

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL PAPAKURA



Together We Learn, We Pray, We Serve

Me Whakakotahi, Kia Maarama, Kia Pono, Ki Te Karakia

Welcome

Hello, Tena koutou katoa, Talofa lava, Kia orana, Malo e lelei.

I am pleased to welcome your inquiry about our school. I hope the following summary gives you an understanding of our school and what we offer you and your child.

St. Mary's Catholic School provides quality Catholic education to Catholic families, based on four foundation principles, these being that a Catholic School:

- provides Catholic education
- strives for educational excellence
- contributes to the Church's mission
- contributes to society

We pride ourselves on providing a caring environment, skilled and compassionate staff, excellent facilities and clear administrative processes. Above all we endeavour to provide an excellent, Catholic education.

I look forward to discussing enrolment with you.

Yours faithfully

Audrey Kippen
Acting Principal

OUR MISSION

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OUR VISION

As Children of God, students at St Mary's Catholic School develop in friendship with Jesus, making the most of the gifts they have been given and sharing these gifts with others to create a just and caring community. This is achieved within a Christ-centred Catholic faith community delivering outstanding, future-focused education, through the work and witness of dedicated, skilled staff and a supportive community, within an exemplary educational environment.

OUR VALUES

As a Catholic school, everything we do will be characterised by the Gospel Values of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Special Features of Our School

Our School Patron – Our school takes its name and patronage from Mary, the Mother of our Lord. We live and learn under the loving care of Our Lady.

Our Founding Order – Our school was established in 1954 by the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions. We proudly identify as a Mission School and live out the Mission charism of our founding order.

Our Parish – We are proud to be the parish school for St. Mary's Parish, Papakura. Our Parish Church is located at 52 East Street, Papakura.

Our House Patrons – In keeping with our Missionary charism, all students become members of one of four Houses, which take the name of four inspirational missionary heroes of our Church:

Barbier House	...	Sister Euphrasie Barbier
Chanel House	...	St. Peter Chanel
Pompallier House	...	Bishop John-Baptiste Pompallier
Xavier House	...	St. Francis Xavier

Enrolment Eligibility – Enrolment is available for children whose family have an established connection with the Catholic faith community. We enrol students in Year 1 to Year 8. A limited number of places are available for non-Catholic students.

Teaching Teams – Our school is organised in teaching teams, so students come to identify closely with, and are known well by the teachers in the team. We currently have four teams:

Bethlehem Team	...	Year 1 and 2 Students
Nazareth Team	...	Year 3 and 4 Students
Jerusalem Team	...	Year 5 and 6 Students
Emmaus Team	...	Year 7 and 8 Students

School Curriculum – We teach the New Zealand curriculum and the Religious Education curriculum approved by the Catholic Bishops of New Zealand. Priority is given to Religious Education, Literacy and Numeracy. Our broad integrated curriculum provides rich learning experiences across all learning areas in a 21st century digitally rich environment.

Support Programmes – We provide additional support where necessary, especially in the areas of Literacy, English as a second language and special abilities.

ICT / Library – Our school is equipped with a range of technologies and a well-stocked library, in support of student learning. All classes have computers with Internet access, data projectors and interactive technology. Shared access to other ICT equipment (cameras, data recorders, etc) is also available to all classes.

Active Lifestyles – Our school values regular physical activity for all students. PE, sport and fitness programmes are regular features of our curriculum.

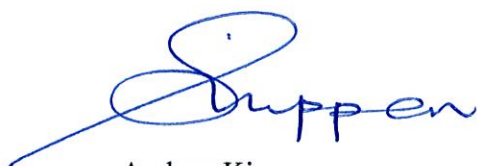
Leadership – All students in our school gain opportunities for leadership, at the class level and for older students, on a school-wide basis. Senior roles include Student Leaders, House Captains, Peer Mediators, Librarians, Road Patrol and Sports Monitors.

Cultural Diversity – We enjoy a rich cultural diversity at our school, which is reflective of our local and parish community. Opportunities for cultural expression arise through programmes such as Kapa Haka and Pasifika, with other opportunities offered as staff and parent assistance permit.

Communication – We value regular, respectful and open communication with parents and caregivers. We will listen with care, act promptly and communicate any concerns proactively. We strive to build a positive partnership between home and school.

Discipline – We have high expectations for student behaviour. We show respect for one another and expect students to do the same. We support students to make good choices and to learn from their mistakes. Where student behaviour falls short of our expectations, we apply our disciplinary processes fairly, promptly and consistently. We maintain communication with families regarding disciplinary events requiring attention.

Enrolling With Us – If you wish to enrol your child with us, please contact the school office to request enrolment forms or to arrange to meet with me. We look forward to you and your child joining our school community.



Audrey Kippen
Acting Principal