

Newsletter Issue 20

Thursday 4 August 2022

### Dear Parents and Caregivers

#### Tēnā koutou katoa

I hope you all managed to have a break during the school holidays. It was certainly enjoyed by the staff who had a chance to recharge batteries ready for the start of Term 3. I have been impressed by the way the students have settled into the term and how motivated they have been to resume class learning. When I ask students what they are most looking forward to this term I often get replies such as 'I am looking forward to my maths'. I have already had children showing me their writing and have also had children sharing their journals about their adventures during the holidays.

From reports back there are a number of children and families who, like I, had either a bout of the flu, a cold or tested positive for COVID. This seemed to be a continuation of the last week of last term. Our attendance is still lower than usual as people continue to return from extended holidays or recover from illnesses. The holidays have certainly been a circuit breaker for COVID with only 2 positive cases since Tuesday last week. The mask wearing for Year 4-8 may play a part in keeping our bugs and COVID in check and minimizing the spread. I thank parents and children for their co-operation with this. This is something we will relook at before the end of week 4.

I would like to thank parents for finding alternative arrangements for their children last Monday. During the Teacher Only Day staff went to the Auckland Museum where we learnt more about Te Tiriti o Waitangi and also pre-European artifacts. It was amazing to hold a moa bone. In the afternoon we went to Ruapotaka Marae where we participated in a powhiri and then had the opportunity to learn some of the tikanga around powhiri. A very rewarding and educational day leaving many of us wondering about how this can be incorporated into the classroom and school.

The other 4 days of the first week back were very busy with a Year 4 trip tied to the Social Sciences unit on Ancient Egypt, a new class starting for new Year 0 students with two teachers Mrs. Abrahams and Mrs. Moore, catch up for Teacher Interviews for teachers who were away the last week of Term 2, and our 100th day at school celebrated by Year 2 with some wonderful hats. Thank you to those who supported Cure Kids by donating to Red Nose Day. The students seemed to have fun dressing in red and we even had a visit from the mascot, Professor CK, at the end of the day. A fantastic \$802 was raised on the day. I was lucky enough to get to see two teams compete in the EPRO8 competition at Churchill Park School on Friday morning and then later in the day I got to see some of the teams compete in the boys and girls Year 7&8 Eastern Zone Netball Competition. Well done to all teams but especially the Year 7 boys team who came first and progress to the Auckland Champs at the end of the month. I see lots of children practicing for the AIMS games next month and I enjoy hearing about the success of other school teams such as the Year 5 Gymnastics team who came first with some stand out individual performances from Aria who came first overall and Sophia who came 2nd. Thank you Vanessa for your support and coaching of the team.

Next week on Tuesday 9 August, we have our School Cross Country Competition at Churchill Park for all Year 4 to 8 students. I know that many of the students have been training hard for this. Some will be trying for a personal best while others will be running for 1 of 8 places in each year group (for both boys and girls) to represent the school at the interschool competition on Monday 29 August. I am looking forward to see how the cross country is run at St Heliers School, as this was one of the events I used to compete in at High School, many years ago.

We received a total of 6 nominations for the School Board which does mean that an election will be held where you will get the opportunity to vote for your parent representatives. Soon you will receive a voting pack which will contain some information about each of the candidates.

Noho ora mai Sean Valvoi Principal

### **RED NOSE DAY**

Thank you to everyone who contributed a gold coin for Red Nose Day. Money from Red Nose day goes towards Cure Kids which funds research into finding cures and treatments for children who are very ill. You all raised \$802 which we will be sending to them. The school was also lucky to have a visit from the mascot Professor CK.

Did you know that the late grandfather of two of our students; Andrew and Lucas was the person who started Red Nose Day?



















### **ANCIENT EYGPT AT RIALTO FOR YEAR 4**

On Thursday 28 July (Week 1) at 9:45am, all the Year 4 students, teachers and parents travelled by bus to the Rialto Cinema in Newmarket to watch the documentary Tutankhamun: The Last Exhibition. Miss Mill told us that because we couldn't travel back to Ancient Egypt as part of the ignition stage of our Term 2 Inquiry, she had decided to bring a bit of Ancient Egypt to us. I felt excited to go on this trip because I knew we were about to learn lots of exciting facts about this ancient civilization and that we had the movie theatre all to ourselves.

I learnt that Tutankhamun became the ruler of Egypt when he was only nine years old. When he died mysteriously at the age of nineteen he was buried under a small pyramid in a manner not fit for a pharaoh. Howard Carter accidentally discovered King Tut's tomb in 1922 after he uncovered some steps leading down and in the weeks, months and years after - because of the great wealth of gold, silver, jewellery, musical instruments, furniture, weapons and other priceless treasures found inside - Ancient Egypt became famous - and fashionable - once more in the twentieth century. Along with that, the photographer who accompanied Howard Carter - Harry



Burton - was the first person ever to photograph the mummified Tutankhamun. I was surprised to find out during the documentary that Egyptians also mummified cats to honour the cat goddess Bastet. I was super surprised to learn Tutankhamun's tomb was filled with food parcels for the darkness and chaos of the Afterlife. I also learnt that the last independent ruler of Egypt was Cleopatra and that Egyptian hair was made from real human hair and sewn into wigs that were all styled the same way.

It was a truly memorable trip especially because the bus ride was super fun, some of us got popcorn or ice cream at the cinema. Afterwards all the fascinating facts about Ancient Egypt stayed in my head until

I got home and shared them all with my whole family.

Genevieve Young Emily Ball Year 4 Room 18 Egyptologists



### EPRO8

Last Friday when we all walked into the Churchill Park hall we saw 12 different slots each with a name. Our names were, The SHS SuperStars (Jake Read, Emma Dobson, Anna Clara Pereira and Roman Amosa) and the SHS SuperHeroes (Lucas Peryer, Reid Sowerby, Amelia Hallam and Hugo Noton). As we prepared the clock ticked down from 30 minutes. Once the clock hit zero everyone started discussing with their team. Andrew, the event runner, taught us a little about how our equipment worked and a couple of tips. We had the option to choose what kind of challenge we would do.

The SHS SuperStars chose the Vending Machine, while the SHS SuperHeroes chose the Alarm Clock. One hour in and the SHS SuperHeroes finally completed the first part of the alarm clock, The Bed, while the SHS SuperStars were still building the frame of their vending machine. The SHS SuperHeroes started slow but began to build up speed and gained 120 points from completing steps 1 - 3. The SHS SuperStars had a mere 60 points. With only 30 minutes left every team was rushing to complete their building. As time flew by, adrenaline filled us to the brim in hopes of a strong finish. 10, 9, 8, we rushed as quickly as we could to hopefully get just a few more points, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. It was over. 48 pairs of eyes flew to the leaderboard hoping for a good placement.







The Bananas (Kohimarama School) and The Ding Dongs (Glendowie School) were tied for First. As we all looked down the leaderboard to see our placements, we saw that the SHS SuperHeroes (Lucas, Reid, Amelia and Hugo Noton) had tied for fourth place! As the leaderboard continued,

unfortunately the SHS SuperStars (Jake, Emma, Anna Clara and Roman) had unluckily tied for last place.

Overall EPro8 was an incredible experience, and everyone had so much fun!

By Lucas Peryer, Jake Read and Reid Sowerby







### **TECH TEAM WORKSHOP**

On Wednesday 3rd August, our 2022 Tech Team, made up of a group of Y7 and 8 students, attended a practical workshop with our IT support technician Jeffrey Burke and Mrs Wood.

The students were learning about safely handling school devices, the inner workings of our school chrome books and a desktop for comparison. The students were then given the opportunity to work in small groups to open and explore the various components of our school Chromebooks. The students were able to apply their existing knowledge, skills and ask questions to support further learning and potential workshops.

The Tech Team continue to do a fantastic job around the school maintaining, updating and supporting students and teachers using all of our school digital equipment.

Mrs Wood









### 100 DAYS AT SCHOOL IN 2022

The Year 2 children celebrated their 100th day at school in our first week back of Term 3.

Traditionally and throughout the year as part of our mathematics programme, the Year 2 children count down from the first day back to school in the new year to the 100th day of school. We use the calendar to learn about number patterning, tallying and important place value concepts. We finally got

to put our 100th marble in the jar on Friday 29th July.





Each year, once we get to 'Day 100', the children have a day of doing many special mathematics activities, including creating a special celebration hat and having a parade. This year we are planning to have our hat parade at the Year 0-4 Merit assembly which will give us a chance to share our experiences with the rest of the junior children, our parents and whanau.







Room 5

Room 6

Room 4

#### REMINDER FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 5 AND 6 CHILDREN

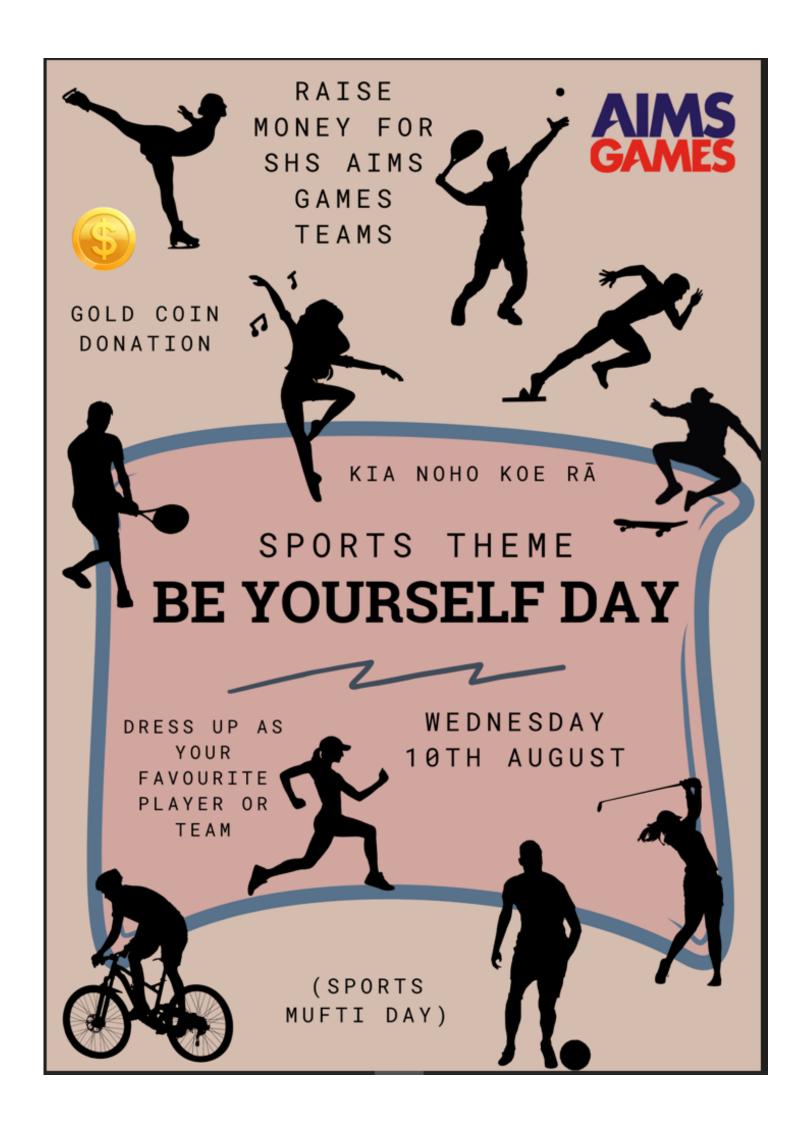
We would like to remind parents of children in Year 5 and 6 that the information evening about Year 7 and 8 at St Heliers School will be held in the staffroom on

Thursday 11 August, 5.30pm—6.30pm.

See You There!

### THANKYOU!

On behalf of the children going to AIMS this year, we would like to acknowledge and thank the waterpolo teams from last year for donating their fundraising money. They didn't get to use this due to the cancellation and it has helped to pay for the children's opening ceremony tickets this year.



### **SPORTS UPDATE**

# Year 5 Girls Gymnastics Team

Well done to the Year 5 Gymnastics team who competed in the Eastern Zones Competition on Tuesday 2 August.

Reports back from parent and coach, Vanessa Hutt was that they had a great day and performed very well and were full of smiles.

They achieved 1st in the Team section: Aria, Sophia, Bella and Emery. Aria achieved an individual first overall and Sophia a second equal overall. Amazing girls!

All the girls have qualified to go through and represent the SHS at the Champion of Champions Competition at Tristar in mid September



### Eastern Zone Netball

On Friday the 29th of July, the Year 7&8 netball teams went to the Auckland Netball Centre to compete in the Eastern Zone Netball Tournament. Some teams finished early so we were allowed to play friendly games with the other teams and everyone really enjoyed that. Every team did their very best in each game and never gave up! We all respected each other and displayed great sportsmanship throughout the games, congratulating the other teams. Everyone had great fun in the games and had fun training with each other, the teams supported each other and did very well in the games. Special thanks to the umpires, teachers and parents for making this opportunity possible. Congratulations to the Year 7 boys for winning their grade and making it into the Interzone

By Parmin Room 29

competition and good luck!









For School Cross Country schedule and information see seperate information sent out by the school sports co-ordinator.

## **TRAVEL WISE**

On Wednesday 3 August the Travel Wise Team stood at the traffic light intersection by the school with signs encouraging motorists to slow down around our school.





### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Monday 8 August Maths Week

Tuesday 9 August School Cross Country (Y4-8) Save Day 12 August

Friday 12 August Merit Assembly Year 0-4 @ 2pm

Saturday 13 August Glendowie College Open Day 9.00am—12.00pm

Monday 15 August Eastern Zone Basketball—Girls Y7/8

Tuesday 16 August Science in a Van—Year0/1

Wednesday 17 August Eastern Zone Basketball—Boys Y7/8

Thursday 18 August BOT Meeting 6pm

Friday 19 August Citizenship Assembly 2pm—2.50pm

Wednesday 24 August Writers Festival Year 7 and 8

Thursday 25 August Mathex—Year 7 and 8

Friday 26 August Merit Assembly Year 5-8 @ 2pm

Daffodil Day Be Yourself day, Kia noho koe ra (Mufti Day) Yellow Theme, bring a

Term 3

Term 4

**SCHOOL YEAR DATES** 

26 July—30 September

17 October—16 December

gold coin

# **WELCOME TO ST HELIERS SCHOOL**

We would like to welcome the following students who have started at St Heliers School this Term: Val A, Summit and Walker E, Alexander B, Tayani B, Emmanuel C, Luisa C, Max K, Sebastian K, Emilia L, Lewis R, Eden vanD, Colette L.

### 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** 

Do you hope your children can 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 experience in Chinese language teaching. In the past 18 years, thousands of students learned Chinese language from them, and many students passed YCT and HSK tests with excellent marks.

If your children are interested in learning Chinese, please enrol now. No matter the Chinese language level of your child we will provide teaching content to meet your kid's 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'll have a lot of in class activities to motivate our children to learn Chinese.

Chinese language is spoken by over 1.4 billion people, is one of the five official languages in the UN. China is the biggest trade partner of New Zealand. Learn Chinese to have a brighter future!

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; WeChat: rainbowchennz.

### PARKING AT THE SCHOOL GATE

Parking at our school gates when collecting children

We appreciate that parking at our school gates in the afternoon is an extremely busy time. We thank all those parents who show consideration to our NZ traffic rules, our neighbours and other parents.

For the safety of our children and the convenience of other road uses, there are certain areas where you must not park. You risk being fined if you park in these areas.

You must not park or stop your vehicle:

- on the right-hand side of the road, except in a one-way street
- where it will be in the way of other people using the road, including pedestrians
- on any footpath
- across any driveways
- alongside another parked vehicle
- no double-parking on broken yellow lines which you will see near our kea crossing on Walmsley Road.

It is worth knowing that by 3.08pm there are plenty of parking spaces available and your child can wait safely for your arrival inside the school gates.





Broken Yellow lines - indica 'NO STOPPING AREA

DO NOT PARK here for any reason!



# Te Pōkaitahi Reo

# Level 1—Beginners

Do you want to learn Te Reo Māori, improve your competence in Māori conversations, and enhance your knowledge of Tikanga and Mātauranga Reo? Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi offers Te Pōkaitahi Reo programmes, supporting your Māori language learning.

When: Monday and Wednesday (One online and One Face2Face class)

Start date: 15 August, 202—Times are: 6-9pm

Where: Te Whare Rangimārie o Ruapōtaka Marae

7 – 13 Pilkington Road, Panmure, Auckland 1072

**Enrol:** Online at www.wananga.ac.nz—Register your interest now!

Contact: Tamara Hapi by email: tamara.hapi@wananga.ac.nz or phone

021 292 0003 for support and more information



