



Newsletter Issue 15

Thursday 12 May 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Tēnā koutou katoa

I trust you all had a very enjoyable holiday, or at the very least, enjoyable long weekends. I understand that some families were having to isolate over some of that time, which is very unfortunate but I am pleased to hear that you are now well. Term 2 has started very well. The first day back we had 95% attendance with some families still returning from trips away. There has been quite a change at school with the move to orange settings. The big change has been the removal of the mask mandate. This is always going to be a contentious issue and it is difficult to please everyone. We have decided to go with the Ministry of Education recommendation that students and staff are strongly encouraged to wear masks while inside. We have decided this as the number of positive cases at our school has remained relatively low although this has crept up in the second week. We will continue to closely monitor the situation. Although the number of students wearing masks has dropped almost all staff members are wearing masks while indoors. We still have a number of staff who are required to isolate because someone in their household has tested positive. We are trying our best but we have been stretched already this term with extra relievers thin on the ground. At times it is touch and go whether we will have a teacher for the class. We appreciate your understanding as we continue to navigate our way through this pandemic. The children are enjoying the increased play areas and mixing outside with other year levels. For now just Year 1 and 2 are playing on the junior turf and only Year 1, 2 and 3 are playing on the junior playground. Parents have been more visible on site dropping off and picking up students and attending morning assemblies. We appreciate parents and visitors wearing masks onsite and refraining from going into classrooms during drop off and pick up. Groups have started again like running club, which started last Friday, choirs which started last week and kapa haka due to start this Friday. It is also great to see so many children training for school teams before and after school. It is fantastic to see our wonderful parents and teachers coaching and managing these teams. I have been reminding students that they can only come in their regulation sports uniform when they have an early morning training session.

Tonight we have our first Māori Community Hui of the year and I and other staff members look forward to seeing those parents.

As we head into the cooler months children no longer are required to wear sunhats (which should be placed in a safe place for Term 4) and are preparing their uniform for the cooler months. We are continuing to ventilate classrooms by having all windows open a little. This will mean your children may need their jumpers in class and may even need to wear their school jackets in class, which is now permitted. We are investigating the possibility of an optional uniform beanie and scarf for the winter months and I will keep you posted.

Just a reminder to continue to inform us of any change in your COVID status and please keep your child home if they are unwell with a cold, flu or other illness. I apologise in advance if I have met you before and don't remember your name when we meet again. It will take some time before I can commit this to memory.

The St Heliers School whānau community has pulled together, supported each other, and trusted in the decisions made in the interest of all our tamariki. Thank you for the kind and positive comments of support we are receiving. They really do make a difference.

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 and the date the child or staff member tested positive.

Monday 2 May—Sunday 8 May

TOTAL = 4 children Daily Average = 0.57

TOTAL = 2 Staff

TECH TEAM 2022

It gives me great pleasure to announce the TECH TEAM for 2022.

Jake Bedwell, Emmie Young, Charlotte McKenzie, Albie Mills, Yasmin lee Mirzabaev, James Davies, Diya Patel and Parmin Dadolahi Sohrab.

All interested students in Y7 and Y8 completed a Google Form, attended a meeting and interview with Mrs. Wood and Jeffrey Burke our IT Support staff member.

The students will be attending a number of workshops this term to upskill and become more confident in supporting other students and staff with school-wide digital platforms, desktops, school devices, remote connections, AV equipment, and robotics throughout the school.

The students have made a commitment to learn, support, and demonstrate excellent digital citizenship in their role. Our first workshops are preparing the TECH TEAM for the return of school assemblies later this term.

Belle Savage and Aussie Le, two of our Student Leaders and IT Support in 2021, will be mentoring the Y7 students in their new role as they join the TECH TEAM for the first time.

Alex Wood

Deputy Principal



TUCK SHOP LUNCHES PROVE POPULAR

The new lunches organized by the PTA are proving to be popular with students. Last Friday there were over 100 orders. Here are some of the comments from the students:



Chloe Rm 27

The flavours are really delicious and I really like spaghetti



Ella Rm 13

Every time I order I always order jelly. I really like it.



Ruben Rm 5

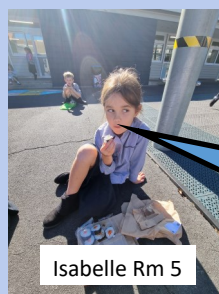
I like the chicken and rice. The Teriyaki Chicken tingles my tastebuds.



I like my vegemite and chip sandwich and carrots.



Kekoa Rm 5



Isabelle Rm 5

I really like my sushi and I know how they make it into a circle.



From this term school families are able to order lunches on Kindo, which will be delivered to the school by a catering firm (Daily Lunch & Catering) on **Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays**. Orders can only be made via Kindo, and can be made up until 9am on the day. (There is also the option to order up to a term in advance and allergies can be flagged up front so that all future orders for that child adhere to the dietary restriction.)

HOUSE CAPTAINS

Congratulations to all those students voted in as House Captains for 2022 and received their badges at the morning assembly yesterday:

Rishiaani Khetarpal
Marin Sapir (away)
Elsie Carter
Tyler Warren
Alvin ChenLau
Olivia Percy
Tia Bjorklund
Zac van der Heever



FOUCS ON THE ANZACS

This term some teaching teams have been learning about the ANZACs. Teachers have provided their children with engaging learning experiences to help them begin to understand the way war affected those at war and at home and for the senior children the impact the war had on the world. Some of the learning experiences provided by our teachers have included an ANZAC biscuit bake-off, where Room 16 broke into four groups to bake taking into account the dietary requirements of modern life (gluten free, dairy free biscuits). Mr Valvoi and Mrs Torrie had the pleasure of tasting each group's biscuits to decide on their favourite which by chance was the traditional ANZAC biscuit. Year 8 children have been learning to knit to develop an understanding of why knitted items were important to soldiers at the front and they have been researching the food rations provided to New Zealand soldiers in 1915 and how poor rations impacted the health of our soldiers.

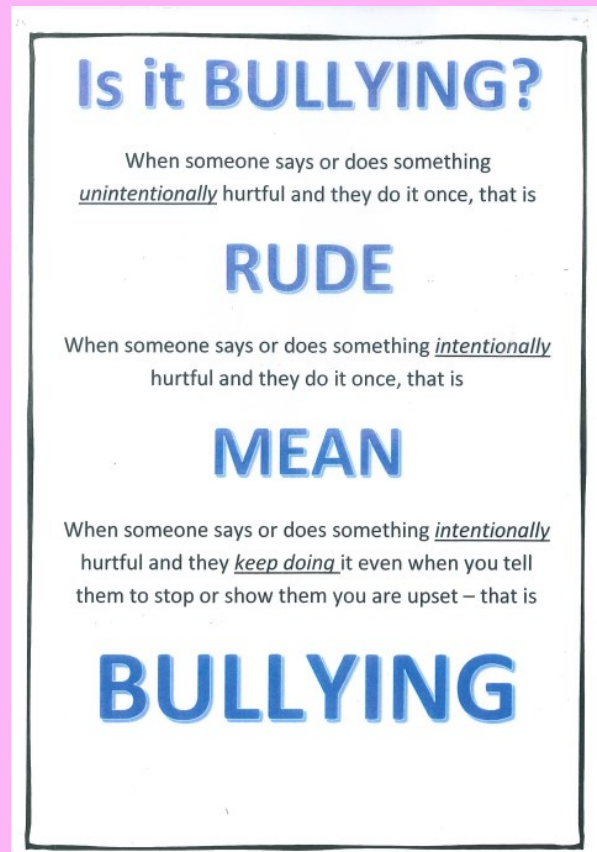
Mrs Torrie



BULLYING-FREE NEW ZEALAND WEEK—PINK SHIRT DAY (STUDENT LEADER RUN EVENT)

The Week

Bullying-Free New Zealand Week will be from 16-20 May in conjunction with Pink Shirt Day, on Friday. The week follows the theme He kōtuinga mahi iti, he hua pai-ā rau: Small ripples create big waves. Many of the classes in school will be taking part in activities which promote Bullying-Free New Zealand Week.



Pink Shirt day

About the Pink Shirt

Pink shirt day is a day where everyone can feel safe, valued, and respected. We wear pink shirts to raise awareness for anti-bullying and to take a stand against this problem. This campaign celebrates diversity and acceptance. There is no donation required to take part, but we strongly encourage your participation.

What to wear

There are \$15 anti-bullying t-shirts at Cotton on that you could purchase, otherwise wearing a pink item and mufti is perfect.

Reminder

If you don't wear something pink you have to come in your school uniform instead of mufti.

Date

Friday the 20th of May

Kind Regards
Student Leaders



Wear anything pink or you can purchase this shirt from Cotton on. Children's Shirts are \$15.

<https://cottonon.com/NZ/co/pink-shirt-day/>



CHOIR AND KAPA HAKA

Last week the first official choir meeting was held in the Dance and Drama Room, the first time we've been together since August 2021! It was wonderful to see so many enthusiastic students turning up to find out more. There were plenty of familiar faces, as well as new ones, keen to learn about why they should join the choir.

At St Heliers School there are four choirs:

Junior Choir (for Years 3 to 5)

Senior Choir (for Years 6 to 8)

Boys Music Group (for Years 5 to 8)

and APPA Choir (for Years 5 to 8).

All choirs, except for the Boys Music Group, are audition-only choirs. With the exception of the APPA Choir, (which sadly has already been cancelled for 2022) we rehearse during class time on Friday mornings. Last week students learnt the audition song and this Friday I will be listening carefully to hear students sing to me in pairs. Names of who is chosen to be in the choir will be published on the Dance and Drama Room window during week 3, as well as emailed to classroom teachers.

I look forward to choir starting properly in Week 3, where we will be happily singing (socially distanced of course!).

Mrs Kerry Herbert

Choir Teacher

We are pleased to let you know that we will have a permanent kapa haka group under the leadership of Mrs Odie Johnson. She will meet with interested children tomorrow. Mrs Johnson will start with the Year 5-8 group and work with junior children at a later date.

RUNNING GROUP



Mrs Kathy Harding, our Board Presiding Member (Board Chair), developed a school running group many years ago. This was put on hold while restrictions were in place and we are thrilled that this could start again this term. The group headed off at 8am last Friday morning and it was a glorious sunny morning to be running. Some students had kept up their running during Term 1 and they were recognised after Friday's run.

I am hoping I will be able to join them this Friday.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 16—20 May Bully Free Week—Pink Shirt Day (wear pink on Friday)

Monday 16 May Year 4 Beach Clean Up

Wednesday 18 May Y8 Museum Trip
Y6 Motat Trip

Thursday 19 May National Young Leaders Day
Board Meeting 6pm

Wednesday 25 May Eastern Zone Football Y7/8 Girls

Thursday 26 May Year 1 Museum Trip

SCHOOL YEAR DATES

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

TEACHER ONLY DAYS:

TERM 2: TUESDAY 7 JUNE
TERM 3: MONDAY 25 JULY

PLEASE REMEMBER TO COMPLETE THE SCHOOL WIDE SURVEY

The deadline for this is Friday 3 June.

Thank you to the 85 families who have already filled in the survey.

Please use the link: <https://forms.gle/Tcup66h3h8QqeaU37>

WE NEED YOU TO COME ALONG TO THE NEXT PTA MEETING

7PM ON WEDNESDAY 6 JULY



WELCOME

A huge welcome to these students who started at our school recently: These two sisters joined us in April. Anna is in Room 26 and Arina is in Room 14. At the start of Term 2 we had two siblings start; Alessandro G in Room 16 And Usha G in Room 29. These students had their very first day of school this term; Clara B joined Room 2, and Abigail C, Annabelle D and Jack McH all joined Room 7.

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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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)



MUSIC LESSONS at ST HELIERS SCHOOL

Does your child want to learn to play music?

Would you like in-school lessons with a professional Music tutor who has many years of teaching experience?

You can enrol your child in Drums, Guitar, Ukulele and Concert Band Instruments (Saxophone, Clarinet, Flute, Trumpet, Trombone) lessons at St Heliers School!

We deliver a fun, varied and structured curriculum. Students are taught during school hours and learn songs in styles ranging from traditional to contemporary.

For information on **GUITAR** lessons, contact **Lih Foo**: lih.foo@musiqhub.co.nz
021 2076 231

For information on **DRUM** lessons, contact **Scott Wotherspoon**
scott.wotherspoon@musiqhub.co.nz
021 0686 394

For information on **UKULELE, BRASS & WOODWIND** lessons, contact **Shaun O'Kane**:
shaun.okane@musiqhub.co.nz
021 2597 042

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