

ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

BOARDTALK December 2022

Introduction

Kia ora St Ignatius Families

What a wonderful way to end the year watching our students at Celebrate last week. I hope you enjoyed their fabulous performances as much as I did. My personal favourites are always the nativity by Year 0 and farewell performance from Year 6 - there is something extra special about seeing our children at both the start and end of their St Ignatius journeys! After such a busy year I am sure all our families are now looking forward to Christmas and the summer break.

From a Board perspective we have also had a busy year. We have coordinated a number of property projects including installation of full perimeter fencing, new roofing on St Joseph's block, the 'shed', pedestrian crossing and we look forward to the building of the new junior playground over the summer holidays. We have worked to create a new Strategic Plan setting out the goals for the school to 2025. Lastly we have welcomed a new School Board who have taken over the reigns for the next 3 years.

In 2022, we fondly farewell a number of our St Ignatius families: the Anderson, Bergin, Berrill, Booth, Burke, Faitava, Fielding, Gibbes, Griffiths, Hemmingsen-Jensen, Hogg, Kim, Liao, Love, Nustrini-Patterson, Ponsonby, Qereqeretabua and Ramos-Lanegra families. We thank them for their generosity to our school, as many of them served on our Friends & Family or as volunteers at our many school events over their years at St Ignatius. We also farewell some staff members: Mrs Lancaster, Mrs Gillingham and Miss Gatland. We thank them for their time at St Ignatius and wish them all the best in their next endeavours.

At this time, the Board is reviewing our budget and planning for the next year, which you can read more about in our financial update below, together with other updates to round out the year.

We wish you a peaceful Christmas, a very happy New Year and we look forward to welcoming you back in 2023.

Ngā Mihi,

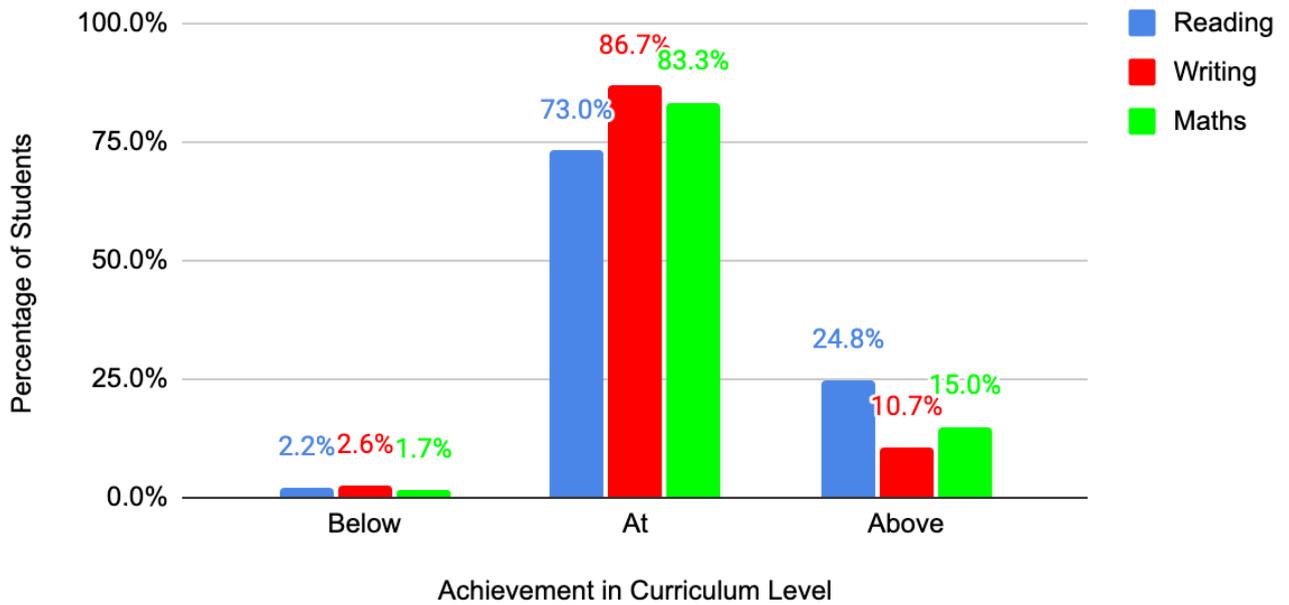
Rhian Thompson, Board Presiding Member.

Student Achievement

End of year assessments for all year levels show that an extremely high number of our students are tracking within or above the expected curriculum levels which is fantastic news. The Board would like to congratulate the students, principal, teachers, support staff and our whānau on these wonderful achievements and hard work this year.

St Ignatius Catholic School

End of Year Curriculum Level OTJ's 2022



Percentage of learners achieving at or above expected curriculum level:

	Mid-Year results	End of Year
Maths	96.6%	98.3%
Writing	95.4%	97.4%
Reading	88.7%	97.8%

The school offers multiple initiatives to help achieve these results including:

- professional learning and development in numeracy and literacy for teachers;
- Better Start Literacy, STEPS and Maths No Problem programs;
- writing progressions; and
- targeted support for year levels where it is most needed.

In addition to providing continued support for our target learners, the school will also continue to provide extension learning opportunities for all students, especially those who have been identified as having particular strengths in different learning areas.

Property

Crossing

Our new pedestrian crossing is completed and we thank you all for your patience during the roadworks! In Term 1 our staff and older students will receive training on how to safely operate school patrols on the crossing and once this is completed the school can officially operate the crossing.



Playground

Removal of the old junior playground is scheduled to occur before Christmas with installation of the new playground in January. We are extremely hopeful this will all be completed by the end of the summer break and are excited for the students to see the new playground when they come back to school in Term 1.

A reminder of what the new playground will look like:





Update on School Finances and Contributions for 2023

This is the time of the year where the Board reviews the school finances for 2022 and then sets a draft budget for 2023.

We look at what income we need to ensure we continue to provide the education our students require and our parents expect. We receive funding from the Ministry of Education to cover teacher's salaries up to a certain teacher to student ratio and to cover property and administration costs.

Financially, the school has weathered 2022 well and in line with our budgeting. A big thank you for your generosity as parents in continuing to make your contributions. Another reason for this is that the Ministry of Education has provided extra funding during the 2022 academic year to cover additional relief staff and hygiene costs in recognition of the continuing impact of COVID.

As part of the end of year financial review, the Board also considers the level of parent contribution we need. This is a voluntary donation and is tax deductible. It is, however, vital if we are to provide the quality of education that is expected for our children. Along with the support we receive from the Friends & Family, this funding enables the Board to:

- employ staff in addition to the Ministry of Education allocation;
- provide learning assistants who directly contribute to higher quality learning;
- provide staff with continuing professional learning and development to ensure they are kept up to date with the latest changes in teaching methodology and technology;
- provide educational resources and opportunities required for learning today e.g. digital technology; and
- meet other operational expenses required to run the School.

In addition to these voluntary parent donations there are also compulsory attendance dues, charged by the Catholic Diocese of Auckland. The 2023 attendance dues are being increased by \$5 to \$122 per child per term.

In setting the level of parent contribution required for 2023, the Board has had regard to the current economic climate which is resulting in increases in future costs associated with running the school and providing school-related activities. In addition the extra Ministry of Education funding received in 2022 is not anticipated for 2023. Over the past 3 years we have not increased our activity or donation levels but unfortunately we can no longer absorb these rising costs.

We have therefore decided to increase the activity fee from \$100 to \$105 and the amount of voluntary donations from \$259 to \$272, both per student per term. The total amount requested for 2023 will be \$534 per child per term (an increase of 4.5%). A full breakdown will be provided in our fee letter to be circulated prior to the commencement of Term 1.

School Planning & Performance

One of the key priorities of the Board is to set the goals and priorities for the school. We do this through our Strategic Plan which is created every 3 years and through an Implementation Plan which is revised annually. These are available on the School website.

When formulating these Plans our Board must ensure they align with:

- our board primary objectives;
- the National Education Learning Priorities (NELPs);
- the aspirations, vision and values of our community; and
- our special character and other visions and values.

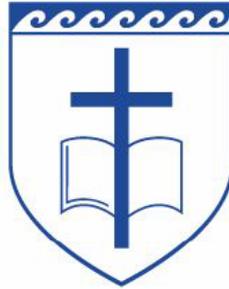
The Board is pleased to tell you that the school has performed very well in relation to satisfaction of its goals for 2022. In particular:

- maintaining innovative teaching and learning that is personalised to the present and future needs of each child;
- maintaining consistent student achievement demonstrated by over 90% of children achieving at or above their curriculum level in literacy and maths;
- fostering resilience and wellbeing for the whole school community;
- providing opportunities to enhance connections between home and school to encourage active involvement by all; and
- developing, promoting and honouring the identities, languages and cultural diversity within our school.

Goals requiring further work which have been identified at the end of 2022 include building stronger relationships with our two parishes and local marae.

The new Strategic Plan for 2023-25 and 2023 Implementation Plan will be finalised in the new year and made available on the School website but a copy of the draft Strategic Plan is set out below. Please feel free to email any comments on the Plan to board@stignatius.school.nz.

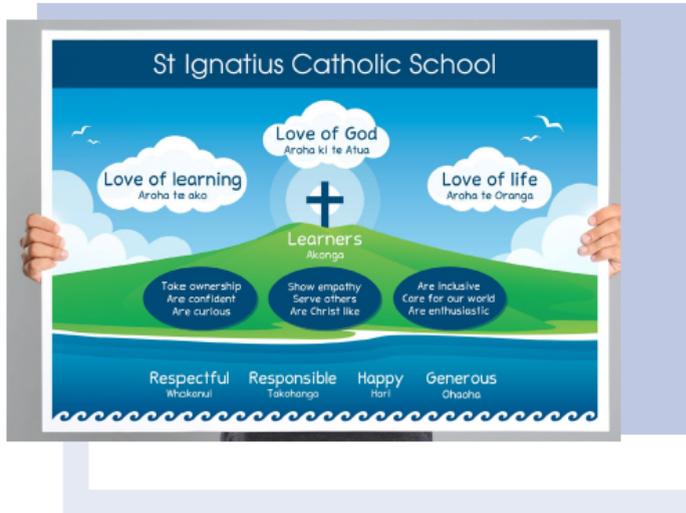
ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 -2026



ST IGNATIUS
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



VISION & VALUES

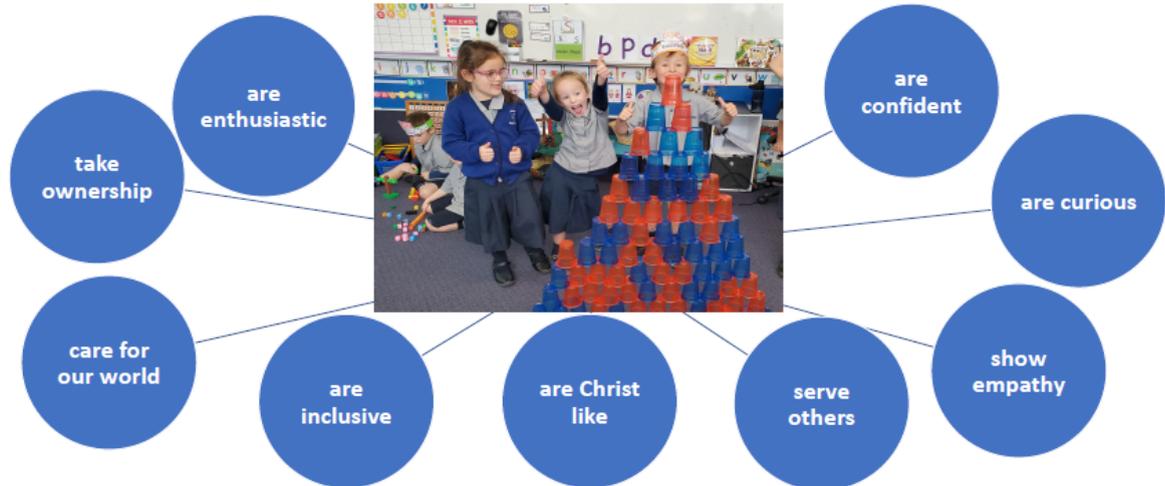


Our **VISION** is to grow learners to have a **LOVE OF GOD (Aroha ki te Atua)**, **LOVE OF LEARNING (Aroha te ako)** and **LOVE OF LIFE (Aroha te Oranga)**

We strive to be **Respectful (Whakanui)**, **Responsible (Takohanga)**, **Generous (Ohaoha)**, **Happy (Hari)** learners



ST IGNATIUS LEARNERS



Māori Dimensions and Cultural Diversity

At St Ignatius Catholic School we embrace fostering the understanding of our world from a te ao Māori perspective. We value te reo māori as a taonga and acknowledge Te Tiriti o Waitangi as New Zealand's founding document, a covenant and taonga tapu (sacred treasure). Through explicit teaching of māori spirituality and language all learners acquire knowledge of te reo māori and tikanga māori.

There is a school wide Te Ao Māori plan and Māori students are monitored to ensure they achieve success as Māori. Regular consultation and communication with Māori whanau and students is undertaken.

Diversity is honoured and celebrated at our school where our connected curriculum learning intentions and experiences are identified and planned to promote understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures. Teachers are guided in culturally responsive planning, pedagogy and practice.

As at start of year: NZ Māori 6% *, NZ European 68%, Pacific 3%, MELAA (Middle Eastern, Latin American, African) 6%, Asian 3%, other ethnicities (Australian, British/Irish, other European) 14%

* Māori ethnic 1 or ethnic 2



STRATEGIC PILLARS & OBJECTIVES

Love of God
Aroha ki te Atua

To be Christ
Centred

Love of Learning
Aroha te Ako

To Empower
Learning

Love of Life
Aroha te Oranga

To Build Hauora



AROHA KI TE ATUA - LOVE OF GOD

Key initiatives to be Christ Centred

Build strong connections with our parishes and communities

Provide opportunities to nurture faith development



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AROHA TE AKO - LOVE OF LEARNING

Key initiatives to Empower Learning

Grow teaching pedagogy to ensure high quality student outcomes

Provide an authentic, localised curriculum that sets students up for the future



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AROHA TE ORANGA - LOVE OF LIFE

Key initiatives to Build Hauora

Embed school values and learner profile

Support learners to courageously take their place in the world



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“Do all you can with the means at your disposal and calmly leave the rest to God”

Saint Mary MacKillop (1891)