



Welcome!

Kia ora, talofa, namaskaram,
ayubowan, mabuhay
guten tag, bonjour!

Haere mai to all our whanau.
Special welcome to all families
that are new to Ss Peter &
Paul School

Meet Our Team



Room 16 – Dr Ivy Abella

Room 17 – Mrs Freya Coote (*Syndicate Leader*)

Room 18 – Miss Dyson

Release Teacher - Miss Victoria McHalick

Our Vision

“To nurture independent and collaborative learners who are creative, critical and caring in their thinking, strengthened by their Catholic Identity.”

In Rata area we believe in providing a safe, challenging and enjoyable learning environment for our students. As our students grow, we encourage them to become more self driven and aware of their strengths and needs as learners.

Please read through the following presentation to familiarise yourself with our expectations and how our Area works.

School Values

At the heart of our school lies our values of...

Aroha

Stewardship

Joy

Faith

These values guide us in the classroom, playground and as we live our special catholic character.

Students are encouraged to reflect on how they can live our values and how they enable us to make the most of our opportunities.



2025

2025 promises to be an exciting year of learning for our year 7 & 8 students.

Our area has a strong focus on building our students ability to have a go at new things and grow their communication and collaboration skills, while working with a variety of people. It is always great to see students grow in confidence and self belief as they become more adventurous and independent.

We particularly look forward to tamariki being able to take full advantage of leadership opportunities as senior students in our school.

Universal Concept

The Universal Concept across Ss Peter & Paul School for 2025 is **PATTERNS**. This concept will be threaded through our learning across curriculum areas and throughout the year.

PATTERNS and the use of the Depth & Complexity thinking tools are combined so that students can enhance and extend their learning this year.

Term 1 Curriculum

Religious Education

This term, we're learning about Te Rongopai - Good News. We will focus on the history, significance, and purpose of the Bible. We will reflect on the Good News and explore the ways in which the Holy Spirit inspires us.



Mathematics

This year we are looking forward to enhancing our maths programme with the new 'Maths No Problem' resource. Students will be provided with workbooks to support their learning and understanding.

We will begin the term with a focus on place value and rounding, followed by multiplication and division.



Writing

We begin our writing in 2025 with a look at poetry, recounts and letter writing. In years 7 & 8, there is a focus on students becoming more aware of their audience and more effective when following the writing process. Students develop strong reflective skills and use editing to enhance the quality of their written work.

Reading

In Rata area we develop our reading skills through mixture of reading by with and to our students. We encourage a love of students in our students and recommend some time spent at home enjoying books each day. Through language based activities we are also learning about punctuation and grammar.

Physical Education

Students change into PE gear Monday to Thursday for either morning fitness sessions or PE lessons. This term students will experience team building games, netball, volleyball and danish rounders. During these lessons we will be working on our teamwork and ball skills, specifically passing, throwing and catching.



Technology

Our year 7 & 8 students are enjoying technology learning at Avalon Intermediate school. We travel to Avalon Intermediate by bus every Friday for the duration of the year. Students experience food, fabric, visual art, hard materials and woodwork technology classes.



New Zealand History

We will be exploring the Treaty of Waitangi and the impact it has had on New Zealand over time. Along with this we will unpack the impact colonialism has had on Aotearoa. Students will be encouraged to think critically and consider the perspectives of many different people in our country.



In Rata ...

We encourage students to join in, have a go and take responsibility in being organised for their day.

- **PE Uniform** (Required daily Monday - Thursday)
- **Electronic devices** — phones/smart watches to be handed in every morning
- **Leadership Opportunities** - Christian Service, House leaders, Cultural Leaders, Road Patrol, Sports Ambassadors & Librarians.
- **Extra Opportunities** - Choir, Sports Teams, Tournaments, STEM Challenge, Kapa haka, Camp, Production, Otago Maths, Technology at Avalon Intermediate School.

General Information

Sharing of Learning

Throughout the year illustrations of your child's classwork and learning will be shared. These include some assessment by both teacher and student. Our aim is to provide an authentic context and audience for students and give parents a window into their child's progress and needs.

Learning Conferences

At the end of terms 1, 2 & 3 whanau will be invited to book and attend learning conferences with their child and their child's teacher. These are an opportunity to share assessment results, share learning illustrations and discuss your child's interests, goals and learning. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Behaviour Management

At Ss Peter & Paul School we have an effective and consistent behaviour management plan. We believe in a restorative practice approach. This encourages students to explore any issues that may arise at school in the classroom or playground, take responsibility for their own actions and then repair any harm. We look to empower students with strategies and tools to help them moving forward.

- We ask that you please encourage your child to let their classroom teacher or a duty teacher know if they have any issues in the class or playground. This enables us to help out in a timely manner.

What's happening this term?

- **Assessment** (Math, Basic Facts, Spelling, Reading, Writing & Spelling) The results of these assessments will be shared via learning conferences at the end of the term.
- **Technology Starts** - 7 February
- **Immunisation Year 7s** - 2 April
- **Futsal** - Thursday 20 March
- **Trip to Government House** - Wednesday April 9
- **Ash Wednesday** - 5 March
- **Learning conferences** will be held on:
Thursday 27 March / Tuesday 2 April
- **School Assembly** - Friday 11 April

Social Media

- In recent years this has been a consistent trap for some of our students causing social and self esteem issues.
- Young people under the age of 13 are not permitted to be on many social media platforms. Those who are , often need support with managing social media.
- Children do not always understand the long term implications and the permanence of photos, videos and messages that are on the internet.
- Issues/conflicts that arise from social media activity occur outside of school hours on private social media accounts. Responsibility for online behaviours lies with students and their parents. When the school has to intervene, it takes many hours or days of staff time, and, it pulls us away from our core job of teaching.

It is essential to monitor your child's use of social media and spend time discussing their responsibilities online. For further support and advice you may find the following links helpful:

[Netsafe Parenting Advice](#)

[A recent interview between Jessie Mulligan \(RNZ\) and pediatrician Michael Rich](#)

[Digital Wellness Guide for Parents & Families](#)

Uniform Expectations

We appreciate your support in maintaining our uniform standards at Ss Peter & Paul School. For specific details around uniform expectations please see the [school website](#) for guidelines.



Making contact

- Appointments/phone calls - request through the office admin@stpeterpaul.school.nz
- Alternatively you can contact the area leader through rataal@stpeterpaul.school.nz

- Your support is valued and much appreciated.
- If you have any further questions about your daughters' classroom programmes please contact your daughters' teacher.
- We look forward to meeting you all later in the term at our learning conferences.

**Thank
you!**