



Newsletter Issue 16

Thursday 26 May 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Tēnā koutou katoa

It has been a pleasure to have had the opportunity to meet more parents as the opportunities to enter school increase. This is particularly so at pick up time. This week marks the start of larger assemblies in the hall. This Friday is the Merit Assembly for Years 5-8. This will be my first assembly, hosted by students and inside the hall with a larger group and parents attending. It is nice to return to some sort of normality. As you will have seen from my eTAP note on Monday we are not out of the woods yet so we will ensure that the hall is well ventilated and students are being encouraged to put on their masks for this hour. We are requiring parents to wear masks to enter the hall but I do understand that there are some students and parents who will have a mask exemption.. Kindness is the message we give to children so kindness is what we model. You will see the schedule for the special assemblies in this newsletter.

Absence during the first week back after the holidays was much higher than usual with only 88% at school. Reports from parents were that, apart from COVID isolations, children were coming down with colds. Fortunately this has rebounded back to between 93 and 94% attendance over the last week.

It was very exciting to see the Year 7 and 8 girls head off to Madills Farm to play in the Eastern Zone Football Tournament on Wednesday. This is the first interschool sports event in almost a year as most events were cancelled from the middle of Term 3 last year through to Term 2 this year. Next week there will be two Eastern Zone football competitions, one each for Year 7 and 8. Thanks to all the parents and teachers who provide transport, coach or manage a team.

I have been very impressed with the standard of behaviour and the manner the students conduct themselves when they are representing the school in either sports or on a class trip. Reports back from teachers and parents are outstanding. I was fortunate enough to take the Student Leaders to the National Young Leaders Day in Mt Eden last week. There were over 40 schools and approximately 2,000 students. Our Student Leaders were fantastic in the way they represented St Heliers School.

We are currently in a phase where we need more parents in the PTA. Some have left because they have moved out of the area or their circumstances have changed. I would love to see more parents come along to the next meeting on Wednesday 8 June at 7pm in the staffroom. This will be a great opportunity for new parents to meet and become a little more involved in the school.

Is there something concerning you? It is better to hear from you earlier rather than later. Please direct your concerns to the class teacher in the first instance. If you send an email after 5pm it is likely that the teacher will not reply until the next day. Mrs. Alex Wood, one of our Deputy Principals, is currently on special family leave abroad, so it is Mrs. Patsy Torrie and I who remain on the Senior Leadership Team, holding the fort until 23 June.

Keep your eyes out in the next newsletter and through flyers for an exciting after-school technology opportunity starting later this month that will be based at our school. This will be for all ages.

Many thanks to the parents who came along to the Māori Hui last week. It was great meeting you all and sharing your insights for the future direction of the school. There are some actions which we will be able to take immediately and some which we will build into future strategic planning. Next term we are planning on having a Pasifika Fono.

Stay safe and well and be kind to yourself and others. I like this quote from Harold S. Kushner 'Do things for people not because of who they are or what they do in return, but because of who you are' (Harold S Kushner)

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      Daily Average = 0.57 (0.71% of all children)  
TOTAL = 2 Staff

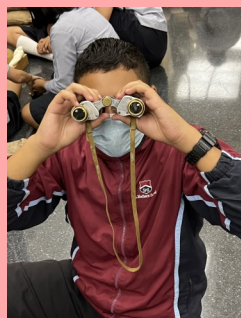
Monday 9 May—Sunday 15 May      TOTAL = 15 children      Daily Average = 2.14 (2.67% of all children)  
TOTAL = 0 Staff

Monday 16 May—Sunday 22 May      TOTAL = 8 children      Daily Average = 1.14 (1.42% of all children)  
TOTAL = 0 Staff

## YEAR 8 STUDENTS RECALL TRIP TO THE MUSEUM

Our Term 2 field trip was to the Auckland War Memorial Museum. We were given a guided tour around the war-related exhibits. Each exhibit had its own unique aspect that immersed us in the history of the wars. From a timeline which stretched throughout the room - with all the important time stamps of the First World War - to an interactive tactile experience that involved real objects from the World Wars (grenades, rations in clothing), we learnt about a wide range of different people's experiences during the war. An exhibit which drew particular attention was the Scars on the Heart exhibit, providing the visual experience of what war was like, both for those fighting and those back at home. It was an educational and fun visit, which opened our eyes to what war was like.

by Shara Liyanage and Sofia Lowe (Y8 students)



## PROUD STUDENTS GET THEIR STARTING SCHOOL CERTIFICATES

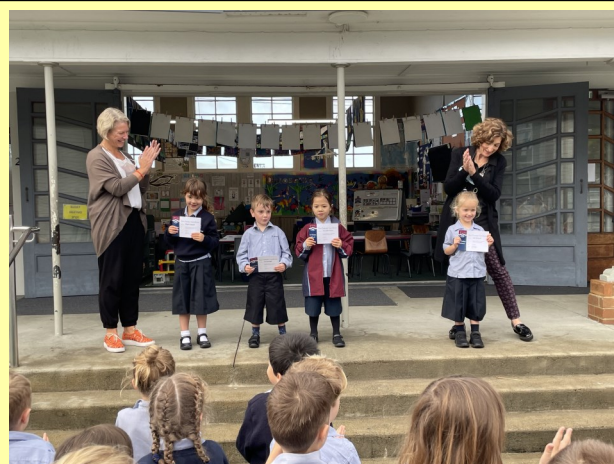
Congratulations to these children who started school this term and received their starting school certificates on 17 May.

Clara B Rm 2

Jack McH Rm7

Abigail C Rm7

Annabelle D Rm7

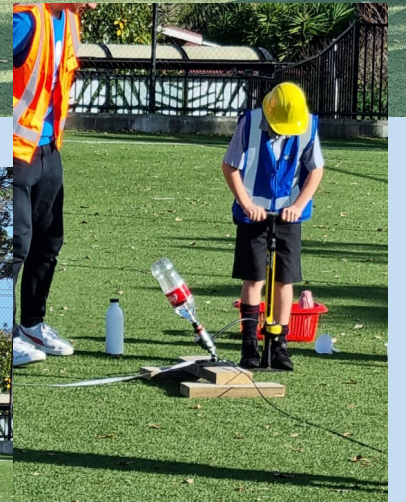




## BLAST OFF!

With great excitement in the air, the Year 5s are once again embarking on *The Wonder Project*. *The Wonder Project* is Engineering New Zealand's free programme for schools designed to get young Kiwis excited about jobs in STEM: science, technology, engineering and maths. We are fortunate enough to have an Engineering ambassador, Tom Morton who is currently working at the SkyCity Convention centre, helping us with the project. In line with the Engineering process the children will get to Ask, Imagine, Create and Improve their own rocket design. They will have a hands-on approach, together with the knowledge and understanding of the three Newton's Laws of physics to make their rocket fly fast and far. This week we had our test flights to begin our baseline data analysis, before we create our own rockets!

Mrs Louise Morton



## HISTORIC TECHNOLOGY A HIT WITH YEAR 6 AT MOTAT

On Wednesday, May 18 Year 6 went to MOTAT (Museum of Technology and Transportation) in Western Springs, Auckland. The purpose of the field trip was to provide the students with a hands-on experience of how technology and innovation have changed our daily lives. It was an excellent way for the students to gain an understanding of Design Thinking and the stages in the process of making a product as part of our Inquiry topic this term - "Innovations, Solutions and Enterprise." The students visited a number of interactive "hubs" with displays of innovation kete and historic technologies in transportation, communication, Māori technology and toys. The students experienced how past, current and future technologies have changed the way we live.

In the Education Hub, the students were outstanding in their understanding and answers to questions about their prior knowledge of innovation and inventions. The MOTAT educator explained to the students the stages of Design Thinking and how to solve a problem with an innovative solution and product.

A highlight of the day was the exciting ride on the historic tram.

Many thanks to all of the parents for giving up their valuable time to assist the Year 6 teachers and students on this educational experience.

Adrian Young



More photos on the next page



## SPORTS UPDATE

### *Eastern Zone Girls Football*

#### YEAR 7 GIRLS

On Wednesday 25th May, the Year 7 girls football team went to the Eastern Zones football tournament at Madills Farm. The team only had nine players for an 11 aside tournament due to sickness and although it was tiring, the players tried their best and pulled out 5 wins from 6 games, with no subs and little rest in between. The final was a close match as the teams were very tired after a long day but the girls mustered up a final burst of energy to **win the tournament!** Jess, Isabel and Diya were amazing in defence. Amber was unstoppable in the middle and Charlotte, Lucie and Eve scored sensational goals assisted by Mila. Beren saved some tricky goals. Fantastic teamwork and a fabulous result. Auckland Champs, here we come!

#### YEAR 8 GIRLS

The great day of redemption had arrived and the year 8s were able to reignite their soccer superiority. Arriving at school the girls felt quite jittery and anxious but on the journey there they were able to regroup their thoughts and determination. The team displayed resilience and it was an amazing bonding opportunity. Although they did not win the cup, they showed St Heliers worthy sportsmanship and placed an **honourable third in the pool**. In total the players won 3 out of 5 games and cheered for all enthusiastically. "Let's go St Heliers!"



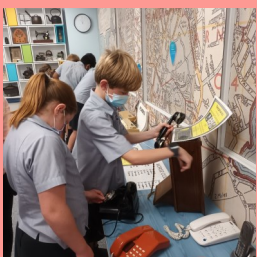
### *Zespri AIMS Games - Rugby Sevens*

The AIMS Rugby Sevens team are looking for additional Year 7/8 players to join their squad. For more information please contact the Team Manager, Anthony Ruakere, [anthony.ruakere@nz.ey.com](mailto:anthony.ruakere@nz.ey.com).

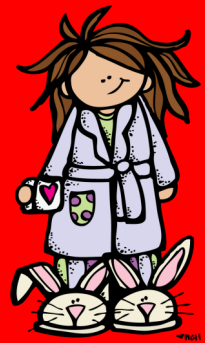
### *Basketball*

Opportunities are available for Year 3/4 and Year 7/8 girls and boys to join St Heliers School 3 x 3 basketball teams in Term 3. Training and games are played at Barfoot & Thompson stadium. If you are interested please contact Selina Hornibrook for more information, [selinahornibrook@gmail.com](mailto:selinahornibrook@gmail.com).

#### *More photos from MOTAT*



# Next Wednesday 1 June is Pyjama Day



**This fun day is organised by the  
Student Leaders.**

**Come to school wearing your PJs for  
the day. This is a no cost event.**



**Please make sure that  
what you wear is  
appropriate for school. This  
means no boxers.**



**There will be an  
award for the best  
PJs in each class.**



## CHILDREN IN PINK FOR PINK SHIRT DAY

Thanks to all those children who came to school in pink last Friday to show their support for Bully-Free Week. Of course, at St Heliers School every week is Bully-Free Week!

Kind Regards  
Student Leaders





## NYLD—NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY

On Thursday last week the Student Leaders attended National Young Leaders Day along with hundreds of other student leaders from schools throughout the Auckland Region. Every year there is a different theme and the theme this year was resilience. They heard from inspirational leaders who have overcome huge obstacles to highly achieve in various fields. They heard from William Pike (Explorer), Georgia Lines (Singer/Songwriter), Georgia Latu (CEO, Pōtiki Poi) and Sam Johnson (CEO, Student Volunteer Army). The children really enjoyed the day and allowed me the opportunity to get to know the Student Leaders a little more. Many thanks to the parents who helped out with transport on the day. Mr Sean Valvoi



## LEARNING AN INSTRUMENT AT ST HELIERS SCHOOL

The students had the opportunity to hear from our musical instrument teachers who introduced us to some of the instruments which are offered to children. Children learn right here at school, weekly on THursdays. Learning an instrument is an incredibly rewarding experience, learning to read music and inspiring creativity. Learning an instrument can also help in other areas of school. You don't have to have your own instrument straight away. See the ad on the back page of this newsletter to sign your child up (Year 3 to Year 8).



## COMMUNICATIONS REMINDER

If you have any queries or concerns about your child, please contact your **child's teacher in the first instance**. If you feel you need to discuss the matter further, please make an appointment to see the Team Leader of your child's year group. If you feel your concerns are still unresolved or you wish to seek further advice, please make an appointment with either Mrs. Torrie, Mrs. Wood or Mr Valvoi. We are all here to work co-operatively towards the best possible education for your child, so please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs. Torrie

## ROOM 22 RECEIVE MATHS WHIZZ CERTIFICATES



## SCIENCE IN A VAN

Year 5 were treated to a gripping and informative visit from the Science in a Van team, Emily and Alan. The main purpose of the show was to introduce and demonstrate to the children Newton's 3 Laws -

1. Once something is moving, it will **carry on** moving until a **force** makes it **change**
2. If something is **going to move** or is **already moving** depends on two things: the amount of **force acting on it** and its **mass**
3. When a force acts in **one direction**, there is a force acting in the **opposite direction**

These 3 principles were portrayed in an action packed and humorous way with the children fully engaged and showing much enthusiasm. Every hand shot up when volunteers were asked for. Emily and Alan were astounded with the knowledge already processed by the children and their inquisitive questions.

This experience was a great ignition into 'The Wonder Project' and rocket challenge. The children were left keen and eager to get started in their inquiry.  
Miss Jackson



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 27 May	Y5-8 Merit Assembly 2pm
Monday 30 May—3 June	Samoa Language Week Staff Wellbeing Week
Tuesday 31 May	Eastern Zone Football Y7 Boys
Wednesday 1 June	Pyjama Day
Thursday 2 June	Y7 Stardome Trip
Friday 3 June	Y1-4 Merit Assembly 2pm Eastern Zone Football Y8 Boys Last Day for Parent School-Wide Survey
Monday 6 June	Queens Birthday (No School)
Tuesday 7 June	Teacher Only Day (No School)
Wednesday 8 June	PTA Meeting 7pm
Thursday 9 June	Bay Suburbs Football Y5 and 6 Easter Zone Rugby—Year 7 and 8

### 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**

## 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
Y5-8 Merit Assembly	Year 8	Friday 27th May @ 2pm	Four
Y1-4 Merit Assembly	Year 4	Friday 3 June @ 2pm	Five
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



## 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 8 JUNE

# Supergenerous

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.

### 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](mailto:lih.foo@musiqhub.co.nz)  
021 2076 231

For information on **DRUM** lessons, contact **Scott Wotherspoon**  
[scott.wotherspoon@musiqhub.co.nz](mailto:scott.wotherspoon@musiqhub.co.nz)  
021 0686 394

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

**MUSIQHUB**  
PLAY SMART