To Love/AROHA To Learn/ĀKO To Lead/ĀRAHI

## St Joseph's Catholic School

"Excellent Education befitting our Catholic Character"

94 Seddon St Pukekohe 2120



Term 3 Week 3 31 July 2025 Newsletter #7

#### **Principal's Message**

Tena Koutou Katoa Talofa Lava Kamusta Malo e lelei Mauri Malo ni Faka talofa atu Namaste Greetings to all

Welcome back to our winter term.

The wet weather has been persistent, but the sun shone for us last Friday when our school cross-country was held in our school grounds. The children participated in their house colours. I know you would have enjoyed watching your child compete and have felt the genuine school spirit that days like this promote. It is another occasion that brings our parents and families to school and the day didn't disappoint. I am sure the sunny weather also made a difference. Thank you to the teachers who organised this event and the parents who helped out.

You would have received our Term 3 Key Dates and the Team's Term Newsletters in Week 1. There are a lot of sporting opportunities for our Years 4-6 this term: cross-country, netball, rugby, and our Catholic schools' St Anne's Shield competition. There are also cultural opportunities during our Pasifika and Maori Language Weeks. Our Year 6 students were able to attend the PIS High School musical last week and we have a team preparing for Jump Jam later in the term. St Joseph's, along with Pukekohe Intermediate, is co-hosting the Franklin Pasifika Speech Competition. This will be held in our school hall. We also have our Proclaiming the Word competition. So a lot is happening.

Preparation for the Year 5&6 Camp at Totara Springs in Term 4 is well underway and fundraising is ongoing. If there is any parent who is willing to sponsor a child's camp fees, please contact me through the school office. We want every child to have this camp experience.

We farewelled Mrs Jeannette Irwin at the end of Term 2. (She has written you a letter, which is attached to this newsletter.) We thank Mrs Joan Murphy and Mrs Shelley Nicholson, who have taken over the KickStart Breakfast programme, sponsored by Sanitarium and Fonterra, at school. Any child is welcome to come for breakfast after 8:00 am in the school hall each morning.

It is with regret that we inform you that Miss Courtney Armour, Aroha Year 1 teacher, has become unwell and has been advised not to work while she waits for her upcoming surgery in September. There is a significant recovery period after this surgery, which has prompted Miss Armour to resign from her position at St Joseph's School. We wish her all the best as she faces this health challenge and a full recovery.

Today, Mrs Burns and I were invited to take a group of students to attend the Feast Day Mass for St Ignatius of Loyola Catholic College. We are happy to continue to maintain our relationship with the college and let our children experience going there.

This Sunday along with my sister, Sr Margaret RNDM, I am attending a special blessing at the Mission Sister's convent grounds, behind our St Patrick's Church. On Monday, the convent is to be demolished. Although the Sisters have not owned the property for some time, the developer wants to preserve the history of the site naming his project "Notre Dame Living" in the Sister's honour, and using the oak tree that the founder, Euphrasie Barbier, planted in their graphics. Notre Dame Court was also named for the Sisters as this was the land where their secondary school was until the 1960s.

I imagine many of you will be busy this weekend with your children's sports. I hope it stays fine for you all.

Nga manaakitanga ki a koe.

*Ursula Hall* Principal - Tumuaki



Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and all my will,

All I have and call my own. You have given all to me.

To you, Lord, I return it. Everything is yours; do with it what you will.

Give me only your love and your grace, that is enough for me.

St Ignatius of Loyola - Feast Day: 31 July

#### **Special Catholic Character**

#### **YCC Mufti Day**

Every year CARITAS asks Catholic Schools in New Zealand to take part in YCC day to help support other Catholic Schools around the world. This year, we stood in solidarity with St Leo's Secondary School in Kiribati. Our mufti day in week one raised \$436.20 towards this good cause.

#### **Assumption Mass**

We will be celebrating the Assumption of Mary with a whole school Mass on Friday 15th August at 9am. Our Year 5 cohort will lead us and our parish community in a wonderful celebration of Our Mother Mary. We ask all families to bring a non perishable food item in to support our Parish Food Bank.

#### **Parish Food Bank**

St Patricks Pukekohe runs a busy food bank that helps support those in need within our local community. As a mission school, we are dedicated to following in the footsteps of Euphrasie Barbier and her unwavering care for those in need. And we need your help! When your child attends Mass on a Friday, please consider sending them with a non-perishable food item such as pasta, tinned foods and cereals. These contributions, no matter how small, will directly stock our Parish food bank, helping them provide essential support and show God's love to families facing hardship in our community. Thank you for your generosity and for embodying the mission of love and service!

#### **School Values Awards**

#### Jean Claire Maningas - Aroha

for encouraging and helping her friend complete the cross country practice even when she found it hard herself

#### Zoey Talavou - Aroha

for always showing empathy and kindness to younger children and helping them to work through

#### Frances Miller - Aroha

for showing kindness, welcoming a new student to her class, and being a friend.

#### **Key Dates**

#### **Term 3 Key Dates**

Please note these dates are subject to change For further dates see calendars on the website at: <a href="https://www.stjosephs.co.nz">www.stjosephs.co.nz</a> or the eTAP app

Key Dates	Fri 1 Aug	Mass at St Patrick's Church 9:00 am - Year 6 & Aroha
Please note these dates are	Tue 5 Aug	
subject to change.	Wed 6 Aug	Board Nominations Close 12:00 noon
For further dates, see our		BOT Meeting 7:00 pm
school calendar on our	Thu 7 Aug	Assembly - Year 2 @ 1:40 pm
website or eTAP app	Fri 8 Aug	Mass at St Patrick's Church 9:00 am - Year 5 & Year 2
www.stjosephs.co.nz	Tue 12 Aug	Franklin Cross Country
	Thu 14 Aug	Maths Dress Up Day
		Maaori Whaanau Hui 3pm in staffroom
Term 3 - 2025	Fri 15 Aug	The Assumption - Whole School mass 9:00 am
14/07/2025 - 19/09/2025	Wed 20 Aug	Franklin Pasifika Speech Competition
	Fri 22 Aug	No Friday Mass
T 4 0005		Multicultural Mufti Day
<u>Term 4 - 2025</u>		Multicultural/Pasifika Assembly 11:30 - 12:30
06/10/2025 - 17/12/2025	Thu 28 Aug	Assembly - Year 0/1 - 1:40 pm
27/10/2025 - Labour Day	Fri 29 Aug	No Friday Mass
		School Final Proclaiming the Word - 11:30 - 1:00 pm
		School Disco - (Yr 0 - 3) 5:00 - 6:00 pm (Yr 4 - 6) 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Term 1 - 2026	Mon 1 Sep	Ako Caritas Challenge
02/02/2026 - 02/04/2026	Wed 3 Sep	BOT Meeting 7:00 pm
	Fri 5 Sep	Mass at St Patrick's Church 9:00 am - Year 6 & Aroha
	-	Arahi - Yr 4 Caritas Challenge
		Proclaiming the Word Finals - Auckland
		Mathex Competition Yr 5 & 6
	Tue 9 Sep	St Anne's Shield Tournament Yr 5 & 6
		St Ignatius Yr 5 Parent Evening

#### **School Board**

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD**



Check your emails - you will have received an email from "Election Pilot Mission Control"

From this email you can nominate yourself or someone else to be a school board member.

Nominations close Wednesday 6 August at 12 noon.

If you have any questions, please contact our elections team on election@electionpilot.nz or on 0800 VOTENZ (0800 868 369).

We will continue to keep you updated through the various stages of the election process.

Our election date is Wednesday 10th September.

#### **COHORT ENTRY**

Last term, we consulted with you in regard to adopting a cohort entry policy for our New Entrant enrolments. Thank you for your feedback on this proposal; it was largely supportive.

The Board has now formally adopted a cohort entry policy for New Entrant students, which will take effect in Term 1, 2026.

This policy introduces two entry points per term as set by the Ministry of Education: the first day of term and a mid-term point. New Entrants can start in the first available cohort after their fifth birthday, or at a later entry point of the whānau's choosing, as long as the child is enrolled before their sixth birthday.

Children starting in Cohorts One and Two will be categorised as Year 1 students. Those in Cohorts Three to Eight will be categorised as Year 0 students.

The cohort entry start dates are set by the Ministry of Education. The dates for 2026 are:

Term	Start of term date	Mid-term start date
1	2 February 2026 - Cohort 1	9 March 2026 - Cohort 2
2	20 April 2026 - Cohort 3	1 June 2026- Cohort 4
3	20 July 2026 - Cohort 5	24 August 2026 - Cohort 6
4	12 October 2026 - Cohort 7	16 November 2026 - Cohort 8

#### SCHOOL POLICIES

In Term 3, the Board, staff and community are asked to review the following policies: Child Protection (board), Abuse Recognition and Reporting (board), Food and Nutrition, Safety Checking (board), Police Vetting, and Missing Student Procedure

A link to our school policies can be found on our school website or through www.schooldocs.co.nz

- 1. Go to www.schooldocs.co.nz/
- 2. Click Search for your school
- 3. Start typing the school's name (St Joseph's School Pukekohe) and then select it from the dropdown list.
- 4. Enter the community **username**: stjosephspukekohe and **password**: mission.

If you would like to contact the Board directly at any time, please do so through our email address <a href="mailto:schoolboard@stjosephs.co.nz">schoolboard@stjosephs.co.nz</a>

#### St Joseph's Community Health Survey

As a Catholic school in Aotearoa New Zealand, we are committed to delivering a health and wellbeing programme that reflects both the National Education and Learning Priorities (NELP) and the special character of our school.

By consulting with our parent community, we aim to:

- Ensure our health programmes meet the needs of our learners and reflect the values and beliefs of our Catholic community.
- Inform and engage parents in how health is taught at our school.
- Respect the principle of partnership by providing parents with opportunities to give feedback and make suggestions.

If you haven't done so already, please click on the link below to complete the survey. The survey will close Friday 8 August and feedback from this survey will be communicated in the week 9 newsletter.

#### https://forms.gle/68UiLSQhi7cLK6gVA

Thank you very much to those who have completed the survey already.

#### Attendance

At St Joseph's, we know that regular school attendance is essential for every child's learning and success. **Our goal is for 80% of our students to attend school at least 90% of the time.** 

We know that sometimes your child might need to miss school. To help us keep accurate attendance records, please **let us know as soon as possible** if your child will be absent. You can easily do this via the **eTAP app, our school website, or by phoning or emailing the office.** 

It's also important to understand the difference between a **justified** and **unjustified** absence. While we appreciate you letting us know when your child is away, sometimes the reason, even if explained, doesn't meet the requirements for a justified absence.

#### Unjustified absences include:

- **No explanation:** When we haven't received any communication about your child's absence.
- Holidays during term time: While we ask that you always inform the school if you plan to take a holiday during term, these absences will be recorded as unjustified.
- Other reasons not meeting requirements: For example, if a child simply doesn't want to attend a school event like a sports day, it's their birthday, or if they're staying home because their siblings are unwell.

Being at school regularly is incredibly important for your child's progress and helps them stay connected with their friends and learning. We really appreciate your help in making sure they're here every day, ready to learn!

#### Term 3 Attendance

In Term 3 so far, 71% of our students have attended school regularly (90% of the time or more).

This represents a 2% increase compared to the previous newsletter.



Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
68% Î	78% Î	65% <mark>J</mark>
Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
71% 🔱	71% 🔱	73% î

Key 1 Attendance has improved 1 Attendance has decreased

We aim to have at least 80% of children attending school regularly.

#### **School Notices / Upcoming Events**

#### Term 3 School Attendance Dues are now due

Dues should be paid by Week 5 of every term into our

ASB account: 12-3023-0338374-01 ref: student's name

These can also be paid at the school office by eftpos or cash.

Thank you to the families who have made the effort to get their dues paid.

When making a payment please help us by telling us what you are paying for.

Ref: Student's name

Particulars - What payment is for.

The Catholic Character Contribution is a voluntary contribution forwarded to the Catholic Education Services Board. The St Joseph's Development Trust Contribution is a voluntary contribution which the Trust is extremely grateful to receive. This is used in our school for improvements to our site and facilities. Both of these voluntary contributions are tax-deductible

#### **School Start Time**

Students are expected to be at school by 8:30 am. Teachers are not in class until 8:15 am.

Parents, you need to ensure your child is at school by 8:30 every day. Thank you.

Please note that any children who arrive at school before 8:15 are not supervised.

Some children are arriving at school before 8:00 am!

#### **Second-Hand Uniform Shop**

The Second-hand uniform shop is open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons 2:30 - 3:00 pm. We are limiting purchases to 1 item of each article of clothing per child, per term.

New items can be purchased from The Uniform Shoppe on Glasgow Road, Pukekohe

#### <u>Understanding Your Child's Learning</u>

Remember to check out the Ministry of Education's Parent Portal for useful tips on how you can support your child's education.

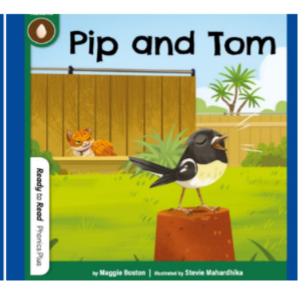
https://www.education.govt.nz/parents-and-caregivers/schools-year-0-13/understand-your-childs-learning/new-zealand-curriculum-year-by-year-learning-guide

Your secret parenting superpower? Saying "yes" to reading the same book for the eighth time. Repetition is magic  $\stackrel{*}{\leftrightarrow}$ 

Your child's first schoolbooks might look simple, but they're a big deal! They help build confidence, vocabulary and (hopefully) spark a love of reading.

https://bit.ly/44jjyFC

Read it again. And again. And again. And again. And again.



#### Celebrations

#### **Aroha**

Aroha were amazing competing in their very first school Cross Country! We learned a lot about resilience and stamina. It took lots of personal strength not to stop when it was hard going. We also learned about how to support others and cheer them on. Our teachers were very very proud of us.







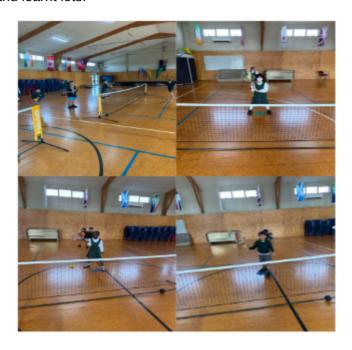






#### <u>Ako</u>

Ako has been very lucky to have Coach Cam from Pukekohe Tennis come in and lead us through two action packed sessions. We learnt how to do both a forehand and a volley, how to hold the racket and how to balance our bodies to get the best result. We were able to challenge each other and show good sportsmanship. We even got to test how well our teachers can catch! We had lots of fun and learnt lots.



Ella Schultz from Ako team competed at the cheerfest champion cheerleading competition in the holidays.



Her team "CX BUNNYS" won 2nd place out of 6 teams who competed in her division.

Well done Ella!

#### <u>Arahi</u>

Back in week 1, Year 6 were lucky enough to see Pukekohe Intermediate's production of Disney's High School Musical Jr. Our students had a fantastic time! It was a real treat to get out and experience another school's production, especially with the performers being not too much older than our Year 6's! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the performance and it was a great experience.







#### Stars Netball Visit

Our year 5 & 6 netball girls were very lucky to have Kate Burley and Rami Kamo from the Go Media Stars come and lead an awesome session with them. Both Kate and Rami are professional netball players and having them come in and share their expertise and knowledge was invaluable for our rising netball stars. They worked on ball skills, defense and using the full space of the court. Our girls loved this experience and look forward to using the things they learnt out on court.



#### **Win a Fabulous Photo Shoot!**

We've got **two amazing photo shoot prizes** up for grabs — perfect for capturing memories you'll treasure forever!

Thank you so much to Casey Van Liefde Photography and Nicola Blackwell Photography for these generous prizes supporting our camp fundraising. See the flyers attached.

#### Only \$10 per ticket

Only 100 tickets available per prize — so your chances are great!

Tickets will be sold outside the office before and after school starting Monday 4th August.

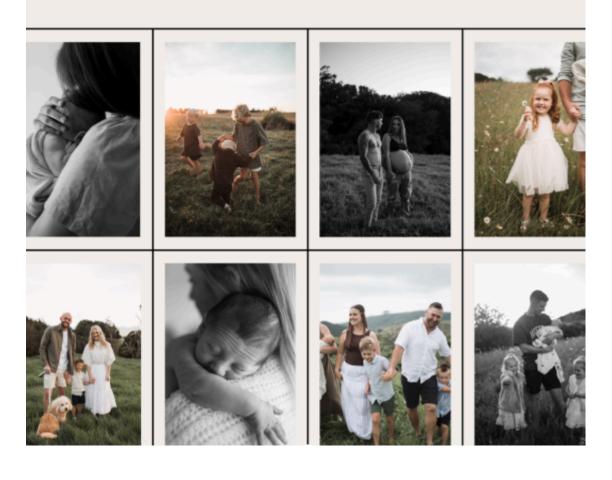
Don't miss your chance to win one of these incredible prizes while supporting a great cause!

Get in quick, once tickets are gone, they're gone!

## St Joseph's School Fundraiser

THIS VOUCHER ENTITLES YOU TO A LIFESTYLE PHOTOSHOOT INCLUSIVE OF A FULL ONLINE GALLERY WITH A MINIMUM OF 40 EDITED IMAGES VALUED AT \$800. SESSIONS INCLUDE MATERNITY, NEWBORN, COUPLES OR FAMILY.

Nicola Blackwell photography Hello@nicolablackwellphotography.com



## CASEY VAN LIEFDE PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO







### ST JOSEPHS SCHOOL CAMP RAFFLE WIN A FAMILY PHOTOSHOOT!

#### INCLUDES:

-1.5 hour styled & directed Studio Photoshoot -15 Edited Photos

TOTAL VALUE \$900





2 Cliff Lane, Glenbrook

Thank you from Mrs Irwin

To the St Joseph's School Principal, School Board, Staff, PTA, Children and Community,

Thank you for a beautiful and meaningful farewell. It will always be remembered by Mick and me with love, joy and sadness in ending an amazing 41 years of my life. The Mass offered by Father Robert and Father Joseph was a very special start to my retirement. Thank you to those who organised each part of the liturgy, the prayers of the faithful, the beautiful singing, and the speeches and gifts presented to me. These all had great meaning to us and our family.

Thank you, parents, past pupils, teachers and parishioners who were present at the Mass. You have my blessings.

I really appreciated the effort shown to set up the magnificent "High Tea" morning tea in the school hall after Mass. The staff wore beautiful brooches in an endearing moment of me and my daily brooches- that was a lovely thought. It was wonderful to be with past and present teachers, teacher aides, family and friends, especially the Sisters of the Missions who had a very early start to get to Pukekohe on time and my own Sister of the Mission sister, Mary, was present.



After feeding the children breakfast, I was shunted out of the hall kitchen and in came the PTA parents and teacher aides, so when arriving back for morning tea all was beautifully ready. A big thanks for all you did and also to Peter our caretaker for helping out with the sausage sizzle organised by Robin for the children from me. Everything ran so smoothly; I am very grateful.

In no time the hall was full of pupils ready for a farewell assembly. A big thank you to all who organised this amazing farewell assembly - being presented with a director's chair complete with my name, a beautifully made quilt depicting the school's activities and symbols that I had a hand in over the years; thank you, Lesley, after 13 years under your guidance, the quilt is a special keepsake. The creation of all 16 symbols from all classrooms has real meaning to me, as has the beautiful book made by the children from all classrooms. I appreciate the writings, poems, stories and pictures in it.

The slideshow had me close to tears as children and past teachers spoke - all very dear to me. The writers who took the time to put together a very heartfelt song, then taught the children across the school to sing it to me. Warmest thanks, Fleur and Joan. I was very honoured to be presented with the Haka at the end of this moving assembly.

Very special blessings go to the principal, Ursula Hall, and staff who presented me with beautiful gifts on the last day of my life at St Joseph's; a lovely surprise as I had been given such a farewell the day before; more speeches, morning tea, and hugs all round. I am so thankful to you all.

God bless St Joseph's School and its wonderful community.

Jeannette Irwin

#### PTA/FRIENDS of St Joseph's School Notices

#### Be part of St Joseph's School Fair 2026!

It's that time again! We are planning our 2026 School Fair. Our fun fair is a popular and amazing community event and draws large crowds from the Franklin district and further afield.

The event is coordinated by the PTA and is one of the major fundraisers for St. Joseph's School. The 2026 fair will raise funds to go towards the further development of our outdoor environment, specifically sensory playground equipment.

On the day, there is something for everyone, from refreshments and local performances under shade for our more relaxed members of our community to obstacle courses and bouncy castles for the young ones as well as many different food options to suit everyone's needs.

We are looking for support from those in our community to help us raise these funds and also create a fun-filled day for our local community.

Date: Saturday 14 March 2026 Time: 9am - 2pm Where: St Joseph's Catholic School, Pukekohe How can you support us? ride sponsorship donation of products or services for our silent auction and raffles monetary donations How will we promote your business? All sponsors will feature in our school newsletter. Ride sponsorship - YOUR company sign can be displayed by the ride sponsored throughout the fair. Regular shoutouts and promotions on our Facebook page and other social media channels as we countdown the days! We will highlight our wonderful businesses on the day from the stage. If you are interested in sponsoring or helping our fair in any way please contact Kathleen O'Kane or Merrin Fowlie at pta@stjosephs.co.nz Thank you for supporting our tamariki. We appreciate it immensely!

Inflatable/Item	Price
35ft Race ya Mates Course	\$499
22ft Slide	\$499
Jousting	\$350
50ft Race ya Mates Course	\$699
Bungee Run	\$350
5x5 Bouncy Castle	\$350

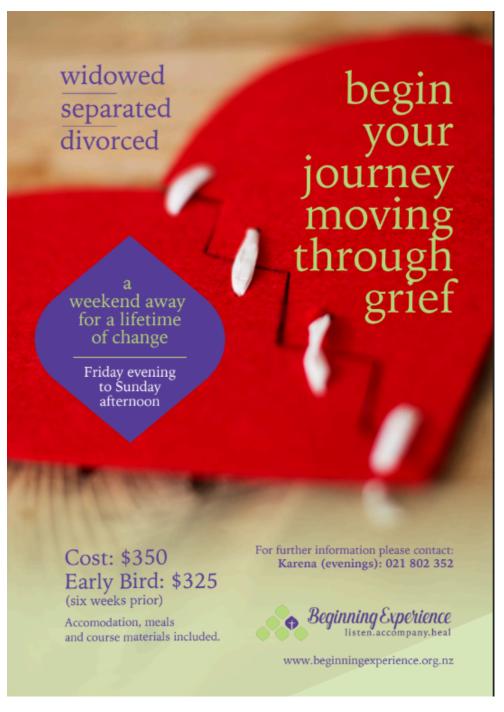


#### \$500

We have won 2 hours free for one face painter!!!

However there is still a cost for an additional face painter.

#### **Community Notices**



"ALONE AGAIN? A weekend away to help those suffering the heartache of Separation, Divorce, or Widowhood on 5-7 September. The Beginning Experience is a non-profit organization that provides support for the grieving single again, and offers an opportunity to turn the pain of loss into an experience of positive growth. The cost for 2 nights'

accommodation, meals, and materials and follow up event is \$350 with EARLY BIRD cost \$325 if paid by 30 JULY. For further information please phone Karena, evenings on 021802352. <a href="https://www.beginningexperience.org.nz">www.beginningexperience.org.nz</a>"



# TERM 3 ADULT ART ADVENTURES

IN 6 X 1.5 HOUR EVENING SESSIONS WE WILL CREATE WITH A VARIETY OF MEDIUMS IN THIS ART GROUP TO INCLUDE ACRYLIC PAINTING, WATERCOLOURS & OTHER MEDIUMS.

#### WEDNESDAY'S, 6.15PM - 7.45PM.

WEDNESDAY 30TH JULY - 3RD SEPTEMBER, 2025
COST: \$235.00 INCLUDES 6 X EVENINGS & ALL MATERIALS

PUKEKOHE / TUTOR: ANNA MOLINEUX / 16YRS-101YRS



https://www.youngatart.co.nz/adult-workshops/



**PUKEKOHE - TERM 3** 

Students aged 9-18 years

# TWEENS & TEENS SPECIALIST COURSE



WWW.YOUNGATART.CO.NZ

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!





Junior Club League & Teams - This is a club based structure where kids can register to their nearest club to join a team and start playing in games. Our junior club league has U10, U12 & U14 age groups with a bunch of grades for each one. Our club league runs on Friday nights and most clubs train on Tuesday afternoons.

Website link: https://www.fbb.nz/ourclubs

#### FRANKLIN BASKETBALL PRESENTS

# **GIRLS GOT GAME**

Anyone aged 8-15 years.
This is a perfect place to start basketbal. Our FREE\* beginner program covers the basic as well as play lots of fun and engaging games and activities focusing on skill development, connection and exploration of the aport with other girls!

#### STARTING - WEDNESDAY 3018 JULY



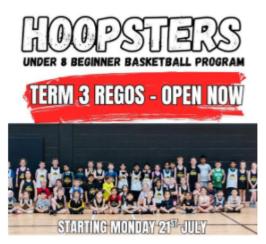




#### REGISTER HERE OR SCAN THE OR CODE BELOW



GGG - Girls Got Game Beginner Program - This program is for anyone aged 8-15 years. Website link: https://www.fbb.nz/girlsgotgame



#### REGISTER HERE OR SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW

www.fbb.nz/hoopsters





Under 8 - Hoopsters Program - This program is for kids aged 5-7 and is designed with 3 levels of a combination of ability and age. Here we teach children the fundamental skills needed to successfully take part in basketball games, taught in a fun, relaxed environment.

Website link: https://www.fbb.nz/hoopsters

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Call us on <u>09 238 7745</u> Email us at <u>stjoesoffice@stjosephs.co.nz</u> <u>94 Seddon St Pukekohe 2120</u>