

Some photos from this last fortnight.....



St Francis School Newsletter, Friday 27th February, 2026



Important upcoming events and notices:

- 4 Mar Immunisations for Year 7/8
- 4 Mar BOT Meeting 6pm
- 9 Mar Hearing & Vision Checks 10am
- 11 Mar Hockey Big Day Out whole school
- 13 Mar Swimming Sports whole school
- 20 Mar Thames Valley Swimming Sports
- 25 Mar Yr 5-8 Rippa Rugby Tournament at Paeroa
Domain approx. 8.30am-2.30pm

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa, Talofa lava, Mālō e lelei, Namaste, Kumusta, Bula vinaka, and warm greetings to you all.

It has been a wonderful start to the term here at our kura. Classrooms are settled, routines are established, and our tamariki have embraced their learning with enthusiasm and focus. There is a calm sense of purpose across the school, and it has been heartening to see students showing commitment to their work and pride in their progress.

A very special congratulations to Whaea Maria and our talented students who performed at the Hearts in Harmony event. What a truly lovely evening it was — a celebration of our students' gifts, passions, and confidence. Events like these remind us of the richness of talent within our community and the joy that comes from sharing it together. We are incredibly proud of all who took part.

Thank you to the many whānau members who joined us for our Leaders Mass and our Ash Wednesday Mass. Your presence always adds an extra layer of warmth and community spirit to our liturgical celebrations. Gathering together in faith strengthens our sense of belonging and reminds our tamariki that home, school, and parish walk together in partnership.

We are also pleased to welcome THRIVE into our kura this term. THRIVE will be working alongside our tamariki to help build resilience, emotional awareness, and positive social skills. This is a valuable addition to the support we provide, and we look forward to seeing the benefits for our students. Alongside this, we warmly welcome Lisa Barnett to our school. Lisa will be supporting our Learning Support Team, helping to ensure that all learners are well supported and able to thrive in their learning environment.

A sincere thank you to the parents and caregivers who have volunteered their time to assist with swimming sessions. Your support makes these opportunities possible and ensures our students can participate safely and confidently. Looking ahead, our Big Hockey Day Out and Rippa Rugby events are coming up soon. We will again be calling on volunteers to help where possible — your involvement truly enriches these experiences for our tamariki.

Finally, thank you to our students for showing up each day ready to learn, to grow, and to contribute positively to our school community. Your effort, attitude, and willingness to work hard do not go unnoticed. We are proud of the way you are beginning the term.

As always, thank you for your continued partnership and support. Together, we are building a strong, faith-filled, and vibrant learning community.

Ngā manaakitanga, Christian Ioka, Principal

SWIMMING SCHEDULE TERM ONE

Thursdays & Fridays

9:10 – 9:40am | Piwakawaka

9:40 – 10:10am | Kiwi

10:10 – 10:40am | Kererū

2:00 – 2:30pm | Tūi



Please make sure tamariki bring their togs and towel on these days. If you're able to help with swimming, please let your child's teacher know, thank you!

KAHEERANGA VALLEY CHRISTIAN CAMP
UP! & GO
HOLIDAY CAMPS!

April Holidays @KVCC, Thames
JR CAMP YR 3-6 APRIL 7-10
SR CAMP SVR 6-8 APRIL 12-17

Cambridge Real Estate
KARAPIRO MARATHON
FINISH

Saturday 18th April 2026
WAIKATO

42K TEAM RELAY + 42K | 21K | 10.5K | 5K

The Power of the River, the Strength of the Run!
Get your teammates, workmates or gym buddies together and take on Lake Karapiro like never before in the Karapiro Marathon Team Relay.
One epic chance to run across the Karapiro Dam. This is your opportunity to stride where few ever do.

ENTER NOW www.eventpromotions.co.nz

Running the Karapiro Dam in 2028

THAMES CIRCUS CLUB

LEARN JUGGLING
AERIAL SILKS
UNICYCLING
SLACKLINE
TRAPEZE
POI
AND MORE

Monday 7-8:30 pm
Thames High School Gym
Classes start Monday 23rd February
From 10 years up
\$5 per sessions
Contact Lisa 0210788675

Swimming WAIKATO
HAVE-A-GO SWIMMING

THAMES SWIM CLUB EVENT

WHEN: Sunday 8th March 11AM-12PM
WHERE: Thames Centennial Pool - 105 Mackay Street, Thames
WHO: Anyone aged 7-12 years old who hasn't been part of a club and hasn't attended a Have-A-Go event before.
HOW: Head to Swimming Waikato's HAVE-A-GO webpage, click the 'Register Here' button and complete the form before March 4!

SCAN TO HEAD TO WEBSITE TO SIGN UP!

T.S.C. Swimming WAIKATO

Note: Participants must be able to swim 25 metres.

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;

Christian Ioka or Sister Paula

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>



Altar Servers for Sunday Mass:

8 Mar Haydon/Ayla/Ephrita/ Gogo
15 Mar Luke/Patrick/Lachlan/Charlotte
22 Mar Dimple/Rillaniya/Miguel/Sia

Run by our very own friendly and caring Teacher Aide; Whaea Dayna!



3 - 5pm
Mon-Thur
Term-time
only

\$10
PER CHILD
PER HOUR

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Fun activities including music, dancing and games!

Get in quick to secure your space!

Please contact: Whaea Dayna on 0204 041 7652

*Cash payments only




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

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

THAMES JUNIOR RUGBY REGISTRATIONS

STILL OPEN

Register here



Scan me to register!

Thames Junior Rugby – Registrations Open Now!

Thames Junior Rugby registrations are now open for the 2026 season and we are excited to welcome **new and returning players** to join the fun!

If your child is keen to give rugby a go this year, now is the time to register. Please sign up as soon as possible so teams can be finalised and the season draw completed.

Fees:

- Rippla Rugby – **\$50.00**
- Year 3 – Year 8 – **\$65.00**
- Club Socks – **\$15.00**

Simply **scan the QR code** to access the registration link and secure your child's spot for the season.

Come and be part of a fantastic club environment, make new friends, and enjoy rugby in our proud blue and black colours!



HAURAKI PLAINS
COMMUNITY HUB

Presents



HAURAKI PLAINS

Junior Swim • Bike • Run Event

A fun confidence-building triathlon for ages 5-13

Hugh Hayward Domain • Ngatea
Goodie Bags • Spot Prizes • Medals

Grab your \$5 ticket - Scan the QR code



or visit

<https://events.humanitix.com/tristars-hauraki-2026-aukskqxa>

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

15 MARCH 2026

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