



**St Peter's
Catholic School
Cambridge**

**Information Book
2025**

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Principal's Welcome

Kia Ora and welcome.

St Peter's Catholic School is a very special place. Many feel that it is 'the best wee school in Cambridge'. We are a Catholic Integrated, full primary school with a roll of 173 students in Years 1 to 8. We are located in Cambridge—a picture perfect town—renowned for its leafy streets, heritage buildings, and horse facilities. The heart of rowing and cycling, Cambridge is a rapidly growing town with easy access to Hamilton and a short distance from most of the Waikato.

We are proud of our school history and heritage. As a Special Character Catholic school, we are under the patronage of St Peter - whom Our Lord said: *"Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I shall build my Church."* Inspired by St Peter's leadership, and following the charism 'Servabo Fidem' *I will keep the faith*, set by our founders Euphrasie Barbier and the Sisters of the Mission in 1904, a deeper knowledge of God within each student is nourished. This strong foundation provides for a clear school identity.

St Peter's Catholic School provides an ideal learning environment. Our highly committed staff provide personalised, hands-on, localised, and exciting learning opportunities for our tāmāriki. We cater for a wide range of abilities and have an extensive array of learning experiences to support our core curriculum. Aotearoa New Zealand's unique bicultural lens is embedded in our curriculum - which also reflects our Catholic Character. Boasting a heated swimming pool, a large astroturf, a combination of single cell and collaborative learning spaces, a hall, a library, two adventure playgrounds, a children's vege garden, and large native trees - our environment is fully furnished! Our high quality learning experiences, dedicated staff, and welcoming environment result in high achieving, happy students.

Through working alongside students, parents, whānau, and our community, we aim to build excellent partnerships. Each relationship provides us with information and pathways to ensure all children receive the support they need. Our close relationship with St Peter's Parish and Monsignor Leonard ensures children are well supported on their faith journey. We warmly welcome parents to attend a wide range of school events, and enjoy sharing and celebrating children's school achievements and experiences. Communication is key to maintaining home and school partnerships so we look forward to working with you for the benefit of your children.

If you are interested in enrolling your child in our school, please feel free to contact the school at any time to arrange a visit or talk further about this opportunity.

Ngā mihi nui,

Nicole Higby
PRINCIPAL

Vision, Values and Principles



Special Character

At St Peter's Catholic School, we pride ourselves on our Special Character. The basis of our Special Character is the belief in the intrinsic worth and dignity of each person because they are made in the image and likeness of Christ.

As a Special Character Catholic school, we are under the patronage of St Peter - whom Our Lord said: "Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I shall build my Church." Animated by St Peter's heroic zeal, and following the charism set by our founders Euphrasie Barbier and the Sisters of the Mission in 1904, a deeper knowledge of God within each pupil is nourished. This strong foundation provides for a clear school identity - our 'Charism'.

We ensure that children are actively engaged in Religious Education lessons and with our masses. Students have opportunities to serve, sing, read and pray. Once a term we organise a Sunday parish school mass - with the expectation that the school community attend alongside our very supportive parishioners. This gives both groups an opportunity to meet and celebrate our faith that binds us within our parish and lives our students a real purpose for their service.

Classes join in celebrating at a regular weekday parish Mass several times a term during the school week. Additionally a special full school Mass is held at the start and at the close of each term. Parents are always invited and encouraged to attend.

The special character is evident through the school by the care students and staff show to people they come in contact with, modelled on Gospel values, The school also offers CFLE (Christian Family Life Education) programmes in the senior syndicates and these are taught by CFLE trained tutors.

In the Year 7 and 8 area of the school students have the opportunity to put Gospel values into action by offering their services to people in the community by joining the Young Vinnies.

Sacramental programmes such as First Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation are parish based with classroom programmes complementing a child's preparation. Enrolments for these programmes are received through the parish office.



Staff

| ROOM | TEACHER/S |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Principal</i> | Mrs Nicole Higby |
| <i>Deputy Principal</i> | Mrs Heidi Littlejohn |
| <i>Assistant Principal:</i> | Mrs Mickey Bam |
| <i>Junior Hub 1 - Year 0 and 1</i> | Mrs Mickey Bam |
| <i>Room 3 – Year 3 and 4</i> | Mr Steven Coulam |
| <i>Room 4 – Year 1 and 2</i> | Mrs Carolyn Mackenzie |
| <i>Room 5 - Year 2 and 3</i> | Mrs Danielle Clarivette |
| <i>Room 6 - Year 5 and 6</i> | Miss Ella Neilson |
| <i>Room 7 - Year 5 and 6</i> | Mrs Heidi Littlejohn |
| <i>Room 8 - Year 7 and 8</i> | Mrs Liz Sudfeldt |
| <i>Room 9 – Year 7 and 8</i> | Mrs Cushla Hounsell |
| <i>Teacher Across School</i> | Mrs Jacinta O’Connell |
| <i>Part-time Teacher</i> | Mrs Monica Williams |
| <i>Part-time Teacher</i> | Miss Sam Mckibbin |
| <i>Learning Acceleration Teacher</i> | Mrs Sanvi Sharma |
| <i>Teacher Aide</i> | Mrs Helen Johnston |
| <i>Office Manager</i> | Mrs Donna Warwick |
| <i>Caretaker</i> | Mr Alastair Dean |



Board of Trustees

The school is governed by a Board of Trustees made up of nine members including the Principal, four members are elected by the parent community, three Proprietor's representatives appointed by the Bishop, and one elected member of the staff.

| Name | Governing Role |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <i>Carolina Diaz</i> | Parent Representative (Presiding Member) |
| <i>Blair Hayde</i> | Proprietor's Representative (Deputy Presiding Member) |
| <i>Angie Mathers</i> | Parent Representative (Treasurer) |
| <i>Matthew Cocker</i> | Parent Representative |
| <i>Jacqui McCann</i> | Parent Representative (Secretary) |
| <i>Father Leonard Danvers</i> | Proprietor's Representative |
| <i>Ajesh Joseph</i> | Proprietor's Representative |
| <i>Nicole Higby</i> | Principal |
| <i>Heidi Littlejohn</i> | Teacher Representative |



Enrolment Process

We have spaces for new enrolments of Catholic families and a waiting list for non-Catholic children to join St Peter's Catholic and we welcome your enrolment.

If you are thinking about enrolling it's a good idea to first visit the school to find out if the learning environment is right for your child. Email: office@stpeterscatholic.school.nz to organise a tour.

We have an allocation of only 25 non-Catholic enrolments, and all other enrolments need to meet the criteria for preferential enrolment in a Catholic School. To gain preferential enrolment you need to be 'signed off' by the Parish Priest with a 'Preference Card' prior to starting. Firstly apply for an interview with Father Leonard at the Parish Office across the road. A form to apply for this interview is on our school website or available from the school office.

You are likely to be granted preferential enrolment if you are willing and able to support your child on their faith journey. If your child is baptised Catholic, if either parent is baptised Catholic or you have a significant Catholic connection (e.g. grandparent), your child is likely to be eligible for a Preference Card. The meeting with Father Leonard is really important for him to meet you and welcome you to our school.

Once a 'Preference Card' is obtained collect the enrolment forms and stationery list from the School Office. All enrolment documentation including a Preference card must be sent to the school office prior to your child starting school. On enrolment the school needs to sight a birth certificate or other official documentation, showing the name and age of the child, along with an Immunisation Certificate. When students from overseas enrol, we require a passport to be sighted with appropriate Visa. Our school Uniform can be purchased via our online uniform shop:

https://www.stpeterscatholic.school.nz/2770/online_stores/1-shop-now

In order to give New Entrants a gradual introduction to school life, parents are invited to bring their pre-schoolers along for three morning sessions on a Tuesday morning prior to starting school. Bookings for these visits should be made at the School Office.



Fees/Payments

There are two main monetary contributions for parents/whānau – Diocese Attendance Dues and School Donations. Occasionally other fees are requested for trips and special events.

The payment of **Attendance Dues** is compulsory. This fee is set by the Proprietor, the Catholic Bishop of Hamilton and families are billed directly. In 2025 these are set at \$516 per student and can be paid in instalments. Accounts are sent out and payable to: Roman Catholic Bishop of Hamilton – Diocesan Schools Account, P.O. Box 4353, Hamilton East. Please note that their bank account is separate from the school bank account.

School Donations are a voluntary yet important budgetary component for the school; providing extra learning opportunities and activities for all our students.

The BOT has calculated the parent's contribution for 2025 to be \$175.00 per year for the first child, \$295 per year for two children and \$395 per year for three or more children.

We urge you to consider the best option for you and to set up a payment plan to suit your needs. Payments can be paid off weekly, fortnightly, monthly or in full.

PAYMENT DETAILS:

Cash or EFTPOS at the school office or, deposit directly into the school bank account:

St Peter's Catholic School Board of Trustees, Westpac Cambridge **03 1568 0009985 00**

Please include your name in the "Details" section and "Donation" as a reference.

Please note that GST is not payable and Donation Tax Credits can be claimed.

Curriculum and Achievement

We have a localised curriculum that provides children with authentic learning experiences set within a Catholic and te ao Māori lens.

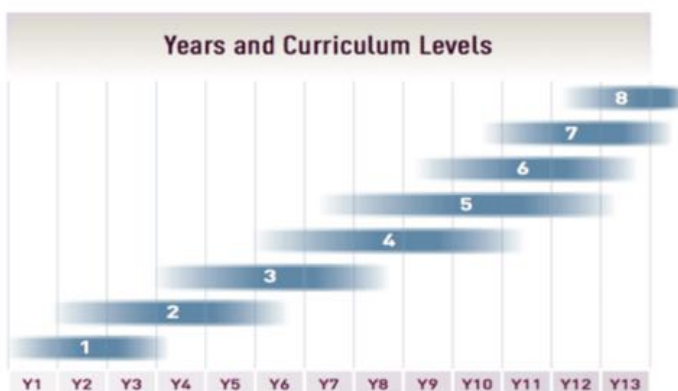
We follow the New Zealand Curriculum in all aspects and we also follow the Religious Education Curriculum, which is in the process of being updated for all schools. The New Zealand Curriculum is available for download here: <https://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/The-New-Zealand-Curriculum>

For Religious Education, we currently follow the 'Religious Education Bridging Document' (REBD) which is available on the Faith Alive website: <http://www.faithalive.org.nz/the-rebd/>

Both the NZ Curriculum and the Bridging Document are currently under revision and schools across New Zealand, including our school, are revising sections as they are rolled out.

When we plan our curriculum we have an overarching inquiry for the year. All the curriculum achievement objectives are woven into these themes each term and staff who are subject leaders are responsible for ensuring children progress in their learning as they move through the school.

In literacy we are moving towards a 'Structured Literacy Approach', Structured literacy approaches emphasise highly explicit and systematic teaching of all important components of literacy. These components include both foundational skills (e.g., decoding, spelling) and higher-level literacy skills (e.g., reading comprehension, written expression). Structured Literacy also emphasises oral language abilities essential to literacy development, including phonemic awareness, sensitivity to speech sounds in oral language, and the ability to manipulate those sounds. This approach ensures all our children have the opportunity to progress without any 'gaps' in their learning of literacy.



Achievement at St Peter's Catholic School is high with over 80% of students achieving at or above national expectations. Our robust tracking of student achievement and differentiated teaching to ensure each child receives teaching to meet their specific learning needs supports high achievement.

We are proud to say that when students leave St Peter's Catholic school they are set up for success at high School and beyond.

School Facilities

Our school is very well resourced and our aim is to make sure every part of our site is available and actively used for learning purposes for our students. Some of our school facilities are available for hire by phoning our school office (07) 827 6623 or emailing office@stpeterscatholic.school.nz

St Peter's Catholic Community Hall:

The St Peter's Catholic Community Hall is situated in the school grounds and is used for school assemblies, performances and some sports, along with parish activities.

The hall has a fully equipped kitchen, piano, stage, heat pumps and a wooden floor. The hall is available for outside bookings, and can be booked by phoning the school office 827 6623 or emailing office@stpeterscatholic.school.nz



Astro Turf:



The turf was officially opened at the beginning of 2021 and is multi-functional space with many sports being able to be played on it including netball, soccer and hockey.

The students also use the outside track for cross country and athletics training. Our children really enjoy playing together on the



turf at breaks.

The size is large and is perfect for practices and kids games. The turf has soccer goals and hockey goals. The turf is available for outside bookings by phoning the school office 827 6623 or emailing office@stpeterscatholic.school.nz

Chess Area:

Our Chess Area is a peaceful space with a newly installed shade sail. An outdoor chessboard with large plastic chess pieces is available for children to test their skills against one another during morning tea and lunch breaks and once per week a community volunteer comes in to run a chess club - strengthening problem solving skills in our students.



Heated Swimming Pool:



We are fortunate to have a good-sized, heated school swimming pool which is well used.

As part of the school curriculum the pool is used regularly for swimming lessons on a daily basis during the summer months.

All children are expected to take part in swimming. Togs and towels should be clearly named and brought to school in a swimming bag/plastic bag. Girls must wear a one piece swimming costume; boys - above knee length shorts. We

include a water-safety programme for our older students.

Around the swimming pool we have shade sails which provide much needed shelter from the sun during the swimming season. Swimming lessons take place in Terms 4 and 1 and due to a heated pool we are able to have a slightly longer swimming season than other schools may have.

Library:

We have a well-stocked library. Classes are timetabled to visit the library each week and children can issue books to read for the upcoming week. The library is also open at lunch time. Comfy seating is available for children to sit and enjoy their books. The juniors have a Library Bag which is used to bring their library books home each week. Please ensure that library books are returned to school for the library visit the following week. Accounts will be sent out for library books that have not been returned at the end of the year. We have a staff member dedicated to keeping our library a really beautiful learning space for children.

Digital Technology:

St Peter's Catholic School is an "Apple School". We are not a 'Bring your own device' (BYOD) school preferring to purchase our own devices and load them with appropriate learning apps and resources for the various aged children. This ensures we have greater control over what the children are accessing.

We have well-resourced technology equipment that includes up-to-date Apple iMac computers, iPads, Chromebooks and laptops accessible by all children for learning purposes. Every classroom has an apple T.V. which teachers use to support learning. All children use technology to support learning at appropriate times and we also follow the New Zealand Curriculum's Digital Technology curriculum - providing students with opportunities to learn things such as coding, robotics and ani-motion.

Playgrounds:

The school has a senior and junior playground. The junior playground caters for Years 1-3 and has full-cover shade sails over it. There is also a

large sandpit in this area for students to enjoy.



The senior playground is for Years 4 up and is well used by our older students. There is also a Senior Sandpit which children enjoy.

Student's Vegetable Garden:

In 2022 we created a new and vastly improved Student Vege Garden with the help of our Dad's Army. There are 9 raised grow-beds which allows a whole class to be outside gardening at the same time. Children learn valuable life skills through this outdoor learning experience.



Uniforms

As we have a school uniform, we ask that the correct uniform be worn at all times. We expect children to take care and pride in their appearance. No jewellery is permitted other than watches or religious tokens. Students may wear plain gold/silver ear studs or sleepers (one in each ear). No hair colouring or nail polish.

Hair longer than collar length must be tied up with either navy, black or maroon hair ties (or scrunchies), and must be out of their eyes and off the collar. Navy/black headbands may be worn.



Girls' Uniform:

- Skorts all year - pinafores are being phased out (pleated skirts for Year 7 and 8 only) Skorts (Years 1-6)
- White blouse, long sleeve for winter, short for summer (over blouse Year 7 & 8 only) Regulation Royal Blue V neck jersey
- Navy knee high socks or stockings

Boys' Uniform:

- Monogrammed Navy shorts
- Monogrammed Blue shirts (short sleeve for summer & long sleeve for winter) Long Navy socks for winter
- Regulation Royal Blue V neck jersey



Winter shoes:

Plain black leather/leather-look polishable shoes/sneakers

- No white or coloured logos, soles or laces
- No embellishments eg. black butterflies
- No mesh or canvas



Summer shoes:

- Plain black leather/leather-look sandals
- No white or coloured logos, soles
- No embellishments eg. black butterflies or multiple straps
- No mesh or canvas

Hats are a compulsory part of our school uniform to be worn whenever summer uniform is worn. They are also compulsory at sports time.



Summer uniform may be worn from the beginning of Term 4 but mandatory from Labour Weekend. It is optional to change after Easter. Winter uniform must be worn after King's Birthday until Labour Weekend.

It is recommended that all children have a raincoat or waterproof parka. There is an optional monogrammed shower proof school jacket that can also be purchased. Children are required to wear their correct footwear when leaving the school grounds.

Uniform sales are through our online Uniform Shop. Items ordered before Wednesday afternoon will be available to be picked up on a Thursday morning. **Uniforms must be worn correctly. Incorrect uniform requires a note.**

PE Uniform:

School sports shirts with **plain** black shorts must always be worn for PE and when representing the school at sporting events. Students are required to bring suitable clothing for field sports during the winter term. They will not be permitted to play on the field at lunch time in school uniform.

Second Hand Uniforms:

Some second hand uniforms are available. Periodically a second hand uniform sale will be advertised in the school newsletter. If you require a second hand uniform these can be purchased by contacting the Second Hand Uniform Co-ordinator Monica Williams Phone 0273462074.

WHO WE ARE

The PTFA are a group of positive parents who engage with and empower families in our community to work together for the benefits of our students. The main goals of the PTFA are to improve the school environment, support students' learning and well-being opportunities, and grow community spirit.

An important vehicle to bring about these goals is fundraising and supporting/organising events which bring the community together. The PTFA have a core group of committee leaders who meet termly and an impressive list of parents who 'help out when they can' with various tasks. All parents are invited to be part of our PTFA- either as a PTFA full member or as a supporter who can offer an hour or two of time for fundraising activities.

For more information email ptfa@stpeterscatholic.school.nz

ST PETERS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL PTFA:

OUR VALUES:

Collaboration: We will work in partnership with our school community and wider Waipa community.

Commitment: We are dedicated to children's educational success, health and well-being, through strong family and community engagement.

Respect: We value the individual contributions of members and community as we work collaboratively to achieve our goals.

OUR MISSION

To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families in our community.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS:

ENHANCE OUR SCHOOL
ENVIRONMENT

SUPPORT STUDENT
LEARNING, SPIRITUAL
DEVELOPMENT &
WELL-BEING

GROW COMMUNITY
SPIRIT

Sitting under the PTFA are initiatives and groups that benefit the whole school. Following is information about the 'Waipa Fun Run Committee', our 'Dad's Army', 'Friendly Faces' and the 'Birthday Book' initiative. The PTFA are a group that has a lot of fun with 'hands-on' making a real difference for our children.

WAIPA FUN RUN

Our biggest school fundraiser is the Waipa Fun Run. This is an event for our whole community and beyond. We take over Cambridge's town square - Victoria Park and many of the roads in town are closed while we host the Fun Run. There are gazebos with food stalls, prizes, massage tents etc and several thousand competitors and observers. It's always an amazing experience and is all about promoting a healthy lifestyle within our community. Runners, joggers and walkers participate from other schools and communities outside Cambridge and we are proud to organise the Waipa Fun Run. If you are keen to be part of this event please email:



office@stpeterscatholic.school.nz.

DAD'S ARMY

Our Dad's Army is a group of dads who enjoy working together on practical activities around school. One member of the PTFA coordinates the group, who undertake activities brought to the group by the Principal and Board Property Committee. Recent achievements have been: Creating our student's Vege Gardens, levelling a truck-load of soil under our large Elm tree to create more seated shade space for students and helping create our Backfield Garden with tree planting and bark spreading. Every dad is welcome in the Dad's Army and attendance usually ranges from 5-25 dads, depending on availability! There is often time for a yarn, meet new faces, snack and cold drink to cool down afterwards. If you are keen to be put on the list to receive notifications of upcoming groups please email: ptfa@stpeterscatholic.school.nz.



FRIENDLY FACES

The 'Friendly Faces' are a branch of the PTFA who welcome new families to our school. They provide a regular opportunity for all families to meet in a relaxed environment, enjoying a cup of tea or coffee. The

Friendly Faces Team also offer support for families who may be going through a rough patch, by organising meals, baking or school pick ups.

BIRTHDAY BOOK

The PTFA has a unique way to celebrate your child's birthday. They invite all families to participate in our Birthday Book Programme. Instead of a Birthday focused solely on sweets and gifts, donating a book will give your child a chance to make a lasting gift to the school library in their name. Simply purchase a book, send it into school with your child on (or close to) their birthday. A bookplate commemorating your child's birthday and their donation will be placed inside the book. Your child will also be given the opportunity to be the first to borrow the book. All donations are much appreciated and help support our school library.

General Information

Absence Notifications:

Attendance of children at school is expected to be regular and punctual. Children cannot progress and learn if they do not attend school every day.

If your child will not be attending school or will be late arriving, please ring the school office before 9.00 am to advise us or use the School App. If we have not received notification for a child's absence, the Office Manager makes contact with the parents. This is a Health and Safety procedure to ensure the safety of your child. Registers of Attendance are marked twice daily. For long term absences eg family holiday, need to be put in writing and sent to the school office.

Accidents at School:

Should your child have an accident at school that requires medical attention, we will make every effort to contact you. Therefore, please have up to date contact details where you can be reached throughout the day.

Assemblies:

We hold a whole school assembly regularly in the hall. Each class will have a turn organising the assembly. Certificates of Merit will be presented and class performances may be given. This is a time to celebrate our successes. Each Monday a Liturgy is held in the hall to start the week on a positive note. Covid permitting - Parents are very welcome at both these assemblies.

After School Care:

Skids operates an independent After School Programme for our students. They are an OSCAR approved programme. After school care hours are 3-5.30 pm. See page 23 for further details.

Behaviour Management:

At St Peter's Catholic School we build a positive school culture through consistency, communication and compassion while applying the Incredible Years Programme principles to our behaviour management approach. We foster a caring and supportive environment.

Throughout the school we follow the Cool Schools Peer Mediation process. During lunch time senior students are readily available as trained peer mediators.

Bicycles:

We encourage children over 10 years of age to cycle to and from school. Younger children need to be accompanied by a parent please. Bikes can be stored in the bike rack. We suggest children use safety locks. The wearing of safety helmets is compulsory. Students are to dismount their bikes and walk them through the school grounds.

Buses:

If your child is required to catch a bus please phone Cambridge Travel Lines on 827 7363 to arrange. After school, bus children line up outside Room 8 and are escorted by the Duty Teacher to the bus. Please let the office know if your child is not using the bus on a particular day. If a note is not received, your child will be put on the bus.

Catholic Schools Day

Each year in September we celebrate 'Catholic Schools' Day' with all the other Catholic Integrated schools across New Zealand. It is an opportunity for us to be proud of our Catholic education and usually involves us giving something back to our community.

Chess Club:

Chess Club takes place one lunchtime a week in the dedicated chess area. This is open for students of all ages and abilities.

Choir:

Singing is an integral part of our normal operations at St Peter's Catholic. We have a dedicated choir teacher who works closely with staff every week.

Communicating with staff:

Our teachers are very approachable and we set aside some times when you can talk with them. All classroom teachers are in their rooms every day from 8:30 am and again after school. If you need a private meeting or more time you can make an appointment to meet them.

Dental Clinic:

If your child requires dental appointment times they can be scheduled by the Cambridge Dental Clinic which is situated at the Cambridge Middle School. If your child requires treatment during the year it is the parents' responsibility to arrange appointment times and supervise their children while at the Dental Clinic. Phone 823 9385 for an appointment.

Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC):

Education outside the classroom plays a very important part in the school programme. Consent forms are sent home to be signed annually at the start of the year for each child, and held on file. You will always be notified of trips, camps etc. There will often be a charge for these activities.

Facebook:

Our school Facebook site is one way the school communicates good news and upcoming events. This is a place for positive communication and is seen beyond our immediate school community. If you have questions about an item it is best to contact the school directly.

Friendly Faces Team:

The Friendly Faces Team hold an afternoon tea on the first Friday of each month at 2.30 pm. This initiative is not only to welcome new families to our school but for all families to meet in a relaxed environment, enjoying a cup of tea or coffee. The Friendly Faces Team also offers support for families who may be going through a rough patch, by organising meals, baking or school pick ups.

Guardian Angels:

In each House, senior students are paired with a junior student to act as their Guardian Angel so that they have a familiar face to go to for support in the playground. Students get together with their Guardian Angel regularly to chat, play a game, buddy reading or sharing some of their learning.



Homework:

Class teachers set homework on an individual basis. Junior children may be set up to 20 minutes homework per night. Year 4–6 children will be given 30 minutes and Year 7–8 will have up to 5 hours per week. While we would aim to make this a self discipline programme, we do ask for parent interest and

assistance if required. Pupils are more likely to reach their potential in all areas of the curriculum when school and home work honestly and harmoniously together.

Internet Safety:

Our students have access to and are encouraged to use a variety of online tools for research, communication and collaboration. With this great opportunity comes the responsibility to act appropriately and be safe in online spaces. Throughout their time at St Peter's Catholic School we deliberately and explicitly teach students the knowledge and skills they need to be able to participate and contribute safely when using the internet.

Our safety guidelines state that students must have a signed permission form before accessing and using the internet. There is a copy of this form included in the enrolment pack and kept on file.

Kapa Haka:

Our Year 5-8 students attend Kapa Haka sessions once a week. The senior Kapa Haka group attend the Cambridge Kapa Haka Festival and perform at special occasions throughout the year.

Language Learning:

All students learn Te-Reo as part of regular classroom dialogue as well as a dedicated teaching lesson. Year 7/8 students learn another language of their choice as part of their Year 7/8 Learning programme.

Leadership Opportunities:

There are many leadership opportunities available for our senior students including Peer Mediators, House Leaders, First Aid monitors and School Councillors to name a few.

Life Skills Councillors:

Life Skills councillors work with individual children who are identified for a variety of reasons. Parents are contacted if their child is referred to the Life Skills programmes. Parent referrals are welcome if you feel your child needs assistance which can be provided on our school site.

Lost Property:

Lost property is collected and can be located just up the steps from the senior toilets. Unclaimed items are displayed on the last day of each term. If all articles are named our job is made so much easier in finding its rightful owner. Any unclaimed uniform items on the last day of the year will be washed and put into the 2nd hand uniform sales box.

Medication:

If your child requires medication while at school, it should be clearly labelled and handed in to the school office at the start of each day and collected after school. A Medical Consent form needs to be signed by the parent. For existing conditions, for example asthma or bee stings, we are able to hold the child's medication at school in the Sick Bay, for administering during school hours if required.

Mobile Phones:

Mobile phones are not permitted to be used during school hours. If your child needs to bring a mobile phone to school they must hand it in to the School Office as soon as they arrive at school, and then collect it after school.

Mufti Days:

Several times throughout the year the school has a mufti-day where children can either wear their own clothes or, if announced, specific colours in support of a particular event. There is usually a gold-coin donation requested for mufti-days.

Music Lessons:

Students from Year 4 are able to learn singing, guitar, keyboard, ukulele or violin from private itinerant music teachers. These are on a user pay basis. Please contact our private music teachers for their prices and availability.

Mrs June Mackenzie: Phone: 827 7420, 021 1360583

Email: junemackenzie2013@gmail.com

Mrs Chris Gale: Phone: 021 044 2854

Email: chris.gale.m@gmail.com

We also work closely with Ignite Arts Academy who come in each week to teach drums. If you would like your child to learn drums at St Peter's Catholic School, please contact Ignite Arts Academy on: Phone: 0508 2446 483, 027 770 6823 Email: admin@ignitearts.co.nz

Newsletters:

Fortnightly newsletters are sent home via email every second Wednesday. These can also be viewed on our school website www.stpeterscatholic.school.nz or on the school app.

Parking:

Parents may park in designated parking spaces on Anzac and Alpha Streets as well as the church car-park. Parents are asked to not park on the yellow lines outside the school or across the church entrances, in front of Father Leonard's garage or house, or in the disabled car parks.

Performing Arts:

We work closely with Ignite Arts Academy. Every second year all our children have the opportunity for specialist Arts tuition leading up to our Production.

Photographs:

Class, individual and sports photographs are taken annually. Dates for these photographs will be advertised in the school newsletter. There is no obligation to buy these photographs.

Production:

A whole school production is held biennially. The senior students (Years 7 & 8) will all have an active role with all other children involved in a class item. Past productions have included: Annie, Noah's Ark and The Lion King Junior, Jonah A Fishy Tail (2023). We usually hire the St Peter's Private school Auditorium and have 3 full to capacity performances of a very high standard. Our productions are a highlight of our school and students always astound us with their performing capabilities. Parents are welcome and indeed required to support this amazing event.



Road Patrol:

Year 7/8 pupils, under supervision of staff operate two road patrols. One on outside the school entrance (Anzac Street) and one opposite the New World supermarket. All children needing to cross either road must use the crossings provided which are patrolled from 2:55 to 3:15pm. **Please adhere to the road rules and do not double park.** NOTE: Year 6 students operate patrols on Monday.



School App:

Our School App is used for not only sending quick alerts to parents but parents can also view the newsletter, record absences, school calendar etc.

School Hours:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 8:30 am | School grounds opened |
| 9.00 am | First morning session 10:30 am |
| 10:30 am | Morning Interval |
| 11.00 am | Second morning session |
| 12:40 pm | Lunch Break |
| 1:30 pm | Afternoon session (Bell rings at 1.25 pm - return sports gear) |
| 3:00 pm | School Closes |

There are NO alterations to these hours on wet days. The last day of the year may conclude earlier but any change to the above is notified through the Newsletter.

We ask you to ensure that children are at school before 9.00 am so they have time to put their things away. We do not accept responsibility for children who arrive at school before 8.30 am. If your child arrives after the roll has been taken, please send them to the school office to sign in.

School Policies

Our school policies can be found by following the instructions below:

1. Go to schooldocs.co.nz
2. Click Search for your school.
3. Start typing the school's name and select it from the dropdown list.
4. Enter your community username: stpeterscatholic and password: knowledge
5. Search for the policy you require.

School House System:

St Peter's Catholic School operates a school house system. The four houses are named after saints.

The houses are:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| St Patrick | (Green) |
| St Anne | (Blue) |
| St Nicholas | (Red) |
| St Therese | (Yellow) |

When your child enrolls at St Peter's they will be placed into a house. Siblings will be in the same house. For all whole school competitive events children wear the appropriate house colours in support of their team.

School Masses:

The school and parish work very closely. As a member of the Catholic School, all families are asked to take their children to Mass on Sundays.

Additionally, each term every class participates in liturgies and masses. You are always most welcome to attend with your child. You will receive notification of these via the school/class newsletters.

To further strengthen Parish/School relationships and encourage families to attend Mass, a school presence in one Sunday Mass per term is held. Students will be involved as greeters, readers, Prayers of the Faithful, musicians etc at these Masses.

At the beginning of the year and at the end of the year there is a school Mass held. With attending Mass and faith formation at our core, children will also attend Mass during school time on other special days eg St Peter's Day or Ash Wednesday.

For every mass we ask for non-perishable food and toiletry items to be donated. These go directly to the St Vincent de Paul collections and are distributed to families in need.

School Reports and Learning Discussions:

You will receive a written report, twice per year, assessing your child against national expected levels in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Additionally in Terms 1 and 3 parents are invited to meet teachers with their child, for a discussion around current achievement and next learning steps.

Sending Money to School:

From time to time, it is necessary to send money to school for such items as outings, camps, books etc. Payment can be internet banked into the school's bank account 03 1568 0009985 00 - please reference what the payment is for. We also have EFTPOS available at the school office. If you do send in cash, please make sure it is in an envelope and clearly identified with the child's name and purpose.

Special Needs/Abilities:

We have a SENCo (our Deputy Principal) who is responsible for tracking and supporting students with additional needs. Our aim is to provide the very best in-class support for individuals. We have a few programmes in place which include Steps Programme, Rainbow Reading and have the ability to refer to outside agencies for additional support where required.

Sports:

Our school runs a full sports programme including aquatics, athletics, and winter ball activities.

Sports in Cambridge are now run almost entirely by the clubs with opportunities in netball, rugby, soccer, rugby and hockey. Our school usually affiliates with Hautapu Sports Club but families are welcome to approach and participate with any sport club of their choice.

Other sporting activities, such as miniball, mud run and basketball are also available and information on when sports are available will be notified in the school newsletter- or ask at the school office.

Stationery:

A stationery list is sent home with each child at the end of each school year for the class they will be in the following year. New entrants will be emailed their stationery list.. Parents can order their stationery online from Office Products Depot: <https://nzschoollshop.co.nz/> or purchase themselves against the required list. It is essential that children have all their own stationery requirements.

Sunsmart:

Our school is an accredited Sunsmart School. All students are required to wear a regulation school hat in terms 1 and 4. Students without hats are restricted to shaded areas, generally on the deck.

Over the past few years we have been installing further sun shade to keep children protected from the harsh rays.

Tech Arts:

Our Year 7/8 students travel by bus to Sacred Heart Girls College in Hamilton (working with one of our feeder Catholic high schools) for Tech Arts every second Thursday.

Toys at School:

Children are not to bring toys or precious belongings to school. No responsibility will be taken for items that are broken or lost.

Waipa Fun Run:

St Peter's Catholic School organises the Independent Traffic Control Waipa Fun Run, which is held in March each year, and is a major fundraiser for Term 1. The event has become recognised as a community event catering for all fitness types with a 2 km Schools' Challenge and a 5 km & 10 km walk or run.

Before School/After School Care



Choose your **ADVENTURE**

skids.co.nz/st_peters_cambridge

027 586 0408

Stay and Play | 3:00 – 6:00 pm

Some Adventure categories yet to be released in 2024.

skids

Conclusion

As a Catholic School, we are intrinsically linked with the Catholic Church. We are always conscious of the holistic nature of education and plan to cover the mental, physical, emotional and spiritual areas of a child's development.

There may be a need to talk over a problem to resolve with the teacher or our Principal. We believe this is better than worrying about it at home.

Teachers are Christian models for the students and act out the Gospel Values. In return, we expect parents to give the same courtesy to other parents and the school staff.

This school exists for your son or daughter. We have the privilege and honour to be his/her teacher. The 'gem' entrusted to us will be fashioned and formed into the precious stone when the parents and teacher act together with the same vision and understanding.

CONTACT DETAILS:

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Principal | principal@stpeterscatholic.school.nz |
| Office | office@stpeterscatholic.school.nz |
| Phone | 07-827 6623 |
| Address | 22 Anzac Street, Cambridge 3434 |



Webpage: www.stpeterscatholic.school.nz

Facebook: facebook.com/stpeterscatholic