

# St Leo's Catholic School

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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



1 December 2022

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou whānau, and a warm St Leo's blessing on you all

Advent comes from the Latin word meaning "coming." Jesus is coming, and Advent is intended to be a season of preparation for His arrival. This year's advent starts on 27 November. While we typically regard Advent as a joyous season, it is also intended to be a period of preparation, much like Lent. Prayer, penance and fasting are appropriate during this season. It is only in the shadow of Advent that the miracle of Christmas can be fully understood and appreciated. The four weeks of Advent are broken down into the themes, represented by the candles:

1. Hope (or promise)
2. Preparation (waiting or prophecy)
3. Joy (peace)
4. Love (adoration)

One of the beautiful things about the Advent readings is that they offer the opportunity to include both young and old, and private family devotions around the Advent wreath. It is a great family activity to make an advent wreath and use it at family prayer times.

Here is a little prayer that you may like to recite when lighting the candles.



*Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe.*

*You sent your Son to be the Light of the world and to spread his light of love to all. As we light the candles of this wreath May its growing brightness remind us of the approaching nearness of your Son So that the day of His coming may find us prepared and filled with joy.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*

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.



## St Leo's Fair

A huge thank you to the PTFA who have worked extremely hard behind the scenes to make this fair a huge success. A massive thank you to Sarah, Helen, Gin, Campbell, Renee, Paola, Nanny Angela, Ruth, Kimberley, Peter and Jeff. I would also like to thank all the parents who came before the fair and sorted out books, clothes, toys etc. Also thank you to all the people who came before the fair and helped pitch the gazebos and set up stalls. Thank you to all of you who contributed! It was a great experience for me to see the community spirit and the happiness of the people who attended the fair.

The total raised on the day is testament to the effort put in by everyone and we really appreciate your help for the school.



## **Community Voice Survey**

As we prepare for 2023 we would like to collect our school community voice to inform our planning for potential topics and learning experiences for your child/ren. Please be aware that we are always teaching Religious Education, Reading, Writing and Mathematics. As a school we track our Curriculum areas, next year we are due to cover History, Technology, Science and the Visual Arts.

We would also like to hear your thoughts on the Catholic character of the school as part of a review. This review will focus on the school and community's growth and knowledge about spirituality.

**We would appreciate it if you could please fill in this short survey with your thoughts. Please click to link to complete the survey: [Curriculum and Catholic Character Survey](#) A paper copy will also go home and a drop off box will be set up in the library for your anonymous response.**

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

## **Helpers Morning Tea**

On Monday the 5th of December, the school is hosting a morning tea for all parent/whanau helpers who have helped and supported St Leo's in any way. We are so grateful for all that you do and without your support we would not be able to run the school and school programmes efficiently. Please come and join us and celebrate the manaakitanga you give to our school.

## **Christmas Show**

The children are busy preparing for the Christmas Show so please keep the 8th of December at 10am free to join us in celebrating this exciting event through dance, drama, and music.

## **School Fun Day**

After the Christmas show, we will have a school fun day where children will be celebrating a wonderful year that we have had. Please bring a change of clothes, hat and sunblock. Whanau are welcome to join us.

## **Sausage Sizzle**

On 8th December the PTFA will be holding the final sausage sizzle for this year. Order forms have been sent home and are due back by 9am Monday 5 December. \$6 for a sausage, treat and a drink (don't forget the mug) \$2 for each extra sausage. Money can be paid into the PTFA account or cash to Renee.

## **Reports**

End of the year reports are going home on 9 December.

## **Leavers Dinner**

On Tuesday 13 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 a surprise guest to speak to the children. Many thanks to Chris Dickinson for organising her/him to speak.

## **End of Year Graduation Mass**

The Mass will happen on the last day of school, Wednesday 14 December at 10am 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.

## **Rainbows End**

On Friday 9 December the Year 6 children will be going to Rainbow's End.

## Summer uniform and Hats

As the weather has been quite sunny and warmer all children should be in their summer uniform, which includes sandals, not sneakers or shoes (unless your child has a dispensation) and must wear their hats. **Remember! No hat - no playing in the playground! All children must have a blue bucket hat.** New hats with the school logo are available from the office for \$15.

Ma te atua manaaki  
God Bless,  
*Vimi Chandra*



## Other Notices

### Santa Parade

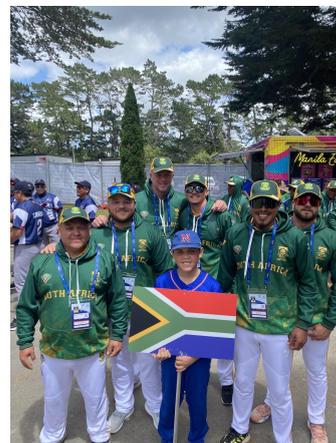
As there was insufficient interest in this the school will sadly not be entering a float (trailer) in this year's Santa Parade.

### Celebrating our pupils

#### BATMAN

Batman was saving Gotham City. When he got to his destination, he fought the villains and after he got the villains he went to the police. The whole police said "thank you for fighting the villains!" After he left the police, he went on another mission. He saw a robbery. Batman was very disappointed and got his Batman shurikens out and captured all the villains. He felt proud because he saved Gotham City. By Frankie Bedford.

Cavelle Ikenasio was lucky enough to be chosen to walk out with the South African team at the Men's Softball World Cup.



★ ★  
Saturday 17th December  
3 - 5pm

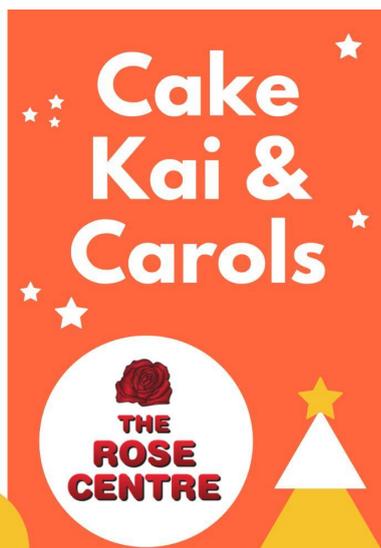
## Invitation

Bring your whanau and come celebrate our 30th Birthday with Cake, Entertainment free Kai & Memory Exhibit.

Followed by *Rose Singers* Christmas Show at 6pm.

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

FREE  
EVENT!



**Timetable of events**

Sunday 4 December	Devonport Santa Parade
Monday 5 December	Parent helpers thank you morning tea 11am
Tuesday 6 December	Waterwise swim testing for year 5's
Wednesday 7 December	Lewis Eady music lessons Save Day Peninsula Athletics Assembly 10.30am
Thursday 8 December	Christmas Show 10am School Fun Day Sausage sizzle lunch
Friday 9 December	Year 6 to Rainbow's End Reports home
Tuesday 13 December	Save Day fun day Year 6 Leavers dinner 5.30 - 7.30
Wednesday 14 December	Leavers Mass 10am Last day of School - finishes midday

## PTFA News

### T - towels

If you haven't ordered a tea towel there are some left. \$15 for one, \$25 for 2 etc. Every child in the school is featured on this t-towel. Great Christmas presents.

We have a few boxes of leftover items from the fair that need to be delivered to any op shops by the end of this weekend. If you are able to help please contact Renee or Helen.

Wow! What an amazing School Fair we had last Sunday! Despite the rain, we managed to hold a fabulous day, with so many happy faces from our School and the community. We managed to raise in excess of \$21,000, which will help the school massively with funding for next year.

The PTFA would like to thank the following for all their support and help, both in the lead up to the Fair and on the day:

- All current parents and pupils
- The teachers and staff
- Past parents and pupils
- Friends of the school, parishioners, grandparents
- All donors and sponsors of prizes, equipment, food, drinks services and practical help, including the following companies, organisations and individuals: We have been blown away by the generosity of our local community! Please do support these businesses in return and mention our gratitude, as you shop for Christmas and go about your everyday life admin!

We are rounding off the year with a Sausage Sizzle on the Fun Day on 8th December - please get your children's order forms quickly to Renee.

We are also planning a Family Picnic event, plus PTFA AGM for mid February - more details to follow.

The main contributors to the current PTFA will be stepping down in the early part of next year. A new PTFA needs to be in place by 1 April 2023. Please do consider if you would like to be involved and what you can offer.

Finally - have a blessed, safe, relaxed and fun Christmas break

Best wishes from the PTFA



**Thank you to the following businesses/people who have sponsored our school fair. Please support them in return.**

**Stall sponsors**



Takapuna Orthodontic Group

Peter Wolfkamp Resident Builder

Cockcroft d'Young Moorhouse Lawyers

Avenue Advice - Gavin Busch

John Boyle & Irma Egenes

Toshiba

Trish & Tracey Barfoot & Thompson

Vidzing & RamsayReid family

Alex Duley

Entelar Group

Thank you to Micro Scooters for the donation of a scooter for the fair <https://www.microscooters.com.au/>



**Thank you to the following also for donations/loans etc**

Devonport Community House

Jump North Shore

Soho wine

ActivZone

Inflatable World

NZ Defence Force

Devonport Volunteer Fire Brigade

Benefitz

Eco store

Green Gorilla Bins

FishMob

Belmont Pharmacy

Abigail Goosen

Artz on Show

Wero Whitewater Park

Skin Sense

Bridgestone Direct Glenfield

The Flagstaff

Auckland Zoo

Harvey Norman

Asahi Devonport

Northern Rock Climbing

Devonport Electrical

Clip N Climb

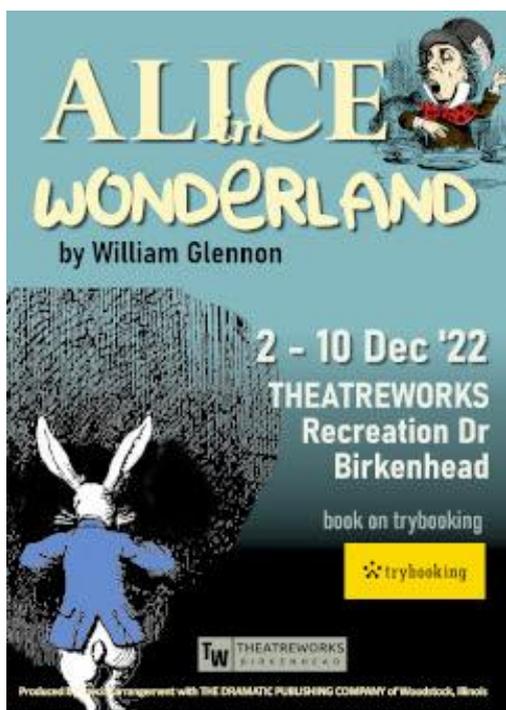


Royal NZ Yacht Squadron  
Navy Museum  
Bikes and Beyond  
Doozie  
Trish & Tracey Barfoot & Thompson  
Peter Wolfkamp  
Farrahs  
Echo Boutique  
Corellis  
Blue Illusion  
Hammer Hardware Devonport  
Devonport Deli Cafe  
Albany Stadium Pools  
Parakai Springs  
Vic Road Kitchen  
Vic Theatre  
Chris Dickinson  
Hellers  
Dominic Blaazer & the St Leo's choir  
The Christy family  
Sierra Cafe  
Signal Hill

Marbles  
1st Devonport Scouts  
Glengarrys  
Stanley Bay School  
Bayswater School  
New World Devonport  
Victoria Superette  
Factory Frames  
Paradox Books  
Khana  
Liquorland  
Louise Simpson  
Glenfield Mall  
Alpers Dentist  
Bikes and Barbers  
Smith & Caughey  
Yarntons  
Jeffrey (the musician)  
Jester's Pies  
NZ Netball  
The Flagstaff Gallery  
Just Workout Gym



## COMMUNITY NOTICES



**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!

23 - 27 January 2023, 9 am – 4 pm daily  
Held at Belmont Intermediate School  
10 Winscombe Street, Belmont, Auckland

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.**

North Shore Youth Music is a community organisation which runs a variety of orchestras and choirs for young people. Applications are now being accepted for 2023, and auditions will be held on Friday 16th December. See

[www.nsym.org.nz](http://www.nsym.org.nz) for an application form.

Orchestras

Stringalongs (5 - 8yrs), Junior Orchestra (10 - 16yrs)

Choirs

Songsters (5 - 8yrs), Children's Choir (9 - 13yrs), Con Brio Choir (10 - 16yrs)

Ex pupils Sienna Warner and Juju Goosen will be performing with Auckland Performing Arts Academy in Grease-Young@Part at the ASB Waterfront Theatre in Wynyard Quarter. Grease-Young@Part is a 70 minute, age-appropriate version of Grease, suitable for the whole family. It will be performed by over a hundred APAA students, aged 7-14 years across four matinee performances Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> to Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December. 10% of all box office revenue from the final shows will be donated to Breast Cancer Foundation NZ, in memory of the most famous Sandy of them all, Olivia Newton-John. Tickets can be purchased through the theatre at <https://tinyurl.com/bdenb9ph> or via Ticketmaster at: <https://tinyurl.com/ycv8sx5z> (where you can also buy tickets to APAA's full-length Grease production, showing during the evenings Dec 16-19 and featuring APAA's 15-21 year old students).

**Jazz School, Christmas Big Band workshop** This will be an exciting two day school holiday workshop where year 6, 7 and 8 students will learn to play in a Jazz Big Band and then perform a concert for family and friends on the final afternoon. The Big Band is for Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone and Clarinet players plus Electric Guitar, Piano, Bass and Drums. The music we play will range from jazz versions of Christmas favourites to modern pop classics with an emphasis on having fun while producing music at a high standard. This workshop will be run by Drew Hutchinson. Students must be playing at grade 2 level or higher, or have had two years of lessons. The workshop is on December the 15th and 16th from 9am - 3pm at King's School, 258 Remuera Road, Remuera. To register for the workshop please visit [jazzschool.co.nz](http://jazzschool.co.nz) or email [jnrjazzschool@gmail.com](mailto:jnrjazzschool@gmail.com) for more information.

### De Paul House Christmas Appeal 2022

We wish to give every child and adult a gift voucher, to allow them to choose their own gift. *Your donation will bring the joy of Christmas into homeless and struggling local families' lives.*

Please donate via our website or online banking. Website: [Click here](#) Select "Christmas" on donation form.

Online banking: BNZ 02-0278-0059429-02 Reference "Christmas" *Thank you for your support.*

### Swimming Lessons at Devonport School

<https://enrolmy.com/skillz4life/book-now/24-Devonport-Term-4-Swimming-Lessons---INSTRUCTOR-1>

<https://enrolmy.com/skillz4life/book-now/25-Devonport-Term-4-Swimming-Lessons---INSTRUCTOR-2>

<https://enrolmy.com/skillz4life/book-now/26-INSTRUCTOR-1---January-Holiday-Block-Lessons-2023>

<https://enrolmy.com/skillz4life/book-now/27-INSTRUCTOR-2---January-Holiday-Block-Lessons-2023>

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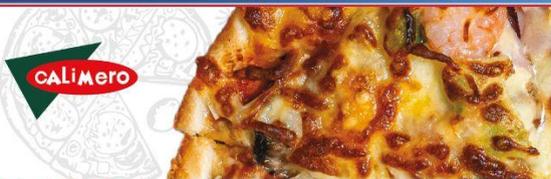
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Medicine**

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

Family friendly healthcare

The team at Devonport Family Medicine are dedicated to supporting the health and wellbeing of your family. Dr Pieter Veenhuijsen has worked in the Devonport community for over 13 years. Dr Kosar Kheirabi has recently joined the team and has experience in all areas of medicine with a keen interest in paediatrics, surgery, women's health and health of older people. Together with an experienced nursing and admin team, the practice is committed to delivering quality care with a personal touch. Enrol online or simply pop in to see us.



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