



Newsletter

21 May 2021

www.stheliers.school.nz

Dear Parents

New Parents Morning Tea

A new initiative from the Board of Trustees, PTA and Senior Leadership Team is to hold a new parents' morning tea once a term in the Staffroom. This is another way of welcoming families into our school community and for parents to hear from each of the above groups about their role in the school.

The first new parents' morning tea will be Tuesday 22 June at 9.00am. Invitations will be sent.

Parent Workshop – Helping Children Cope with Anxieties

Advance notice of a parent workshop, to be hosted by the Board of Trustees.

Jeanita Cush-Hunter from the Children's Autism Foundation will deliver a presentation about helping **all** children manage anxieties.

- Wednesday 30 June from 7pm-9pm.
- School Hall.
- Parents from our Community of Learning Schools will also be invited.
- Registration and payment details to follow in approximately two weeks' time.

Student Leaders

Student Leaders are Year 8 students who demonstrate leadership qualities, who consistently display our school values and have a high level of maturity. Student Leaders support the staff in various roles, represent the school in a variety of roles and are a voice for the student body.

Congratulations to the following children, who were named as 2021 Student Leaders at Citizenship Assembly at the end of Term 1.

- Jerina Jaka
- Annabel Jones
- Lola Paterson
- Hannah Pitcaithly
- Manith Naidu
- Emily Stanton
- Jessica Whiteman
- James Gane
- Riley Leith
- Edward Mitchelson
- Lear Morina
- Annabel Gibson

2022 Term Dates

- Term 1 Tuesday 8 February to Thursday 14 April (Friday 15 April is Good Friday)
- Term 2 Monday 2 May to Friday 8 July
- Term 3 Monday 25 July to Friday 30 September
- Term 4 Monday 17 October to Friday 16 December

International Languages Week 17 -21 May

St Heliers School has over 90 students whose first Language is not English. To celebrate the many languages spoken by our students, we were privileged to have some of these students speak to us in their first language at the morning assemblies. The languages we heard were Chinese, Korean, Russian, Japanese, Afrikaans, Portuguese, Dutch, Hindi, Tulu, Albanian, Thai, Italian and German. We would like to thank all the students who shared their language with us and for giving us a wider appreciation of our diverse community.



Mrs Bryant, Mrs Kelly and Mrs Oakford – Language Room

Attendance Data

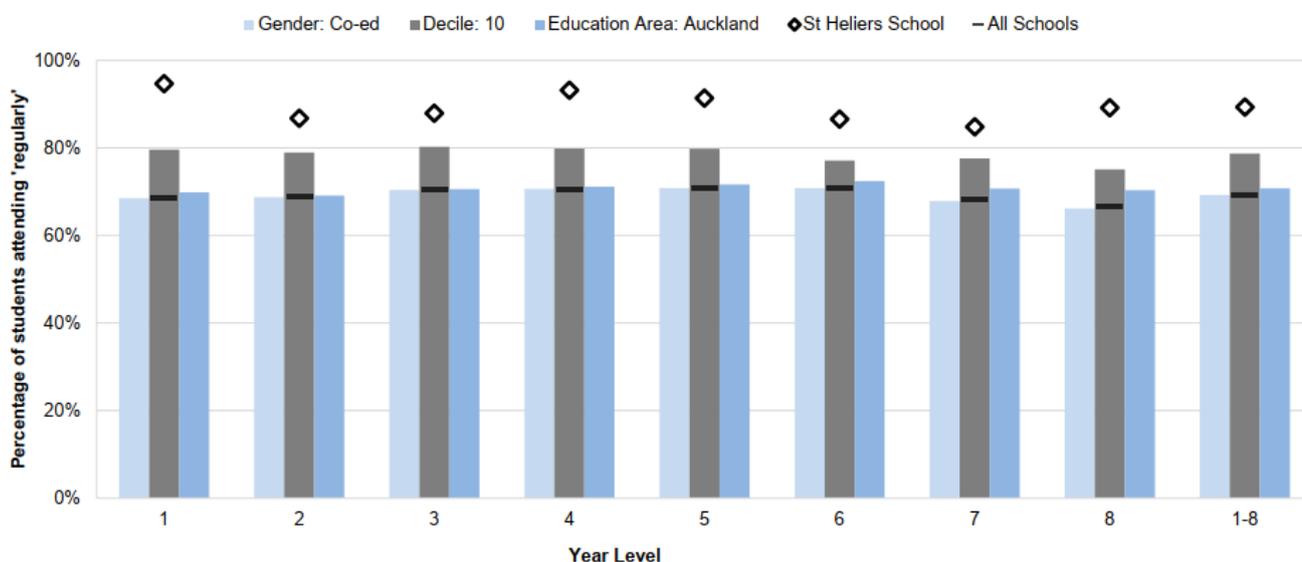
The Ministry of Education produce attendance data for NZ Schools through their website 'Education Counts.' During my address at this year's Meet the Teachers' Evening, I presented our attendance data for Term 2, 2020 which was the term most affected by lockdowns due to Covid-19. Our attendance data for that term was extremely high.

The Ministry has just released Term 3, 2020 attendance data, and once again the attendance data for our school continues to be extremely strong which is encouraging on several fronts. The data indicates the positive, happy environment that staff create for children to want to attend school, the engagement of children once at school and the importance parents place on quality education for their children.

The table below is Term 3, 2020 attendance data where you will find a comparison of attendance in at St Heliers against schools across the country, schools in our region and decile.

'Regular' attendance, by Year level (Term 3, 2020)

Comparing the proportion of students with 'regular' attendance at your school with national and like-school benchmarks.



Senior School Council

Fourteen Year 6 & 7 children were elected by their classmates to represent them at our Senior School Council. These children needed to:

- Have an interest in our school environment and sustainability.
- Think creatively.
- Problem solve with a realistic view on what we can achieve.
- Attend one meeting during class time and two during lunch breaks.
- Be committed to the group.

We held our first meeting on Monday 10 May where we began an environmental audit of our school, looking at various areas such as healthy living programmes, litter and rubbish, biodiversity, energy, water, marine, school grounds, transport and more. Our next step is to complete this audit identifying our strengths and areas that we can improve on. Then we will create an action plan on what the Senior Councillors consider to be our first goals.

Mrs Torrie

Eastern Songbird Autumn Bird Count

On Wednesday 12 May, eight Senior School Councillors joined Mrs Torrie and Mrs Wood on a bird count mission in Dingle Dell. We listened very carefully to bird calls and recorded what we had heard during three five-minute intervals. This count allows the Songbird Association to keep track of the increased impact predator control has on birdlife in the Eastern Bays. The aim is to develop a database over several years to monitor changes in bird populations in our communities.

Mrs Torrie and Mrs Wood found it challenging to identify which bird was making each bird call. Fortunately, the councillors seemed to have a better grasp of this task.

Mrs Torrie

Year 4 Rocky Shore Study

On Monday 12 April, as part of the Year 4 ongoing inquiry studies into 'Kaupapa Moana/Our Responsibility To The Ocean', students, teachers and a truly wonderful group of parent supervisors walked from School to Kohimarama Beach to be there at the exact point of low tide with three objectives in mind.

Firstly, to explore the rock pools and shoreline for any fascinating and diverse sea life. Secondly to collect and collate any rubbish found, and thirdly to sketch and identify the various landmarks that form the beautiful environment which is part of our local community.

It was a beautiful and warm late summer afternoon as we left St Heliers School promptly at 12:45pm to walk to the glorious Kohimarama Beach. Rangitoto loomed magnificent in the background with an impressive blue sky and iconic long white cloud above it as the children diligently explored, discovered, and finally sketched their local environment.



Among the sea life discovered at Kohimarama Beach were hermit crabs, tiny translucent shrimps and vulnerable baby fish who had become trapped amongst the rocks and seaweed as the tide retreated. Unfortunately, among the rubbish collected were many plastic straws, plastic bottles, one-use coffee cups, discarded items of clothing, partial fishing nets and fishing lures, and even a pink 3kg exercise hand weight!

The behaviour and focus of the children throughout the excursion were outstanding, with many members of the community smiling or waving as the students passed and politely greeted them along Tamaki Drive and

on our way back up the hill to school. Year 4 teachers appreciated the positive and reliable support of all the parent supervisors throughout the afternoon. It was an educational, worthwhile, and memorable trip.



Miss Mill Y4 Team Leader

Travelwise News

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected as the 2021 Travelwise team:

- Aariah Driver
- Charlotte Green
- Elliot Crumpton
- Evie Griffiths
- Abby Oakford
- Inca Edenborough
- Isla Soosay
- Jocelyn Le-Gaia
- Lily Hansen
- Mia Fonseca
- Rhys Gibbon
- Shara Liyanage
- Seoyoon Cho

The Travelwise team organises 'Walking Wednesday' at school each week to encourage students and families to walk, bike or scoot to school for the health benefits and to reduce traffic congestion around our school gates. The team began Term 2 with a Green Man intersection campaign reminding us about the importance of crossing the St Heliers Bay Road intersections safely at the traffic lights.

Travelwise
School



Road Safety Week is in full swing with its 2021 message of 'streets for life'. Winners of our Road Safety Week poster competition and Walking Challenge will be announced shortly. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Travelwise team's initiatives.

Mrs Buchanan Travelwise Lead Teacher

Year 5 Pak'nSave Visit

The Year 5 Term 1 inquiry was based around responsible citizenship. As part of the inquiry we investigated healthy eating and sensible food choices for basic nutrition at this level as the children become more independent and responsible for their own health and wellbeing. We studied the 'Food for Thought' programme sponsored by Foodstuffs, who provided us with a nutritionist for 2 classroom sessions, then a trip to Glen Innes Pak'nSave. At the supermarket, the children worked in groups to research nutritional values stated on food labels and decide on the healthiest options. This led to many in depth discussions, and lots of ideas of what could be done to make their favourite 'naughty treats' healthier.

Miss Jackson Y5 Team Leader

Kaupapa Moana: Sea Cleaners Presentation to St Heliers Students

On Monday 10 May the Year 1, 3 and 4 teams attended a presentation from Hayden Smith, a member of the volunteer agency 'Sea Cleaners' as part of combined inquiries, based around environment, ocean and sea creatures.

Hayden talked to the students about different ways the Sea Cleaners volunteer teams collaborate to try to tackle the ongoing environmental crisis caused by manmade rubbish ending up in the oceans, seas, estuaries, and creeks all around Aotearoa and the Pacific Islands. There were some shocking facts shared - a turtle who was discovered in the Pacific Islands with over 150 pieces of plastic in its stomach - with many of the pieces of rubbish traced back to New Zealand, an embalmed snake found in a large jar that had been dumped in the Tamaki Estuary and dumping abandoned tyres and other plastic debris off the Coromandel Coast.

Sea Cleaners volunteer teams are responsible for removing 120 cubic metres of manmade rubbish from the ocean to date.

Hayden also answered a range of questions from the children and encouraged the students to have a more positive impact on the environment by helping reduce the need for the collection of manmade rubbish along the shoreline. He showed them how making incremental changes in their behaviour and food & food wrapper choices can be a powerful start.

Year 4 students responded immediately the next day to Hayden's request by re-establishing their goal of plastic free St Heliers School by reducing the amount of plastic in their lunchboxes and picking up every piece of rubbish they see when out in the community.

The children wrote thank you letters to Hayden Smith and Sea Cleaners pledging their commitment to change, and by doing so, help clean up and save their natural world!

Miss Mill Y4 Team Leader

Auckland Blue Light PCT (Police Competency Test) Challenge 2021

Each year, Auckland Police run a fantastic event in which schools send a team of four senior students to compete against other schools in challenges that are same as, or similar to the PCT. This year we were represented by Year 8 students:

- Anna Sutherland
- Riley Leith
- Emily Stanton
- Charlie Webb



The team had to be fit, problem solve and above all else, work as a team because points were awarded for the events based on all four team members completing the events. There were some amazing team times recorded in the PCT, some amazing teamwork and communication shown during the police crime scene challenge and some huge individual efforts in the Police aptitude test elements. Our team competed extremely well, placing third.

Our parent supervisor commented 'They were a delight to look after. They organised themselves and had such great manners.'

Year 6 Museum Trip - Citizen Science Investigations (CSI) Pukekawa

This term Year 6 are learning about biodiversity and adaptations for inquiry. Last Thursday Year 6 students went to Auckland Museum to participate in the CSI Pukekawa Programme. Two classes went in the morning and the others in the afternoon. The classes swapped over halfway from participating in the educational programme or looking through displays throughout the museum.

Many students enjoyed seeing the ANZAC displays after learning about it in class at the start of this term. Each class had an hour's lesson with a museum educator in the native bush in Auckland Domain.

We were introduced to the app iNaturalist on the ipad and then students worked in small groups and took photos of fungus, trees, bugs, spiders and birds that they found. Students had lots of fun moving around the leaf litter and seeing what was under it.

The photos that were taken were uploaded when we got back to the museum and sent to scientists around the world. Year 6 successfully uploaded 295 photos. In a couple of weeks' time, we will receive a report from the scientists about all the different species of flora and fauna the students identified.

The educator's feedback was 'I particularly loved the enthusiasm the students showed, some even wanted to continue after the session itself!'



Mrs McLean Y6 Teacher

Year 8 Cultural Celebration Lunch

On Wednesday 14 April, the Year 8 classes shared a cultural lunch to celebrate the end of the Term 1, which was very exciting for everyone involved. We all dressed in our country's cultural clothing and brought food that is special to our culture. Everyone got to learn about each other's different traditions. Students brought food from around the world such as the Netherlands, Australia, the Pacific Islands, India, China, Russia and of course, New Zealand. Being able to display our diversity, and find out about each other's cultures, was very interesting.

The students were not the only ones who took part in the cultural lunch. Our teachers dressed up in their special costumes too. Mrs Ward and Mrs Herbert proudly represented New Zealand in their All Black jerseys. Mr Christie dressed in a Scottish kilt. At the end of the day, we had so much food left over, the juniors had to come and eat some of the leftovers. Everyone got to learn so much about each other's cultures and enjoyed expressing their own country's differences.



Annabel Jones and Jerina Jaka (Y8 students)

The New Zealand Association of Intermediate and Middle Schools (NZAIMS) Games

One of the premier sports competitions for Intermediate (Year 7 & 8) students in NZ is the annual Anchor AIMS Games. The Games is an inter-school sporting competition for young sportspeople across New Zealand and the wider South Pacific.

Every September, many thousands of 11 to 13-year-olds gather in Tauranga to compete against their age in a variety of individual and team sports. For many, this is their first experience of a super-scale sports event, complete with an opening ceremony, professional livestream coverage and world-class facilities. Anchor AIMS Games encourages an active life, fair play, and participation across a variety of sports. Many professional Kiwi athletes have come through the Games on their way to specialisation and achievement on the world stage.

If there are any parents who wish to enter teams or individuals, now is the time to send a registration of interest to our sports coordinator Nicola Gray nicolag@stheliers.school.nz. Please bear in mind that this is a high-level competition, therefore entrants require a good degree of skill and willingness to train and most often fundraise for associated costs.

Mrs Gray Sports Co-ordinator

Teacher Only Day

A reminder that Friday 4 June is a Teacher Only Day at school, during which teachers will be involved in a day of professional learning and development.

Please note that children do not attend school on this date

Oscar Daycare for St Heliers School Teacher Only Day Friday 4 June

Oscar will be providing an out of school care service at Glendowie Community Centre, 83 Crossfield Road, Glendowie for parents that need childcare on **Teacher Only Day, Friday 4 June 2021 9am to 3pm**. Queen's Birthday Theme, activities will include baking, scavenger hunt and crafts.

Before School Care 7am to 9am and After School Care 3pm to 6pm will also be at Glendowie Community Centre. To book please click on this link <https://enrolmy.com/st-heliers>

Price \$48 - Teacher Only Day, Friday 4 June 2021 9am to 3pm

For more information please contact: oscar@sthelierscentre.org.nz ph. 575 8442.

Kind regards



Principal



Congratulations to these students who received Citizenship Awards:

Citizenship Awards - April				
Yr	Rm	Name		Citation
1	2	Joseph Bagnall	for	Consistently demonstrating the school values of care and respect. Joseph is a thoughtful class member who always uses his manners.
1	3	Tom Partridge	for	Consistently displaying all of our school values. Tom is a responsible and diligent student.
1	7	Heidi Mills	for	Being a responsible and caring member of Room 7. Heidi is always willing to help others and is a caring friend to her peers.
1	8	Abigail Porter	for	Demonstrating empathy towards others and always showing a willingness to be a very helpful classroom member.
2	4	Mila Nock	for	Demonstrating kindness to her fellow classmates. Mila consistently upholds our school values.
2	5	Noah Leyden	for	For being a respectful, caring and inclusive class member. Noah always treats others with respect. He has lovely manners and makes a constant effort to include others in games and activities.
2	6	Delilah Twentyman	for	Consistently upholding all of the St Heliers school values. Delilah is a responsible, caring and hard-working student.
3	11	Isla Hosken	for	Consistently demonstrating the school values of honesty, responsibility and respect. Isla is a caring friend who is always willing to help others.
3	12	Lottie McAndrew	for	Consistently showing kindness towards her peers and for being helpful. Lottie is always giving her time to others and helping them when they need it.
3	13	Fletcher Sturge	for	His consistent kindness and care of other students. Fletcher is inclusive, empathetic and welcoming to all. Ka pai to mahi Fletcher.
4	16	George Hanson	for	Displaying a caring and considerate nature to everyone in his path. George is a fine example of an individual practising our school values.
4	17	Alice Wallwork	for	Demonstrating the school values of honesty and responsibility. Alice consistently strives to achieve her best in her learning, behaviour and attitude.
4	18	Reuben Cosgrove	for	Demonstrating empathy and inclusiveness towards others along with an enthusiasm for his curriculum topics. Reuben cares deeply about both his classmates and the environment.
5	25	Isla Brown	for	Being a great role model to others. Isla consistently upholds the school values, is caring, inclusive and takes on extra responsibilities on her own accord and always does her best.
5	26	Andrew Elliott	for	Upholding all our school values and being an excellent role model and good citizen to his peers.
5	27	Mia Mills	for	Consistently displaying self-discipline, responsibility and care. Mia is a reliable and supportive member of the class.
6	20	Mila Leith	for	The exceptional positive role model Mila is for others. Mila consistently displays all of our school values in everything that she does, in and outside of the classroom.
6	21	Sophia Pike	for	Displaying our school value of genuine care and concern for others. Sophia has a mature sense of fairness and equity for others and demonstrates this in social action.
6	22	Ian Mitchelson	for	Consistently maintaining all of our school values in and out of the classroom. Ian is respectful, caring, responsible, diligent and is an excellent role model to his peers.
6	23	Cooper Harbin	for	Being an outstanding role model who continually demonstrates our school values in everything that he does. Cooper is a responsible and respectful student who shows a genuine care for others.
7	28	Chad Ferguson	for	Upholding all the school values, displaying respect, kindness and care. Chad is inclusive and considerate of the needs of others. A great role model both in and outside the classroom.
7	29	Evie Brown	for	Upholding our values in all areas of school life. Evie is a consistently positive role model for others as well as being a reliable, mature and hardworking member of Room 29.
7	30	Sonya Harduar	for	Consistently demonstrating our school values and being a positive role model to other students.
8	14	Lear Morina	for	Upholding all of our school values, both in and outside of the classroom, with integrity and maturity. Lear is a positive role model for his peers and a delight to teach.
8	15	Lola Paterson	for	The exceptional level of care and empathy she displays towards others. Lola is a positive example of citizenship, both in and out of the classroom.
8	19	Annabel Gibson	for	Being an outstanding role model and leader for the School Community. Annabel demonstrates a high level of care for both her peers, her classwork, and is consistently positive. She is a delight to teach.

St Heliers Out of School Care

Operating @



Churchill Park School

@ Glendowie Term 2
Add Mandarin Club to your After School Care

An approved
OSCAR
provider

After School Care @ Glendowie + Mandarin
Community Centre, 5-12 year olds.

3pm - 6pm walk down from St Heliers School

Classes: Monday - Wednesday - Friday (4pm - 5:30pm)

83 Crossfield Road
09 575 8442 or 027 575 4827

Monday & Wednesday Beginners (Age: 6+)

Basic Conversation, like foods, seasons, sports, etc

Friday Advanced (Age: 7+)

Requires basic Chinese listening/speaking skills

Combine learning with Chinese culture
introduction. Let kids learn mandarin
happily by songs, games and performance

Healthy breakfast &
nourishing afternoon tea.
With a GRADE A FOOD SAFETY
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