



St Pius X School

120 Brooklands Road
NEW PLYMOUTH 4310
Tel/Fax: (06) 753 4257
email: office@stpiusx.school.nz
Trish Walsh - Principal



VISION

As St Pius X students we aim to have the knowledge, skills and virtues to succeed in our lives and make a real difference in our world.

Knowing.....Doing..... Caring.....

MISSION STATEMENT

To create an environment where children develop independence, strong values and learning excellence within a family focused Catholic community so that each student's potential is realised.

Strategic Goals

1. Our students will have their learning and spiritual growth enhanced within a family and community focused Catholic environment.
2. Our students will be empowered to achieve personal excellence within our rapidly changing world.
3. Our students will be given opportunities to develop as life long learners through reflecting on a relevant and future focused curriculum.
4. Our students will value differences within an inclusive learning environment and acknowledge the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.
5. Our students will focus on English and Mathematics as core learning areas.
6. Our students will develop the use of the Inquiry Learning Model.
7. Our students will have their learning needs met through the focused use of resources (personnel, financial, property)





PRINCIPAL: Trish Walsh

principal@stpiusx.school.nz

This booklet is designed to answer those questions about school that arise from time to time. It will answer most of your questions, but please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school if something is not clear, or in the event of something arising that is outside the scope of this booklet.

The items are in alphabetical order and occasionally cross-referenced.

Absences

1. When your child is ill, ***please*** let us know by telephone before 9.30am on the morning of illness.
2. If you are going away for some reason, ***please*** let the school know in advance and send a request in writing.
3. If you know your child will be late for any reason, ***please*** telephone or send a note. This will save unnecessary questioning and follow-up. Children who arrive at school after the bell **MUST** report to the office first before going to their classroom.

Assembly

There is usually a School Assembly on alternate Fridays at 2.20 pm in St Philomena's Church. This is an opportunity to see children's work and celebrate success. Parents are very welcome to attend.

The Board of Trustees are:

Parents' Representatives	Craig Maclean (Secretary) Duncan Murray (Property) Angela Ryder-Jones (Personnel)
Proprietor's Appointees	Ross Mackay (Treasurer) Grant Novak (Chairperson)
Staff Representative	Pat Swanson
Principal	Trish Walsh

Board of Trustees

Our Board consists of 3 elected Parent Representatives, 2 Proprietor Appointees, the Principal and a Staff Representative. Board of Trustee meetings are held once a month: date and time of meetings is given in school newsletters. These are public meetings which follow the same rules as District Council Meetings. Minutes of these meetings are available from the school office. The B.O.T.'s role is governance.

Cellphones

Cellphones are not permitted to be brought to school by students.

Charter

This is available for interested parents at the school office. Our Charter includes our School Strategic and Annual Plans, and Targets for the year.

Classes

Our school is a five teacher school and all classes are composite (i.e. more than one class level in a classroom). All children receive instruction at their own individual level.

Class/School Trips

These form an integral part of the curriculum and are very important in forming a balanced teaching programme. All trips require a high ratio of adults to children, and parent help is required at these times. Use of parent cars is of great help for many of these trips. A current W.O.F., registration and a licensed driver is required. Parental permission is essential for school trips. A signed slip is requested at the beginning of each school year indicating permission given for the year. All parents will be notified of any class trips outside the school grounds. All staff have a current First Aid Certificate.

Cultural Activities/Visiting Players

Occasionally, we have drama groups, musicians and dancers perform for the school. We are charged for these performances so charges will be passed on to families. We choose those that are considered to be of most benefit to the pupils.

Curriculum

The school plans its programme around the New Zealand Curriculum. Parent Meetings are held for information on new curriculum changes and to keep parents informed on school curriculum development.

Behaviour Management and Pastoral Care

Classroom Procedures:

Each year classes decide on class rules and these allow all children to take advantage of their learning opportunities.

There is a traffic light system operating in each room to encourage positive behaviour/work habits and consequences if a child chooses to ignore the rules:

Green:	Positive behaviour.
Yellow:	Verbal warning from teacher.
Orange:	Thinking sheet and restorative conversation with teacher.
Red:	Name in the book. Restoration.

If a child stays on green for the day they will receive a sticker on their chart and when their chart is complete they will receive a reward.

Playground Procedures:

Our behaviour management is based on acknowledgement of our rights and responsibilities:

1. **'WE KEEP OURSELVES AND OTHERS SAFE'**
2. **'WE TREAT OURSELVES AND OTHERS WITH RESPECT'**
3. **'WE RESPECT ALL PROPERTY'**
4. **'WE RESPECT OUR SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT'**

We attend to any incidents in a Restorative way. There are procedures in place both in the classroom and the playground to deal with inappropriate behaviour and positive behaviour is rewarded.

Values/Virtues Programme

As part of our Behaviour Management Programme each fortnight the whole school will focus on a different Virtue. Staff will observe children showing these virtues. Good behaviour is acknowledged with a lucky draw. Our Virtues Programme is a positive approach to discipline. Clear boundaries about how we want to treat one another are established and help create a safe learning environment. Our fortnightly virtue will be explained at School Prayer. (what it looks and sounds like) Children can earn points for their houses by displaying these Virtues. We have one Gospel Value per term and our Virtues are linked to this value encouraging our students to live as Jesus wants us to live.

A monthly 'Happy Hour' is held for all children except those who have had their name in the restoration folder 3 times that month.

Fees

A donation of \$60.00 per child is invoiced each year. This is a donation to the school. A receipt for tax purposes will be issued if required.

Hair

Girl's hair must be tied up if shoulder length or longer. Boy's hair no longer than collar length. All hair must be clear of the eyes.

Home & School

The Home & School Association consists of parents and staff of the school. They are represented by a Committee selected at the AGM. The Home & School Association fulfills a very active role in the life of the School and

initiates social and fundraising activities. They are parents like you, so please offer to help whenever you can.



New Playground

Just one of the many projects the Home and School have achieved. The Home and School also subsidise many curriculum subjects e.g. I.T., Library, Literacy and much much more. Social events include the very competitive 'Quiz Night', a night not to be missed.

Home & School

Committee:

Kelly Magchelse	(Chairperson)
Helen Codd	(Secretary)
Holly Griffiths	(Treasurer)
Jade Harrison & Karen Oxenham	(School Representatives)

Homework

1. Junior School:

This consists mainly of taking reading books home to be read with parents, alphabet or spelling work, and R/E homework.

2. Middle/Senior School:

Homework is more general and includes reading, spelling, basic facts, R/E.

Homework cannot be considered as a new learning time but a continuing or reinforcing of work already met. It can

also help parents see some aspects of a child's work at school.

Houses

Children are allocated to Houses, family members will be in the same house. The four houses are:

Red - Matiu (Matthew) Green - Maaka (Mark)
Yellow - Ruka (Luke) Blue - Hone (John)

House events during the year will include activities such as cross country, swimming sports, athletics sports, top town, happy hour activities, quizzes, haka competitions, house singing etc.

Illness/Emergency/Allergies & Medication

When a child is too ill to come to school please let the school know on the day. If a child becomes ill at school or is involved in an accident, the school will contact you. Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell.

PLEASE make sure we have your correct phone number and an alternative number on file so we can contact you in such circumstances. This information is usually given when a child is enrolled. Please keep us informed of any changes.

Important: Please let the school know of any allergies your child may suffer from, or any chronic illness such as asthma. Such information is also included on the ***Medical Card***.

Independence:

To encourage independence in your child we would prefer that your child gets themselves ready for the school day in

the classroom. At the end of the day please wait for your child outside the classroom.

Medication:

Let the school know if your child is on medication, especially if it has any side effects. If a teacher is aware of this, a close eye will be kept on the child when he/she is at school.

Any medication that is required at school is kept in the medical room and written permission must be given by parents/caregivers. A form is available from the office.



Information for Parents

- Friday Newsletters
- Parent interviews/3 Way Conferences
- School Reports twice yearly
- Student books send home twice a year
- Information Evenings
- Parent Afternoon Teas

Jewellery

This is not to be worn to school as it can get lost or broken and is dangerous, especially at break times, sports and PE times. Earrings, other than studs, are not to be worn to school. No pendants or chains are to be worn.

Leadership

Year 6's will be given Leadership opportunities. Leadership roles will include house leaders, special character leaders, sports leaders, environmental leaders, school ambassadors and cultural leaders.

Leave From School

During normal school hours children are not permitted to leave the school grounds unless previously arranged by parents with the Principal or office.

Library

The school library plays an important part in the reading programme of each class. New books are added regularly. Children are encouraged to borrow books. Please ensure overdue books are sent back.

Lost Property

We store all lost property in the corridor and encourage parents to check for items whenever necessary. Children are encouraged to be responsible for their own clothing. Please ensure clothing is named.

Lunches

We discourage children from bringing glass containers because of possible breakage. Sweets, chewing gum and bubble gum are **NOT** permitted at school. Students need to bring fruit for 'Munch Crunch' time.



The Home & School Committee will offer lunch options that students can purchase from time to time.

Mission Day

Every year in October (near Mission Sunday) we have a fund raising activity for charity. The stalls, games and activities are planned and run by the Students of Room 1.

Money at School

We prefer children not to have money of their own at school. When it is necessary for class/school trips, book

clubs etc, please enclose money in an envelope with child's name and details written clearly on the outside. It may be necessary at times for a pupil to have money for after school. We would appreciate this being held by your child's teacher until then. Please enclose it once again in an envelope with their name on it.

Noticeboard

For all current community information and consultation on policies, please view the foyer notice board and the notice board outside the Staffroom.

Parent Concerns

If you have any concerns about your child, please remember your first point of contact is the school, and preferably their class teacher. It is important we are alerted to any difficulties as soon as possible so we can address them quickly and constructively. It is critical for the school to be able to learn of your concerns first hand rather than from another parent. Please refer to the foyer noticeboard for relevant procedures and personnel to assist with your concerns. If you require specific information please arrange a time with the class teacher or the Principal.

Parent Help

We believe that education is a partnership and there are many positive ways parents can be involved in aspects of class programmes. Confidentiality is critical in this role. Parents are also a necessary help when classes go on educational trips away from school, or by sharing their expertise in sport, hobbies or crafts

Religious Education

This is a vital part of the school day, all classes participating in regular religious instruction. Prayer is an important part of each day and worship. A summary of each Strand is sent home to parents when it is being taught in the classroom.

A parish/school family mass is held on the first Sunday of every month when our children and their families are invited and encouraged to be involved in the celebration of our Catholic faith.



Reports of children's progress are made as follows:

- 1) Term 1: Meet the Teachers Evening/Information Evening. Teachers give overview of year's expectations. 3 Way conference between parents, teachers and students.
Student books sent home at end of Term.
- 2) Term 2: Interim written report.
- 3) Term 3: Student books sent home at end of Term.
- 4) Term 4: End of year written report written in relation to the National Standards.

If at any time you wish to discuss your child's progress at school, you are most welcome to do so. Please make an appointment to see the class teacher/principal.

Road Safety

The school, supported by Community Police Officers, takes opportunities to teach and practise road safety. In the interests of safety, pupils and parents **must** use the pedestrian crossing if they have to cross Brooklands Road.

It is strongly recommended that parents:

- * park on the **school side of the road** if at all possible come into the school grounds to collect their children using the pedestrian crossing
- * **Do Not** park over the school entrance or in the driveway
- * **Do Not** park over the neighbouring entrances
- * **Do Not** park too close to the crossing
- * **Do Not** park in the Church property
- * **Do Not** park on the Bus Stop or Yellow Lines.

We are part of the New Plymouth District Councils initiative “Let’s Go”, which encourages students and their families to walk, ride or scooter to and from school each day.

School Camps

A school camp is held in alternate years for Year 5 & 6 pupils. A camp provides a unique opportunity for children to work and live together. It is an occasion for pursuing a range of outdoor activities that could not be run as effectively in the normal classroom programme.

On alternate years, an overnight Marae experience will be provided for children Year 4 - 6 to participate in the protocols of our dual heritage. Years 0-3 will have a day trip to the Marae.

School Policies

A Policy file is available for any interested parents in the school foyer.

School Times

The first bell goes at 8:55am. The school day commences then and finishes at 3.00pm.

8.55	-	11.00	Morning Session
10.00	-	10.10	Munch/Crunch Time
11.00	-	11.20	MORNING TEA
11.20	-	12.50	Morning Session
12.50	-	1.45	LUNCH
1.55	-	3.00	Afternoon Session

If arriving to school after the bell children must report to the school office, before going to class. Any absences during school time need to be reported to the office. Any leave you may take during the school term must be requested, in writing, to the Principal and agreed with her.

Sport

Weekly sport is taken during school hours. A wide variety of sports are offered. A regular programme of sporting options are available to all children. All sports subs need to be paid on registration. We rely on parents for coaching and managing teams. Sports uniform is required for all outside sports.



Sun Hats

ALL children are required to wear regulation school sun hats during the summer months (Term 1 and Term 4). We have a 'No Hat - No Play' Policy. Children without hats remain in a shaded area. Sun Screen is available at school.

Stationery

Stationery packs are purchased at the beginning of each year from Office Max. A list of school fees is sent home with end of year reports and statements are sent out at the end of each month. We would appreciate money being sent to school put into a clearly marked envelope with the child's name and amount being paid. From time to time children will require extra items and a note will be sent home when items are required to be purchased.

Support Services

- *Dental Therapist*
- *Public Health Nurse*
- *Audio Visual Testing*
- *Special Education Service*
- *Resource Teacher of Maori*
- *Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour*
- *Police Education Officer*



Uniform

At St Pius we take great pride in our school uniform. It is expected that the **full uniform** will be worn with **NO** additions such as **sneakers** or **different coloured jerseys**. There will be occasions when children cannot wear the correct uniform, a brief note of explanation/or phone call will be necessary.

We have a few sizes of second hand school fleeces, girls pinafores and girls and boys socks at the school for purchase. You can purchase other items from Postie Plus and Campus Clothing.

Summer: Girls

- * Pinafore or Culottes
- * White Polo Top
- * Polar Fleece or Jumper
- * Black Sandals
- * Royal Blue Wide Brim Hat

Winter: Girls

- * Pinafore or Culottes
- * White Polo Top/Skivvy
- * Polar Fleece or Jumper
- * Dark Blue socks or Tights
- * Black Shoes
(no ankle boots or sports shoes)

Summer: Boys

- * Grey Polo Top
- * Grey Shorts (summer weight)
- * Black Sandals
- * Polar Fleece or Jumper
- * Royal Blue Wide Brim Hat

Winter: Boys

- * Grey Polo Top/Skivvy
- * Polar Fleece or Jumper
- * Grey Socks
- * Grey Shorts
(summer or winter weight)
- * Black Shoes
(no sports shoes)

Sports Uniform:

- red shorts
- white Polo T-Shirt

All clothes must be marked or named.

Swimming

Swimming is a compulsory subject within the Health & Well-Being Curriculum. As St Pius X School does not have its own swimming pool, we negotiate with the Aquatic Centre and professional instructors to provide a series of lessons over three weeks, paid for by parents at competitive rates. The B.O.T. provides transport and assistance for larger families. This is a very effective programme.



Teaching Staff

Principal

Trish Walsh

Deputy Principal

Pat Swanson

DRS/Assistant Principal

Anne Dent

Teachers

Jade Harrison

Karen Oxenham

Office Administrator

Mary Jones

Reading Recovery Teacher

Jenni Lambert

ORS Teacher

Michelle Politakis

Teacher Aides

Cheryl Soffe

Brenda Walsh

Vicki Brown

Library Technician

Frances Moral

Cleaner/Caretaker

Ken Finer





2013 - School Year

Term 1 : Monday 4 February - 19 April

Term 2: Monday 6 May - 12 July

Term 3: Monday 29 July - 27 September

Term 4: Monday 14 October - 20 December

(last day of year is approx)



Statutory Holidays 2013

Waitangi Day	Wednesday 6 February
Taranaki Anniversary	Monday 12 March
Good Friday	Friday 29 March
Easter Monday	Monday 1 April
Anzac Day	Thursday 25 April
Queen's Birthday	Monday 3 June
Labour Day	Monday 28 October