



18 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.

The staff of St Therese School would like to express our gratitude to all those at home who supported their child/ren to attend online lessons during Alert Level 3. We had a great turnout of students who were eager to continue with their learning online. The resilience of our community in situations such as this is amazing. We are currently in Alert Level 2 and have clear health and safety protocols and procedures to ensure you child/ren continues to learn in a safe environment. An overview of these procedures was emailed out to all parents and caregivers. If you have any concerns or questions, please email principal@sttherese.school.nz

Laura Geaney
Principal

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

OPENING MASS

Our Opening Mass was a beautiful celebration to begin our 2021 school year. We thank Father Chris Denham for joining us on this special occasion and celebrating mass. Thank you to Ms Goodier and our amazing Year 7 & 8 students who prepared and lead the mass with such reverence and grace. We can already see the wonderful leaders of our school shining bright. Thank you to all the family members who came along and also to the staff and prefects from Marcellin College for joining us.



BREAKFAST CLUB & NAVIGATORS



Due to the current Alert Level, Breakfast Club will not be open for students to attend. We have taken this action to ensure that we do not put any of our students at risk. We will look to restart this under Alert Level 1 but will send notification of prior to resuming.

Navigators will begin on Monday 22nd February and is available to students in Years 4-8. This will take place in the school library from 3:15pm-4:15pm each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the school term. At Navigators, the students will be supervised and supported by teachers and have access to both digital and library resources to complete assigned homework tasks and participate in learning activities. If you have not already returned the signed form stating which days your child/ren will be attending, please do so by the end of this week.

UNIFORMS AND HATS



We take pride in our school uniform and ask parents to please ensure that your child/ren is wearing the correct uniform, including correct socks and shoes/sandals. Each Friday, students are invited to wear their school P.E uniform and sports shoes, as this is when most sports lessons take place. Hats are compulsory for children to wear over break times and during outdoor lessons. St Therese wide-brimmed hats can be purchased from Elizabeth Michael Uniforms.

NEW SCHOOL GATES AND LINEMARKING



We appreciate the community's positive response to the new school gates. A reminder that 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 Office' 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 and will automatically open for you if you remain to the left and drive over the hump. The rear exit gate is a manual gate. Soon there will be new lines painted on the driveway to provide a clearer indication of where to exit.

FORMS



Thank you to all those who have returned the following forms:

Student Update Form

Parent Helper Form

Student User Agreement for Laptops (for Years 3-8 students)

Navigators Form (for Years 4-8 students) who are planning on attending)

Swimming Permission (for Years 3-6 students)

If you have not returned these, please do so by the end of this week.

SWIMMING LESSONS



Years 3-6 Swimming Programme will continue under Alert Level 2. Five double sessions of swimming lessons have been booked with the YMCA Swim School at the Onehunga Pools. The transport cost for each child is \$35.00 and has been included with your child's stationery cost this year. Please ensure you have returned a signed permission slip for your child. Students are to bring their togs and a towel in a separate bag each day of the week. Goggles and swimming caps are optional. Please ensure that your child's uniform is clearly named.

WATER BOTTLES



The surfaces around the fountain including the spout, button/lever and nozzles could pose a risk for the transmission of COVID-19 and other germs in Alert Level 2. Therefore, we have made the decision that our drinking fountains will **not** be in use during this time. Please ensure that your child has a named water bottle with them each day at school. They will have the ability to refill these during the school day if needed.

UPCOMING PARENT INTERVIEWS



On Thursday 18th March, St Therese School will be holding Parent-Teacher Interviews from 1pm – 6pm. Lessons will end at 12:30pm and we ask that if you are able to collect your children at this time to please do so. If you are unable to collect your child at 2:30pm, there will be supervision for them in the school library until 3pm. There will be no Navigators on this day.

During this interview time, the teachers will share with you how your child is settling into their classroom and, using their assessment data, set and share their goals for the term. Please complete the attached form stating your interview time preference and return to the school office by Friday 26th February. We will then be in touch with a confirmed time and send out a reminder closer to the date of the interview.

We look forward to celebrating your child and discussing their learning journey moving forward.

EMERGENCY DRILLS



Over the next couple of weeks, the staff and students will be taking part in Fire and Lockdown Drills. These are done to ensure that students are aware of procedures and prepared if an emergency were to happen. The students will be guided through these by staff with a clear discussion prior to ensure they are aware that these are practice drills.