish! We'd like to thank the students who contributed to the competition, and the winners too. We really appreciate your impact on our school environment. It was such a success, and we hope everyone enjoyed such a fun and memorable experience! *Allie Nikolovska* and *Kirsten Guevarra* (Yr 8)



Moth Plant Mission - Making a Difference



(Click the image to watch the video)

Over the past few months, a number of our fabulous students have participated in the annual Orakei Board moth pod plant competition to collect as many vines and pods of this invasive and toxic plant as possible. One of our teams worked alongside Auckland Council to produce a video promoting awareness of this plant which will be placed on the Auckland Council website.

The vines of the plant strangle the parent plant they are climbing, the sap is an irritant, and the flower of the plant has a sticky centre which traps bees and insects. Take a look at the above video, and if you recognise the plant anywhere, please dispose of it using gloves to avoid irritating the skin.

Jordi's Jiu-Jitsu Success

Jordi Scher Barbalho has shown outstanding dedication to his Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu training over the past four years. As a grey-black belt, he trains an incredible 12 classes each week along with two private sessions, demonstrating real commitment and passion for the sport.

Over the weekend, all his hard work paid off with an amazing achievement - bringing home four gold medals! Jordi won gold in both Gi and NoGi at the NZ Nationals, competing against older grey belts, and followed this up with two more gold medals at the NZBJJ Regional Series Open in Fielding against even older competitors. We are incredibly proud of Jordi's discipline, determination, and success - what an inspiring achievement!



Our Kids Online

We are pleased to share an opportunity for parents and caregivers to learn more about the online world our children are growing up in. Rob Cope will be hosting an informative parent evening, focusing on the risks, challenges, and realities of online spaces for young people today.

This session will help parents better understand how children engage with technology, recognise potential vulnerabilities, and provide practical strategies to support safe and positive online experiences. Rob comes highly recommended, and this is a valuable opportunity to gain up-to-date insights on topics many families are navigating, including gaming, social media, AI, group chats, and online safety.

This event will be held on Tuesday 19 May, 6.30pm – 8.30pm at St Thomas's School Hall.

We encourage all parents and caregivers to attend this engaging and informative session. For more details and tickets, please visit: events.humanitix.com/ourkidsonline. Further information can also be found in the flyer on the next page.

Pink Shirt Day at St Thomas's

St Thomas's proudly celebrated Pink Shirt Day, a special day dedicated to promoting kindness, inclusion, and standing up against bullying. It was wonderful to see our school community come together, with students and staff wearing pink to show their support for creating a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

The day was filled with positivity and a shared commitment to looking after one another. Events like this remind us of the importance of empathy, friendship, and speaking up for others.

A big thank you to our House Captains, who worked extremely hard to organise and put together resources for the day. Your effort and leadership helped make the celebration meaningful and successful.



STS News

To watch the 42nd episode of the series, click [HERE](#).

To watch the 43rd episode of the series, click [HERE](#).

To watch the 44th 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>

**Piano, Guitar, Bass
Drums & Violin Lessons**

RIGHT AT SCHOOL!

Why not give it a go this term?

Help your child
boost essential
learning skills that
make a real
difference in the
classroom.

All with zero extra
travel for families

Scan the QR code
to enrol

0800 89 39 39
Or call us!

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

Confidence
& Creativity

Concentration
& Memory

Discipline
& Focus

and so much
more!

musiceducation.co.nz

PARENTS EVENING



ST THOMAS'S
SCHOOL
KOHIMARAMA
AUCKLAND

OUR KIDS ONLINE

ROB COPE

- ✓ social media and mental health
- ✓ gaming and the developing brain
- ✓ online predators
- ✓ sexting, porn and pressure
- ✓ AI
- ✓ PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS



We would love to see at least one parent
or caregiver from each family attend.



WHEN

Tuesday
19 May
6:30 – 8:30pm



WHERE

St Thomas's
School Hall



TICKETS

\$10 or 2 for \$15
Purchase via Humanitix



Scan QR code
or visit:
[events.humanitix.com/
ourkidsonline](https://events.humanitix.com/ourkidsonline)



ST THOMAS'S INTERMEDIATE

What's happening in our Intermediate School

HAURAKI HOUSE ASSEMBLY

Hauraki did a fantastic job of leading the Intermediate's first House Assembly for the year. They shared what Hauraki means to them as a House, learning from Term 1, and debuted the new Hauraki House chant!

A big thank you to the Hauraki parents for coming to support their children wearing Hauraki blue proudly! And congratulations to our award winners from Hauraki!

Respect: Luke M (Year 7), Julia (Year 8)

Resilience: Ella F (Year 7), Juan (Year 8)

Responsibility: Lianna (Year 7), Renata (Year 8)

We look forward to our upcoming assemblies for the other three Houses and seeing some awesome students recognised for the respect, resilience, and responsibility they display!



SPECIAL GUEST: KIM CROSSMAN

We ended the term with a motivational talk from Kiwi actress Kim Crossman.

Kim spoke to the Year 7 and 8 students about her values and how they have shaped who she is today. She entertained the students with impressive connections and sharing all she has achieved in her life. Kim tied her speech in with the learning we have completed around our topic and with our Mitey programme. The students were enthralled with her talk, and left with some goals to complete this year.



GOAT ISLAND

As part of our Mountains to Sea programme our Year 8 students traded the classroom for Goat Island Marine Reserve. Throughout the day, the group displayed exceptional behaviour as they explored the marine environment and observed the unique underwater species of the nearby freshwater stream. It was great to see the enthusiasm for the snorkelling as they immersed themselves in the underwater ecosystem to witness first-hand the protected species that call the reserve home. It was a fantastic day of hands-on learning, where our students gained a deeper appreciation for marine conservation while sharpening their snorkelling skills. The next part of this programme is to create an action project that will make a real difference.



St Thomas's Arts Programme Fundraiser

Lifelight Emergency Candle - \$15 each (Discounted School Price - Was \$25)

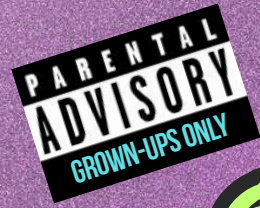
Join us in raising funds for some photography equipment for our school's Art Programme.

- Lifelight Emergency Candle is a unique gift
- Necessary for Houses, bach, boat, car, and emergency kit
- Burn time up to 40 hours
- Practical and safe to use in emergency situations
- Self-standing candle with matches attached
- \$0.50 from all sales donated to New Zealand Red Cross
- Payment via KINDO or cash at reception.
- Candles can be collected via reception - adults only pickup.



Special thanks to Jennifer Del Bel from Downlights NZ and, more recently, Ray White Orakei Ph 021 763471, who has kindly supervised and supported the making of the candles, alongside some St Thomas's parents and Mrs Haddon, and donated the materials. Good luck to Jennifer in her new Real Estate adventure.

Don't Miss Out, Tickets On Sale Now!



NOT YOUR GRANDMA'S BINGO



MUSICAL BINGO • DJ • ONLINE AUCTION

Saturday, 13 June

7pm-12am @ the St Thomas's School Hall

Book Tickets & Pre-Order Food Via Kindo Now!

\$30
PER TICKET



Scan the QR code or visit
StThomas.School.nz/pta/events
for all the details on our parent's night

Online Auction

Details to come. Keep an eye out for details!

PTA NEWS

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

Donations Needed For Online Auction

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR OUR ONLINE AUCTION

From \$5.00 - \$5,000, all donations help.
Have a think...
can your business donate anything?

VOUCHERS
DISCOUNTS
EXPERENCES
PRODUCTS

Let us know if your business can help!
Reach out to us at: StThomasSchoolPTA@gmail.com

NOT YOUR GRANDMA'S BINGO!

ONLINE AUCTION • DJ • MUSICAL BINGO W/ "BEATS BY BINGO"

SATURDAY, 13 JUNE 7^{PM} - 12^{AM} @ THE ST THOMAS'S SCHOOL HALL

This grown-ups-only event is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year!



Mark Your Calendar

15
MAY



'CUPPA-AT-PICKUP'
2:30-2:55PM

Pop up to the staff room for a free coffee, tea & biscuit



22
MAY

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SALE

2:50 - 3:20pm

Near the front gate

13
JUNE



PARENT'S NIGHT & AUCTION

Online Auction, Musical Bingo, & DJ



EVERY
FRIDAY

ICE BLOCKS

Weather permitting

Help the PTA

Want to help with fundraising events?

Join "Friends of the PTA" WhatsApp group! Lend a hand when you can. You'll still be making a big difference at our events. **Email us!**

Upcoming PTA Meetings

10 JUNE • 29 JULY • 28 OCT • 25 NOV

7pm in the staff room

2026 Fundraising

Starting in 2026, PTA fundraising will go towards the building of a playground geared towards our middle school students! This will likely be a multi-year goal for us. Thank you for supporting our fundraising efforts!





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 stayed busy baking delicious star pastries, crafting handmade coasters, and hunting for "mum's favourite things" hidden throughout the hall.

We truly hope every mum felt extra special and appreciated after such a heartfelt week! ❤️



What's happening next week!

		THEME: Musical Mayhem! Term 2 Week 5, 18th May 2026				Weekly Activities Plan Kelly Club St Thomas
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
7:00 - 8:15 am	Card Games & Structured Free Time	Dance Battle & Structured Free Time	Limbo & Structured Free Time	Charades & Structured Free Time	Board Games & Structured Free Time	
8:15 - 8:30 am	Game: Bean Bag Toss	Game: Balloon Stomp	Game: Boss of the Balls	Game: King of the Rings	Game: Kids Choice	
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 Macaroni Cheese & 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 Musical Islands 	DISCOVERY DIY Harmonica 	SPORT Powerball 	COOKING Edible Microphones 	CRAFT Crafty Tambourines 	
	SPORT Powerball 	CRAFT Rain Sticks 	GAME Musical Numbers 	COOKING Edible Microphones 	DISCOVERY DIY Harmonica 	
JUNIORS 3:45 - 4:30 pm						
4:30 - 4:40 pm	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	
4:40 - 5:20 pm	Playground	Playground	Playground	Playground	Playground	
5:20 - 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 Vege Chips	Snack Time Popcorn	Snack Time Raisins	Snack Time Baking	Snack Time Crackers	

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 29 May

TEACHER ONLY DAY PROGRAMME

**OSCAR
PROGRAMME
SUBSIDIES
AVAILABLE!**

*Conditions apply

ST THOMAS SCHOOL

Join us for a Topsy Turvy day where everything is backwards and upside down! We'll have crazy fun with wacky games like Wacky Races and Reverse Netball. Check out our mixed-up cooking making Upside Down goodies, and enjoy creative crafts.

Full Day: \$61
7:00am – 6:00pm

School Day: \$51
8:30am – 3:00pm

Half Day: \$42
7:00am – 12:30pm or 12:30pm – 6:00pm

Contact: Ian Palmquist
Phone: 021 0803 3666

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

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz



A fantastic opportunity for your child!

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

Here's what people are saying about Shine's lessons ...

"He got up and spoke in front of the school. He would never have done that before" — James' Mum

"Thank you so much for calmly and reassuringly, guiding the boys' through their tasks. Thank you for all the extra energy and organisation that has gone into all of this. You've been simply fantastic!" - Catherine

"...the best speech and drama teacher working in New Zealand today." NZ Herald

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.

Register [here](#) for term 2 lessons, beginning **Thursday 7th May 2026 12.35-1.20pm**. Term fees are \$278 for group lessons with 8 lessons guaranteed per term. Sibling discount of 10% for any siblings enrolling. Quote **FREE TRIAL** when booking to receive the first class free!

Any questions please don't hesitate to call Nina on 021-160 9197.

