

MERRY CHRISTMAS



2025

Kia orāna kōtou kātoatoa i te aro'a ma'ata o tō tātou Atua,
E rere atu ana kā mihi Kirihimete ki a koutou katoa.

What a year!

I know that I have been away a bit this year, as some parents joke, "Oh, do you still work here?" when I see them out and about. I really enjoyed the sabbatical in term two, my first proper break in 10 years here. I have also enjoyed my last two years working on the NZPPA (New Zealand Pasifika Principals Association) executive committee. This has entailed ongoing work, of late, mainly fighting this government, a few days away each term visiting bilingual schools and schools led by pasifika principals followed by termly meetings. I am coming off this committee for 2026 to have a break as it is quite time consuming and life is busy. I will stay in the association, just reducing the workload.

I have also enjoyed the extra time Dean Isherwood has given me in term four to wrap up our Community of Learning / Kāhui Ako while he is acting principal. This grouping of schools has been great, with cultural festivals, sports tournaments, reading quizzes, storytelling competitions, writers' workshops, resources being made etc etc, all products of the work of our Kāhui. For many years this was 15 Catholic schools together with a few others that would join us at times, and for the last two years, three groups of about five schools. With the government pulling the pin on this collaborative network at the end of the year, we would like to thank so many St Anne's teachers who have been part of this setup for their willingness to share their knowledge and time with the three other schools and the kāhui as a whole. Check out the involvement below. A testament to the talent we have (all Across School Teachers and Lead Principals require standard assessments and interviews with independent NEMP advisors to ensure only strong leaders are selected).

Our Kāhui Ako setup is (as we finish):

- Dallas Wichman - Lead Principal (East Hub)
- Shelley Nicholson - Secretary (East Hub)
- Josh Halkett - Across School Leader (East Hub)
- Dean Isherwood - Across School Leader (East Hub)
- Clara Fleming - Across School Leader (Full Kāhui)
- Jo Smart - Within School Leader

Past staff involvement:

- Dallas Wichman - Lead Principal (Whole Kāhui)
- Shelley Nicholson - Full Kāhui secretary
- Jo Smart - Across School Leader (East Hub)
- December McVicar - Within School Leader (East Hub)
- Josh Halket - Within School Leader
- Mareta Togiaso-Pelenato - Within School Leader

It has been a great opportunity for our staff to 'try before you buy' this year, with Dean Isherwood Acting Principal for a decent chunk, Jo Smart Acting Assistant Principal and Josh Halkett Acting DRS (Director of Religious Studies). Whilst some say, if you grow them into leadership, they will leave to get 'higher' positions and you will lose them!!! For me, it's not about losing them, it's other schools gaining them, hopefully Catholic schools. We need inspiring leaders of our catholic youth, in schools, in churches, in youth groups, in life!

I would like to acknowledge that Jo Smart now has the permanent role of Assistant Principal and leader of the junior school. Josh Halkett has the permanent position of DRS, and Mareta Togiaso-Pelenato has Cultural Leader and Samoan Unit Leader. Daniel Richards returns in a fixed term, fulltime teaching role for 2026 to cover for Clara Fleming who is on reduced hours for 2026.

We farewell Savannah Morton-Smith as she moves to New Brighton Catholic School for 2026. We thank her for her hard work this year and the care and dedication she has given Room 3 and the school. The amount of weekends I saw her in here in preparation for the following week was testament to her wanting all students to succeed to the best of their abilities.

To all staff, you have all been amazing this year. I was with a group of principals last week, and they said, "What is it with your staff?" I said, "What?" wondering what was coming. They replied, "They always seem bubbly and happy." The conversation went on about how this is not usual and others seem tired, are always negative etc etc. I think the key here is, everyone is here for everyone.

The staff aren't here for the staff alone and not the kids, or the staff aren't here for the kids and not the staff. If a child is upset, children help, staff help, same with parents/teachers, if they need help, we help. We have high expectations of each other, but we also care greatly about each other. We appreciate what each of us brings. This is not the first time I have had someone say this, in fact, it's normal. I've had people presenting professional development, first aid, etc at school and all say how welcoming it felt at St Annes. Thanks everyone for making it this way. Parents and caregivers, thanks for always coming in knowing we are one team in this!

Year 8s, you are the first set of students leaving since the 'Our Story' timeline has been installed. We know most of you are in a picture or two of it, also. Not everyone did. But remember you are all part of the St Annes story. You have all brought a unique self to our school and are part of its history. All of you have made an impact, whether its achievement or effort in an academic area, a sport or cultural event, a service like the Faith Team, an opportunity offered that you accepted, or even those kind words spoken to another student you saw who needed someone to cheer them up, you have all made an impact and are part of this story. You will be talked about by existing students, students who have left, and your year group right now, at different times for years into the future. Like you saw this year, ex students returning 25 years later for the time capsule, all telling stories and talking about friends they had, some said, they were only here two years but had so many stories. I hope you all come back in 25 years to see what you wrote and to talk about your great memories. God bless you all!

I love to have a 'show off' list in my final newsletter of 'cool things' done over the year by our staff (have to be new things):

- 'Our Story' history wall completed and installed. Thanks Clara Fleming, and Cathy French and Marian Jones (Board members.)
- Started a beautiful Samoan Language Nest/Unit (one of only two in Christchurch). A second class is coming in 2026. Fa'afetai Ateliana and all aiga.
- Have an amazing cooking programme in Room 8, kā mihi, Matua Palo! Love being your taste tester.
- Taonga Pūoro lessons- for teaching our students traditional Māori instruments! Thanks Matua Daniel
- Three new games on the court outside room 7 and 8 with a pasifika/Māori style to them.
- First ever novel Reading Quiz run. St Anne's taking out years 5/6 and 7/8. Thanks Dean Isherwood, Josh Halkett, Clara Fleming.
- Young writer workshops offered.
- A Cook Islands dancing and singing class (Room 4). Meitaki ma'ata Kuki Learning.
- Jean Chiron went on an immersion course with the local iwi for a term. Kā mihi Ngāi Tahu
- Aiga Day for our Samoan students not in the unit in preparation for next year and general learning. Fa'afetai Mareta Pelenato-Togiaso
- Times Table Rockstar competition introduced. Thanks Matua Palo!
- Numicon introduced into junior school with great results. Also, small group gains with Mrs Smart and Mrs Beccard running effective groups. Thanks to them!
- Led the proceedings for the 25 year Time Capsule reveal
- Launched a transition to school booklet. Thanks Josh Halkett and Jo Smart.

Clara Fleming permanently resigned from her leadership units, namely, DRS and assistant principal this year. Although still a staff member, she was after a 'reduced load' for a bit. She is not alone, with the pressures of this government at the moment.

Some memorable DRS things:

- The way she brought art into faith, every time I walked in her room there was some inspirational religious art that grabbed my attention. This was also seen in our entrance, always attractive. This flowed into every class with stations of the cross made collaboratively by all children.
- Managing and providing opportunities for our faith team to grow. Her assemblies and videos made by them were inspirational.
- Our Story- Interviewing almost everyone still alive in connection with the parish and school, she wove this story together. Then looking through boxes of photos to shortlist what we have. This is something amazing, a taonga for the school.
- Played some mean guitar for our waiata.
- Ran super fun mini fairs or feté to fundraise for our Mission Sisters
- Made amazing multilingual prayer and song booklets to celebrate Pentecost and great party games to go with it.



Students need strong role models of our faith, and she was/is one of them! We thank her for her tireless efforts in leading our faith here at St Annes! Clara Fleming, thanks for making a difference at this school.

Each time someone leaves St Annes, we acknowledge them, in this case it is a long serving board member. We thank board members at the last meeting of their tenure, however, Jonny has been on the board since 2019, and Board Chair, or as it is now known, Presiding Member, for most of this time. Starting around the time of the Kaikōura earthquake, and the Port Hills fire, and managed through tough times in Christchurch with the Mosque attack and covid. He leaves during another tough time – a government that has all the answers to problems we didn't know we had! How did we survive without them?

An advocate for bilingual education and students enjoying the gift of Māori culture, he was always around to help teach haka and oversee our data oriented transition to a bilingual school. He would touch base at least once a week, sometimes more. He led our board meetings, and would always be available for other important meetings such as ERO visits, SCERO visits, whānau hui and school events. He led with a kind and fair heart. He has been on appointment committees and final decisions on the majority of staff here, and kept an eye on our finances, what I spent money on and all things education. Outside of this, he designed our fence signs, our certificates for so many things, our gaga pit signs, our staff uniform (coming soon), our flipbooks and other resources we use daily, the taniwha on Room 7, the cool designs between rooms 5 and 6, and rooms 5's toilets, he was always at events like the Frostbuster helping to set up and pack down, also at every mihi whakatau. He is the essence of 'whānau or parental involvement' in schools. Jonny Parker, thanks for making a difference at this school.

A big mihi to our staff and our school board who work tirelessly for our students, may you have a great break when it arrives. To our students and your whānau, We hope you have a relaxing and restful Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you all refreshed for the 2026 school year on **Thursday 29 January**.

We also have a Teacher Only Day on **Thursday 5 February** extending your Waitangi weekend just one week after starting back.! Teachers will be at school planning for yet another change to the Maths curriculum!

Meri Kiritimiti, ʻē te Atua te aro'a kiā kōtou katoatoa,
Merry Christmas everyone!



Dallas Wichman—Tumuaki / Principal



From the School Board

Tēnā koutou,

As we finish another wonderful year at St Anne's, the Board would like to thank our incredible staff—you are truly awesome, and your dedication and care make our school the special place it is. To our fantastic students, thank you for the energy, kindness, and enthusiasm you bring every day.

We're grateful to our families and community for your ongoing support and commitment to the school values.

Wishing everyone a safe, restful, and joyfilled Christmas break. We look forward to seeing you in the New year.

Meri Kirihimete

Verity Halkett—Presiding Member



2026 Classes

Room 1 Tahī - Mrs Smart



Elizabeth	Biju
Alfonzo	Balingit
Calvin	Ylarin
Aiesi	Fuataga
Emmanuel	Tegio
Filippo	Turchi
Caleb	Fidel Yohannes
Charles	Isaako-Stowers
Jake	Thomas Mathew
Telvin	Gray

Room 3 / Toru - Mr Chiron



Clark	Ballon
MK	Estoque
Zella	Halkett
Johan	Justin
Asame	Jermano Albi
Archie	Sheriff
Brandon	Abelen
Lucas	Rodrigues De Moraes
Maisie	Fitzgerald
Luana	Siana Malagamaalii-Patu Vaegaau
Christo	Peter
Henry	Sharp
DM	Batac
Nehemi-	Jomy Stephen
Johann	Dulce
Reign	Malabat
James	Stirling
Blair	Navarro
Areli	Parayno

Room 2 /Rua - Miss McVicar



Logan	Oh Pimentel
Mikiyas	Tesfaye
Irene	Reddock
Fiti	Seualuga
Baslial	Zelege
Israel	Filifili
Finauga	Uili
Jyla	Lava
Jordan	Justin
Hiwan	Birhane
Carlos	Huerto
Solomon-John	Ifopo
Irene	John
Hannah	Jomartin
Solomon	Kjellberg-Singh
Gus	Halkett
Alofaina	Aileone
Joziah	Aukusitino
Teresa	Inman
Jaydn	Afeau
Evana	Jibin
Willa	Pemberton

Room 4 / Whā - Mr Isherwood



Nathalie	Navarro
Enzo	Ilagan
Paula	De Leon
Megan	Lai
Eva	Abin
Deziah	Aileone
Luke	Mathew
Sophia	Botos
Jaime	Tegio
Sebastian	Tolra
Aubree	Reddock
Jia	Pabaira
Nina	Oger
Alyanna	De Jesus
Ocean	Lim
Erina	Christie Nafai
Lily	Mori
Bethelhem	Tesfaye
Dion	Gould
Kenny	Caballero



2026 Classes

Room 5 / Rima - Mr Richards



Francis	Biji
Aurora	Haines
Isla	Cogle
Jack	Lawton
Nico	Sharp
Kera	Marcon
Marcus	Gomez
Fiona	De Leon
Xander	Garcia
James	Merez
Ethan	Sheriff
Marshall	Ellis-Witchall
Jaydeyn	Justiniano
Kolen	Marcon
Zoey	Coman-Wright
Sophie	Coman-Wright
Lina	Jermano Albi
Elysha	So
Athalia	Sanorjo
Eliana	Birhane
Aviana	Chime
Dylan	Lopez



Clara Fleming



Matt Brorens

Release Teachers



Marys Vernon
BSLA



Amanda Correia
ESOL

Room 7 / Whitu - Mr Halkett



James	McKay
Cassandra	Stirling
Mo	Aileone
Michelle	McIntyre
Aidan	Gould
Brooklyn	Klempel-Norton
Elizabeth	Tolra
Charlize	Thompson
Prudence	Halkett
Kate	Orena
Taika	Caballero
Ann	Mathew
Ely	Abenales
Violet	Haines
Joseph	Hutt
Arizona	Smith
Naithan	Stephen Jomy
Edwin	John
Ariki	Phillips
Nathan	Zeleke

Room 8 / Waru - Mr Shanahan



Ezekiel	Smith
Jack	Gould
Raizen	Ferreras
Hope	Ayers
Marisa	Gray
Nathan	Reddock
Hanna	Michelline
Raki	Abenales
Gabby	Castro
Jilianne	Pureza
Noahlee	Ramoso
Tatavia	Christie Nafoi
Te Waimirirangi	Morehu Ah San
Primo	Afeau
Sienna	Fuataga Aukusitino
Elijah	Bradbrook
Liliana	Palepoi
Abel	Dhanumon
Riley	Oh Pimentel
Francis	Cross
Jarren	Te Huia

2026 Classes

Room 9 / Iwa - Miss Tia tia Sāmoan Bilingual



Lorenz	Filifili
Hadassah	Taefu
Leilani	Bradbrook
Kingston	Sinafoa
Rose	Vili
Levi	Vili Misa
Charlei	Ifopo
Delilah	Augustus
Amos	Togiaso
Asa	Fuataga
Sarai	Pesefea
Quinn	Tusa
Viva	Sio-Fatu Lofa
Castiel-King	Warihi-Price
Ezra	Sinafoa
Lucii	Twaddle-Best
Josiah	McKay
Hannah-Rose	Taefu

Room 10 / Tekau - Mrs Pelenata-Togiaso Sāmoan Bilingual



Klara	Reupena-Mua'au
Ariana	Fuataga
Paige	Steele
AJ	Auvae
Leilia	Ah-San
Nevaeh	Anamya Ah Loe
Tahlia	Sinafoa-Crichton
Angelo	Teo
Ariella	Fuataga
Cassandra	Sefo
Nazareth	Filifili
Lino	Mata'u
Elijah	Taefu
VJ	Reupena-Mua'au
Mary Marga-	Afuamua
Zephaniah	Sio-Fatu Lofa
Fatu	Te'o
Jack	Ainu'u
Milika	Soli

Support Staff



Shelley Nicholson
Office Manager



Denise Woods
Learning Support/Librarian



Sharyn Beccard
Learning Support

2026 Term Dates

Classes start: 8.55am Thursday 29 January

Term 1 Thurs 29 Jan - Thurs 2 Apr

Term 3 Mon 20 Jul - Fri 25 Sep

Term 2 Mon 20 Apr - Fri 3 Jul

Term 4 Mon 12 Oct - Fri 11 Dec

Please note: Teacher Only Day Thursday 5 February

School Uniform

GIRLS



BOYS



★ These items are only available from Mainland Uniforms city store 549 Colombo St @ South City, Ph: 377 6771 - All other items may be purchased elsewhere providing they are the correct colour.

All students must wear PLAIN black (not white or coloured soles or logos) school appropriate shoes/sandals with/without blue or black socks.

Hair, over the collar, should be tied back with basic black, navy or dark green hair ties.

School tartan or navy headbands can be worn.

A watch, plain stud earrings, taonga, cultural or medical items can be worn (but inside uniform if worn around the neck for safety reasons.)

No other hair embellishments or jewellery are acceptable at school.

Sun Hats must be worn in Term 1 and Term 4 - No sunhat, No play!

*Please ensure students wear correct uniform everyday.
Thanks for representing our school with pride!*

2026 Stationery Packs for All Rooms

Ordering is simple and stress free.

- Simple Search: Begin by entering our school's name on Schoolpack.co.nz
- Select the Year/Pack: Once you've located our school you can select your child's year or specific pack to review the stationery list, removing any items you may already have.
- On-Click Add: With a single click, the entire list contents are added to your shopping cart.
- Swift Checkout: The platform boasts a fast, single page checkout process, making your experience hassle-free.



If you wish to purchase stationery elsewhere, please see the list on the Qizzle website for the items required. All stationery should be purchased ready for the start of school.

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Catholic Parish of Christchurch Diocese

CHRISTMAS 2025 AND NEW YEAR 2026 PROGRAMS

- Mass of Anointing:** All welcome
Friday 5th December 2025 at 12.00pm
At St Anne's Church, Woolston
Thursday 11th December 2025 at 11.15am
St Mary's, New Brighton
- Advent Reconciliation Rite II:** All welcome
Thursday 11th December 2025 at 7.00pm
At St Anne's Church, Woolston
- Simbang Gabi Mass and Novena at St Annes Woolston**
From 15th December to 22nd December, 7.30pm
- Christmas Eve:** Wednesday 24th December 2025
Diamond Harbour : Carols at 5.30pm, Mass at 6.00pm
St Anne's, Woolston : Carols at 6.00pm, Mass at 6.30pm
St Mary's, New Brighton : Carols at 6.30pm, Mass at 7.00pm
Star of the sea, Sumner : Carols at 8.00pm, Mass at 8.30pm
St Anne's, Woolson : Midnight Malayalam Mass at 11.45pm
- Christmas Day:** Thursday 25th December
St Anne's Church, Woolston: Carols at 9.30am, Mass at 10.00am
- End of Year 2025 Adoration and New Year Mass**
Wednesday 31st December: 11.00pm Adoration & 12.00am.
St Anne's Church, Woolston
- New Year:** Mary, Mother of God
Thursday 1st January 2026: Mass at 9.15am
At St Anne's Church, Woolston

WISHING YOU A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

