



Community Connections

Autumn 2022

PRESBYTERIAN WHĀNAU WORKING TOGETHER!

Communities Feeding Communities Initiative

The new kai space is open, come by and visit us at 1207 Dominion Road, Mt Roskill.

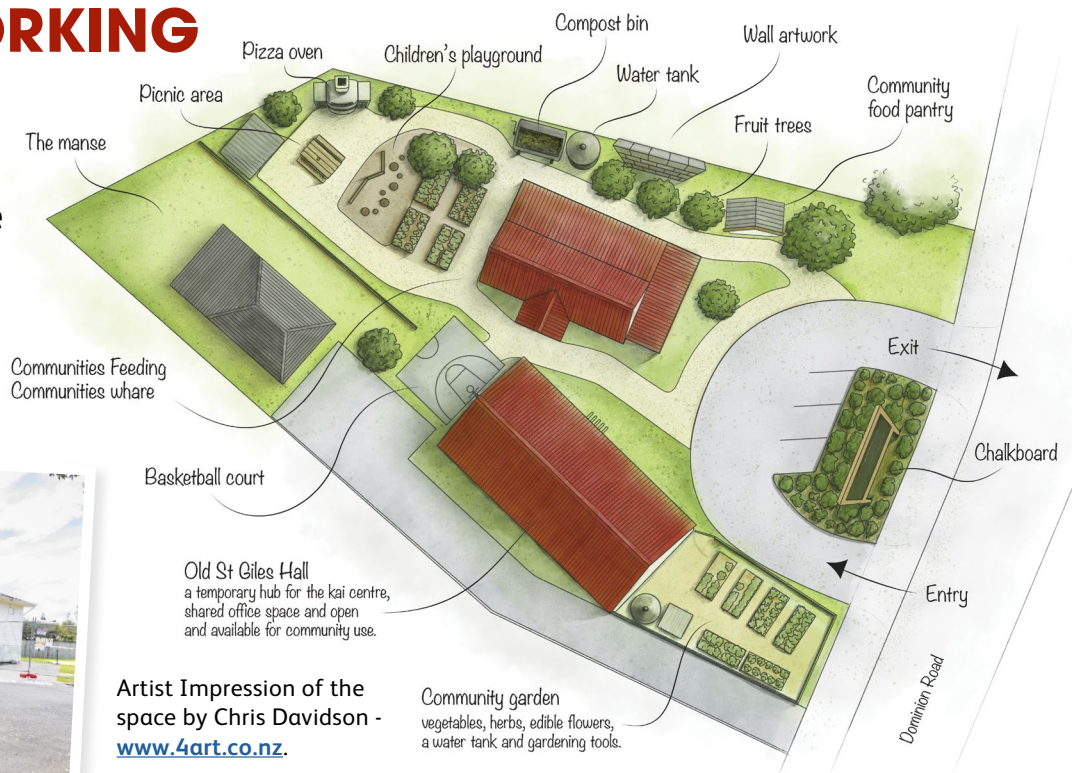


Fa'amānu the Community Minister and Grace the Community Hub Coordinator in front of 1207 Dominion Road, a new venture!



New Blackboard in front of the Kai Space, built by the Auckland Central Community Shed.

Above photo: Saint Kentigern School Weekend Warriors.



Artist Impression of the space by Chris Davidson - www.4art.co.nz.



Above: New shelves and painted floors, thank you Saint Kentigern School weekend warriors!

Right: First working bee, to prepare the community garden!



Above: The Pātaka Kai built and designed by the community relations team and Don from the Auckland Central Community Shed.



WHAT'S ON

Friday 24th June

Matariki Celebration

It is a time to celebrate new life, to remember those who've passed on and to plan for the future. And it's a time to spend with whānau and friends – to enjoy kai (food), waiata (song), tākarō (games) and haka.

Try and spot the nine stars of Matariki, and enjoy the festivities from Friday, June 17 to Sunday, July 3.

www.twinkl.co.nz/event/matariki-2022

www.matarikifestival.org.nz

TE IWA O MATARIKI THE NINE STARS OF MATARIKI



13th-19th June

Light it Orange 2022

For too many Kiwis, home is not a place of safety. It's a place of fear and shame, hidden behind closed doors. You can help change this by shining a light on domestic violence this June.

Sign up to Light it Orange to help families get safe and stay safe.

www.lightitorange.org.nz



20th-28th August

Praying for Children

Last year we created these wonderful resources, but due to Lockdown we weren't able to utilise them. In preparation for *Praying for Children 2022*, there are a series of short prayers, quotes, poems, questions to reflect on and activities you can do.

Find all the resources here:

www.resourcingprayerandworship.wordpress.com/blog-2/



Please sign up to our MailChimp online newsletter!

WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

With the rise in petrol costs and the growing number of food parcels needed, Family Works Northern is seeing a growing number of people struggling with the increasing cost of living.

Some people are having to choose between putting food on the table or petrol in the car.

For example, in one of the families we support, the mother has stopped using her car unless it's urgent. She walks instead and does smaller shopping trips. The car is now seen as a luxury she cannot afford to just "pop out in".

In another family, the parent could not get her child to school because she couldn't afford petrol until payday. Others are struggling to meet the costs of getting children to medical appointments.

Another parent said her family is living week to week on a budget, but due to the additional cost of petrol (about 25 % per tank) the only negotiable cost is food. This means omitting things or buying a different version, or substituting a product. She has also noticed that the cost of food has risen too, which affects what and how much she can buy.

Family Works has trained and experienced family workers and social workers who provide support for families struggling with a range of issues to provide wraparound support to whānau. We also have specially trained financial mentors who can help with budgeting and accessing financial support.

Alistair Houston, one of our Family Works Area Managers, says uncertainty about the future, reduced work hours and job losses due to COVID-19 mean that more people are struggling financially. "Some families have found themselves on lower incomes or are now relying on benefits. They are living hand to mouth. What comes in is going out on rent, food and utilities leaving nothing left over and, in some cases, it's not enough to cover all their expenses.

"We've found many people aren't aware of all the options available to them or how to navigate financial services, including how to structure debt, what to look out for with 'buy now, pay later' providers, and understanding what benefits they're entitled to."

Family Works, a not-for-profit, has a team of experienced financial mentors in Central, West and South Auckland providing free advice and coaching to people struggling with money worries.

Alistair also gives the example of a client who bought a van to help transport her 19-year-old daughter who has significant disabilities. However, she lost her job and was unable to make the payments on the van.



Working with Family Works, she was able to apply to the Lottery Grants Board for a specialised disability van, which was successful. This enabled her to sell the old van and pay off the debt.

"You don't need to wait until your finances are in a desperate state. If you're struggling now then ask for help now," says Alistair.

With the current red COVID-19 alert level, face-to-face meetings with financial mentors are still possible, however, people can still meet regularly by phone or online through Zoom if they prefer.

People can also be referred to the Family Works financial mentoring service by their GP, Work & Income or other service provider, or they can refer themselves.

Family Works budgeting service can be reached at:

Waitakere

Phone: 09 835 1288

or email admin.waitakere@fwn.org.nz

Manurewa (Te Hononga)

Phone: 09 269 1009

or email admin.tehononga@fwn.org.nz

Central Auckland

Phone: 09 639 2016

or email admin.lesliecentre@fwn.org.nz



Family Works

NORTHERN

COMMUNITY SHOUT OUTS!

PSN has partnered with The Period Place to be one of their impact partners!

The Period Place estimates 70,000 people are experiencing the worst forms of period poverty every month in Aotearoa. The Period Place supports individuals experiencing period inequity (period poverty), and works with Impact Partners (community groups) to provide period products and education to support their menstruators. We love what they're trying to achieve! Their goal is to help make Aotearoa the first country to achieve period equity by 2030.

THE PERIOD
place



SAINT KENTIGERN SCHOOL WEEKEND WARRIORS!



We have been blessed with the hard work Saint Kentigern's parents, students and staff have done for the new community space.

Gifting plants and garden beds around, putting up new fences, making a path so disability access can be easier. In the hall they removed the carpet, re-painted the walls and floors. Putting up new shelving inside, and more.

Saint Kentigern's, you're welcome to come back again!



Thank you

ST CUTHBERT'S COLLEGE SERVICE PROJECT

We have been invited by St Cuthbert's to work with The York House, who are planning a wonderful sensory play area for children and children's play packs for different ages at 1207 Dominion Road, Mt Roskill. We want to create Child Rich Communities, and this is one of the ways the Kai community space can be a child-friendly area.



Here's some of their ideas:



Kei reira a PSN mō te whānau me ngā hapori ina hiahia rātou ki a mātou. Ka taea e tātou te panoni i ngā whakatupuranga.

PSN's Purpose: To be there for whānau and communities when they need us. Together, we can transform generations.



Contact details:

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Or visit www.psn.org.nz for more information or to download more copies.