



Term 2  
May 2026

School website [www.stmarys.ac.nz](http://www.stmarys.ac.nz)

School Facebook [www.facebook.com/groups/stmarysschoolwanganui](https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmarysschoolwanganui)

School App From the Google Apps / Play Store: [SchoolAppsnz St Mary's School](#)

## Congratulations to the Calver Whānau!

We have some very exciting news to share with our school community! Congratulations to Amanda and Kurt Calver on the birth of their beautiful baby boy, Luca! We are absolutely delighted for them. We wish their new little whānau a wonderful time bonding together at home and enjoying this precious stage. Amanda will be taking maternity leave for the next few terms to focus on her family, and we look forward to having her back with us in Term 4.

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## Assessment / Whānau Interviews

This term, we are excited to introduce our new SMART assessment tool to our students. While this isn't officially required until 2027, we are rolling it out early for students from Year 3 upwards. This proactive approach gives our students valuable hands-on experience and allows them to comfortably familiarise themselves with the new process this year.

This transition is a significant undertaking for our teachers also, as we are simultaneously aligning our planning, teaching, and reporting to a brand-new curriculum. We greatly appreciate your patience and support as our staff navigate these major updates throughout the year. Please note that our Year 0 to Year 2 classes are also implementing new curriculum and assessment practices tailored to their levels.

While students are engaging with the new SMART tool in the classroom, we will not be reporting these specific assessment results to parents just yet, as the tool itself is in its first year and there will undoubtedly be tweaks and refinement by the MOE to ensure its validity before it is mandated in 2027. Instead, our reporting to you will continue to be based on an Overall Teacher Judgement (OTJ).

To determine the OTJ and the progress descriptor for your child's year level, teachers use a variety of methods. These judgements are carefully made through a mix of one-on-one learning conversations, daily classroom observations, and regular standardised testing. Because no single test or tool can fully capture a student's capabilities, we rely on this well-rounded approach to build a comprehensive picture of your child's achievements and the areas where they may need extra support.

We will be sending out invitations to book **Whānau Interviews with your child's teacher** in June. These will be held **on the week of the 22nd of June**. When whānau and teachers work as a team, our students are the ones who benefit the most. We strongly encourage you to book in for our upcoming whānau teacher interviews when we put out the booking link. These meetings are an opportunity to check in on your child's academic and social progress, ask any questions you might have, and share your own valuable insights about how they learn best.

In Term 3 you will receive your child's mid-year written report as usual.


## Illness

We are experiencing a large number of unwell students and staff at the moment. Please keep your child home if they are unwell. This is so important to stop the spread of illness. Due to the large number of staff falling sick we are needing to be a little creative with covering classes when relievers are unavailable. We try very hard to keep students settled and thank you for your patience with this.

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## Social Media Guide for Whānau

This is an ever-evolving space for children and parents. Netsafe, who are amazing, have put out a new resource to help you keep up to date with managing this space. <https://digitalguardian.guide/>

A graphic for the Digital Guardian Guide. It features a purple background with a stylized house icon wearing glasses, surrounded by books and a speech bubble. The text reads: "Digital Guardian Guide", "Powered by netsafe", "Kia ora,", "Being online is a normal part of life for young people, but it doesn't always come with an instruction manual for whānau.", "That's why we created the Digital Guardian Guide, a free online resource designed to help parents, caregivers and trusted adults feel more confident navigating the digital world with young people.", "You don't need to be a technology expert.", "What matters most is staying connected, curious and available." On the right, a hand holds a smartphone displaying the app's interface, which includes a profile picture, "Featured Collections", and a section on "Online bullying, abuse & harassment".

**Digital Guardian Guide**

Powered by **netsafe**

**Kia ora,**

Being online is a normal part of life for young people, but it doesn't always come with an instruction manual for whānau.

That's why we created the Digital Guardian Guide, a free online resource designed to help parents, caregivers and trusted adults feel more confident navigating the digital world with young people.

**You don't need to be a technology expert.**

What matters most is staying connected, curious and available.

## Uniform

We take great pride in our school's appearance, and we need your help to maintain our high standards! Recently, we've noticed a wide variety of non-uniform shorts sneaking into school, with differing lengths, colours, and prominent logos.

As a quick refresher, our official PE uniform shorts must be:

Colour: Solid Navy Blue

Style: Plain with no visible logos

Fit: Loose-fitting and reaching mid-thigh

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us keep our students looking sharp!

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## 3 PM Pick-Up: Keeping Our Students Safe!

The end of the school day is a busy time, and we need your help to ensure everyone gets home safely. With cars, bikes, scooters, and pedestrians all sharing the space at 3:00 PM, please keep these essential safety rules in mind. We have discussed these with our students and would your help too.

**Walk, don't ride:** Please ensure bikes and scooters are walked—not ridden—along the busy footpaths.

**Use the crossing:** Always cross the road at the designated crossing spot.

**Support our Road Patrollers:** We know the afternoon rush requires a little extra patience, but please listen to our wonderful student road patrollers. Their number one priority is keeping our students safe!

Thank you for your patience and for working together to protect our school community.

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**A message for our Year 8 students from Tony McBride principal of Cullinane College.**

We would like to warmly invite your families to our **Open Evening on Tuesday, 2 June**. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to experience our campus and meet our staff and students. Given our current enrolment numbers, we strongly encourage families to have their enrolment applications submitted by this date.

**The Enrolment Process:** A Personal Connection. We respectfully ask that parents approach the College directly to discuss enrolment and collect their application packs. Our Enrolment Officer has specific information to share with families prior to the paperwork being completed. More importantly, we value a direct connection with our prospective families; meeting in person is a wonderful way to begin a lasting relationship between your child, your family, and our college.

Key Dates for Families:

**Open Evening: Tuesday, 2 June**

**Final Enrolment Closing Date: Friday, 3 July (Last day of Term 2)**

I roto i a Karaiti Ihu, ka mahi tahi tatou

(In Christ Jesus, we work/serve together)

Tony McBride

Principal

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We know how busy life can get, so we appreciate you taking the time to read through these updates. Our door is always open, and we're here to support your whānau in any way we can. Wishing you a restful and happy week ahead!

Ngā mihi nui and God bless,

Jacqui Luxton



Public Health Nurses are Registered Nurses with specialised knowledge, experience, and training in child/tamariki and family/whānau health. We partner with children/tamariki, parents, caregivers, and staff in schools or early childhood settings, and we collaborate with general practice teams, specialists, and other service providers to promote and support child wellbeing.

**Referral Criteria**

**Health-related concerns that impact on the child/tamariki well-being at home or school – for example:**

- Allergies/Anaphylaxis
- Hearing and/or vision concerns
- Medical conditions e.g., asthma, skin conditions, weight, seizures
- Day/night-time wetting, soiling, constipation
- Nutrition, growth, and development
- Immunisations for year 7’s (or catchups)
- Parenting support and education

Viv East is this school/ECE public health nurse. The service is free of charge. You can contact her by:

calling or texting 021 373 212 or email: [Vivienne.east@tewhatuora.govt.nz](mailto:Vivienne.east@tewhatuora.govt.nz)

**Breakfast...**

If your child would like to have breakfast before school, they are most welcome to go to the ‘Room 5 café’. This is a great initiative to ensure full tummies before the learning gets underway for the day.

All are welcome!

Please remind your children that this is an option. It is especially important now with the increasing petrol costs. We would love you to use this service to lighten your load.



Enabling school-aged learners to realise their full potential by supporting their wellbeing and nutrition.



Dates will be added to over the year.



<b>Term Two</b> <b>Monday 20th April - Thursday 2nd July</b>	
Monday, 1st June	Kings Birthday
Sunday, 7 <sup>th</sup> June	School Mass
Week of 22 <sup>nd</sup> of June	Whānau / Teacher Interviews
Friday, 3rd July	Staff only Day
<b>Term Three</b> <b>Monday, 20th July - Friday, 25th September</b>	
Sunday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> August	School Mass
<b>Term Four</b> <b>Monday, 12th October - End of term 14th December</b>	
Monday, 26th October	Labour Day
Sunday, 29 <sup>th</sup> November	School Mass

## Winter Uniform

### Girls Years 1 to 6

Skort (Cullinane Tartan)

Long sleeve royal blue polo shirt

Navy socks or tights



### Girls Years 7 and 8

Skirt (Cullinane Tartan)

White long sleeve blouse

School tie navy / monogrammed

Navy socks or tights



### Boys Years 1 to 6

Long sleeve royal blue polo shirt

Grey drill shorts

Grey socks with teal/royal blue band



### Boys Years 7 to 8

Long sleeve grey shirt

Grey drill shorts

School tie navy / monogrammed

Grey socks with teal/royal blue band



### Optional for all students winter uniform

Black regulation trousers

(to be purchased from Andersons Uniform Shop)



Junior Option



Senior Boys

Senior Girls

Black socks to be worn with trousers



Navy monogrammed polar fleece  
Year 1 to 4



P.E monogrammed T-Shirt

P.E. shorts navy plain



Navy monogrammed jersey from  
Year 1 to 8



Black covered in school shoes



# Who to see...

Your child's teacher should be the first port of call if you have any concerns or worries. They know your child best. If you feel you are not being heard please reach out to the Team Leader. Their role is to support their team to get the best for our students.

Kate Linklater, our Deputy Principal, is our Special Needs Coordinator. She works closely with classroom teachers and Team Leaders to ensure your child is supported with their learning.

Ivy Scott is your contact regarding absences, general running of the school, uniform, medical needs... the list goes on. Please ensure you use our app to let us know if your child is away. This saves Ivy having to ring parents which takes quite a bit of time.

My door is always open if you need to pop in for a chat!

We communicate with you through the following ways... please ensure you are able to check one or all of these options.

Your Email

School website [www.stmarys.ac.nz](http://www.stmarys.ac.nz)

School Facebook [www.facebook.com/groups/stmarysschoolwanganui](http://www.facebook.com/groups/stmarysschoolwanganui)

School App from the Google Apps / Play Store: SchoolAppsNZ St Mary's School

If you have any issues getting connected please pop in and see Ivy and she will help you.

Classroom teachers will also communicate through SeeSaw. If you are having difficulty with this, contact your child's teacher.

## Who to see...

If you have a query or concern regarding your child, please email or see your child's Teacher first. If you still require assistance, please see your child's Team Leader as follows:

### Junior Team

Team Leader Dallas Limpus: [dallasl@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:dallasl@stmarys.ac.nz)

Students from the Room 1, Room 2, Room 3

Room 1: [dallasl@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:dallasl@stmarys.ac.nz)

Room 2: [carlas@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:carlas@stmarys.ac.nz)

Room 3: [theresec@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:theresec@stmarys.ac.nz)

### Middle Team

Team Leader Alex Caradus: [alexc@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:alexc@stmarys.ac.nz)

Students from Room 4, Room 5, Room 6, Room 7

Room 4: [tammyf@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:tammyf@stmarys.ac.nz)

Room 5: [heatherl@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:heatherl@stmarys.ac.nz)

Room 6: [sarahh@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:sarahh@stmarys.ac.nz)

Room 7: [alexc@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:alexc@stmarys.ac.nz)

### Senior Team

Team Leader Chris Scudder: [chriss@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:chriss@stmarys.ac.nz)

Students from Room 8, Room 9, Room 10



Room 8: [iank@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:iank@stmarys.ac.nz)

Room 9: [chriss@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:chriss@stmarys.ac.nz)

Room 10: [nadinek@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:nadinek@stmarys.ac.nz)

If you require further assistance,

Ivy: [ivys@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:ivys@stmarys.ac.nz)

DRS: [heatherl@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:heatherl@stmarys.ac.nz)

Deputy Principal: [katiel@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:katiel@stmarys.ac.nz)

Principal: [jacquil@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:jacquil@stmarys.ac.nz)