

12 June 2026

## Principal's Message

You may have noticed the construction of a small extension onto where the PE shed is. This is a High Dependency Unit (HDU) which in simple language is a modified toilet block. It is designed to cater for students who have special toileting needs and provides wheelchair access. Expected completion date is by start of Term 3.



## Road Safety Outside Our School

The safety of our children is always our highest priority, and we are becoming increasingly concerned about unsafe driving behaviours during drop-off and pick-up times. The vast majority of our parents and caregivers do an excellent job of helping to keep everyone safe. We regularly see families driving slowly and carefully around the school, being mindful of pedestrians, avoiding unsafe manoeuvres such as U-turns, and ensuring children cross the road safely. Thank you for your patience and consideration during these busy times.

We ask all members of our school community to take extra care when arriving at or leaving school. Even a momentary lapse in judgement can have serious consequences. Please drive slowly, do not making U-turns in driveways or near the school entrance, and use designated crossing points whenever possible.

Our staff may occasionally remind drivers about safe practices if they observe behaviour that could place children at risk. These conversations are never intended to offend, but rather to help ensure that every child and family can arrive at and leave school safely. Thank you for your support in keeping our school community safe.

Ngā mihi nui  
**Michael Maher**  
Principal



**Well done Year 8 - you embraced every challenge with confidence and teamwork, making camp a lasting memory!**

## Upcoming Dates

### June

- 13 PTA Quiz Night 7pm (School Hall)
- 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 - Tickets Online (School Hall)
- 22 Yr 4-6 Assembly (M4 Hosting) 11.45am-12.30pm (School Hall)
- 22 Eastern Zone Hockey
- 23 Bay Suburb Netball
- 24 School Lockdown Drill 11am
- 26 Yr 1-3 Assembly 9.15am (School Hall)

### July

- 03 Last Day of Term 2
- 03 Matariki Celebration
- 20 First Day of Term 3
- 22 Cross Country Costume Carnival 9.30am
- 24 Whole School Powhiri/Whakatau 9am to 10.30am
- 27 Eastern Zone Netball

## Year 8 Camp: A Journey of Growth and Adventure

The Year 8 camp at Camp Bentzon on North Cove, Kawau Island was far more than just a trip away. It was a journey of growth, adventure, and discovery. Set in a beautiful island environment, students embraced new experiences and stepped outside their comfort zones. From sailing and kayaking to raft building and wharf jumping, every activity brought excitement and new challenges.

Throughout the week, students built confidence and resilience as they tried new things, faced fears, and supported one another. Team activities strengthened communication, cooperation, and problem-solving skills, while shared camp life encouraged independence, responsibility, and respect for others.

Most importantly, the camp created lasting memories and stronger friendships. Surrounded by nature and away from everyday routines, students developed life skills that will stay with them for years to come.

A Special Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated teachers Oliver Barlow, Mattie Queale, Rob Edmondson & James Morgan and wonderful parent volunteers who made this camp possible. Your time, effort, and commitment helped create a truly unforgettable experience for our students.

[Click to Watch Camp Highlights](#) 🎥



No Fear, Just Forward!



Sailing the Moment!



Teamwork Wins!



Nature at Peace!

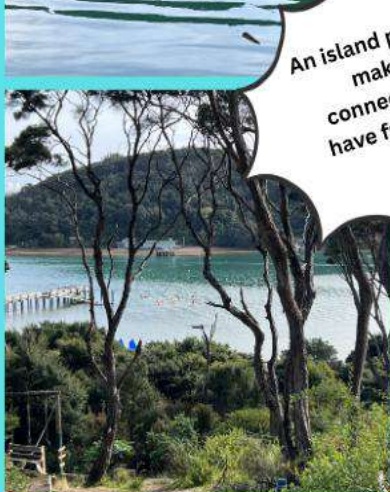
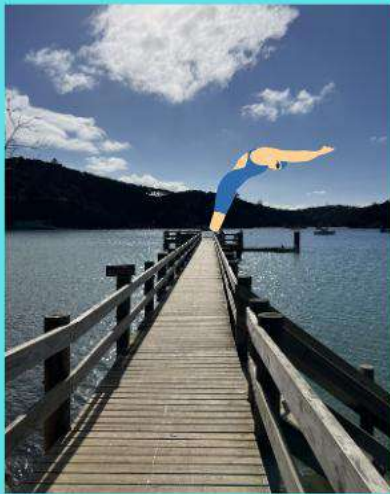
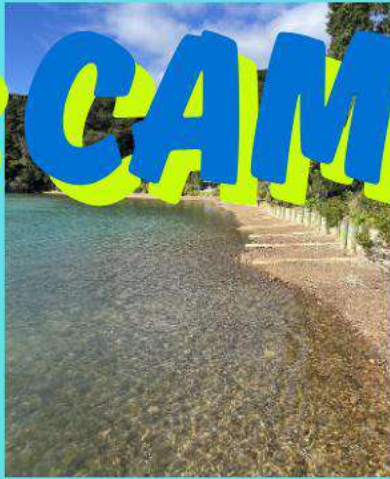
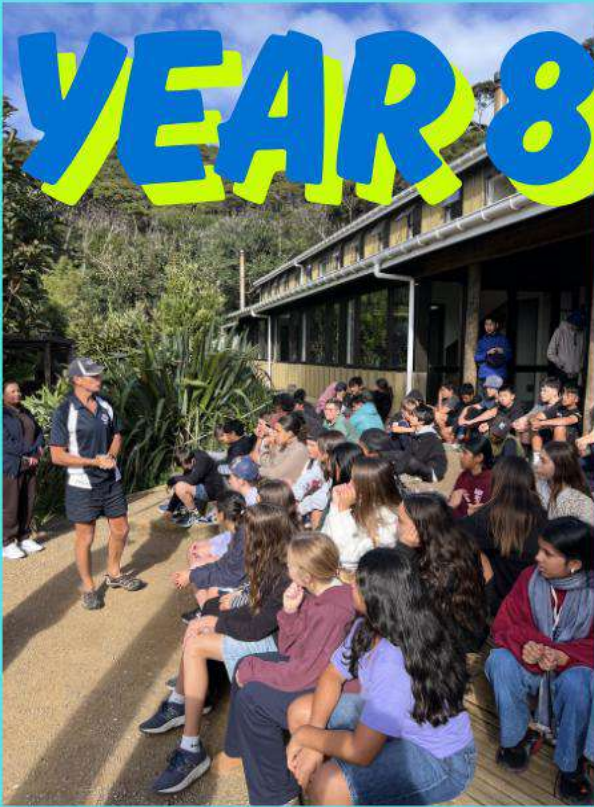


Jump into Joy!



Chasing Heights!

# YEAR 8 CAMP



## Year 2 Trip to Auckland Zoo

On Thursday, 4 June, our Year 2 students enjoyed an exciting visit to Auckland Zoo. This trip connected to our learning about fresh water and how it supports New Zealand's native animals. We also explored ways we can help protect our precious waterways.

Throughout the day, the children were thrilled to see a wide range of incredible animals and learn more about their habitats.

### Student Reflections:

"At the zoo I saw a kiwi in the night. There were stars in the roof. It was very dark."

- *Alana*, Year 2

"On Thursday we went on a fast bus to Auckland Zoo. We saw the cute red panda running along. We think it was looking for food. Next, we went to the rhinos. We saw one of the rhinos - we saw its bottom! Then we went back to the start, got on the bus, and travelled back to Auckland."

- *Owen*, Year 2

It was a fantastic learning experience, and we are proud of how engaged and enthusiastic our students were throughout the day!



## Learning Extension Programme

We are fortunate to continue offering a wide range of Learning Extension Programmes (LEPs) here at St Thomas's School. These programmes are designed to nurture and extend students' passions and interests within engaging, hands-on, and meaningful contexts.

Some of our exciting programmes this year have included:

**Awesome Architects** - Students explored the fundamentals of design, engineering, and architecture; learning how buildings are planned, structured, and brought to life. They then put their skills into practice by designing and constructing detailed dioramas of buildings or structures of their choice.



**Financial Gurus** - From understanding wages and tax to exploring needs versus wants, wise investments, and even imagining what they would do with a lottery win, students dived into the world of money. Through real-life scenarios and lively discussions, our Tamariki discovered that financial literacy is a valuable life skill, gaining confidence to make informed decisions for their futures.



**Beekeeping** - Our budding beekeepers explored the science of pollination and the fascinating inner workings of hive life. They then suited up for a hands-on experience; inspecting hives and harvesting fresh honey straight from the comb. An unforgettable learning opportunity!

**Nature Ninjas** - Our enthusiastic gardeners rolled up their sleeves and got stuck into tending school gardens; digging, weeding, planting, and nurturing. Along the way, they explored the life cycle of plants and discovered the ecosystems supported by their gardens, including pollinators and other wildlife. A fun, social, and truly hands-on outdoor programme.



### Student Voice

"The Financial Literacy LEP taught me a lot of ways that I can manage real-life monetary issues in a rapidly changing society."

- Year 8 participant

"We loved Awesome Architects. Building small scale models was fun and the learning behind it was even more awesome!"

- Alice and Jess - Year 6

## School Uniform Reminder

As part of maintaining a positive and inclusive school environment, we kindly remind all families about our school dress code expectations.

Wearing the correct uniform helps promote a sense of pride, belonging, and unity within our school community. All students from Years 0-8 are expected to wear the appropriate school uniform each day, including approved tops, bottoms, and outerwear.

For safety and consistency, students should wear suitable footwear such as plain shoes, running shoes, or sandals. Jandals and crocs are not permitted. Socks and tights should be plain in white, navy, or black.

During Terms 1 and 4, hats are compulsory to help protect students from the sun. Please also note that only simple jewellery, such as watches and small stud or hoop earrings, is permitted. Fancy jewellery and accessories are not allowed, and students should not wear nail polish to school. Headwear must follow school guidelines unless approved for cultural or religious reasons. For full details, please refer to the [School Uniform Procedure](#).



All school-branded uniform items are available through the Argyle Online Shop. We appreciate your support in helping students come to school dressed correctly each day, ready to learn and represent our school with pride.

## STS News

To watch the 46<sup>th</sup> episode of the series, click [HERE](#).

To watch the 47<sup>th</sup> episode of the series, click [HERE](#).

To watch the 48<sup>th</sup> 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](https://musiceducation.co.nz)

# ST THOMAS'S INTERMEDIATE

## What's happening in our Intermediate School

### SCIENCE FAIR

The Year 7 and 8 students have begun working on their Science Fair projects. Each student is completing their own project, or with a buddy. These will be presented to their families and the rest of the school on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August. We have three judges who will be looking at their projects too, and choosing some to be entered into the official NIWA Science Fair!

For the remainder of the term and beginning of Term 3, our Science learning will be around their Science Fair projects, supporting the students in completing these before the big final presentation in Week 3 of Term 3!

### DISCOVERY LAB

This term, the Year 8 students are having their Discovery Lab sessions with the Year 7 teachers, and the Year 7's with the Year 8 teachers. This way, all students are exposed to all of the Discovery Lab subjects and a wider-range of learning opportunities! Here are some photos of us enjoying our Discovery Lab time!



Learning about the skeleton in Sport Science



Planning media campaigns in Media Studies



Creating games in Coding

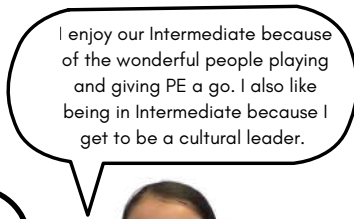


Researching famous leaders in Leadership

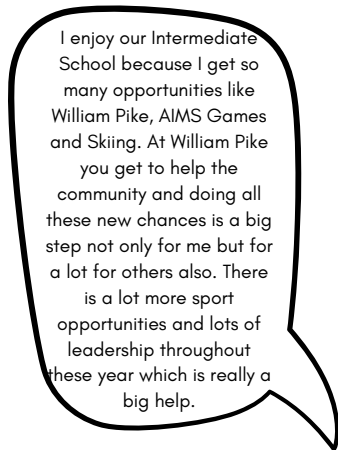
## WHAT WE LOVE ABOUT OUR INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL



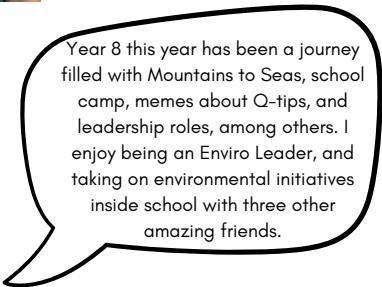
I enjoy our Intermediate School because of the wonderful camps we go to in Years Six and Eight. I also enjoy the amazing teachers that help us learn many of the things we know today.



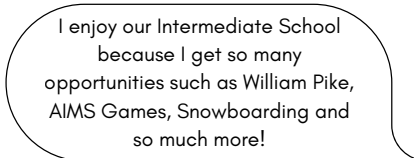
I enjoy our Intermediate because of the wonderful people playing and giving PE a go. I also like being in Intermediate because I get to be a cultural leader.



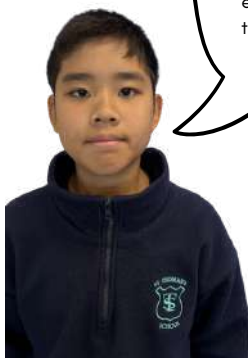
I enjoy our Intermediate School because I get so many opportunities like William Pike, AIMS Games and Skiing. At William Pike you get to help the community and doing all these new chances is a big step not only for me but for a lot for others also. There is a lot more sport opportunities and lots of leadership throughout these year which is really a big help.



Year 8 this year has been a journey filled with Mountains to Seas, school camp, memes about Q-tips, and leadership roles, among others. I enjoy being an Enviro Leader, and taking on environmental initiatives inside school with three other amazing friends.



I enjoy our Intermediate School because I get so many opportunities such as William Pike, AIMS Games, Snowboarding and so much more!



# PTA NEWS

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

Online Auction - closes 11pm this Saturday!

READY, SET, BID!

## ONLINE AUCTION

LIVE NOW!



Visit:

32AUCTIONS.COM/STSPTA2026



Auction closes:

11:00 PM, 13 JUNE

SleepMaker®



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eastridge Ear Clinic



SONSK8 INDOOR



Ōrākei Tennis Club



SPONSORED BY:



Bingo Night Items Donated by:



## Upcoming PTA Meetings

29 JULY • 28 OCT • 25 NOV  
7pm in the staff room

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.

## St Thomas's Arts Programme Fundraiser

# Lifelight Emergency Candle -\$10 each (Discounted School Price - Was \$25)

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

We are seeking volunteer families to sell 5 candles among their neighbours, friends or workplaces.

Register your interest by emailing [shaddon@stthomas.school.nz](mailto:shaddon@stthomas.school.nz)  
A bag with 5 candles will be sent home with your child.

- 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 NZ Red Cross
- Payment via KINDO or cash.
- Individual candles collected at reception.





**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 had a lot of fun with our Kids Choice week this week—which was completely planned by the kids themselves! We baked delicious brownies, played dodgeball, and made some awesome bead necklaces and bracelets.



**KELLY CLUB**

**OSCAR PROGRAMME SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!**

**CELEBRATE THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH US!**

Our end-of-year half-day programme is full of exciting activities that will guarantee your kids have a great time!

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

### What's happening in the Holidays!

**KELLY CLUB**

**JULY 2026 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME**  
ST THOMAS SCHOOL

**OSCAR PROGRAMME SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!**

|        |   |  |   |   |   |  |
|--------|---|--|---|---|---|--|
| WEEK 1 | <p>Mon 6 July</p> <p><b>MONDAY FUNDAY</b><br/>Get ready for a day packed with laughter, silly games, and nonstop fun at Kelly Club!</p> | <p>Tues 7 July</p> <p><b>FIZZ, BANG, POP!</b><br/>Explore awesome experiments like elephant toothpaste, bubbly fun, fizzy painting, and even make a tasty fizzy treat!</p> | <p>Wed 8 July</p> <p><b>LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!</b><br/>Whether you are a natural in front of the camera or prefer working behind the scenes, there is something for you today!</p> | <p>Thurs 9 July</p> <p><b>MATARIKI</b><br/>It's a time for celebration as the Māori New Year begins! There will be food to share and kids will enjoy playing traditional Māori Games.</p>   | <p>Fri 10 July</p> <p><b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b></p> <p><b>ENJOY MATARIKI</b><br/>Enjoy celebrating Matariki with your friends and whānau.</p>   |  |
|        | WEEK 2  | <p>Mon 13 July</p> <p><b>BRICK BONANZA</b><br/>Let your imagination run wild! Join us for some creative brick fun. We can't wait to see what you build!</p>                | <p>Tues 14 July</p> <p><b>VIVE LA FRANCE</b><br/>Ooh la la, join us for all things French as we celebrate Bastille Day with crepes, crafts and french sporting games!</p>           | <p>Wed 15 July</p> <p><b>MINIONS AND MONSTERS</b><br/>Join us at the movies! Follow the Minions as they search for monsters. When things go wrong will they be able to save the planet? Please bring lunch, drink bottle and shoes.<br/>Extra \$20 for the day.</p> | <p>Thurs 16 July</p> <p><b>KC SPEED RACERS</b><br/>Today is about everything speedy! Build your own miniature speed racer, race through obstacle courses and play speedy games. Join us to see how fast you can go!</p> | <p>Fri 17 July</p> <p><b>PYJAMA PARTY</b><br/>Wear your best pyjamas to Kelly Club for a day of slumber mania! We will make some yummy treats, play some classic party games and build a comfy fort.</p> |

|  |  |   |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| <p><b>Pricing:</b><br/> <b>FULL WEEK:</b> \$290<br/>7:00am – 6:00pm<br/> <b>SCHOOL DAY:</b> \$51<br/>8:30am – 3:00pm</p> | <p><b>FULL DAY:</b> \$61<br/>7:00am – 6:00pm<br/> <b>EVENT DAY:</b> Extra \$20<br/>(Not Included in Full Week)</p> | <p><b>HALF DAY:</b> \$42<br/>7:00am – 12:30pm or 12:30pm – 6:00pm</p> | <p><b>Contact:</b> Ian Palmquist<br/> <b>Email:</b> stthomas@kellyclub.co.nz<br/> <b>Phone:</b> 021 0803 3666<br/> <b>Facebook:</b> @KellyClubStThomas<br/> <b>Address:</b> 113 Allum St, Kohimarama</p> | <p><b>BOOK NOW AT</b><br/> <a href="http://kellyclub.co.nz/st-thomas">kellyclub.co.nz/st-thomas</a></p> <p>Further information:<br/> <a href="http://www.kellyclub.co.nz/hp#info">www.kellyclub.co.nz/hp#info</a></p> |  |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|



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

# Have-A-Go Underwater Hockey

Auckland underwater hockey is organising free 'Have-A-Go' sessions at Glen Innes pool.

Do your children love the water and look for new ways to enjoy it? Introduce them to a fun, fast, and inclusive alternative water sport!

Underwater Hockey is a unique team sport played on the bottom of the pool using fins, mask, snorkel and a short stick to move a puck - and it is taking off in schools around Aotearoa. Ideal for students who:

- Are confident swimmers looking for variety
- Enjoy flippa ball or water polo but might want something different
- Thrive in a friendly team environment where everyone gets involved

All gear provided (or bring your own), no experience needed.

[To register for a 'Have a Go' session next weekend click here](#)

More dates coming soon!!



**FREE  
HAVE-A-GO  
UNDERWATER  
HOCKEY**

**Glen Innes Pools  
122 Elstree Avenue, Glen Innes  
Saturday 20th June  
Times: 12:30 – 2:30pm**



# St Heliers

Your Village By The Sea

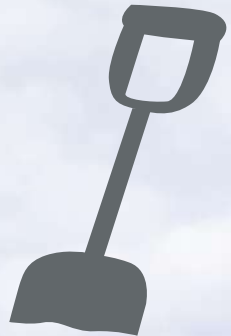
SUNDAY  
**21**<sup>st</sup>  
JUNE



# MID WINTER



# MARKET



**PLUS** THE Four SQUARE  
POLAR PLUNGE & BIG DIG



Join us in the village Sunday 21st June 10am-3pm  
for a day of stalls, market day specials, live music

PLUS: The Four Square Big Dig and  
Polar Plunge at 11am.

