



Newsletter Issue 19  
Thursday 7 July 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Tēnā koutou katoa

It is hard to believe it is now the end of the second term and we are half way through the year. After 6 months I feel I have learnt a great deal about St Heliers School, the staff, students and our school community. However, I feel like I have just scratched the surface as there is much more to learn. Although I know a lot more student names now, it has been difficult to remember parent names and matching students to parents. As the Board and staff know the first 6 months of my time at St Heliers has been about building relationships and seeing how the school usually operates, how the children, staff and community connect, how the children learn and finding out what the traditions and customs of the school are. While mindful that we are still going through a pandemic there will be some changes which will be gradually introduced. The first of these is an alteration of the times for morning break and lunch break. The morning break will be extended by 10 minutes going from 10.40am to 11.10am and the lunch break will be reduced by 10 minutes, starting at 12.40pm with 10 minutes eating then play until the current finish time 1.25pm. This brings us more inline with many other schools throughout New Zealand. The longer morning break allows the junior students more time to eat their morning tea and still be able to have time to play. Children will still get to play for 35 minutes at lunch break.



As many parents have commented, it has been fantastic to see so many educational trips and sports trips happening. Teachers are certainly doing all they can to continue the learning opportunities for the students both in class and outside the school. The classes have been busy with their units of inquiry around the ANZAC's, Matariki, Dinosaurs, Inventions & Enterprise and Sustainability.

It was nice to see one of our children being a good citizen, showing courage and empathy when a cat was stuck high in a tree. The cat was too high for the fire appliance ladders to reach so Daniel, in Year 7, climbed the tree and rescued the cat after a lot of coaxing. It made the papers and social media. Tu Meke Daniel!

Last Friday we celebrated those students who have shown improvement or effort in their learning and received a Merit Award at the special assembly. I really enjoyed the items which the Year 3 team had prepared for the assembly and fantastic art they had created. Yesterday afternoon we held our Excellence Awards Assembly. Only one student from each class is awarded an Excellence Award each term. Excellence Awards recognise those children who have attained a standard of academic, sporting or cultural excellence in some aspect of their schooling. Well done to all these children.

Unfortunately our attendance rates have significantly dropped to 82%. Of the 18% not at school 6% have gone on holiday early but the majority are at home sick with a cold, or the flu, or COVID. Both our student and staff positive cases have risen significantly this week with 14 positive cases in 2 days. We need to remain vigilant as variants of Omicron rise, cases increase nationally and the vaccine starts to lose its efficacy. Wearing a mask indoors is more important in these winter months as we experience a surge. The only saving grace is that we are very close to the holidays.

Remember that Monday 25 July is a Teacher Only Day, teachers will visit the Auckland Museum in the morning discovering the resources available for the Aotearoa New Zealand Histories Curriculum and then the Ruapōtaka Marae in the afternoon as part of our cultural capabilities focus. Children's first day back next term is Tuesday 26 July.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Parent Teacher Interviews. We like to see every parent for these interviews and thank you to these parents who have made alternative arrangements. We have informed you if your child's teacher is required to isolate and interviews for these classes have been rearranged for early Term 3. Given our current COVID situation we would like parents to wear a mask for the interviews (unless exempted) and sanitise at the entry point.

I would like to wish everyone a very enjoyable break. I always encourage the children to try something new in the holidays, even if it is something small they can do at home. Stay safe and I look forward to see you all back in Term 3.

Noho ora mai

Sean Valvoi  
Principal

## OUR NUMBERS

These numbers are based on Monday to Sunday on the date the child or staff member tested positive.

|                               |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Monday 2 May—Sunday 8 May     | TOTAL = 4 children<br>TOTAL = 2 Staff  | Daily Average = 0.57 (0.71% of all children) |
| Monday 9 May—Sunday 15 May    | TOTAL = 15 children<br>TOTAL = 0 Staff | Daily Average = 2.14 (2.67% of all children) |
| Monday 16 May—Sunday 22 May   | TOTAL = 8 children<br>TOTAL = 0 Staff  | Daily Average = 1.14 (1.42% of all children) |
| Monday 23 May—Sunday 29 May   | TOTAL = 3 children<br>TOTAL = 0 Staff  | Daily Average = 0.43 (0.50% of all children) |
| Monday 30 May—Sunday 5 June   | TOTAL = 5 children<br>TOTAL = 0 Staff  | Daily Average = 0.71 (0.89% of all children) |
| Monday 6 June—Sunday 12 June  | TOTAL = 9 children<br>TOTAL = 0 Staff  | Daily Average = 1.29 (1.59% of all children) |
| Monday 13 June—Sunday 19 June | TOTAL = 4 children<br>TOTAL = 0 Staff  | Daily Average = 0.14 (0.71% of all children) |
| Monday 20 June—Sunday 26 June | TOTAL = 3 children<br>TOTAL = 1 Staff  | Daily Average = 0.43 (0.50% of all children) |
| Monday 27 June—Sunday 3 July  | TOTAL = 7 children<br>TOTAL = 3 Staff  | Daily Average = 1.00 (1.24% of all children) |

## GIVE A KID A BLANKET—LAST DAY FRIDAY 1 JULY

Dear Parents and Whanau of St Heliers School,

On Saturday, two very full carloads of blankets, sleeping bags, onesies, jackets, hot water bottles and PJs were delivered to the local branch of the Give a Kid a Blanket charity. Liss, the St Heliers co-ordinator had this message for the school:

*'Big thanks to St Heliers School, whose community have been long time supporters of this collection. It is a lot of extra work for the already busy teachers and we really appreciate it.'*

A massive thank you to the St Heliers School Community for your generosity in supporting this very worthwhile cause. All of our donations of warmth will make a big difference to those who need it during winter.

Kerry Herbert  
Y8 Teacher



## YEAR 4 MUSEUM TRIP



Returning to school after a glorious, fun filled and whanau focused Maanawaitia a Matariki Long Weekend on Monday 27 June, Year 4 students and their kaiako/ teachers and supervising parents boarded the bendy bus at 8:50am promptly to the Auckland Museum to learn even more and consolidate understandings about both the Māori New Year and the Matariki star cluster that has signalled its arrival annually for thousands of years.



Each Year 4 class in turn was invited to attend an hour's kura/school with matua Gabrielle in Hotonui - the beloved and breathtakingly beautiful wharenuui/meeting house in the Māori Theatre on the Ground Floor. Here Year 4 students learnt through waiata/kani kani and korero (songs/movement and talking) the importance of Matariki and the actual positions of each of the nine stars in the constellation and how each name (through the legends told about it) is a clue to its role and position in the sky. Students enjoyed working collaboratively to recreate accurately the Matariki constellations as the elaborate ancient carved wooden taniwha and ancestral whakairo looked on through their paua shell eyes.



Year 4 students also had time before and/or after their lesson to explore the other floors and exhibits before boarding the bus once again to return to St Heliers School. Highlights for students and adults alike were the Bastion Point exhibition, Goldie and Lindaeur portraits, Pete the T-Rex (of course!), the Volcano Room and Weird And Wonderful along with the new interactive and visually attractive Tamaki Herenga Waka exhibition which displayed fascinating historical artefacts from Tamaki Makaurau/ Auckland's recent and not so recent past. Auckland Museum staff, organisation and venue facilities were all phenomenal and Year 4 students all enjoyed themselves tremendously and learnt lots too. Ka rawe!

## NEW TIMES FOR MORNING TEA AND LUNCH

### OLD TIMES

|                         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Morning Break Starts    | 10.40am |
| Morning Tea Ends        | 11.00am |
| Lunch Eating Starts     | 12.30pm |
| Lunch Play Break Starts | 12.40pm |
| Lunch Ends              | 1.25pm  |

### NEW TIMES STARTING TERM 3

|                         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Morning Break Starts    | 10.40am |
| Morning Tea Ends        | 11.10am |
| Lunch Eating Starts     | 12.40pm |
| Lunch Play Break Starts | 12.50pm |
| Lunch Ends              | 1.25pm  |

## PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS TONIGHT

- Please check you are on time for your interview.
- I strongly encourage students in Year 5 to 8 to attend along with the parent/s. This is about the learning so it is important the learner is present. Other matters can be discussed privately at another time.
- As we are experiencing a surge in positive COVID cases and illnesses observe our requirements:
  1. Wear a mask inside the classroom (unless exempted)
  2. Sanitise as you enter the classroom
  3. Shaking hands will be at the discretion of you and the teacher
  4. Wear something warm as the classrooms will be ventilated with windows slightly open
  5. Keep 1 meter distance
  6. Contact the office if you are unwell and we will reschedule your interview for Term 3.
- We all look forward to seeing you.

# RED NOSE DAY

## Information:

Red Nose day will be on Friday 29th July and your child can wear a red accessory with their uniform.

Student Leaders

A gold coin donation is encouraged. All profits of the event are donated to Cure Kids



You can also make your donation via Kindo.



## EXCELLENCE AWARDS ASSEMBLY YEARS 1-8

Congratulations to the recipients of the Excellence Awards at the Assembly on 6 July.

### EXCELLENCE AWARDS Y1-4

| Year | Room | Name        |
|------|------|-------------|
| 1    | 2    | Thomas S    |
| 1    | 7    | Levi E      |
| 1    | 8    | Charlotte P |
| 2    | 4    | Ava W       |
| 2    | 5    | Mariska vS  |
| 2    | 6    | Matthew B   |
| 3    | 11   | Steven H    |
| 3    | 12   | Henry H     |
| 3    | 13   | Chelsea N   |
| 4    | 16   | Emma D      |
| 4    | 17   | Toby C      |
| 4    | 18   | Emily B     |

### EXCELLENCE AWARDS Y5-8

| Year | Room | Name          |
|------|------|---------------|
| 5    | 25   | Samuel H      |
| 5    | 26   | Luca S        |
| 5    | 27   | Sylvie C      |
| 6    | 21   | Zoe C         |
| 6    | 22   | Zak A         |
| 6    | 23   | Reid S        |
| 7    | 28   | Isaiah H      |
| 7    | 29   | Parmin DS     |
| 7    | 30   | Isabel C      |
| 8    | 14   | Charlotte Mck |
| 8    | 15   | Sofia L       |
| 8    | 19   | Alexander M   |



# Get on board!

## **Would you like to be a member of the St Heliers School Board?**

On 15 July, nominations open for School Board elections. This is your opportunity to put your name forward to stand on the St Heliers School Board. Below are some FAQs about the school board.

### ***Who can become a board member?***

Basically, anyone can put their name forward to be a board member! It doesn't matter what you do—what matters most is that you care about education in your community and you would like to make a difference. At St Heliers School, the board is made up of five parent elected members, the tumuaki (principal) and a staff member (who is voted for by the staff). Another important consideration is for the St Heliers School Board to reflect the diversity within our community, so that our community has representation in the governance of our school.

### ***What does a school board do?***

The primary objective of a school board is best possible outcomes for all students. This includes:

- ensuring all students can achieve their best in educational achievement;
- providing a safe and inclusive environment;
- giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi

### ***What Skills do board members need?***

The most valuable skills board members can bring to the board table are:

- work well as part of a team
- not afraid to ask challenging questions
- have good communication skills
- be connected to our community

### ***How does the process work?***

Nominations for board members opens on 15 July and close at 12pm on 3 August. You can nominate yourself or ask someone else to nominate you. If we get more than five nominations, an election is held, where the parents, legal guardians and immediate caregivers of enrolled students can vote for up to five nominees. Once voting closes at 4pm on 7 September, the votes are counted and the five nominees with the highest number of votes will become the St Heliers School Board on 14 September for the next three years. Once on the board, you will receive training and support to help you into your new role.

### ***Would you like to know more?***

Kathy Harding (current Board Chair) is happy to answer any questions you may have—feel free to get in touch with her on 027 281 8007 or [kathycf007@gmail.com](mailto:kathycf007@gmail.com)

For more information go to <https://bit.ly/SHSelections>



**SCHOOL BOARD  
ELECTIONS**

## SPORTS UPDATE

### ***Year 7 Girls Football Auckland Championship***

This week twelve Year 7 girls advanced to the Auckland Regionals football tournament held at Ngahue. The competition was against 6 of the best intermediate teams from across the Auckland region. We won our first game 1-0 which motivated the team to pull out 3 wins out of five games. The last game was the playoff against a team to be reckoned with. Their aggressive tactics motivated the team further and we won the game 2-1! It was a great day and we are all super proud of ourselves! The team used amazing defence and pushed forward with powerful attack, ending the day in a respectable third place. Overall we scored 6 awesome goals and at the end of the tournament we were all very tired as we had given it our everything!  
Written by Charlotte Chadwick

### ***Bay Suburbs Netball Year 5***

The first Eastern Zones tournament for Year 5 this year was on Wednesday 9th June. It was an incredibly wet day forcing everyone to play harder and move faster to keep warm. Team spirit and morale was high resulting in a great day!

The Year 5 Girls team, The Dynamites, many of whom were new to Netball, worked hard together to achieve 4th place. They came out of the tournament with a better understanding of the game and a new found passion for the sport.

The second Year 5 Girls team, The Wolf Pack, had mixed results receiving 4th place. They played hard and demonstrated dedication to the sport.

The Year 5 Boys team, The Foxes, again with many members new to netball, went to the finals. They came in 2nd place! The boys demonstrated great communication skills and showed such resilience, they were gracious in defeat.

Both our school teams displayed an exemplary sporting attitude, honouring their opposition at the end of games being respectful and polite. It was fantastic to see our other teams supporting each other and cheering on their friends when they could.

Congratulations to all the teams who participated!

A huge thank you to our Year 5 coaches and managers, Jay Ropati, Abbey Whiteman, Bernadette McDougall and Taryn Evans, for their early morning starts, patience and perseverance that went into getting us match fit for the day.

### ***Bay Suburbs Netball Year 6***

Last Wednesday five Year 6 netball teams and three Year 5 netball teams played in the annual Bay Suburbs Netball tournament at the Auckland Netball courts. The students' attitude, behaviour and sportsmanship was excellent throughout the day despite the weather which worsened as the day proceeded. A huge THANK YOU to all of the parents who helped coach and manage as well as all the spectators who supported us on the day.

Miss Franklin

Each team played several exciting and challenging games of netball. It was fun but also very cold and wet, as we had to play in the treacherous weather. Overall we got an amazing 2nd place for our A team and an awesome 1st place for the boys B team. We played some challenging games but we persevered and tried our best and achieved our 1st and 2nd place. We tied some games and lost some. By the end of the tournament everybody had mixed feelings between excited and miserable as it was cold. Everybody had good sportsmanship as the other teams congratulated us for our win. Overall both of our teams did very well and made St Heliers proud.

By Matty, Mack, Marcel.

The Year 6 Girls Netball Tournament was an awesome day, despite the fact it was raining. The first games were pretty easy, some we lost and some we won, but what was key was our teamwork. When we found out that all our teams got into the semi-finals we were all pumped and ready to get out there. Our A team placed in the finals which was awesome. What is key is teamwork, sportsmanship, confidence, believing in yourself and having a fun day. If you believe in yourself, you will be very successful.

By Abby

## SPORTS UPDATE *continued*

### *Year 7&8 Eastern Zone Hockey*

The St Heliers Year 7&8 students gathered at Lloyd Elsmore Park on Monday 27 June to participate in this year's Eastern Zones Hockey Tournament. Both boys and girls hockey teams played some great hockey considering many students had never played in a hockey tournament before. Determination and teamwork ensured both St Heliers teams grew from strength to strength each game. They showcased outstanding sportsmanship and respect for other teams participating in the tournament. Overall, the girls team finished in 4th place and the boys finished 5th. Well done St Heliers School.



## KĀHUI AKO UPDATE

### *St Heliers School, Glendowie School, Churchill Park School, Glendowie College*

The Kāhui Ako team from the four contributing schools have been working hard behind the scenes building understanding and developing presentations to give via staff meetings around Cultural Capabilities and the meaning and responsibilities we have in our teaching roles. To date we have presented 3 staff meetings, two on the history of the Treaty of Waitangi and one on history in our local area being Bastion Point, and Ōrākei Marae.

To follow on from this there is the Teacher Only Day on Monday July 25th where staff will attend PD sessions at the Auckland Museum and a pōwhiri at Ruapōtaka Marae. Next term's PD will mainly be focussed on unpacking the new Aotearoa New Zealand Histories Curriculum.





# Matariki





Our Year 1 tamariki learnt about Matariki through different forms such as writing, creative art, numeracy and stories. It was lovely to hear about the ways in which they celebrated Matariki with their family/whanau as part of our Oral Language News Programme. Their learning was topped off with a fun afternoon flying their Pakau (kites) on the Junior Turf. Great fun had by all. Manawatia a Matariki!

# Matariki

## MERIT ASSEMBLY AWARDS YEAR 1 - 4

Recipients of the Year 1 - 4 Merit Award at the Assembly on 1 July.

| Merit Awards - Year 1 |    |             | Merit Awards - Year 2 |    |           |
|-----------------------|----|-------------|-----------------------|----|-----------|
| Yr                    | Rm | Name        | Yr                    | Rm | Name      |
| 1                     | 2  | Alexandra B | 2                     | 4  | Sienna S  |
| 1                     | 2  | William R   | 2                     | 4  | Sarah S   |
| 1                     | 7  | Soohyeon L  | 2                     | 4  | Ronaldo R |
| 1                     | 7  | Elijah P    | 2                     | 5  | Jiwoo K   |
| 1                     | 7  | Cora Vdw    | 2                     | 5  | Georgia C |
| 1                     | 8  | Victoria R  | 2                     | 5  | Bastian H |
| 1                     | 8  | Manuel E    | 2                     | 6  | Cecilia W |
| 1                     | 8  | Aless M     | 2                     | 6  | William H |
|                       |    |             | 2                     | 6  | Aaron McH |

| Merit Awards - Year 3 |    |           | Merit Awards - Year 4 |    |             |
|-----------------------|----|-----------|-----------------------|----|-------------|
| Yr                    | Rm | Name      | Yr                    | Rm | Name        |
| 3                     | 11 | Harry P   | 4                     | 16 | Mia G       |
| 3                     | 11 | Yvonna M  | 4                     | 16 | Katie G     |
| 3                     | 11 | Charlie S | 4                     | 16 | Sana N      |
| 3                     | 11 | Ethan B   | 4                     | 16 | Austin P    |
| 3                     | 12 | Luna A    | 4                     | 17 | Sloane W    |
| 3                     | 12 | Lucy C    | 4                     | 17 | Toby C      |
| 3                     | 12 | Toby B    | 4                     | 17 | Fletcher S  |
| 3                     | 12 | Hugo F    | 4                     | 17 | Isabelle W  |
| 3                     | 13 | Maddy Vdw | 4                     | 17 | Chloe S     |
| 3                     | 13 | Hektor H  | 4                     | 18 | Lexi vdH    |
| 3                     | 13 | William P | 4                     | 18 | Genevieve Y |
| 3                     | 13 | Naomi E   | 4                     | 18 | Jack P      |
|                       |    |           | 4                     | 18 | Ethan D     |

## AFTER SCHOOL MANDARIN CLASSES AT ST HELIERS SCHOOL

After requests from some parents we are now happy to provide after school Mandarin lessons for those children who are beginners to those who have some experience. These classes will start in Term 3 and you simply need to contact the co-ordinator. Please note that space is limited so you will need to act fast.

Dear Parents

Would you like your child to speak Chinese (Mandarin) which is spoken by the biggest population in the world? Good news! A new Chinese language after-school class is to open from Term 3. The Chinese teachers are from Auckland Sunrise Education Centre which has engaged in Chinese language teaching for more than a decade at its 5 teaching points over Central Auckland, West Auckland and North Auckland. All teachers have plenty of experience in Chinese language teaching. In the past 18 years, thousands of students have learned Chinese language from them, and many students passed YCT and HSK tests with excellent marks.

If your child is interested in learning Chinese, please enrol now. No matter the Chinese language level of your child, we will provide teaching content to meet your their level, from beginner level onward using level 1 to level 12 textbooks. Children in our Chinese language class will learn listening, speaking, reading, writing and conversation. In addition, we will have a lot of in class activities to motivate the children to learn Chinese.

**Class time: Each Monday or Tuesday afternoon (TBC) from 3:15pm to 4.45pm.**

**Contact details: Mrs Yang, cell phone number: 021 08125688; webchat: elleny6.**

**Mrs Chen, cell phone number: 021 2580610; Email [huihai810@outlook.com](mailto:huihai810@outlook.com)**

## PTA NEWS

**Due to the number of positive COVID cases and illnesses we had to postpone our PTA meeting this week. We will inform you next term when our next meeting is.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Friday 8 July       | Last Day of Term 2 (normal finish time)                                |
| Monday 25 July      | NO SCHOOL - Teacher Only Day   |
| Tuesday 26 July     | First day of School for Term 3   |
| Wednesday 27 July   | Parent Teacher Interviews for Rooms 19 and 22                          |
| Thursday 28 July    | Bricks 4 Kidz starts for Term 3  |
| Friday 29 July      | Red Nose Day (for Cure Kids)<br>EZ Netball Year 7 and 8                |
| Wednesday 3 August  | PTA Meeting 7pm (TBC)  |
| Tuesday 9 August    | School Cross Country Y4-8 (Save day 12 August)                         |
| Wednesday 10 August | Wear what you like day (for Aims Games teams)                          |
| Thursday 11 August  | Parent Year 7 and 8 Information Evening (For parents of Years 5 and 6) |

**TEACHER ONLY DAY:  
TERM3: MONDAY 25 JULY**

### SCHOOL YEAR DATES

|        |                        |
|--------|------------------------|
| Term 3 | 26 July—30 September   |
| Term 4 | 17 October—16 December |



**CELEBRATING 25 YEARS**

**EAT YUMMY APPLES FOR NEW SPORTS GEAR FOR YOUR SCHOOL!**

Collect the stickers from Yummy Apples and cut-outs from 1.5kg bags of Yummy Apples for your school's share of sports gear worth **\$200,000**

**\* RUNS THROUGH TO END OF TERM 3**

**EATING HEALTHY FOR COOL SPORTS GEAR SINCE 1998...**

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Yummy Apples varieties: Ambrosia, Braeburn 4101, Fuji 4129, Granny Smith 4133, Lemonade 3001, 4194 Māhira, New Zealand Rose 4122, Red Delicious 4015, Royal Gala 4173, Sweetango.

## 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.

Find out more about [Supergenerous](#) (ctrl + click to follow link)

**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.

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