

Marist Catholic School Herne Bay News

Term 1, 2025

Our Charism

As Marists, we think, judge, feel and act in the way of Mary

Our Mission

Quality learning opportunities, with Jesus Christ as our guide



SPECIAL CHARACTER:

Sacramental Programme:

We keep in our prayers the students who are participating in the Sacramental Programme - Baptism*, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. It is wonderful to see you progressing on your faith journey together.

Leah Robinson*	Otis Morrison*	Aria Mohi*	Hugo Rogan*	Hugh Hunter*	Cora Clark
Selina Co	Benedict Bartlett	Will Hardy	Max Sauter	Leo d'Ancona	Hazel Simons
Ethan Magsino	Wen Jie Liong	Oscar Forsyth*	Sienna Forsyth*	Daisy Higgins	Alexa Tuck
Beatrix Higgins	Jimmy Tuck	Claudia Tuck			



Parish/School Mass:

We are grateful for the wonderful Parish School Mass that marked the beginning of our school year. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for this special occasion. It was truly inspiring to see our dedicated team of students participating with such enthusiasm.

We were honoured to officially welcome our new families and Mrs. Pauline Calvert with a special blessing from Father Rory, adding a meaningful touch to our celebration.

We extend our sincere thanks to the talented group of parents who provided the beautiful music and singing, enriching the atmosphere of our gathering.

A special mention goes to our amazing PTA for organising the delicious sausage sizzle at the Mix and Mingle afterwards. Your efforts were greatly appreciated and added a delightful conclusion to the evening.

Ngā mihi nui to all who contributed to making this a memorable and uplifting start to the year.



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AROUND THE SCHOOL:

2025 Theme

In 2024, our overarching theme was, "The Journey Matters". At Marist Catholic School, we are embarking on a journey that shares our unique stories and the power of storytelling across all areas of learning. This introduces our 2025 theme, **"We are the storytellers."**



Together we are entrusted with the gift of understanding, connecting and sharing both the knowledge and wisdom rooted in our Catholic and Te Ao Maori traditions. As a community we share a rich culture within our NZ history and we are responsible to work together every day because "We are the storytellers".

Marist Catholic School embraces our Journey:

- Term 1: We are the storytellers, of our heritage (Identity)
- Term 2: We are the storytellers, making our mark (States of Matter)
- Term 3: We are the storytellers, bringing it to life (Systems)
- Term 4: We are the storytellers, with God to love and serve (Community)



MITEY at Marist

We are delighted to continue to partner with Mitey this year to grow and support the mental health and wellbeing of all our students.

The Sir John Kirwan Foundation has designed Mitey with NZ teachers and the University of Auckland to provide an evidence-based approach to teaching mental health education to primary and intermediate aged children.

It is built around the NZ curriculum and embedded into everyday learning, to ensure children are equipped with the age-appropriate skills and knowledge they need to recognise and respond to mental health issues in both themselves and others before they enter teenage years.

Marist started our work with the Mitey approach in 2024 with great results.

THIS IS HOW IT WORKS:

Mental health education will be taught by our teachers in every classroom with the skills, knowledge and understanding of mental health woven into what is already being taught.

Parents and the whole school community are an integral part of Mitey's approach and as with all our learning your engagement and support is a key aspect of educating our students.

WHY THE NEED?

Mental health concerns and issues amongst NZ youth have doubled in the past 10 years and we all agree that unhappy students don't learn.

Youth suicide rates in NZ are among the highest in the world. Partnering with Mitey allows our school to be part of a transformational change for young people, enabling them to nurture their mental health – and that of others – for the rest of their lives. The following link will take you to Mitey's homepage www.mitey.org.nz

Opening our new Senior Playground



We were all pleased to see our new senior playground completed and the children were all very excited to finally be able to play on it after all the planning and anticipation over the last two years.

We have named our playground 'The Pompallier Playground', dedicating it to Bishop Pompallier who is an important part of our school history as well as the Auckland Catholic Diocese.

We had a lovely blessing, led by Father Rory. We were also extremely surprised and excited to see Father being the first person to use our playground by climbing up to the top and then coming down the slide.



Inquiry: We've delved into the topic of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, exploring what a treaty means. This led to a wonderful class discussion and the creation of our own class treaty, which everyone proudly signed. It's been a great way for the kids to understand the importance of agreements and working together as a team.



Library: Ākonga are enjoying the library session with our librarian, Hannah and the Library Lamb. They are learning how to use library cards in the library to issue books and are also exploring the different types of books and book sections during the session.



Wellbeing/Mitey: Friendships play a crucial role in our lives. But what exactly makes a good friend? Am I a good friend? What are the qualities or actions that I demonstrate that make me a supportive and caring friend? The children were given the chance to reflect on the friendships in their lives, sharing stories about those who have been kind and supportive to them. They also engaged in meaningful discussions about the qualities that define a true friend—what makes a friendship strong, and what actions or behaviors can weaken it.



Religious Education: We have been investigating what life would have been like in the time of Jesus. We worked in groups to research using readings from the Bible and a known website. We presented our findings to the class and wrote them out in our books.



Visual Art: We are exploring the art of sketching and using oil pastels to create our self portrait.

We looked into different types of blending techniques using oil pastels. Blending with pastel, fingers and tissue paper. We will then transfer this skill to our final copy.



SPORTS:

BASKETBALL TERM 1

Marist Magic (Year 4)

Loss 4-17

Win 10-2 against Richmond Rockets

Loss 6-8 against MAPS Marlins

Marist Mavericks (Yr5) - 2 linked teams

Loss 6-12 against Westmere Flames

Loss 0-18 against Mt Eden Bulls

Loss 0-8 against Pt Chev Warriors

Loss 0-8 against Pt Chev Warriors

Loss 3-12 against Mt Eden Bulls

Marist Magics (Yr6)

Win 10-5 against Ponsonby Nuggets

Win 14-13 against Freeman's Bay Foxes



Football Taster

All our classes participated in a football taster with Football NZ. This was a great opportunity for all our students to learn skills and experience the game.



Rugby Taster

All our classes participated in a rugby taster with Rugby NZ. This is over two weeks - Week 1 was to learn skills and the second week was focused on using those skills to play the game of rugby.



ICS Cricket

Our Year 5/6 teams played at the Inner City Schools Cricket Tournament at Victoria Park. Both teams did well and represented our school with pride. A huge thank you to all our parents who helped manage, transport and cheer on our students. Also to Mrs Sowman for all of her organisation for the event.

