

# Newsletter – 1 September 2022

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 [smcs.school.nz/2022/09/01/newsletter-1-september-2022/](https://smcs.school.nz/2022/09/01/newsletter-1-september-2022/)

Tēnā koutou katoa St Michael's Catholic School Community,

***“He taonga rongonui te aroha ki te tangata.”***

**Goodwill towards others is a special treasure.**

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to listen and respond together to the cry of Creation: the Catholic family around the world unites to pray and protect our common home.

The Season of Creation begins 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends 4 October, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and ecology.

## **Welcome to New Families and Students**

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We would like to welcome the following new family who has joined us this term: the **Strong** family.

## **SMCS Cross Country**

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Thank you to Miss Bagnall for organising a wonderful Cross Country event! Thanks to all the parents who helped, thanks to the teachers and well done to the students for putting their best foot forward and for displaying sportsmanship and the St Mary MacKillop values.

## **Reminder – Sports Photos tomorrow Friday 2 September**

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**Sports photos start at 8am in the hall.** Please remember to come on time and to bring PE gear and/or team uniforms.

## **Health and Safety – Beatrice Road driveway access**

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It is imperative that emergency vehicles are able to get down the Beatrice Road driveway into school should the need arise. Please be mindful of this when parking on Beatrice Road and outside the church and refrain from driving down and leaving any cars unattended in front of the chain at the bottom of the driveway. Thank you for helping keep our students safe.

## **SMCS Policies – This Term we are reviewing Student Wellbeing and Safety and Staff Wellbeing and Safety.**

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1. Go to [www.schooldocs.co.nz](https://www.schooldocs.co.nz)
2. Click Search for your school.
3. Start typing the school name and then select from the dropdown list.

4. Enter the community username and password:

**Username:** smcs

**Password:** mackillop

### Instructions for reviewers

1. Read the Student Wellbeing and Safety and Staff Wellbeing and Safety Policies.
2. Click the red Policy Review icon at the right-hand top corner of the page. A new screen will appear.
3. Select your role (board member, staff member, or parent/caregiver) from the drop-down list.
4. Enter your name (optional).
5. Submit your ratings and comment.

### Health and Safety and Ventilation

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COVID-19 is still around so it is important that Health and Safety guidelines are followed:

- Wear a mask when on site and especially if you enter our school building
- If a child is sick they need to stay at home
- Year 4 up are strongly recommended to wear masks indoors
- Sanitise / wash your hands regularly

### Ministry of Education – Winter wellness guide for Tamariki

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The Ministry of Education has updated the winter wellness guidance for parents, caregivers and whānau to reflect the following points:

- If a child has been unwell with a respiratory illness other than COVID-19, they can return to school 24 hours after they have significantly improved and are behaving/eating normally.
- Following vomiting or diarrhoea, a child should be symptom free for 48 hours before they can return.
- If they still have a runny nose or dry cough without any other symptoms such as a fever, vomiting or diarrhoea, then they are unlikely to be infectious and can be considered well enough to attend school.

### Encountering CHRIST

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**St Michael's Parish Website** – Mass times – Sunday 8am, 10am & 5pm; Monday – Friday 7am & 12noon; Saturday 8am.

### School Masses – Every Thursday at 9:15am


15/09/22 – **Rooms 3 & 10**; 22/09/22 – **Rooms 1 & 9**; 29/09/22 – **Rooms 4 & 7**.

A School Parish Mass is planned for Sunday 25 September 10.00am – all welcome.

### Notices from the Newsletter:

**The 2022 Symbol:**

*"I have heard their cry...I know their sufferings...Come, now! I will send you... i will be with you" (Ex 3, 1-12)*



**Listen to the Voice of creation**  
**SEASON OF CREATION 2022**

**The Burning Bush**  
Ex 3, 1-12

The burning bush is the Symbol for the Season of Creation 2022. We invite you to use the symbol of a burning bush during your events. Today, the prevalence of unnatural fires are a sign of the devastating effects that climate change has on the most vulnerable of our planet. Creation cries out as forests crackle, animals flee, and people are forced to migrate due to the fires of injustice that we have caused. On the contrary, the fire that called to Moses as he tended the flock on Mt. Horeb did not consume or destroy the bush. This flame of the Spirit revealed God's presence. This holy fire affirmed that God heard the cries of all who suffered, and promised to be with us as we followed in faith to our deliverance from injustice. In this Season of Creation, this symbol of God's Spirit calls us to listen to the voice of creation, and faithfully respond through worship, repentance and action. As you celebrate this Season of Creation, light candles, light the Easter fire, adorn a bush in your place of worship or action. And may this symbol remind us to take off our sandals, contemplate our connection to holy ground, listen for the voice of creation, and be filled with hope to quench the fires of injustice with the light of God's healing love that sustains our common home.

***Manaaki ki te Atua,***

**Georgina van Schaijik  
Principal (Acting) Tumuaki**

## **| Presiding Board Chair News**

### **School Board Elections Voting 2022**

**Please don't forget to place your Vote. Election day is Wednesday 7th September.**

## **| Congratulations**

### **SMCS Year 4-6 Prepared Speech Finals**

It was wonderful to be able to gather for our school speech finals this term!  
Congratulations to all students for writing and presenting a speech.

**Well done to the finalists:**

**Year 6:** Sophia Petrus, Zara Pedreschi, Aidan Cruz, Ava Sarney and Sebastian White

**Year 5:** Amelia Reyburn, Lily Brannam-Gates, Oliver Benson, Boston Recordon and Rebecca Houghton

**Year 4:** Charlotte Kendrick, Joanna Beny Nirojan, Ellery Balderas, Maria Petrus and Luisa Lemos.

**Congratulations to 1st place winners – Ellery Balderas, Lily Brannam-Gates and Zara Pedreschi!**

Zara went on to present her speech at the Year 5/6 Remuera Cluster Rehu Tai Festival of Oral Language and Lily will present at the Remuera Lions Club Junior Speechmakers Competition. Well done for representing St Michael's!

## **PTA News**

### **Upcoming events**

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- **1st Sept** Quiz night
- **2nd Sept** School uniform shop open and winter uniform sale on.
- **23rd Sept** Grandparents day.
- **26th-30th Sept** Book week and Book fair.

### **Quiz Night**

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**TONIGHT!! SOLD OUT!!**

ST MICHAEL'S PTA PRESENTS

# *Hello Spring Quiz Night!*

Tickets  
\$30 pp

1ST SEPTEMBER 2022  
AUCKLAND BOWLING CLUB

100 STANLEY ST, PARNELL

**DOORS OPEN 7PM, QUIZ STARTS 7:30PM**

SHARED PLATTER INCLUDED IN TICKET PRICE, CASH  
BAR. TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY FRI 26TH  
AUGUST, NO DOOR SALES. EMAIL  
PTASMCS@GMAIL.COM WITH GROUPS OF NAMES  
(TABLES OF AROUND 6 PEOPLE) OR EMAIL INDIVIDUAL  
NAMES AND YOU WILL BE PLACED ON A TABLE.

Pay into PTA bank account, Reference  
Quiz Night. 12-3075-0199134-000

Thanks so much to everyone for supporting the SMCS quiz night!! We can't wait to see you tonight for some Spring time fun! Who will be the smartest table... who will win Gold tonight?? See you there!

## **Pizza Fridays**

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Thank you to Room 9 Parents for their help with pizzas this week. Your support is really appreciated.

## **Food donations at Thursday class Masses**

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Please feel free to donate non-perishable food at any time to the basket outside Genevieve's office, but especially if it is your room's turn for Mass as the items in the basket are taken up at the offertory by the children before being sent to Monte Cecilia alongside donations given by the Parish and are then distributed to needy families.

## **Second hand School Uniform shop – winter sale!**

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- All PE Tops, PE shorts, and House T-shirts are **\$5**
- All Winter long sleeve shirts (boys and girls) are **\$10**
- Girl's zip cardigans, boy's jumpers, and school jackets are **\$20**
- Socks are free with any purchase.

**On-site sale only. Payment can be: Kindo payment, Bank transfer, or cash.**

## ***CHANGE TO SUMMER UNIFORM NEARLY HERE!***

The end of term is approaching fast. This is the final shop opening time for this term, so it's a great time to come in and get ready for the change to summer uniform.

If you have any uniform items to donate, especially as we transition into the summer uniform, we would be very grateful for them. We are especially running low on bigger sizes for older pupils. Please drop any donations into Genevieve at the office. Thank you

## **Meet your PTA**

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### **Introducing two more members of our PTA.**

We all have different backgrounds and skills to bring along and all points of view are welcomed. We are always keen to welcome new members so please have a chat with us if you see us around school to find out more, or just come along to a meeting.



# Meet your PTA



## EMMA HOUGHTON

### Becoming Church Co-Lead

Science Technician and Teacher Aide at Sacred Heart College, Emma has been involved with the PTA for many years and has had many different roles, including PTA Co-Chair in 2019 and co-lead of the Becoming Church program for the past 7 years. And if that is not busy enough, she has four kids!

*"My involvement started by being a class rep, so that I could arrange opportunities for class catch ups. One memorable one was a class breakfast where we accidentally set off the hall kitchen fire alarm and had a fire engine attend! I feel it is even more important to be part of the PTA so that I can make sure I am still involved for my youngest child and that she can experience all the fun things (like the disco!) that her siblings got to do!"*

## VENUS YU-ITOH

### Treasurer

Mom of one and accountant by trade, holding a full time job in a very busy consultancy firm, Venus has been the PTA's treasurer since August 2021.

*"I have always wanted to find a way to help the school and be more engaged in Veronique's school life. Joining the PTA not only helped me achieve that, but I gained a lot of new friends along the way! The PTA are made up of such amazing people and I am continuously in awe of how a group of parent volunteers devote their time and talent in helping the teachers and the school build a better learning environment for our children."*



## JOIN US

Come to our next meeting on **19 September**, meet some wonderful people, find out about what we have planned for the rest of the year and help us bringing fresh ideas on how we can make St Michaels even better.

**Grandparents day 2022!**

We are excited to announce that **Grandparents Day will be going ahead in 2022.**

Please save the date and inform your grandparents:

- Friday 23rd September
- Mass 9am – 10am
- Classroom visits 10 – 10.30am
- Morning tea in the hall provided by the PTA 10.30 – 11.15 (for grandparents only)
- Concert 11.30 – 12.30

The PTA will be arranging a special morning tea for Grandparents only in the hall. We need volunteers to help on the day from 9am – 12.30. Please contact **[email protected]** if you are able to assist.

We also ask the community to contribute to the morning tea by providing a plate of homemade sweet baking. (The PTA will provide savoury items). Please note that baking should be bite sized finger food.

**Baking should be delivered to the school hall on the morning on 23rd September.**

Please inform /advise what you intend to bring by completing the google doc here. This will help us to avoid too double ups.

### **Next PTA meeting**

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Next PTA meeting will be **Monday 19th Sept 7pm** in the staffroom and on Zoom too. Link will be published here nearer the date.

**Thank you**  
**Ree and Sarah**

### **| Sports News**

### **SMCS Warriors Basketball Team**

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**Congratulations** to the **SMCS Warriors** who had their first win of the season for Basketball on Monday 29 August – taking out the St Kent's Blue Bolts 24-14.

They were over the moon with their win!





### **SMCS Cross Country – Student Voice**

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On Tuesday 30 August it was cross country. We had an amazing day at Thomas Bloodworth park, even though there was some hard running we still made it through the day without any accidents and rain. It was a lovely sunny day to get back into some whole school events since lockdown. Everyone ran most of the course and kept going. We are very excited for our next whole school event.

#### ***Maddie – Sports leader***

Finally! For the first time since the 2020 athletics we had the whole school together for a sports event – the cross country! What a fun day down at Thomas Bloodworth Park! A big thank you to all the helpers for helping and all the kids who participated in the races. It was a beautiful sunny day to be out racing and cheering each other on and everyone enjoyed themselves. Hopefully all of the younger ones loved their first ever cross country and the year 6's enjoyed their last ever cross country for the school. It was great to see people pushing themselves and putting effort into the run!

#### ***Sebastian – Sports Leader***





