



7 August 2025

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – PARENT ELECTION RESULTS



Parent Election Results Declaration (no voting election required)

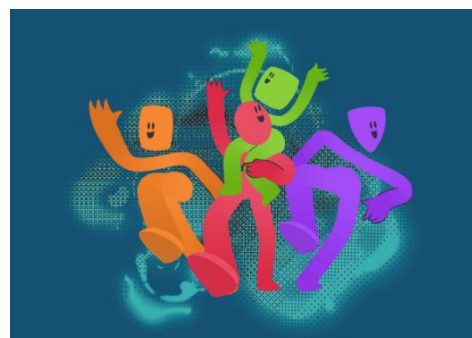
At the close of nominations, as the number of valid nominations was equal to the number of vacancies required to be filled, I hereby declare the following duly elected:

LUTE ATU

MEHARI KEBEDE

SHIERY TANYA RUBASING GRUNAWARDANA

Signed Jane Kerr
Returning Officer



STRATEGIC PLANNING – HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF OUR SCHOOL



Every few years, schools are required to develop a Strategic Plan—a guiding document that sets the direction and priorities for the next three years. This plan shapes how we teach, what we focus on, and how we create the best environment for our students to thrive.

We are now beginning the process of shaping our Strategic Plan for 2026–2028, and your voice is a vital part of that journey. As parents and whānau, you know our school community deeply. You see your children grow, face challenges, and experience successes—and your insights are key to helping us set meaningful, community-driven goals.

Over the coming weeks, we will be asking you to share your thoughts and ideas. This process will begin with a short survey designed to gather your views on what's working well and where you would like to see our school grow or change. Later in the term, the Board of Trustees will host an in-person community consultation session to dive more deeply into your aspirations for St Therese School.

We strongly encourage all families to take some time to reflect and talk together about your experiences at school so far. What makes you proud of St Therese? What do you hope for in the years ahead? This is your chance to help shape the future of our school, for your children, and for generations to come.

Students and our parish community will also be part of this consultation process. Together, we can build a strategic plan that reflects who we are, what we value, and where we want to go.

More details about the survey and consultation session will be shared soon.



MOTAT TRIP – UNLOCKING INNOVATION



On Monday, 4th August, St Therese School students had an exciting day at the Museum of Transport and Technology (MOTAT), where they explored the world of digital programming, engineering, problem-solving, and more. Throughout the day, students engaged in activities that challenged their teamwork and critical thinking skills. They worked on coding and digital programming tasks, solved engineering problems, and even built their own marble runs! These hands-on experiences allowed them to see how technology and problem-solving work together in the real world.

We were fortunate to have a wonderful team of staff and whānau helpers who supported the trip, ensuring everything ran smoothly and providing guidance to our students throughout the day. Your involvement made the trip even more special, and we truly appreciate your time and effort. It was a fantastic day of learning and fun, and we are grateful for the opportunity to give our students such an engaging and educational experience. Thank you to everyone who helped make it a success!



POWER THE FUTURE- YEAR 7&8 STUDENTS ILLUMINATE THE CITY



Our Year 7 and 8 students have recently completed the Wonder Project's Power Challenge, an innovative programme designed to inspire young minds about renewable energy and the power of teamwork. Over several weeks, students worked collaboratively to design and build wind turbines capable of lighting up their own mini towns, simulating real-world applications of wind energy.

The Power Challenge, developed by Engineering New Zealand in partnership with Transpower, provided students with hands-on experience in engineering, electricity, and sustainable energy practices. Through this challenge, they not only learned about the science behind wind turbines but also developed essential skills such as problem-solving, creativity, and collaboration.

This initiative is part of a broader effort to engage students in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education, aiming to spark curiosity and inspire future careers in these fields. By participating in the Power Challenge, our students have gained valuable insights into the importance of renewable energy and the role of engineers in shaping a sustainable future.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Finnean, the engineer who kindly supported our lessons. His expertise and guidance played an invaluable role in helping our students deepen their understanding of wind energy and engineering concepts. We are incredibly proud of our students' dedication and ingenuity throughout this challenge. Their enthusiasm and teamwork have not only illuminated their mini towns but have also brightened our community's commitment to fostering the next generation of innovators and environmental stewards.





A Strong Partnership with NZ Police

This term, we've had the privilege of partnering with the New Zealand Police to deliver a series of invaluable health education programmes, empowering our students with the knowledge and skills they need to stay safe, make responsible decisions, and grow in confidence.

Stepping Out – Road Safety Programme (Rooms 1 & 3)

Rooms 1 and 3 took part in the Stepping Out road safety programme, where they explored how to stay safe while travelling in their community. Alongside learning how to cross roads safely and follow pedestrian rules, students also discussed the importance of booster seats and seatbelts, sat inside a real police car, and even experienced the sound of the police siren! These hands-on experiences brought road safety to life in an engaging and memorable way.

Keeping Ourselves Safe (KOS) – Personal Safety and Positive Choices (Rooms 3 & 4)

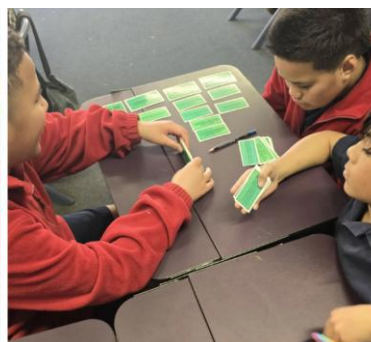
Students in Rooms 3 and 4 participated in Keeping Ourselves Safe, a programme designed to help tamariki build respectful relationships, recognise unsafe situations, and understand how and when to seek help.

- Room 3 focused on identifying personal strengths, recognising unsafe behaviours (in real life and online), managing risks, and learning how to respond confidently in tricky situations.
- Room 4 explored more complex scenarios, learning how to evaluate safety, take responsibility for themselves and others, and communicate assertively when something doesn't feel right.

Choices – Navigating Teen Pressures and the Law (Room 6)

Room 6 engaged in lessons which helped prepare students for the pressures they may face as they move into adolescence. Topics included understanding the law, distinguishing between right and wrong, and navigating challenges such as vaping, drugs, and peer pressure. The programme promoted open discussion and encouraged students to make safe, informed decisions.

We are fortunate to have such a strong and ongoing connection with our local police. Constables Tineke, Nadine, and Adam, thank you for your time, expertise, and commitment to the wellbeing of our students. Your partnership has enriched our health curriculum and empowered our tamariki with the tools they need to grow into confident and responsible citizens.



CELEBRATING CATHOLIC CARING AWARD RECIPIENTS



"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." – Matthew 5:16

On Wednesday, we had the joy and privilege of attending the annual Catholic Caring Mass, celebrated by Monsignor Bernard Kiely, where students from across Auckland Catholic schools were honoured for the way they live out the values of Christ in their daily lives.

We are incredibly proud to announce that **Peata Pone, Esala Otufangavalu, Jordan Leumuava, and Anna Afu** were this year's recipients of the Catholic Caring Award for St Therese School. These four students have consistently demonstrated compassion, kindness, and service — not through grand gestures, but in the quiet, everyday moments where love and integrity shine most brightly. Whether offering help to a classmate, speaking words of encouragement, or living out our school values with humility, each of these students embodies the Gospel message to "love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34).



SPIKES, SERVES, AND SPIRIT – MT ROSKILL VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT



On Tuesday 29th July, all of our Year 5 & 6 students had the exciting opportunity to participate in the Mt Roskill Volleyball Tournament held at The Trusts Arena.

Two teams represented St Therese School with pride, competing against students from local schools and taking part in skills and drills sessions. The day was packed with energy, teamwork, and determination, and it was a joy to see our students growing in confidence, strategy, and skill as the day progressed. From well-placed serves to quick reflexes and collaborative plays, there were plenty of fantastic sporting moments that highlighted not only athletic ability but also great sportsmanship.

A huge thank you to Ms Duarte and our wonderful parent helper, Ratu, who each took charge of a team. Their encouragement, guidance, and enthusiastic sideline support helped make the day a memorable one for our students.



CELEBRATING COOK ISLAND LANGUAGE WEEK



A Heartwarming Surprise

Yesterday, St Therese School was delighted by a generous gift from the Niva family in celebration of Cook Islands Māori Language Week—delicious, hot donuts for every child! We also thank Langa Niva for teaching us "Ata wai wolo," meaning "Thank you" in the Pukapuka language. At St Therese, we value the diversity within our community. The Niva family's thoughtful gift is a reminder of the beauty of different cultures and the importance of sharing and learning from one another. Ata wai wolo to the Niva family for helping us celebrate the Cook Islands culture!



Cook Islands Māori Language Week is an annual event dedicated to celebrating the languages and cultures of the Cook Islands. This year's theme, 'Ātui'ia au ki te vaka o tōku matakeinanga—"Connect me to the canoe of my tribe"—highlights the importance of cultural connection.



STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE – OUR TERM 4 VALUE



"Whatever you do, do it with all your heart, as if working for the Lord." – Colossians 3:23

At St Therese School, our value for Term 4 is Excellence. Too often, excellence is mistaken for perfection — or reserved only for those who achieve top marks in academics. But in our Catholic community, excellence means something deeper and more meaningful.

To us, excellence is about striving to do your best in everything, not just in the classroom, but in your relationships, your service, your attitude, and your commitment to learning. It is about being fully present, persevering even when things are hard, and growing with purpose and faith. Excellence isn't about being the best — it's about giving your best.

This week, we proudly acknowledged four students who consistently demonstrate this value in their daily lives:

- ✦ Humble Su'a
- ✦ Jeana Jaison
- ✦ Meysaw Kassa
- ✦ Abemelek Nuguse

These students model what it means to pursue excellence — not through competition, but through courage, effort, and heart. They show us that true excellence is rooted in character and faith.

Congratulations to each of you! May we all continue to walk this journey of excellence together, guided by our Gospel values and inspired by the example of Christ.



STUDENT LED LEARNING CONVERSATIONS – THURSDAY 21ST AUGUST



We are excited to announce that on Thursday 21st August, our Student-led Learning Conversations will take place from 1:00pm to 6:00pm. During these conversations, students will take the lead in sharing their learning and progress with their parents, providing an opportunity for them to reflect on their achievements and set goals for the future. Teachers will also be available to discuss the students' progress and answer any questions.

Attending the Student-led Learning Conversations is a wonderful opportunity to engage with your child's education, celebrate their successes, and support their continued growth. These conversations help build a strong partnership between home and school, reinforcing the importance of active involvement in your child's learning journey.

Please keep an eye out on the HERO App for booking information, and be sure to secure your preferred time slot.

On this day, school will close at 12:00pm to allow for the conversations. For families who require supervision, we will have a supervised session in our school library, available for those who notify the office by the day before the event. This ensures we have the appropriate adult-to-student ratio. There will be no Navigators on this day.

ST THERESE SCHOOL

St Therese School

STUDENT-LED LEARNING CONVERSATIONS

THURSDAY 21ST AUGUST
1PM - 6PM

APPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE THROUGH THE HERO APP

The poster features three circular images: a group of students in a library setting, a student working on a project, and a student reading. The background is dark blue with red flower icons.

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM



At St Therese School, we believe that wearing our school uniform correctly is a reflection of pride, belonging, and respect — for ourselves, our school, and our community. Our uniform is more than just clothing; it is a symbol of unity, a visible commitment to our shared values, and an important part of creating a positive and focused learning environment.

Recently, we have noticed a number of ongoing uniform issues, including:

- Incorrect shoes being worn
- Visible undershirts beneath school shirts
- Sports/PE uniform being worn from Monday to Thursday
- Non-regulation or damaged jumpers

We ask for your support in ensuring that your child arrives each day in the correct, full school uniform. This includes polished school shoes, proper jumpers, and no visible clothing beneath their shirt. Only on Fridays should students wear their PE uniform and sports shoes.

We understand that uniforms can experience wear and tear over time, so we kindly encourage parents to repair or replace items where needed. If you are facing challenges with uniform items, please reach out to the school office.

Let's work together to uphold the high standards we value at St Therese, and help our tamariki take pride in how they present themselves each and every day. Thank you for your continued support.

STAY CONNECTED WITH ST THERESE



Keep up to date with all the learning, events, celebrations, and important reminders happening in our school community by following us on Facebook and Instagram!

 **Facebook: St Therese School**

 **Instagram: @saintthereseschool_nz**

TERM 3 EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Friday 8 th August	School Assembly led by Room 1 at 2:15pm in the school library
Tuesday 12 th August	MRZ Netball Tournament for the St Therese Primary Netball Team
Thursday 21 st August	Student-led Learning Conversations from 1pm-6pm. School closes at 12pm. No Navigators.
Friday 22 nd August	School Assembly led by Room 6 at 2:15pm in the school library
Monday 25 th August	Cultural Group practices begin during school hours
Tuesday 26 th August	MRZ Football Tournament for Room 4 students at Keith Hay Park
Thursday 28 th August	Māori and Pacific Maths Challenge for 4 selected Year 5 & 6 students
Thursday 28 th August	Board of Trustees Meeting at 6pm in the school office
Thursday 4 th September	School Assembly led by Room 4 at 2:15pm in the school library
Friday 5 th September	Father's Day Liturgy at 2.25pm in the church
Monday 8 th – Friday 12 th Sep	Catholic Social Justice Week
Thursday 11 th September	Cultural Festival Performances from 3:15pm-4:15pm in the hall
Friday 12 th September	St Therese Cross Country from 11:30am-1pm on the school field
Monday 15 th September	School Assembly led by Room 3 at 2:15pm in the school library
Friday 19 th September	St Therese Feast Day Celebrations: Mass from 11:30am-12:30pm in the church Shared Lunch from 12:30pm-1:30pm in the classrooms Talent Show from 1:30pm-2:45pm in the hall
Friday 19 th September	Last Day of Term 3. School finished at 3pm.