

# St Leo's Catholic School

Kindness | Confidence | Integrity | Excellence

Ph: 445 9339 Email: [office@stleos.school.nz](mailto:office@stleos.school.nz)

Website: [www.stleos.school.nz](http://www.stleos.school.nz)

102 Victoria Rd, Devonport, Auckland 0624

All correspondence to: P.O. Box 32-064 Devonport, Auckland 0744



**26 November 2020**

Tena koutou whanau

It's hard to believe it is that time of the year again - Advent.

This year the Parish is focusing on the season of Advent and have kindly given each school family a copy of 'The Magnificat: Advent Companion'. This lovely little book is full of reflections, prayers and ideas to help bring families closer together during the Advent season.

This excerpt comes from the book:

Advent is a time of waiting, longing and begging. It is a time to pray, "Come Lord Jesus"

We look forward to celebrating the first coming of Jesus at Christmas. We look forward with hope to the second coming of Jesus in his glory. We seek out Jesus here and now in the Mass, when he comes to us in the Eucharist. We seek out Jesus in the people and events of our lives, when he comes to us in ordinary ways.

Fr Richard Veras



If you are putting together an Advent Wreath or setting up a Christmas tree there are special prayers in the book you can use to bless them.



## St Leo's Christmas Fair

It will be all go this weekend! Cakes, sweets and preserves can be delivered to the hall on Saturday between 2pm and 4pm and bright and early on Sunday morning, the stalls will be set up. The Kapa Haka group will open the fair at 10am after Mass has finished across the street. It promises to be a wonderful event and many thanks to all those who have been instrumental in making this happen.

## Y5/6 camp

Yesterday the Year 5 and 6 children set off for their camp. They were so excited so we are hoping the bad weather will pass through so they can enjoy the last two days. I will be heading out to see them all today and joining in the action.

## Ask your team surveys

Thanks to all the parents who have completed the baseline survey. It closes tomorrow so you still have time to put in any last minute surveys. Next week we will analyse the results to help us plan for 2021.



## SCHOOL NEWS

**Thank you Anthony Pita!**



We have been so blessed to have had Anthony as our Kapa Haka tutor this year. As you can see by the photo, he has been so popular with the children that he has attracted half the children in the school to be part of the group. They have had a great time, as Anthony always made time to play games with them as well as teaching them waiata and tikanga. This photo was taken after the Peninsula Kapa Haka festival where they performed creditably with enthusiasm, proudly wearing their new uniforms with the Mercy Cross displayed on their chests.

Anthony has been a wonderful example of a St Leo's boy. His parents sent through a picture of him as a 6 year old at St Leo's and then one of him collecting all his prizes as the DUX of Rosmini this year. A great example for our children to aspire to. We wish him well at University next year and will miss his smiling face at St Leo's in 2021.





### **Athletics day**

Many thanks to Lucia Dawbin for organising the athletics day and for all the helpers on the day. It ran very smoothly and all on time. A small group will be representing St Leo's at the Peninsula athletics next Wednesday.



### **Rainbow's End**

On Tuesday the Year 6 children will be going to Rainbow's End.



### **Jesse Tree Liturgy**

Next Friday, 4 December, St Patrick and their buddy class St Clare will be presenting a Jesse Tree liturgy as part of assembly. Everyone is welcome to come along.

### **Graduation Dinner**

On Wednesday 9 December the Year 6's will be celebrating their graduation dinner with their parents. It is always a special night and this year we have been lucky enough to have Michelle Dickinson (aka Nanogirl) to speak to the children. Many thanks to Hayley Law for organising her to speak.

### **Santa Parade**

We have a keen little group of children who will be representing us in the Devonport Santa Parade on Sunday 6 December. We still have space for more if any other children wish to join in. Many thanks to Matt Atkinson who will be driving the float. If children require a costume these will be available from the office from Monday afternoon. Children will need to meet Renee outside New World at 10.30am ready for the parade to begin at 11am. Please meet us at the end of the parade to retrieve your child/ren if you are not going to walk with us.



## Nativity Play

A highlight every year is the Year 1 & 2 children performing the Nativity. This year it will be on Friday 11 December at 2pm in the hall. Everyone is welcome to join us.

## Tima's official Farewell

Although Tima finishes working at St Leo's on 11 December, we have managed to get him to come back on **Tuesday 15 December** for an official farewell from the community. We will have an assembly in the hall at 2pm followed by refreshments. I know many families will want to join us to say goodbye to such a special staff member. Tima has to go to work that evening so it won't be a late night!



## End of Year Graduation Mass

The Mass will happen on the last day of school, Wednesday 16 December at 9.15 in the church. This is a special school occasion, not just for the children graduating from St Leo's. All families are welcome to the special Mass and to join us afterwards for a shared morning tea.

## Caretaker position

With Tima's resignation we will be looking for someone to take on a part time caretakers role. If anyone knows of someone who may be interested please let me know. It would suit someone who is semi retired and the job entails lawn mowing and general grounds maintenance and some small day to day maintenance around the school.

May God's Blessings be with you all  
Ma te atua manaaki

Maureen Harris



## Important dates this term:

<b>Week 7</b>	<b>Saturday 28 Nov</b>	<b>Drop off home baking, preserves and sweets to the hall</b>
	<b>Sunday 29 Nov</b>	<b>Christmas Fair</b>
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Tuesday 1 Dec</b>	Y6 trip to Rainbow's End All library books to be returned by today
	<b>Wednesday 2 Dec</b>	Lewis Eady Music Peninsula Athletics
	<b>Thursday 3 Dec</b>	Y6 Puberty talks Year 5 Waterwise swim testing & picnic lunch
	<b>Friday 4 Dec</b>	Assembly - Jesse Tree liturgy

		Peninsula savaday
	<b>Sunday 6 Dec</b>	Santa Parade
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Monday 7 Dec</b>	Road Patrol Training
	<b>Wednesday 9 Dec</b>	Lewis Eady Music Choir, ukulele group & Kapa Haka to Navy Kindy <b>Y6 graduation dinner</b>
	<b>Thursday 10 Dec</b>	Waterwise for St Catherine
	<b>Friday 11 Dec</b>	<b>Nativity play</b> <b>Reports to go home</b> <b>Tima's last work day</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>Tuesday 15 Dec</b>	<b>Tima's farewell assembly 2pm followed by refreshments</b>
	<b>Wednesday 16 Dec</b>	<b>Graduation Mass 9.15am</b> <b>School finishes at 12 noon</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Wednesday 3 Feb</b>	<b>Term 1 starts</b>

### **Important Notices**

St Leo's Sports Jacket for sale - size 5/6 \$30. Please see Shannon Mena-Levin or Renee if you are interested in buying this.

### **Library Books**

There are a lot of outstanding library books at present. Could you please check your homes to see if you have any St Leo's library books and return them as soon as possible. Library stocktake will be taking place on 8th December and we would like all library books to be returned by the 1st December.

### **ADVENT RETREAT**

An invitation to build-your-own retreat around one hour of reflection led by Fr. John on each of the three Saturday mornings leading up to Christmas. Simply turn up at the hour to hear the input with some guided reflection, and build your own style of retreat around this hour. You might come for the 9.00am Saturday Mass which precedes the 9.00am reflection or follow the session with some time sitting under a tree, walking on the beach or sipping a cuppa in a local café.

Each of the three one-hour Saturday sessions will stand alone (if you can only make it to one or two), but they will also build on the previous week's session if you can manage all three. The sessions will give practical encouragement based generally on the theme *"The Wonderful Difference that Faith Makes to Daily Life."* These sessions are open to anyone who is interested. Bring a friend or two.

Saturday 5 December 9.30am – 10.30am

Saturday 12 December 9.30am – 10.30am

Saturday 19 December 9.30am – 10.30am

### **Celebrating Past Pupils**

The following ex St Leo's pupils have won awards at Carmel and Rosmini this year.

Congratulations to them all.

Anthony Pita - DUX of Rosmini

Veronique Simmonds - Outstanding Achievement Award and St Mary Justine Bursary for all round academic potential and contribution to school life and community.

Head girl

Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship

Maddie Kibblewhite - Tu Rangatira Award for good leadership to Maori students

Siena Seeto - Top Scholar in Chinese

Charli Nicholls - AUT Academic Excellence Scholarship

Madison Taylor - Victoria University Tangiwai Scholarship

### **PTFA News and Events**

#### **The St Leo's Christmas Fair is Here- Sunday November 29th**

#### **Vouchers**

Fair dollars vouchers are now on sale from the office. Please try to purchase these before fair day so we know if we need to get more made so there are enough. These vouchers are accepted in the stalls in place of cash and are for St Leo's students only, This saves your child having to carry around cash while you are working on a stall. \$10 gives you \$12 worth of vouchers. They will also be on sale on the day of the fair.

Thank you to the following companies who have sponsored stalls or provided goods for the fair:

Hotel Grand Windsor  
Takapuna Orthodontic Group  
Practec Limited  
Singleton Mercer Chartered Accountants  
Chris Dickinson  
The Village Butcher  
Minty's

Culprit Restaurant  
Ivy & Birch  
Floss & Bec

Ecology & Co  
Arcade Day Spa  
Bridge St Candles



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:





## Community Notices

### CHRISTMAS TREES ORDERS

Ready to close off 2020? Yes, it's that time of year already! Please support **1<sup>st</sup> Devonport Scout Group** this Christmas by buying your tree from us.

- Standard Size (1.7m – 2.2m) Tree - \$55 includes free delivery
- Large Size (2.2m – 2.7m) Tree - \$85 includes free delivery
- Tree Collection (post Christmas) is \$15

You can order [online](#) or email us at [1dsg.xmastrees@gmail.com](mailto:1dsg.xmastrees@gmail.com) and we'll send you a link.

We will confirm your order and supply bank account details for online payment. All orders must be received by Tuesday 1st December 2020.

Delivery of trees will take place Thursday 3rd December from 6pm, and collection on Friday 8th January 2021 from 9am.

Please note we deliver only on the Devonport peninsula up to Hauraki Corner. Thank you for your kind support and we wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

**Marbles Christmas Holiday Programme** Marbles is pleased to announce their Christmas holiday programme running from the 16th December through to the 22nd December. As always it will be filled with creativity, fun, deliciousness and a sprinkle of magic. More details about our programme is currently on our website [www.marblesstudio.co.nz](http://www.marblesstudio.co.nz). We would love to see you there!



**I LOVE TAKAPUNA Christmas CARNIVAL!**  
Saturday 5th December • 38 Hurstmere Road • 10am to 8pm

Family and kids entertainment 10am - 4pm  
Live music from 4pm - 8pm  
Food & Market Stalls  
Facepainting & roaming characters  
Rides, games and activities  
A visit from Santa himself!

**iLoveTAKAPUNA**  
TAKAPUNA BEACH  
Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

[iLoveTakapuna.co.nz](http://iLoveTakapuna.co.nz) [f](#) [i](#) [i](#) [i](#)



## Vegan Living

Sunday Dec 13<sup>th</sup> @ 11am: Devonport Library

Join us for a talk by Dr. Mark Craig (GP) and Amanda Sorrenson, both from the NZ Vegan Society.  
Find out how to easily transition to a vegan diet while also making a contribution towards addressing climate change.

(Level 1 event)

Find out more:  
[aucklandlibraries.govt.nz](http://aucklandlibraries.govt.nz) 09 377 0209  
[@aucklandlibraries](#) [@aucklandlib](#)

**Auckland Council Libraries**  
Ngā Whānau Kōwhiri o Tāmaki Makaurau



**Science & Technology Holiday Programme**

**GET 25% OFF NOW**

[brainplay.co.nz](http://brainplay.co.nz)



**NORTH SHORE youth music**

**2021 AUDITIONS NOW OPEN**

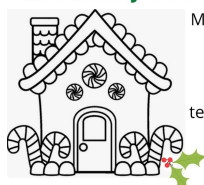
Applications for positions in the 7 different ensembles in NSYM are now open.

HEAD TO THE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS AND AN APPLICATION FORM

[www.nsym.org.nz/apply](http://www.nsym.org.nz/apply)

## Christmas Workshops December 16 and 17 Belmont Intermediate School LittleCooks 10-12pm

The Stitchery 12.30-2.30pm over 2 days



Make a Mini Gingerbread House! 10-12pm  
Cost: \$55  
Email [team@littlecooks.co.nz](mailto:team@littlecooks.co.nz) to register

Make your own Christmas stocking with your name embroidered on and a tree decoration!  
12.30-2.30pm  
Cost: \$85 for 2 afternoons  
Email [dfeenstra8@gmail.com](mailto:dfeenstra8@gmail.com)



## WIN A SMART BEDROOM!

From 6am this Christmas morning on Newstalk ZB - it's 'The Voice of Christmas' singing competition... on the 'Crazy Kiwi Christmas Kids Show'...

If you're under 13 and can sing, simply call

**0800 THE VOICE**

and sing a Christmas Carol as your audition.

That's 0800 843 864.

Grand prize: **Smart Bedroom Bundle** - Amazon Echo Plus smart speaker and Alexa-enabled smart coloured light bulbs!

Then tune in on Christmas morning to Newstalk ZB from 6am, to see if you've won!



**Annie**

**Artz on Show School Holiday Performing Arts Workshop**

This is a fun yet educational week for students aged 5 – 15 years. Students participate in a range of performing arts classes, concluding the week with a performance!

18 - 22 January 2021, 9 am – 4 pm daily  
Held at Takapuna Normal Intermediate

View our website; [www.artzonshow.co.nz](http://www.artzonshow.co.nz)  
or contact Hayley on either [artz@artzonshow.co.nz](mailto:artz@artzonshow.co.nz) or 09 294 7129

**ARTZONSHOW**



## OUR COMMUNITY CONTACTS



### NZ MODERN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

PRIVATE PROFESSIONAL AFFORDABLE

**PIANO, GUITAR, VIOLIN, VOICE  
LESSONS IN YOUR AREA**

Phone 0800 696 874 • [www.modernmusic.co.nz](http://www.modernmusic.co.nz)

## KUMON

### Give your child a head start in life

With our individually tailored Kumon maths and English programmes, your child will develop a strong academic foundation that will nurture their learning for life.

Contact your local Kumon Centre to find out more today.

**KUMON FORREST HILL & TAKAPUNA EDUCATION CENTRES**  
tel: 09 410 1678 / mob: 021 167 0019

Visit <http://nz.kumonglobal.com>



Ian Cunliffe | 027 227 9322  
[ian.cunliffe@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:ian.cunliffe@harcourts.co.nz)

Diana Murray | 021 911 522  
[diana.murray@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:diana.murray@harcourts.co.nz)

Sell your  
home with us  
and we will  
happily donate  
\$1,000 to  
St Leo's School

**Harcourts**  
Cooper & Co



### ALAN JONES LAW LIMITED BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

Conveyancing & Property Transactions, Finance,  
Estate Planning & Administration, Relationship Property  
11d Wynyard Street, Devonport. Phone 445 6225

[www.ajlaw.co.nz](http://www.ajlaw.co.nz)



### Tony Bunyan & Dan Kennedy Orthodontists

Registered Specialists Creating Beautiful Smiles

Suite 6, Hurstmere House,  
Cnr Hurstmere Road & Anzac Street, Takapuna, Auckland 0622

**Phone: (09) 489 8081**

[www.tbortho.co.nz](http://www.tbortho.co.nz) • [bunyanorthodontist@hotmail.com](mailto:bunyanorthodontist@hotmail.com)



### Devonport Family Medicine

New Patients Welcome

Open Hours

Monday 8am - 7pm

Tuesday to Friday 8am - 5pm

Ph: 09 445 0528 | [dfmdoctors.co.nz](http://dfmdoctors.co.nz)

Devonport Family Medicine is a well-established medical centre serving individuals and their families in the local community for many years. Dr Pieter Veenhuijsen, is owner and full-time General Practitioner, who has a part-time female GP locum also working in the practice. The doctors are supported by an experienced and dedicated clinical and admin team, all locals themselves, who are committed to providing patients with high quality health care with a personal touch.



Art classes at

## Marbles

'Where creativity shines'

Creative art classes and stimulating  
after school care

**We are located right here at St Leos**

For more information please visit our website  
[www.marblesstudio.co.nz](http://www.marblesstudio.co.nz)

## DEVONPORT HAMMER HARDWARE

**IT'S YOUR LOCAL**

13 Clarence St. • P. 445 2356  
[devonport@hammerhardware.co.nz](mailto:devonport@hammerhardware.co.nz)  
[www.hammerhardware.co.nz](http://www.hammerhardware.co.nz)



Promoting Confidence and Presentation  
Skills while having so much FUN

**Mondays After School  
Takapuna War Memorial Hall  
(right next to the library)**

**Big Stage Experience**

[www.pform.nz](http://www.pform.nz)

**Pform  
.nz**

**0800 736 766**