Information for Parents for the 2027 School Year

Contact Details Phone 3481701
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admin@stmarysrotoruaschool.nz
Office Hours 2026: 8.30 am - 3.15 pm

Staff email details are in the “Our School” section of the school website.

We look forward to having you as part of our school community in 2027.

What you need to know about the start of the 2027 School Year.

Please find enclosed the relevant details for the commencement of the 2027 school year at St Mary’s

Term Dates 2027
Term 1 begins on 28 January and 29 January. Each child with their parent(s) has a 20-minute appointment on one of these two days. ***The first day of class for all students is Tuesday, 2 February.***

Term 1 classes	2 February - 9 April
Term 2 classes	27 April - 2 July
Term 3 classes	19 July - 24 September
Term 4 classes	11 October - 14 December (TBC)

Public Holidays during School Terms - Waitangi Day observed, 8 February; Easter Friday, 26 March - Tuesday, 30 March; King’s Birthday, 7 June; Matariki, 25 June; Labour Day, 25 October.

*Teacher Only Day*s are yet to be confirmed by the Ministry of Education.

How do I book the appointment for my child for either Thursday, 29 January or Friday, 30 January?

Booking Site for Parent Conferences. Each child and an adult whanau member needs to book a time for either Thursday, 29 January, or Friday, 30 January. You can do this by using the following link:https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/44qur, going to the website schoolinterviews.co.nz and utilising the code **44qur,** or following the QR code below.

Stationery
Stationery is a cost that parents and caregivers cover, and stationery purchases need to be organised by parents. Office Max is our supplier for all your stationery needs. Our teachers carefully select stationery to align with our teaching programmes. We would appreciate it if you did not substitute products. Please use the enclosed leaflet to follow the link to purchase your stationery.

We recommend placing your order with Office Max by 15 January to ensure that you receive your order before school starts. All orders placed in December are entered into the draw to win $1000 cash (this is an Office Max promotion).

School App—Make sure you have downloaded our School App and signed up for notifications for the 2027 class your child will be in and for any sports teams your child joins. Go into settings (three bars at the top left of the screen) and select which groups you wish to receive notifications from.

If you do not have the app, follow one of these links, then search for St Mary's Catholic School Rotorua.
https://schoolappsnz.co.nz/install/ or https://stmarysrotorua.apps.school.nz/install/

Seesaw—our classes use it. An update with any notices for the week is posted over the weekend, and another update is made sometime during the week to share some of the week's learning.

Uniform Shop - In 2027, we will no longer stock new uniforms at our on-site school uniform shop. All uniform items will now be available at **The Uniform Shoppe**, located at 1208 Hinemoa Street, Rotorua. Please see the enclosed flyer for opening hours and prices.

We will still sell second-hand uniforms via our uniform shop in the hall.

General Information

School Website http://www.stmarysrotorua.school.nz. Use this to find helpful information about our school. We also have a calendar on the website for parents to know about upcoming events. Click on the date to view events.

School Camps - In 2027, we will hold school camps for our Year 5 - 6 students. Parents must cover the funding for these camps. A letter informing 2027 Year 5 and 6 students has already been sent home.

Diocesan fees—Families will still need to pay the Diocesan fee of $136.50 per term ($546.00 p.a.) and a Catholic Character Contribution (CCC) of $60 per child. (The Total CCC for any one family is $150.00.) The Catholic Character donation is tax-deductible. Please access the Diocese if you would like to commence an automatic payment for weekly or fortnightly payments.

Seesaw - Each student will have a digital portfolio of learning stories on Seesaw, which can only be accessed by the teacher and invited family members. Parents new to the school will be invited to join Seesaw. Parents must accept the invitation and create their password before they will have access. A parent can also invite other family members to access their child's account. To do this, invite additional family members to your child's profile. Classroom teachers will also use Seesaw to communicate notices and to message parents.

School Times - Classes commence from 8.45 am to 3 pm. Please have your children at school by 8.30 am so that they can organise themselves for the day. Please ensure your child is at school on time, as latecomers disrupt the whole class.

Children who are at school unsupervised after 3.15 p.m. sit on the School Office steps. We cannot take responsibility for students at school before 8:30 a.m. or after 3.15 p.m. If your child is unable to leave by 3.15 p.m., please look at after-school care options.

After School Programme - an offsite programme, with children being dropped off in the morning/collected in the afternoon from St Mary's. Contact Aidan at A-Z Kids Club 021 121 5599 or check the following website for further information. Email a2zkidsclub@gmail.com

Swimming - Each class is assigned a swimming time; your teacher will notify you. Swimming is part of our curriculum; all children are expected to swim each day. A note needs to be provided if a child is unable to swim. Our school pool is heated.

NEW FOR 2027 Parking—Most parents use the Church car park on Seddon Street (please be considerate and respectful, particularly if you can see there is a funeral at the Church). <u>There will be no parking or drop-off/pick-up on Carnot Street from next year.</u> This is due to a change in the nature of the parking on Carnot Street by Rotorua Lakes Council. The car park accessed via the Carnot Street entrance is for staff use only.

The new car park on Seddon Street should be complete when school returns in late January. The new pick up/drop off runs along the side of the Church. See the plan below.



Newsletters—We have a weekly school newsletter issued on Wednesday and sent via email. You can subscribe to our newsletter by going to 'Newsletters' at the bottom of our home page and adding your email address, or you can view it via the school app.

Facebook—We have a school Facebook account that is used to communicate brief reminders or messages and photos of school events. You can view the information posted by searching for *St Mary's Catholic School Rotorua* on Facebook.

Lost Property—It is very helpful to have all school uniform items and sandals/shoes named. We have a lost property box that can be checked if your child is missing something. It is located outside Kakano 9, on the Senior School side of Totara 5.

Library Books—Your child's class is allocated a time to visit our school library every two weeks. We also encourage parents to take their children to the Rotorua Public Library regularly.

Signing Students Out - Adults taking children out for any reason during the school day MUST sign their child out/in at the school office.

School Bank Account for Online Payments
Bank and Branch: **ANZ Rotorua** Account number: **06 0209 0229658 00**
Please ensure you include the child's surname and the payment method in the reference section.

Sport - Shanelle McCashin (in the front office) is our Sports Coordinator. We are blessed to have many willing, skilled and enthusiastic parents who assist with coaching and managing our teams. Most of our children play in summer and/or winter sports teams. Sports queries via email at sports@stmarysrotorua.school.nz

Telephones—Students are not permitted to use mobile phones or smartwatches on school grounds during School Office hours. However, there is a phone at the School Office's student counter that students can use if they need to make an urgent call during the School Day.

We hope you enjoy being part of the St Mary's learning community.

Have a blessed Christmas with your whanau, and I will see you in the New Year.

Ngā Mihi,

David Macmillan.