



3 February 2021

Dear Families of St Therese School,
Kia Ora, Kia Orana, Talofa, Mālō e lelei, Namaste, Malo ni, Makadini, Annyoung, Bonjour, Bula, Hola, Selami, Kamusta.

Welcome back to St Therese School for 2021. I hope you all had a fantastic break with your families and that you are ready for what promises to be another excellent year. On behalf of all the staff, may I extend a very warm welcome to our new families here at school. I know you will enjoy your time here in this wonderful community and environment.

I would also like to welcome our new staff members; Alan Waith (Room 1) and Vivienne Berger (Room 4 on Fridays). It is also lovely to welcome back Daphne Fuafiva-Phipps, who will be working at St Therese School each Wednesday. Michaela Duarte (Room 2), Hiwote Yimer (Room 3), Cecilia van Helsdingen (Room 4- Monday to Thursday), and Vicky Goodier (Room 6) remain on our teaching staff and are all looking forward to a wonderful year ahead. Mrs Harris will continue to be our Reading Recovery teacher. Mrs Kerr, Mrs Paterson, Pata and Ms Luz will also continue to be valued members of our community, working to provide your children with all they need. We are very blessed to have an amazingly dedicated team.

Our 4 St Therese School Goals:

- **Faith** is the essence of our school. Christ’s teaching is the foundation and like our patron, Saint Therese, we are reminded to do little things well.
- Our **knowledge** goal inspires our children to love learning and seek answers.
- Through our **growth** goal we nurture the children’s emotional journey to adulthood.
- Our school is a powerful learning **community** where we care about every child and encourage them to become involved as leaders in their community.

The topic this term for the whole school is “Community”. Our school is a powerful learning community where we care about every child. Join us on your child’s learning journey this year. Blessings to you and your family.

Lord Jesus, we ask for Your help as we begin this new school year.
Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us.
Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.
Open our hearts and minds to new friends and new teachers.
Give us a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with our studies and courage to accept new opportunities.
Help us to be attentive to one another and let us experience Your presence in our new friends.
Jesus, be with us on our journey every day and inspire us to do our best this year!
Amen

Laura Geaney
Principal

TERM DATES 2021



Term Dates 2021			
Term 1	Thursday 4 th February @ 8:50am Teacher Only Days Tues 2 nd & Weds 3 rd Feb)	to	Friday 16 th April
Term 2	Monday 3 rd May	to	Friday 9 th July
Term 3	Monday 26 th July	to	Friday 1 st October
Term 4	Monday 18 th October	to	Thursday 16 th December



STATIONERY FOR 2021



It is vital that the children have their stationery early in Term 1 as this enables them to get organised and be prepared for lessons. All stationery packs come pre-made with the correct books and resources for each subject. Stationery includes a wide range of resources, including items such as exercise books, pens, pencils, felt pens, colouring pencils, crayons, scissors, art supplies and more; all of which are replenished for your child when required throughout the year. You are free to purchase stationery from any outlet, but we have found that it is beneficial for all students to have stationery from the same supplier and purchased through to school to ensure that there is consistency in their learning. Please send payment as soon as possible as this will enable your child to settle into routines as quickly as possible and give him/her the best possible chance to achieve at the highest level. If you have a concern or problem regarding the costs, please contact the office as soon as possible. **Payment can be made online: St Therese School 12-3033-0353893-00 (Please ensure you include your child's name).**

Year 1 & 2: \$40 (Stationery)

Year 3, 4, 5 & 6: \$135 (\$40 Stationery, \$60 Laptop lease and \$35 Swimming transport)

Year 7 & 8: \$100 (\$40 Stationery and \$60 Laptop lease)

UNIFORMS



We take pride in our beautiful school uniform and ask that you please help us to keep up the standard. **Please make sure that all clothing and footwear is clearly named, especially as the Years 3-6 children will be going swimming soon.** All students must bring a school hat to wear over the break times. A reminder that all classes will begin their Sports lessons on Friday 12th February and are recommended to wear their St Therese PE uniform and sports shoes to school each Friday. Uniforms can be purchased from Elizabeth Michael Uniforms at 4 Bond Street, Grey Lynn (09) 358 1680.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES



Financial assistance is available to assist families who may need financial support with the payment of attendance dues. Application forms for the Hardship Scheme are available from school and parish offices, or can be downloaded from the Catholic Diocese of Auckland Website www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools/

NEW SCHOOL GATES



Gates have been installed at the front entrance and rear exit of St Therese School. From Friday 4th February onwards the gates will be open in the morning from **6:00am – 9:00am** and then again from **2:30pm-3:30pm**. School begins at 8:50am and all students should be in the classrooms by this time. If for any reason you require access to the school office outside of these hours, you will need to push 'School' on the intercom system and your call will be placed through to the office staff who can then provide you with access. The front gate has an exit sensor installed so when you go to drive out it will automatically open for you. The rear exit gate is a manual gate. It would be great to have some parent/family volunteers to supervise this gate in the morning drop-off time and the afternoon pick-up time. Please email principal@sttherese.school.nz to volunteer your help or ask any further questions.

OPENING MASS



This year, our **Opening Mass** will be held on **Thursday 11th February at 11am**. This will be followed by a shared lunch where the families and teachers will have the opportunity to meet each other informally. Please bring some finger food to share. The Opening Mass will be a lovely beginning to our year together as we make plans for ways in which everyone can be a valuable part of our St Therese community.

FORMS



Please complete the **Student Update Forms** your child brings home and return them as soon as possible, even if your details are still the same. For the safety of your child it is vital that we have up-to-date contact details and that you are able to be contacted quickly should an emergency occur.

Our year ahead is full of wonderful experiences for the students and we know that we have a very supportive community. Many of these activities require additional support and we know that there is such a wide range of knowledge and expertise in our community. Today your child received a **Parent Helper Form**. Please take the time to fill this in and return it, as we would love to tap into the amazing skills and talents of the St Therese community.

Navigators will restart on **Monday 14 February**. Navigators is only for Year 4 – 8 students and younger siblings of children attending this class will need to be collected at 3pm as normal. Students must return the permission slip stating which days they will attend. There is no charge for the class and students will be given a snack before the class begins. This term the classes are from 3.15pm – 4.15pm. Please collect your child promptly at 4.15pm.

SWIMMING LESSONS



Years 3-6 Swimming Programme. We are very fortunate this year to be able to offer free swimming lessons for our year 3-6 students. Five double sessions of swimming lessons have been booked with the YMCA Swim School. The transport cost for each child is \$35.00 and has been included with your child's stationery cost this year. A letter will be sent home with your child and the permission slip needs to be returned to the class teacher.