

Wishing you all a safe and happy Christmas and holiday break

Tēnā koutou katoa e te whanau e hoa ma

This will be our last newsletter for the year, and with it we mark the end of another rich year in the history of our wee school. We finish with another record high number of students and a school that looks amazing through the outstanding efforts of our caretaker, Jim Lancaster, the work of Deb Crawford in driving garden development, and the care our ākonga. The Board is preparing for the redevelopment of our junior school classrooms in 2026 which will be exciting for all. Watch this space.

My genuine thanks to everyone who has contributed to our successes over the year. Some have supported quietly in the background, turning up at events, transporting tamariki and cheering them on from the sidelines. Others have taken on leadership roles such as coaching sports teams, standing for the Board, or joining the SCG. And many more have simply been positive and enthusiastic supporters out in the community.

A huge thanks from me goes to our staff team too. Every one of you fills a key role in what we achieve each day, and most of what you do isn't seen by our public. Working in a school is a unique environment because our end goal is to grow balanced young people. You are trusted with each family's most precious gifts, and the expectations on you to be excellent in your role are very high indeed. Thank you for the commitment, energy, and humour you bring with you every day – it's nearly time for a rest!

No doubt next year will bring its own challenges and opportunities, but I can assure you that most children at school are not worrying about any of that. They are looking forward to Christmas and touching the magic that it brings.

Stay well, stay safe and I wish you and your whanau a blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Ngā mihi ki te whanau ma, Meri Kirihimete koutou me ngā mihi nui o te tau hou.

Mā te Atua koe e manaaki - God bless
Dave



Celebrating our cultural diversity at our "Around the World Liturgy" last Friday

A prayer for the end of the school year:

*At the end of this school year we give thanks to God:
For all the teaching and learning that have taken place in our school,
For the talents and gifts that have been shared,
For the challenges that have been faced,
For the respect and care that have been given,
For the faith that has been lived each and every day.
We give thanks for our school family and we ask you, Lord:*



*Bless all our students who are leaving us,
Bless all our families this summer,
Pour out your love that we may return next year renewed and refreshed to continue our
journey together.
Amen.*



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASS TIMES:

24th December - Christmas Eve
St Thomas' Church 7.00pm
(Preceded by Carols at 6.30pm)

Sacred Heart Basilica 9.00pm
(Preceded by Carols 8.30pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sacred Heart Basilica 9.30am

NEW YEARS DAY

Sacred Heart Basilica 10.00am

During the school holidays in January St Thomas' Church will be closed during the week.
All weekday Masses will be held in the Basilica until the 20th January 2026.
No change to Vigil/Sunday Masses.



For a complete list of Christmas Mass Times in all parishes throughout the Christchurch Diocese visit www.cdcc.nz/christmas

2026 Camps

Your Permission Requested

Our 2026 camps are all in February soon after we start back.

We need your permission for your child(ren) to attend and ask that you complete the form below.

[Click here to complete permission form](#)



Camp	Venue	Dates
Year 4	At School	Term 4 2026
Year 5	Dunedin (Otago Museum)	12 - 13 February
Year 6	Peel Forest (Eco Lodge)	18 - 20 February
Year 7	Spencer Park (Christchurch)	24 - 26 February
Year 8	Banks Peninsula (Living Springs Outdoor Centre)	11 - 13 February

2026 Year Classes

New Entrant	Room 10	Amanda Henderson
Year 1	Room 9	Nicky Inkster
Year 1/2	Room 8	Nicola Hibbs / Annabel Gibb
Year 2	Room 5	Chelsea Greenall
Year 2/3	Room 4	Claudia Hooker
Year 3	Room 3	Hayley Goodman
Year 3/4	Room 2	Debbie Plant
Year 4/5	Room 1	AJ Hall
Year 5/6	Room 13	Georgia Annear
Year 7	Room 12	Oscar Kirkness
Year 8	Room 11	Gina Simpson



2026 stationery requirements and class lists will be emailed to parents soon.

Prizegiving

Our final celebration/prizegiving starts at 1:30pm in the Basilica on Thursday the 11th December (tomorrow).

Family and other supporters are welcome to come along (you will have received an email if your child is receiving an award).

We anticipate the event taking less than an hour to complete.

At the conclusion, the ākonga will go back over to school with their teachers, and if their parents are there, are then able to head home. Other students will wait to 3pm as usual.



2026 Key Dates

Office open:	Wednesday 28 th January 9-3pm Thursday 29 th January 9-3pm
School starts:	Monday 2 nd February
6 February	Waitangi Day (school closed)
11 - 13 February	Year 8 Camp
12 - 13 February	Year 5 Camp
18 - 20 February	Year 6 Camp
24 - 26 February	Year 7 Camp
25 February	Board of Trustees Meeting 5.15pm
5 March	Senior Swimming Sports
9 March	Teacher Only Day (school closed)
23 March – 2 April	Whole School Swimming
Term 1	2 February – 2 April
Term 2	20 April – 3 July
Term 3	20 July - 25 September
Term 4	12 October - 15 December



Key Dates



Fun Day Friday:



Junior Plan (Years 0-3)

What	Students will come to school in the morning as usual, we will have a Teddy Bears Picnic lunch.
Wear	Uniform (including sunhats)
Bring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A teddy bear • Lunch and water bottle
Pick-up	2:00pm from School

Middle Plan (Years 4/5/6)

What	C-Play Playground/ Beach Dig/ Amazing Race / Skating Rink
Wear	Uniform (including sunhats)
Bring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large Lunch and drink bottle • Jacket • Thick Socks & Bike Helmet (for skating) • Sunscreen
Drop-off	Caroline Bay playground (C-Play) at 8.45am.
Pick-up	Caroline Bay playground (C-Play) at 2:30pm.

Senior Plan (Years 7/8)

What	Students dropped off at School as usual - walk to Moviemax, walk to C-Play Playground.
Wear	Uniform (including sunhats)
Bring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch and water bottle
Drop-off	Students dropped off at School as usual
Pick-up	2:30pm from the C-Play Playground.

WATER SAFETY HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

MONDAY 12 JANUARY - FRIDAY 16 JANUARY 2026

LIFEJACKET SAFETY | SURVIVAL STROKES | FLOATING
BEACH SAFETY | BYSTANDER RESCUES | RIVER SAFETY | BOAT SAFETY

\$45.00 PER CHILD

40 MIN LESSONS

AGES 5+

**Help Your Tamariki Develop the Skills
They Need to Stay Safe & Survive!**

Scan to Enrol!



12PM – 3PM

**Sessions Run in Age
Groups & Ability**



swim.school@cbaytimaru.co.nz



Caroline Bay Trust Aoraki Centre

DEC/JAN HOLIDAYS



**15th Dec -
3rd Feb**

BOOK NOW:

kats.aimyplus.com

MON 15TH DEC

**Schools Out
come and hang
with us.**



**TUES 16TH DEC
WHEELS DAY**

Bring your
bikes, scooters
skateboards
and skates for a
wheel of a day.



**WED 17TH DEC
CLAY TIME**

Come and show
us your sculpting
skills today.



**THURS 18TH DEC
DRESSUP DAY**

Dress in your
fanciest outfit for
a day of craziness
and fun.



**FRI 19TH DEC
PIZZA MAKING**

What favorite
toppings do you
like on your
pizza.



**MON 22ND DEC
XMAS DAY 1**

Lets get in the
Christmas spirit
with some
crafty activities.



**TUES 23RD DEC
XMAS DAY 2**

Santa is almost
here so lets get
ready with
some fun
activities.



WED 24TH DEC

CLOSED



THURS 25TH DEC

CLOSED



FRI 26TH DEC

CLOSED



PRICING:

SCHOOL DAY:

8am-3pm

\$50

FULL DAY:

8am-6pm

\$57

PREMIUM DAY:

8am-6pm

\$67

- Premium days consist of either a trip day or an extra cost activity.

**MON 5TH Jan
ART ATTACK**

Lets get some creative ideas flowing today.



**TUE 6RD
PUPPET DAY**

What type of character will you create as a puppet.



**WED 7TH
BAKING DAY**

Mmmmmm, who loves to eat yummy baking...if you do come along.



**THURS 8TH
SPORTS DAY**

What games do you think we will play today, will it be your favorite.



**FRI 9TH
HOT GLUE DAY**

Wonder what creations will get made today.



**MON 12TH
SHOP FUN**

Who likes to go shopping, will we have the shop you like.



**TUES 13TH
ONSITE MOVIE DAY**

Popcorn and a Movie sounds like great fun, come and join us.



**WED 14TH
TALENT QUEST**

Show us all the wonderful talents you have can do.



**THURS 15TH
SENSORY TIME**

This is the day to find out if you like the feeling of some things.



**FRI 16TH
WATER FIGHT**

Bring your water guns for a water fight.



**MON 19TH
MELTY TIME**

So find out what we will melt today....



**TUES 20TH
CHALLENGE TIME**

So you think you are good at challenges well come and show us



**WED 21ST
STUFFIE MAKING**

Everyone is loving stuffie so come along and make one.



**THURS 22ND
TRIP: TEMUKA**

Get your togs and towel ready to go swimming today.



**FRI 23RD
CARDBOARD CONSTRUCTION**

Come along and make something cool with cardboard.



**MON 26TH
CRAZY HAIR DAY**

Let's see who has the craziest hair at K.A.T.S



**TUES 27TH
TRIP: BEACH**

Let's spend the day at C-Play and have a game of Mini Golf.



**WED 28TH
SCIENCE FUN**

Lots of fun science activities to explore and experiment with



**THURS 29TH
GAMES DAY**

Who like to play games, we will have lots going on today.



FRI 30TH

DISCO

Get your dance moves going for a day of dancing and fun.



Contact Information:

Call: 022 6556 7263

Email:

admin@katsschoolcare.co.nz

Location:

Waimataitai School
School Hall
25 Trafalgar St
Timaru



mrs A's
music school

BUS BAND



- We have all the equipment and instruments on board. You get to experience Keyboards, Ukelele, Guitar, Bass, Drums and Singing. You can try a few instruments before you settle on one.
- It's in school time, Primary school students pop out of class for 30 minutes per week and for the first few terms in a group minimum 3 maximum 6.
- As students become more competent it will be time to advance to one to one lessons at the studio after school.

Igniting musical passion and fun

GROUP LESSONS

INSTRUMENTS PROVIDED

VARIETY OF GENRES



PRE ENROL AT

www.mrsasmusicschool.co.nz/enrol

