



Newsletter Issue 16

Friday 10 June 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Tēnā koutou katoa

I do hope you enjoyed the very long weekend and thank you to those parents who had to make alternative arrangements for the Teacher Only Day on Tuesday. When there is a short week it will be common for the newsletter to go out on Friday. It was certainly evident on Tuesday that winter has arrived and it is nice to see children coming to school prepared for the wet weather. Colder days are ahead and we have been investigating a school uniform beanie which will be for sale soon through the school. A school uniform scarf will also be an optional extra for Year 7 and 8.

The lego STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) group 'Bricks 4 Kidz' held a demo on the court area outside the office last Friday and already parents have signed up their children and the class is full for this term.

It was nice to see parents on Friday 27 May at our first indoor Year 5 to 8 assembly in a long time, and of course it was the very first one for me and all our new families. It was fantastic to see the items prepared by the Year 8 students. The Year 1 to 4 Merit Assembly last Friday was well attended by many parents. I was impressed by the behaviour of the young children who had to show their good manners and be respectful for a very long time.

PJ day was a lot of fun and it was a great opportunity for the Student Leaders to run a whole school event. They also did a good job hosting the Year 5 to 8 Merit Assembly. I am very much looking forward to the Citizenship Assembly today as this is the first whole school assembly for a very long time and the very first one for me. At orange level we are still unable to sing at assemblies in the hall so our national anthem will need to wait as well as all the other great waiata.

I would like to shout out again to all those parents and staff members who are providing our students the opportunities to compete in a myriad of sporting events. Children are training before and after school preparing to compete in interschool competitions in football rugby, hockey and netball. There are parents training teams of children for AIMS Games in Mount Maunganui and Tauranga in Term 3. I also know, from the trophies students show at morning assemblies that children are training and competing in flipper ball and water polo. I also acknowledge all those students who are undergoing individual training of their own for events such as tennis, mountain biking and cross country, in preparation for AIMS. I was lucky to get the opportunity to see the Year 8 Boys Football Team compete in the Easter Zone Tournament. I was very impressed with the way the team worked together and supported each other.

I have included the Parent Concerns and Complaints policy in this newsletter so that the process is clear. It looks like the information provided in the last newsletter was a little confusing.

Please note the PTA request in the newsletter this week. The PTA organise the staff dinner for the Parent Teacher Interviews later in the month. Parents kindly supply these dinners. The PTA are requesting some assistance with the organisation. A great way to getting involved in the PTA, even if you can't come to a meeting.

If you have been watching the news recently there is a spike in flu, COVID and other illnesses appearing in schools and we are monitoring the situation closely. We are quietly pleased by our low positive weekly COVID numbers but we still have quite a few students staying home with colds and flu, or as household contacts. For this reason we are asking students in Years 4-8 to wear a mask while they are in assembly as well as parents attending (unless you or your child has an exemption). There will be over 600 bodies in the hall so we want to keep from spreading our germs as much as possible. Let's all work together to keep our staff safe so that we don't have to send home classes or year levels.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Noho ora mai

Sean Valvoi
Principal

OUR NUMBERS

I will now report to you in each newsletter this term on the total weekly positive cases for students and staff and a daily average. This will be based on Monday to Sunday on the date the child or staff member tested positive.

Monday 2 May—Sunday 8 May	TOTAL = 4 children TOTAL = 2 Staff	Daily Average = 0.57 (0.71% of all children)
Monday 9 May—Sunday 15 May	TOTAL = 15 children TOTAL = 0 Staff	Daily Average = 2.14 (2.67% of all children)
Monday 16 May—Sunday 22 May	TOTAL = 8 children TOTAL = 0 Staff	Daily Average = 1.14 (1.42% of all children)
Monday 23 May—Sunday 29 May	TOTAL = 3 children TOTAL = 0 Staff	Daily Average = 0.43 (0.50% of all children)
Monday 30 May—Sunday 5 June	TOTAL = 5 children TOTAL = 0 Staff	Daily Average = 0.71 (0.89% of all children)

IS THERE LIFE OUT THERE? YEAR 7 TRIP TO STARDOME



Year 7 students took an educational journey to Mars on 2 June 2022 at the Stardome Observatory and Planetarium. Our journey began with a fascinating and informative session about our Solar System with one of Stardome's expert instructors. This was a lively and interactive lesson, with plenty of discussion and questions. The next part of our journey was in teams, as we raced around the facility finding answers to questions on an iPad, before returning to base to see who had won. The final stage of our exploration was inside the immersive 360 degree Planetarium, as we watched *Mars 1001*, a fictional story following an international crew of astronauts who are about to embark on the first interplanetary journey in history; the first manned mission to the surface of Mars. This linked perfectly with the Year 7 inquiry topic this term: Mission Possible - could there be life on Mars?

GIVE A KID A BLANKET

Dear Parents and Whanau of St Heliers School,

As a school we are going to be helping with the 'Give a Kid a Blanket' drive. We ran this appeal successfully last year and once again would like to support this very worthwhile cause.

We will be collecting the following items:

- Warm bedding including duvet inners and covers - of all sizes
- Blankets - of all sizes
- Sheets - of all sizes
- Infant sleeping sacks
- PJs and Dressing gowns
- Jackets
- **New** pillows and **new** hot water bottles



These donations go directly to the families in need, made into packs of what they require, for how they live and who is in their families. This happens with social workers, community health workers and Police teams working directly with 'Give a Kid a Blanket'.

If you are able to support by donating any of the above items, please bring them to school from next week to **Room 14** (Lower level of the Endeavour Block). We will be accepting donations until Friday 1st July.

Your support is very much appreciated.

Kind regards
Kerry Herbert
Y8 Teacher

BRICK4KIDZ HOLDS THEIR FIRST SESSION

It was great to see students attend the first session yesterday. There are 19 students and 4 facilitators. When I went into the room the students looked very engaged. I saw a lot of the students problem solving. The older students were working collaboratively, creating football pitches.

The class has been so popular that it is full and there is a long waiting list. We may be able to start a new class on a different day next term if this is needed and they have the capacity to do this. I will keep you posted.



COMMUNICATIONS

We do apologise for the large number of email communication you have been receiving lately. I will be looking to address this by making our communications more streamlined. We will be aiming to have most of our school information go out via the fortnightly newsletter.

Sean Valvoi

Eastern Zone Year 7 Boys Football

On Tuesday 31st May, the Year 7 boys football team went to play at the Eastern Zones tournament held at Crossfields. Our first game was against Sacred Heart. It was a close game which ended up as a 1-1 draw. Our next games were against St. Thomas, St Kents, Stonefields, and finally Dilworth. All were close matches and we ended up 3rd on the table in the Round Robin. This meant that the top 4 teams went to the semi-finals. Everyone was so tired they could barely stand up after so many games but we pushed forward with determination. Our semi-final game was against Sacred Heart. They were definitely the dominant team in that game. The overall score was 6-0 to them. But it still wasn't over. We had to play the final match of the day to decide which team was 3rd and 4th. This game was against Dilworth school. Unfortunately at half-time they were 4-0 up. We were tired, out of breath and thirsty, but we kept on going. The second half started and we scored to make it 4-1. Then another - 4-2, and another. It was 4-3 to Dilworth and the comeback was looking hopeful but there was just not enough time left. Dilworth finished the game winners with the end result 5-3. Although we lost, everyone on that pitch had given it their all. On behalf of the team a special thanks to Derek and Campbell for taking time out of their busy day to coach us. Thank you.

By Cooper Harbin

Eastern Zone Year 8 Boys Football

After so long with no inter-school sports, it was great to attend the EZ Football Tournament. Out of twelve teams, the SHS Y8 Boys came fourth - we thought we'd done a pretty good job. The competition was tough, especially after no sport last year (and lots of private schools). In the last 30 seconds of our fourth game, the opposition was up by one and Ted made a long goal and scored for a draw - he saved us (a relieving play because it meant we went through to the semis). In our second game we won 8-0. Our coaches were very encouraging and supportive. They prioritised us - we had training two days a week for many weeks. We really appreciated all their support. An awesome day was had by all of us.

by Albie and Tyler



As registrations close for the 2022 Zespri AIMS Games, I am delighted to have approved nearly 50 Year 7&8 students to attend the games.

AIMS Games, based in Tauranga over a week in September, gives 11, 12 and 13 year olds an opportunity to compete as individuals or part of a team against their peers in NZ across 23 sports codes. This year our students will be competing in basketball, cross country, futsal, indoor cricket, mountain biking, rugby 7s, tennis and yachting. I am impressed at the diverse range of sports our students are participating in and look forward to watching some of their training before and after school.

I would like to thank all our parents who have committed their time to coaching and managing our students. Your support and dedication is greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Nicola Gray

Sports Coordinator

Running Club

Don't forget that our lovely Board Presiding Member (used to be called Board Chair) takes running club every Friday during term time. Anyone is welcome to join in and they love having parents join too. Running club leaves from school just outside the office at 8am and gets back to school at 8.30am.

(Sports from the football and rugby yesterday will be reported in the next Newsletter)



PARENT CONCERNS/COMPLAINTS POLICY

**NAG 3
No. 310**

Purpose

This policy aims to provide clear guidelines on procedures for expressing concerns or making complaints connected with the school curriculum or management. St Heliers School recognizes the need to satisfy parents that the teaching and management standards of the school will be maintained to the highest levels and ensure that appropriate processes are in place should any concerns/complaints arise.

Guidelines

1. GENERALLY, the first course of action for a parent/caregiver should be to discuss a matter of concern directly with the staff member involved. It is not uncommon for misunderstandings to arise between school and home that can be resolved easily by direct discussion. If this is not successful, the parent/caregiver should speak with the appropriate Team Leader.
2. If the following occurs, the parent/caregiver should inform the Deputy Principal of their concerns:
 - A direct approach to the Team Leader is not effective
 - The parent/caregiver is dissatisfied with the explanation of the Team Leader
 - The parent/caregiver is dissatisfied with the action/behaviour of the Team Leader
 - The reaction is considered to be inappropriate, or the action continues
 - The parent feels unable to discuss the matter directly with the Team Leader

In such events, the Deputy Principal has a responsibility to investigate and discuss these concerns with the Principal, staff members and parent/caregiver.

3. If the issue is still unresolved, the Principal will investigate the concern and work to resolve the issue.
4. If the Principal feels that the matter is beyond his/her responsibility or remains unresolved, then s/he should refer it to the Board through the Presiding Member.
5. If the parent/caregiver is not satisfied with steps taken by the Principal, or if the complaint, other than concerning matters of curriculum, involves the Principal and the complainant has already been to see the Principal with no satisfactory conclusion to the complaint, then the parent/caregiver should write to the Presiding Member of the Board. The Presiding Member will then communicate with the parent regarding the complaint. An appropriate investigation will take place. The Privacy Act 2020 will apply to the investigation.
6. The parent/caregiver will be informed in writing of the measures and processes undertaken regarding the issue.
7. If you are not happy with the response from the school, you can contact the Auckland Ministry of Education office or the Office of the Ombudsman.

PJ DAY

Here are the photos from Pyjama Day on Wednesday 1 June.



PTA NEWS

We are looking for a small team of people (around 4) to help set the table and put food out from 4.30-5.15pm in the school staffroom. This is for the evening meal that the PTA puts on for all teachers and staff on the day of the Parent-Teacher Interviews.

This year these take place on Thursday 7 July which is the last Thursday of term. It's a great opportunity to meet other parents and help out the wonderful St Heliers teachers. 🤝

If you can help please contact Amanda Henton at amanda.henton@bluestar.co.nz.

The Next PTA Meeting is Wednesday 6 July at 7pm in the Staff Room. We would love to see you there!

MERIT ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Recipients of the Year 5 to 8 Merit Award at the Assembly on 27 May and the recipients of the Year 1 to 4 Merit Award at the Assembly on 3 June.

Merit Awards - May			Merit Awards - May		
Yr	Rm	Name	Yr	Rm	Name
5	25	Caitlin S	7	28	Ian M
5	25	Alice dSN	7	28	Mila L
5	25	Isshi F	7	28	Alice B
5	25	Samuel H	7	29	Ivan T
5	26	Cade P	7	29	Kait N
5	26	Bella R	7	29	Naomi C
5	26	Panaki MW	7	29	William M
5	26	Viktor M	7	30	Sofia A
5	27	Aria H	7	30	Holly B
5	27	Spencer G	7	30	Corren McC
5	27	Sylvie C	8	14	Jolie LS
5	27	Bryan LG	8	14	Lucy G
6	21	Alice C	8	14	Aaron C
6	21	Theresa D	8	14	Noah T
6	21	Henry F	8	14	Arina S
6	21	Sam D	8	15	Elijah GS
6	22	Matisse A	8	15	Bella M
6	22	Jaspar L	8	15	Marin S
6	22	Amelia H	8	15	Izrael T
6	22	Makar B	8	15	Mitchell G
6	23	Lucas P	8	19	Nina D
6	23	James P	8	19	Samuel A
6	23	Victoria P	8	19	Marcel B
6	23	James P	8	19	Liam M
6	23	Isla B	8	19	Rishiaani K
7	28	Alex M	8	19	Johanna Z

Merit Awards - June			Merit Awards - June		
Yr	Rm	Name	Yr	Rm	Name
1	2	Finley B	3	12	Eva H
1	2	Charles H	3	12	Shaantae D
1	7	Chloe P	3	13	Ella H
1	7	George M	3	13	Ashton A
1	8	Soren H	3	13	Sophia B
1	8	Ella H	3	13	Zachary B
1	8	Sienna W	4	16	Andy B
2	4	Sylvie H	4	16	Poppy T
2	4	Heidi M	4	16	Mia G
2	4	Benjamin G	4	16	Charlie E
2	5	Hugo H	4	16	Louis H
2	5	Flynn B	4	16	Sidney P
2	5	Isabella H	4	17	Darius AL
2	6	Harper B	4	17	Harry M
2	6	Melissa K	4	17	Noa A
2	6	Amelia S	4	17	Max D
3	11	Jack P	4	18	Ryker C
3	11	Mila N	4	18	Carolina Z
3	11	Liya vZ	4	18	Jemma KW
3	11	Lucy P	4	18	Tayla T
3	12	Toby W	4	18	Rafael C
3	12	Kayden D	4	18	Haslett S



SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR 2023

With border restrictions beginning to ease we understand the desire for some families to do some forward planning. You will find the term dates that have been set for next year a little strange. I think that part of the reason for this is that Easter will be earlier than it was this year and they moved the school holidays earlier to coincide with Easter. For the first time I can remember ANZAC Day is in the first week of Term 2. So that there is an even 10 weeks for each term we will be starting school on Wednesday 1 February. Schools are required to be open for a certain number of days each year.

- TERM 1** **Wednesday 1 February to Thursday 6 April (School Holidays: Friday 7 to Sunday 23 April)**
Public Holidays during Term time: Waitangi Day Monday 6 February
- TERM 2** **Monday 24 April to Friday 30 June (School Holidays: Saturday 1 July to Sunday 16 July)**
Public Holidays during Term time: ANZAC Day Tuesday 25 April, Queens Birthday Monday 5 June
- TERM 3** **Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September (School Holidays: Saturday 23 September to Sunday 8 October) No Public Holidays during Term time**
- TERM 4** **Monday 9 October to Friday 15 December (School Holidays start Saturday 16 December)**
Public Holidays during Term time: Labour Day Monday 23 October

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 13 June	International Language Week starts Auckland Champs Y7 Girls Football
Tuesday 14 June	Bay Suburbs Rugby Year 5 and 6
Wednesday 15 June	Year 5 Trip—Sky Tower and All Blacks Experience Year 6-8 Sexuality Education Parent Talk 5pm
Thursday 16 June	Year 8 Glendowie College Talk Year 3 Trip to Mangere Mountain BOT Meeting 6pm
Friday 17 June	Y5-8 Merit Assembly 2pm

TEACHER ONLY DAYS:
TERM3: MONDAY 25 JULY

SCHOOL YEAR DATES

Term 2	2 May—8 July
Term 3	26 July—30 September
Term 4	17 October—16 December

TERM 2 SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

We are excited to be able to hold assemblies again in our school hall. As you will know, parents & caregivers are to wear masks and we are strongly encouraging our Y4-8 children to also wear masks as they are sitting indoors as a large group for an hour. Unfortunately, we will not be able to sing our National Anthem as under Orange Alert level singing can only take place if each person is spaced 1 metre from the next.. Please note our Excellence Assembly will be held on Wednesday rather than the Friday.

Assembly	Hosted by	Date	School Week
Citizenship Assembly	Senior Leadership Team	Friday 10th June @ 2pm	Six
Y5-8 Merit Assembly	Year 7	Friday 17th June @ 2pm	Seven
Y1-4 Merit Assembly	Year 3	Friday 1st July @ 2pm	Nine
Excellence Assembly	Senior Leadership Team	Wednesday 6th July @ 2pm	Ten

SEEKING PARENT HELP



Seeking parent help to shelve readers in the St Heliers School 'Junior Book Room'

Most days each week the children in Years 0, 1, 2 and 3 take home a reader.

When these readers are returned, they are put back in their boxes in the Junior Book Room by a team of volunteer parents, who are rostered to cover 1-2 weeks each term.

We now need new help with this shelving, ideally from parents whose children are using the books.

Could you spare a few minutes before and towards the end of school a couple of times a term?

If you can help, or would like to learn more, please contact Kate Hawkins, Resource Manager at kateh@stheliers.school.nz 09 575 8311



Supergenerous

Claim your school donation tax rebates in myKindo this year.

When you make your school donations to **St Heliers School** in myKindo for 2022, you'll see the option to opt-in to Supergenerous when you pay.

Kindo and Supergenerous work together to lodge your donation rebate claim with the IRD. They do all the hard work for you and give you the option to regift your 33% tax rebate to **St Heliers School** as a new donation. It's an awesome way to make your donation go further.

All rebate donations will go towards enhancing the curriculum, increasing resources around sports coordination and equipment, and providing extra learning support.

Donate your 33%
donation tax rebate
this year in myKindo.

Just opt-in to Supergenerous when
you pay your school donation for
2022 in myKindo.

supergenerous x kindo.