

Important upcoming events and notices:

Thursday 23rd Oct	Teachers Strike— <i>school closed</i>
Monday 27th Oct	Labour Day— <i>school closed</i>
Wednesday 29th Oct	Whole School Athletics Day
Friday 31st Oct	All Saints/All Souls Day—dress up
Monday 10th-Wednesday 12th Nov	Y5-8 Senior Camp @ Camp Adair, Hunua
Wednesday 26th Nov	BOT Meeting 6pm
Monday 3rd Dec	School Christmas Cultural Show
Thursday 6th Dec	Thames Santa Parade
Monday 10th Dec	End of Year Mass & Prizegiving @ 5.30pm



St. Francis
Catholic School

**Kia ora, Malo e lelei, Namaste, Bula Vinaka,
Kamusta, Suostei, Sawasdee, Talofa,**

Welcome back to our first Newsletter for Term 4! Despite a couple of very wet days to start the Term, we have been blessed with some beautiful spring weather to end this week!

Please note: Formal notification of a planned strike has been given for next Thursday October 23rd. Please be prepared for school to be closed for instruction. Confirmation will be given by Monday of next week.

Some photos from this last fortnight.....



**Farewell
Whaea
Lisal**

It has been a busy week here at St Francis with our Catholic External Evaluation taking place on Wednesday and Thursday with Christine Smith and Viki Trainor from the Auckland Catholic Diocese. After a special Whakatau/Welcome on Wednesday morning, our reviewers met with support staff, parents, students, Father Rob, our Board of Trustees, and myself, discussing the school's Special Character. They also spent time in our classrooms observing classroom prayer and Religious Education.

The visit was a very positive experience, identifying both current strengths of the school as well as next steps to ensure our school continues to grow and be the best school we can be. The report will hopefully be able to be shared by the end of November.

On Wednesday evening, our Board of Trustees also had a visit from Catherine Ryan (Vicar for Education), who delivered a presentation about integrated schools, which was very interesting and gave a real sense of gratitude for all those religious orders who ran our Catholic schools before government funding was made available in 1975. Sister Paula is one of those to whom we are grateful.

This year we have three touch teams – Yr 3/4, Yr 5/6, and Yr 7/8 – in our local Thursday night Touch competition. Well done to all of our teams who have made a very positive and successful start to the season after two rounds.

Athletics practice has started, and I would like to thank Thames High School for allowing us to use their facilities twice a week, as well as for our School Athletics in Week 4.

As you will know, I have resigned from my position as Principal, effective at the end of 2025. This was a very difficult decision for myself and my family to make. It has been an absolute privilege to hold the Principal position for the past 7 years and a time in our life we will always treasure and look back on fondly.

Please know the school is in the very capable hands of our Board of Trustees, who have started a rigorous recruitment programme with the support of the Diocese and are using a tried and trusted recruitment company to assist in employing a new Principal.

Kind regards, Oliver Fahey

PAEROA TO THAMES FUN RUN/WALK 2025

2 NOVEMBER 2025

HAURAKI RAIL TRAIL 30KM COURSE

- Starting in Paeroa
- Finishing at The Fitness Co-Op Thames

CATEGORIES

Individual	\$25.00
2 person relay	\$30.00
Each additional person	extra
School teams	\$50.00

INFO

Can be done as a walk or run
 Individual or team relay
 All proceeds to the Thames High School
 Early bird pricing ends 3rd October 2025
 Hosted by The Fitness Co-Op

Register Now
www.paeroatothamesfunrun.co.nz A fun day out being active for a great cause

Future Te Aroha Presents

A very Merry Christmas
 A STORY OF LOVE AND LAUGHTER

DECEMBER 3RD - 17TH
 AN INTERACTIVE FESTIVE EXPERIENCE FOR ALL AGES

BOOK TODAY!
 Future Te Aroha, 13 Boundary St, Te Aroha
 (07) 884 9489
futuretea@tra.co.nz

Educational Excellence

St. Francis Catholic School Thames

202 Mackay Street, Thames 3500
 Phone: (07) 868-7655
 Website: www.stfrancis-thames.school.nz
 Principal: Oliver Fahey

Uniform Price List 2025		
Items	Size	Retail Price (incl GST)
Winter Pinafore*	All sizes	\$45.00
Polo Shirt short sleeve	4 - 14	\$25.30
Polo Shirt long sleeve	4 - 14	\$28.75
Polar Fleece	4 - 14	\$36.80
Summer Hat	S - L	\$18.40
Beanie	OSFA	\$11.50
Black Sport Shorts	6 - 14	\$26.45
Grey Shorts	4 - 14	\$24.15
Grey Trousers	4 - 14	\$29.33
Summer Dress*	6	\$27.00
(Size 4 has sold out)	8 & 10	\$29.00
	12 & 14	\$31.00
	16	\$34.00
Summer Culottes*	4 & 6	\$16.00
(Size 12 has sold out)	8	\$18.00
	10	\$20.00
	14 & 16	\$22.50
Hair Scrunchie		\$4.00
New Schooltex Girls Uniform (TRT023) All Year Round	Available online from The Warehouse only	Our school does not hold stock of these
Tartan Box Pleat Skirt	4-10	\$55.00
	12-14	\$60.00
Tartan Culottes	4-14	\$47.00

All prices include GST and are effective immediately
 Some second-hand items are available, please ask at the office
 *Please note Winter Pinafores, Summer Dresses, and Summer Culottes are being discontinued over 2-3 years and prices reflect a 50% discount to clear stock. These are replaced with the new Tartan Box Pleat Skirt and/or Tartan Culottes which can be worn all year round and purchased directly online from The Warehouse. Please see the office for details.

Educational Excellence

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School Lunches

Kindly supplied by 'Food for Thought' Café
 Every Thursday – Orders to school office by 9.30am – Cash only please

Multi-grain Sandwich (whole)	Egg and Mayonnaise Ham and Egg Roast Beef Corned Silverside	\$5.00
Mini Savoury Pies / Sausage Roll	Mince Bacon and Egg Mince and Cheese Sausage Roll	\$3.50
Pies	Butter Chicken Mince Mince and Cheese Steak Steak and Cheese Vegetarian Chicken and Vegetable	\$6.00
Sweet Muffin	Blueberry Raspberry and White Chocolate Banana Chocolate Chip Apricot Cream Cheese	\$5.00

All food is nut and peanut free

We are a Catholic faith community committed to quality learning

Prayer and Pastoral Support

We remember all who are mourning, asking for comfort, strength, and peace in their time of sorrow.

We pray for those in our community who are suffering and struggling with finances, housing and isolation.

May we as a community be the face and hands of Christ for them all.

If you, or anyone you know have any pastoral needs in our community, please contact;

Oliver Fahey or Sister Paula

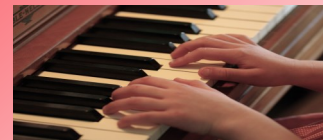


Altar Servers for Sunday Mass:

- 19 Oct Dimple/Ambrose/Aileen/Ephrita
- 26 Oct Lachlan/Charlotte/Jaren/Ayla

Piano Lessons

Sharyn Clark has spaces available for new students to learn piano.



Please contact Sharyn on:

0274-485089 OR
sharynclark22@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/StFrancisThames/>



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofthamesstfrancis>

Run by our very own friendly and caring Teacher Aides; Whaea Lisa & Dayna!



3 - 5pm Weekdays Term-time only

\$10 PER CHILD PER HOUR

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Fun activities including music, dancing and games!



Please contact: Whaea Lisa on 027 3455 153 or Whaea Dayna on 0204 041 7652

*Cash payments only daily/weekly to Whaea Lisa or Dayna



SchoolDocs is the online policy and procedure service for schools. To access our policies and procedures:

- Go to <https://www.schooldocs.co.nz/Home/SchoolLogin>
- Click on the green box "Search for your school" top right-hand corner of SchoolDocs page
- Start typing **St Francis School Thames** and then select it from the dropdown list
- Enter our community: **Username: stfrancis-thames**
Password: mackay