



Newsletter Issue 22

Thursday 1 September 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Tēnā koutou katoa and Mālō e lelei



I was so proud of all our children who represented the school at the Eastern Zone and Bay Suburbs Cross Country on Monday. Both in their effort and achievement and in the way they presented themselves. Their sportsmanship was tremendous, cheering on children from our school and also other schools.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the School Board for their tireless work for the school and their commitment and dedication over the last 3 year term. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes that you don't see but is essential for the smooth running of a school. Although my time with this Board has been short I have appreciated the way they have made the transition into a new school for me, an easy one. I know they felt a lot of responsibility to the community for ensuring they employed a Principal who would fit best with the community. I certainly feel a lot of responsibility to live up to this. I would like to make special mention of our Board Presiding Member, Kathy Harding, who continues to give so much time to our school with her role on the Board but also for time given to the children with running club, Friday fitness and the events around the school. We would be hard pressed to find a more dedicated and committed Chair. I wish them all the best and hope that they remain involved in our school.

Our senior students have two busy weeks ahead. We wished the Year 8 children all the best as they headed off to Camp Adair yesterday. Although shortened by a day it was great that we were able to secure these postponed dates. They return on Friday and some of them head off the next day to AIMS Games in Tauranga. We have 49 Year 7 and 8 children competing in a variety of codes from futsal to yachting and tennis to just name a few. I would like to once again thank the parents and wish everyone all the best. I visited Y8 camp for a short time yesterday and will travel to Tauranga to see some of the children competing on Thursday and Friday next week.

It is with sadness that we say farewell to Miss Caoimhe Kennedy, Year 5, Room 26 teacher. Although she has only been here since the beginning of the year Caoimhe has made a lasting impression amongst the staff and is much loved by the children in Room 26. We will miss Miss Kennedy but we wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

I am looking forward to our first Pasifika fono next week on Tuesday 6 September, 5.30pm to 7pm in the staffroom. It will be nice to meet you all and share some Pasifika food together. Our Pasifika families should have received an email invitation and we await your RSVP. If you did not receive an invitation could you please contact the office.

I am pleased to say that we only have one positive case of COVID-19 amongst children in the school. There are still a number of children away with other illnesses but attendance is improving. From Monday 5 September we will be moving from 'compulsory' mask use inside, for staff and students in Years 4 and higher, to 'strongly recommend' the use of masks while inside. Masks will still be required to be worn during large assemblies in the hall, unless one has an exemption. Masks will no longer be required by parents while onsite but will be required when inside buildings. For the time being we ask parents to refrain from entering classrooms before and after school unless attending a prearranged meeting.

Let's hope the sunshine continues and you have an enjoyable Spring weekend.

Noho ora mai

Sean Valvoi
Principal

OUR STAFF

We welcome back from maternity leave Mrs Brittany Abrahams and we welcome Mrs Jessica Moore. These wonderful teachers are sharing Room 3, our new Year 0 class which started at the beginning of the term. Below is a little bio each have written about themselves.



My name is Brittany Abrahams and I am one of the teachers in Room 3 which is a Year 0 class. I have 10 years of teaching experience and have taught from Year 0-3. I started at St Heliers Primary at the beginning of 2021 and I am very excited to be part of our school community again after returning from maternity leave. I have an almost 1 year old daughter, Daisy who keeps me very busy!

Kia Ora St Heliers School, my name is Jessica and I will be joining the year 0&1 team for the rest of the year. I am so excited to join your community and get to know your family. When I am not teaching I enjoy being at home looking after my Son Lachie who is 18 months. I also love to travel and snow ski. Previously before teaching, I was a snow instructor at Whistler Blackcomb in Canada. I look forward to getting to know you all.



YEAR 6 SPEECH COMPETITION

Over the past 3 weeks Year 6 students have been learning about speeches, what they are, where they can be used, the structure of a speech and how to deliver them. We had a theme 'discover' that we had to interpret and do our best to be creative and think outside the box.

All students delivered a speech on their topic based around 'discover' in front of their classes. Then three students were selected from each class for the Year 6 speech finals.

The finalists were: Ira, Rhys, Matty, Ryan, Aidan, Sam, Josie, Evie, and Zoe.

In the hall, we each presented our speeches to Year 5 and 6, as well as the finalists' parents who were invited.

The judges, Mrs Torrie and Mr Valvoi, decided the first, second, and third place winners of the whole competition.

The third place winner was Rhys, the second place winner was Ira, and last but not least, the first place winner was Aidan. This week on Wednesday Aidan went and represented Year 6 at the Remuera Zone Rehu Tai Festival.

By Ryan C

YEAR 7 AND 8 GO TO WRITERS FESTIVAL

In August, Year 7 and 8 went off into the city to attend the 2022 Auckland Writers Festival. Many famous authors attended the yearly gathering including writers such as Kwame Alexander, Sonya Wilson, Graci Kim and Gareth Ward who all shared their ideas on how they wrote their stories and how others can write their own. The authors shared their inspiration about what got them to write and a little bit about their characters. Kwame Alexander is a poet famous for writing a New York Times bestseller known as "The Crossover". He shared a bit about his inspiration and characters. Kwame has now grown to be a very well known author of many famous books. Sonya Wilson wrote the novel "Spark Hunter". She talked about herself and her characters. "The last fallen star" was written by Graci Kim. In her presentation, she talked about her books, had a fun quiz and engaged her audience very well. Lastly, we heard from Gareth Ward. He wrote "Brasswitch and Bot" This book is based in Victorian times with a modern twist. He shared some magic tricks as well as facts about his book. After their presentations, all the authors answered questions. Overall, the day was very interesting and all the authors were amazing.

By Aaron C and Aussie L



CITIZENSHIP AWARDS ASSEMBLY YEARS 0-8

Congratulations to the recipients of the Citizenship Awards at the Assembly on 19 August.

CITIZENSHIP AWARDS Y0-4		
Year	Room	Name
1	2	Mason B
0	3	Colette L
1	7	Sam C
1	8	Aless M
2	4	Abigail P
2	5	Jiwoo K
2	6	Harper B
3	11	Jack P
3	12	Luna A
3	13	Hektor H
4	16	Fatai T
4	17	Max E
4	18	Ryker C

CITIZENSHIP AWARDS Y5-8		
Year	Room	Name
5	25	Luke B
5	26	Grace K
5	27	Megan W
6	21	Sam D
6	22	Amelia H
6	23	Reid S
7	28	Alex M
7	29	Vlad B
7	30	Cooper H
8	14	Frances N
8	15	Izrael T
8	19	Rishiaani K

PASIFIKA FONO—TUESDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

PASIFIKA FONO

With Dinner Provided

TUESDAY 6 SEPTEMBER IN THE STAFF ROOM

5.30pm - 7.00pm

We will be having a shared dinner in the staff room provided by the school.

A chance to meet other Pasifika families at St Heliers School.

Share ideas of how we can incorporate more Pasifika into our school.

For the whole family including children.

If you received an invite please send you RSVP with numbers to the school.



Vote now!

Voting is now open for school board elections.
Contact your local school for more information.

If posting your voting paper, post it to:

Returning Officer
St Heliers School. PO Box 25110 St Heliers, Auckland 1740
It must be received by 12 September

If hand delivering your voting paper, deliver it to:

Returning Officer
St Heliers School Office and drop in the Ballot Box
By 4pm 7 September



YEAR 7 and 8 MATHEX 2022

The buzzer went and the mathematics began. While questions were answered, runners constantly sprinted around the tables like ants on an ant hill. Each team of four had equations buzzing through their brains, as they raced to be the first team to solve all the problems. Tetrahedrons caused panic among many teams. Both Y7 & Y8 had two teams, each scoring between 75 and 90 points out of a total of 100. All problems needed to be solved within the ticking 30 minute timeframe. Lots of training was done for weeks and weeks beforehand, and a great time was had by all.
By Ruby, Blake and Sofia



MERIT ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Recipients of the Year 5 to 8 Merit Awards at the Assembly on 26 August.

Merit Awards			Merit Awards		
Yr	Rm	Name	Yr	Rm	Name
5	25	Evie B	7	28	Sam W
5	25	Lottie P	7	28	Eve H
5	25	Ruben vdH	7	28	Owen N
5	25	Jake M	7	28	Marie H
5	26	Panaki MW	7	28	Sophia C
5	26	Viktor M	7	29	Maggie B
5	26	Anna S	7	29	Annabelle C
5	26	Grace C	7	29	Christian R
5	26	Colten H	7	29	Artem P
5	27	Charlie B	7	30	Ruby A
5	27	Archie N	7	30	Jess P
5	27	Skye A	7	30	Adam A
5	27	Sarah S	7	30	Lewis I
6	21	Josie L	8	14	Imogen W
6	21	Brooke H	8	14	Thomas L
6	21	Will	8	14	Emmie Y
6	21	Rawiri B	8	14	Charlie L
6	21	Roman A	8	15	Sofia L
6	22	Marcel M	8	15	Em N
6	22	Ariah D	8	15	Brisou B
6	22	Lily H	8	15	Isla S
6	22	Tabitha F	8	19	Yasmin LM
6	23	Mia F	8	19	Quan M
6	23	Summit E	8	19	Sonya H
6	23	Ninsi F	8	19	Jake B
6	23	Ryan L	8	19	Monique H
6	23	Harley H			

KIA MANAWAROA

Kia Manawaroa is the Ministry of Education's pānui for whānau Māori.

Read the latest issue of Kia Manawaroa:

[Kia Manawaroa 26 August 2022 – Education: For parents and whānau](#)

It is written by Māori for Māori, with information about opportunities and milestones in education, Māori success as Māori, Te Reo Māori and COVID-19 updates relevant to whānau as and when appropriate.

The latest issue is out now with updates about:

- Every school day is a big day: Why attendance is so important
- Hari Huringa Tau e Te Taura Whiri i Te Reo Māori!
- Mahuru Māori: Are you up for the challenge?
- Te Pūtahitanga with Mr. G: Wānanga for artists in Aotearoa
- New Te Reo Festival: Te Hui Ahurei Māori o Te Whanganui-a-Tara

And so much more!



SPORTS UPDATE

Bay Suburbs and Eastern Zone Cross Country

Bay Suburbs

On Monday 29 August the St Heliers Cross Country team consisting of 46 Year 4-6 students competed in the Bay Suburbs Cross Country competition. All the students that competed did extremely well and were excellent at supporting their team mates as they crossed the finish line. In the team event the Year 4 girls came second place, Year 4 boys came second place, Year 5 girls came second place, Year 5 boys came first place and Year 6 boys came third place. A special mention goes to the following students who came in the top three. In the Year 4 boys race Max E came first and Fletcher S second, in the Year 5 girls race Hayley W came first and Megan W came third and the Year 5 boys race Reuben H came second and Tyler C third.



BAY SUBURBS: Individuals

Yr 4 Boys:

1st Max E
2nd Fletcher S
9th Ethan D

Yr 4 Girls:

6th Noa A
7th Emma D

Yr 5 Girls:

1st Hayley W
3rd Megan W
10th Aria H

Yr 5 Boys:

2nd Reuben H
3rd Tyler C
9th Archie N

Teams

Yr 6 boys - 3rd Place
Yr 5 boys - 2nd place
Yr 5 girls - 2nd place
Yr 4 boys - 1st Place

Eastern Zone Cross Country

It was a lovely sunny day to represent St Heliers at Churchill Park for the Eastern Zones Cross Country competition. A special congratulations to Sam W Lucie S and Lucy G who will be representing our school at the Auckland Championships. Well done to the Year 7 Girls team who finished second in the team competition and the Year 8 Girls for finishing third. All St Heliers School representatives ran to the best of their ability and left everything on the course.

Year 7 Girls (2nd)	Year 7 Boys	Year 8 Girls (3rd)	Year 8 Boys
Lucie 7th Ruby Eve Charlotte Georgia Aisha Kate Dorea	Sam W 5th Isaiah H Darcey L Felix H Nathan C Will M Cooper H Ronan N	Lucy G 8th Frances N Tia B Ruby B Sonja H Belle S Olivia P Evie B	Alvin CL Marcel B Aaron C Alfie H Seb C Liam M Blake S



SPORTS CONTINUED

Eastern Zone Basketball

Resilience, diligence and sportsmanship. These are all traits the Y8 St Heliers Basketball Team displayed while playing in the Eastern Zone basketball tournament during Week 3. The skilled basketball players started by playing Sylvia Park School in a challenging first game. Fighting through the size difference, our team emerged victorious by no less than 5 points. Game 2 was against the tough opponent Sacred Heart. Powering through the many injuries, St Heliers continued to play their game against the eventual winners. This game went in the favour of Sacred Heart nonetheless. Lastly the Basketball Team faced another tough opponent - St Thomas' School. Game 3 was closer than the previous, our players were tired and worn down, however St Heliers managed to put up a good fight and not give up. Eastern Zone Basketball 2022 ended by watching the finals Kings vs Sacred Heart. On the ride home one of the cars got ice creams which kickstarted the recovery of their sore muscles. A big thank you Britta for coaching us and managing us on the day.

By Alexander M

TERM 3 ASSEMBLIES

Y0-4 Merit Assembly	Friday 9th September	2-2.50pm
Y5-8 Merit Assembly	Friday 23rd September	2-2.50pm
Excellence Assembly	Friday 30th September	9-10am

WELCOME TO ST HELIERS SCHOOL

We would like to welcome the following students who have started at St Heliers School since the last newsletter: Theo V, Ellyett F, Jasmine M, Fionn H, Isabella M, Milla C and Honor C.

UPCOMING EVENTS

31 August—2 September

Year 8 Camp—Camp Adair

Sunday 4—Friday 9 Sept.

Zespri AIMS Games—Tauranga
Tongan Language Week

Monday 5 September

Rehu Tai—Year 5 and 6
Conservation Week

Tuesday 6 September

Pasifika Fono with shared dinner for families 5.30pm

Wednesday 7 September

Voting closes for Board Election (Postal votes close 12 September)
Open Morning for prospective families 9.15am—10.40am
Bay Suburbs Basketball Year 5/6

Thursday 8 September

Year 0 Parent Information Morning and Class Visit for Pre-Enrolled Students

Friday 9 September

Merit Assembly Year 0—4

Monday 12 September

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori (Māori Language Week begins)

Tuesday 13 September

Senior Leadership Team at NZ Principals Federation Conference in Christchurch

Thursday 15 September

Y5 Gymnastics Champion of Champions Competition

SCHOOL YEAR DATES

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

Good luck to our AIMS competitors next week. A shout out to team managers as well as parents who have been involved with all aspects of organisation for the games including coaching, fundraising, getting their children to practices, food preparation, transport, accommodation etc.



Did you know that one of our children, Jemma in Room 18 is featuring in this show? Well done Jemma!



CRAIG LORD EFESO COLLINS
WAYNE BROWN VIV BECK GARY BROWN

WHO WILL BE YOUR NEXT
MAYOR OF AUCKLAND?

Inform your voting decision with our *free, local* Mayoral information evening

Wednesday 14th September 6:45pm
At Barfoot & Thompson Stadium,
203 Kohimarama Road,
Kohimarama
(Selwyn College grounds)

REGISTER HERE

Proudly presented by the Orakei, Mission Bay and Kohimarama, St Heliers and Glendowie Community Associations