



9 February 2024

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Families of St Therese School,
Kia Ora, Kia Orana, Talofa, Mālō e lelei, Namaste, Malo ni, Makadini, Annyoung, Bonjour, Bula, Hola, Selam, Kamusta.

Welcome back to St Therese School for 2024! I trust that each of you had a wonderful break filled with cherished moments with your families, and that you are now rejuvenated and prepared for the exciting journey that lies ahead. To our new families joining us this year, a heartfelt welcome to our school community. We are thrilled to have you with us, and I am confident that you will find joy and fulfillment in being part of this special community.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our newest additions to the St Therese staff, Cicily Bankien (Room 1) and Lesieli Tapueluelu-Vaea (Room 3). Their dedication, knowledge, and passion for teaching enrich our team and contribute to the holistic development of our students.

As we embark on this new school year, let us reaffirm our commitment to the four pillars that define our school:

****Faith****

At the core of our school is our unwavering faith. Guided by Christ's teachings and inspired by our patron, Saint Therese, we are reminded to infuse love into every action, no matter how small.

****Knowledge****

We foster a love for learning and encourage our students to seek knowledge and understanding, empowering them to explore, question, and discover.

****Growth****

Alongside academic achievement, we prioritise the emotional growth of our students, nurturing them on their journey with care and support.

****Community****

St Therese School is more than just an educational institution; it is a vibrant community where every child is valued and encouraged to become a leader in their own way, fostering a sense of belonging and responsibility.

This term, our overarching theme is "Journeys - Rerenga." As we delve into this topic, let us embrace the idea that education is a journey, and every step along the way is an opportunity for growth and discovery. I invite you to join us on your child's learning journey this year, as we embark on a path filled with endless possibilities.

May this year be filled with blessings, growth, and memorable experiences for you and your family.

**Lord Jesus, we ask for Your help as we begin this new school year.
Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us.
Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.
Open our hearts and minds to new friends and new teachers.
Give us a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with our studies and courage to accept new opportunities.
Help us to be attentive to one another and let us experience Your presence in our new friends.
Jesus, be with us on our journey every day and inspire us to do our best this year!
Amen**

Laura Geaney
Principal

2024 TERM DATES



2024 Term Dates				Public Holidays
Term 1	Wednesday 7 th February	to	Friday 12 th April	Waitangi Day- Tuesday 6 th February Good Friday- Friday 29 th March Easter Monday- 1 st April Easter Tuesday- 2 nd April
Term 2	Monday 29 th April	to	Friday 5 th July	King's Birthday- Monday 3 rd June Matariki- Friday 28 th June
Term 3	Monday 22 nd July	to	Friday 27 th September	-
Term 4	Monday 14 th October	to	Friday 20 th December	Labour Day- Monday 28 th October

UNIFORMS & SUNHATS



We take pride in our beautiful school uniform and ask that you please help us to keep up the standard. **Please make sure that all clothing and footwear are clearly named, especially as the children will be going swimming soon.** All students must bring a school hat to wear over the break times. A reminder that students are invited to wear their PE uniform and sports shoes to school each Friday. Uniforms can be purchased from Elizabeth Michael Uniforms at 65 New North Road, Eden Terrace.

BREAKFAST CLUB



Our Breakfast Club is open Monday – Friday from 8am-8:30am in Room 5. There is no cost and all students are welcome to come along and enjoy some Weetbix and a Milo, or simply gather with friends to chat, play games, and draw. It is a lovely way to start the day together.



MUSIC LESSONS



Yesterday, we welcomed Mrs Fullerton, our specialist Music Teacher for 2024. Each week all classes will participate in a music lesson developing practical knowledge (exploring how sound is made, as they listen and respond to the elements of music: beat, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, and tone), developing ideas (exploring how to express and represent sounds and musical ideas), and communicating and interpreting (sharing music making with others and responding to music).

We look forward to an amazing year of Music ahead with the guidance of Mrs Fullerton.



BIG BROTHER / BIG SISTER PROGRAMME (TUAKANA TEINA)

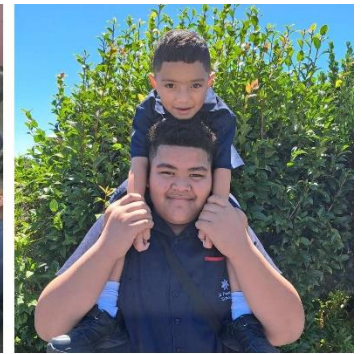


Our Big Brother and Big Sister Programme at St Therese School develops strong, connected relationships between our Year 8 leaders and our youngest students in Room 1. It is based on the traditional Maori concept called Tuakana Teina which embodies the idea of reciprocal learning and support within a community.

In the context of a school environment, Tuakana Teina refers to the practice of older or more experienced students (tuakana) providing guidance, mentorship, and support to younger or less experienced students (teina), while the younger students in turn offer respect, assistance, and a willingness to learn.

This concept fosters a sense of interconnectedness and collaboration among students of different ages, promoting a supportive and inclusive school culture. Older students act as role models and mentors, helping their younger peers navigate academic, social, and emotional challenges. They may offer assistance with schoolwork, share their experiences, and provide encouragement and advice.

Conversely, younger students contribute by showing respect for their older peers, being receptive to their guidance, and actively engaging in the learning process. Through this reciprocal relationship, both tuakana and teina benefit: older students develop leadership skills, empathy, and a sense of responsibility, while younger students receive personalized support, gain confidence, and feel a sense of belonging within the school community.



ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY



ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY

ALL ARE WELCOME

WEDNESDAY 14TH
FEBRUARY

2:30 PM

ST THERESE CHURCH





ST THERESE SCHOOL OPENING MASS 2024



**Friday 16th February
11:30am
St Therese Church**

Please join us to celebrate beginning of the new school year.
Followed by a shared lunch and the opportunity to
meet your child's teacher for 2024