



SCHOOL NEW SLETTER

"If the children are given a Krishna Conscious education from early childhood, then there is great hope for the future of the world" - A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada



"Everything should be done on the basis of love. Strictness is not very good. The students should act out of love, that is wanted". - Srila Prabhupada



Visit "Seesaw" to get all the updates, notifications and your child's learning stories



Please follow our "Parents of the Hare Krishna School" FB page for pictures, notices and more

SNEAK PEEK OF WHAT'S INSIDE:

TERM HIGHLIGHTS AT HKS



School Board's Update

Find the update from our School's Board of Trustees on Pg. 3



Speech Event

The House Event of Term 3. See more on Pg. 9



Janm astami at HKS

We celebrated Janm astami with our school community. More on that on Pg. 10





Board of Trustees Update

Hare Krishna dear parents and community members,
We want to extend a big thank you to all the board nominees and parents who participated in the recent board elections. We appreciate the time and effort that went into the nomination and voting process. Your engagement helps strengthen our school community and ensures diverse representation on the board. The election results will be shared once the results are finalised.

Krishna Bhakti

The Board is pleased to reaffirm the importance of the Krishna Bhakti Sastra curriculum, which remains central to our school's special character. Our teachers continue to integrate Krishna Consciousness into classroom activities, especially during the recent festivals.

A massive thank you to our teachers and students for the wonderful Jammastami Celebration, which featured excellent presentations by students across all year levels. It was a fantastic event, well attended by parents and families.

Learning and Achievement

Our students across both primary and secondary schools continue to show commendable achievement. Within the secondary school, the first year of NCEA implementation is progressing well, with our Year 11 students completing their NCEA Pre-lim (practice) exams in Week 10.

We are also excited that the Ministry of Education has approved our change of class to Year 13, enabling the school to offer all high school levels in the coming years.

School property improvements

You may have noticed the property improvements around the school, especially the additional concrete paths, which have been a blessing during this wet winter weather. We are also working with the proprietor on the construction of a new classroom building, which is expected to be in place by next year.

School Lunches

We are delighted to report that the school lunch program, enjoyed by students, has shown great improvement due to additional staffing and menu changes. We'd love for your child to give our school lunches a try if they haven't already. We're confident they'll enjoy the fresh homemade meals.

Parent Teacher Association

The Board encourages community members to consider joining the PTA to support the school. Your involvement is invaluable to us.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please reach out.

Yours in service,

Hare Krishna School Board of Trustees

Curriculum Highlights

Junior School

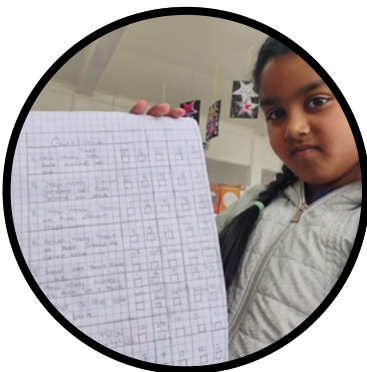


Year 1

Students in Bal Gopal class were so happy to see their completed pottery creations. After choosing their glaze colors and carefully applying 3 coats, the children were surprised at the finished product fresh from the kiln. Some children made bowls by pressing their thumbs into a ball of clay and then slowly making the hole bigger by squeezing, while others branched out and made plates, spoons and even a tea pot. Skills learnt include creativity, sensory stimulation, and fine motor skill development.

Year 2

Ka-Balarāma class explored the concept of capacity by making Varuni, a sweet drink in honour of Lord Balarāma. Using cups and measuring jugs, kids measured 1 cup of milk per person, 300mL of cream, and carefully calculated half of 450g of honey (225g). They worked collaboratively, using plates to prevent spillage and followed each step with care. Mixing until all the honey dissolved allowed kids to observe changes in liquid mixtures and apply practical problem-solving. Students also had to scale up their recipe to include 5 extra servings for Year 1 – a real-life opportunity to extend their understanding of quantity and estimation.



Year 3

Maths – Statistics

Our Year 3 students have been learning about statistics this term. They created their own surveys, collected data from their classmates, and then represented their findings in graphs and charts. This hands-on learning helped them see how maths connects to everyday life and how information can be shared and understood in different ways.

Year 4

This term, Year 4 has been reading and writing biographies of influential personalities, both materially, such as Martin Luther King Jr., and spiritually, such as Sri Prabhupada. Students explored what makes a person inspirational, learning to identify key life events, achievements, and qualities that shaped their contributions to the world.

For their final assignment, each student researched a personality of their choice, wrote a biography, and created a poster to share with the class. The results were thoughtful and creative, showing not only their developing writing skills but also their ability to reflect on the values and lessons these personalities modelled. Kapai Year 4 – well done!



A term full of spiritual bliss! We celebrated Balarama's Appearance Day, Jammastami, and Radhastami. For Jammastami, Year 5's practiced Sri Nama Kirtan as an offering to Krishna. In our Inquiry Unit, we explored how celebrations shape our identity, creating clay tokens in Outdoor Education to represent symbols and their meanings. We also worked on persuasive speeches, learning techniques to engage an audience. Finally, we studied inspiring figures through biographies, from Sir Edmund Hillary and Dame Whina Cooper to Sri Prabhupada, Urmila Mataji, and Janananda Maharaj.



This term, students studied *Your Ever Well Wisher* by Satsvarupa Dasa Goswami, exploring the life of Sri Prabhupada, ISKCON's founder. Each week, we read adapted chapters tracing his journey from sailing to America on the *Jaladuta*, to establishing the first temple in New York, travelling to San Francisco, returning to India, and opening temples worldwide. Students learned how ISKCON, founded in 1966, grew from a small storefront into a global movement through chanting, prasadam, and teaching. They also explored Sri Prabhupada's qualities of determination, humility, courage, and devotion, reflecting on how his example continues to inspire devotees today. This study deepened students' understanding of our school's special character and how Sri Prabhupada's life can inspire their own choices.

Our Year 7 students impressed us this term with their powerful speeches, blending traditional structure with the creativity of spoken word and slam poetry. Speaking from the heart, they persuaded their audience with rhythm, vocabulary, and conviction, while developing persuasive writing skills and confidence in public speaking.

In reading, students explored non-fiction articles and crafted thoughtful responses using a skill-based template. They practised summarising, identifying key messages, and making connections to texts, experiences, and the wider community, strengthening comprehension and reading with greater depth.



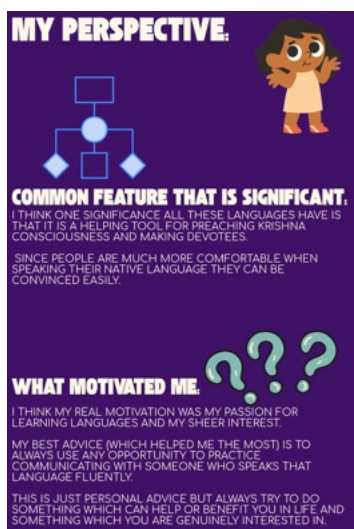
In response to parent feedback that many students were not regularly reading at home, our class launched a new reading focus this term. We surveyed interests and ordered books from the National Library—an event that sparked much excitement when the box finally arrived. A cosy reading corner with a couch, cushions, and a beanbag now makes reading inviting, and some of the girls created bookmarks for the whole class. Students enjoy 20 minutes of independent reading each day and 30 minutes of reading homework, alongside writing personal responses to literature. Our aim is to nurture both a love of recreational reading and the lifelong habit of reading to learn.

Curriculum Highlights

High School Subjects



Year 9's blog on how to make drawing less boring



Year 9's blog on learning 4 languages

English

Year 9

From delivering powerful speeches--TED talk style--to writing catchy blogs, it has been an amazing term for Y9 students to grow their confidence in speaking and writing. Students have explored the differences between formal and informal language. After learning about the purpose and features of 3 types of non-fiction writing, students completed an assignment to write a formal letter, a magazine article and a personalised blog. Using Canva layouts, students presented their blogs and magazine articles in visually attractive ways, suitable for the publication purpose. Well done Y9s for another wonderful term!

Year 10

Students began the term with reading Radhanath swami's autobiography *The Journey Home* as part of their non-fiction book response. Learning about the features of autobiography, students explored the language and style of the author's writing as inspiration for their own descriptive writing. This writing was a highlight this term; students wrote beautifully crafted descriptions of their significant places--from Govardhana Hill at New Varshan to Ram Mandir and the mountainous landscapes of Mt Ruapehu--giving readers a vivid glimpse of their experiences. We now end the term with a film study: *The Blind Side*, an inspiring film about the importance of belonging, family and education.

Year 11

This term, students have studied the film *Billy Elliot* in preparation for their NCEA exam. Students analysed how film techniques are used to develop the plot, characters and important ideas in the film. In discussing the idea that stories help us develop empathy and an awareness of the complexities and beauty of different perspectives, students studied many themes such as the redemptive power of love and the rewards of persevering to achieve your dreams in the face of popular opinion; students also had the opportunity to examine ideas and points of view through a sastric lens, making connections to relevant Bhavad-gita verses.

Years 9–11 Mathematics

This term in Mathematics, our Year 9 and 10 students focused on the Measurement and Geometry strand. They used a range of equipment to take measurements, apply them in calculations and conversions, and solve increasingly complex problems. Students also learned to plan, carry out, and evaluate measuring tasks, as well as construct geometrical shapes using a geometry box—developing skills to draw segments, rays, angles, and triangles, and to bisect them with accuracy.

In Year 11, students applied mathematical methods to real-life contexts relevant to Aotearoa New Zealand and the Pacific. A highlight was designing takeaway containers for Krishna Mela at the temple and justifying which design would be the most cost-effective to make. Students are now preparing for their external exams, building confidence in mathematical reasoning across Algebra, Number, Measurement, Geometry, and Space.





Year 11 students have been developing their NCEA art projects by exploring a subject or place of personal significance. They began by photographing and sketching their chosen focus, then extended their ideas through research into a range of art styles, mediums, and typographic elements. From this, students selected approaches that resonated with them and produced a cohesive art book that reflects both their creative process and individual artistic voice.



In Technology, students have been learning Python programming. They created applications that could solve a mathematical problem while exploring key coding concepts such as variables, loops, and functions. This project strengthened their problem-solving skills and showed them how programming can be used in real-life situations.

This term, students enjoyed practising, learning, preparing props, and presenting a performance of the Daśavātāra during the Jāmā amī celebrations for parents. This experience allowed them to engage deeply with scriptural stories while developing creativity, teamwork, and confidence in presenting before an audience.

Alongside this, students have been reflecting on their novels *Opened-Eyed Meditation* and *The Magic of Friendship*. Through discussion and written responses, they explored key themes, values, and personal lessons from the texts, considering how these messages can be applied in their own lives.



This term, students explored the first unit, *States of Matter*, through a range of resources and hands-on activities. Each Friday, they conducted experiments in pairs, which encouraged them to design their own investigations and present their findings to the class.

In the second unit, *Sound Waves*, students developed an understanding of how different musical instruments work and the physics principles behind the sounds they produce.



This term, students studied the topic of waves, exploring how they behave and interact with different materials. A high light was creating their own holograms to demonstrate the refraction of light waves—an engaging hands-on project that deepened their understanding of this key physics concept.

Curriculum Highlights

Other learning areas



Outdoor Classroom - Claywork

This term in our Outdoor Classroom, students from Years 1–8 have been exploring the art of claywork, making full use of our new kiln. Junior classes shaped bowls, teapots, and other creative pieces, brushing them with colourful glazes before Ian Prabhu carefully fired them to vibrant, character-filled finishes. This hands-on experience let students experiment with a traditional craft, express creativity, and see their ideas come to life.

High school students also had the unique opportunity to create on the pottery wheel. After shaping their work with this specialised technique, they fired their pieces in the kiln, producing stunning, professional-quality results. Across the school, students have gained new skills while engaging with a traditional craft and bringing their creativity to life in lasting form.

Sanskrit

We are happy to report that students are progressing well in their Sanskrit lessons. Students in Year 1 are learning songs, colours, numbers and actions in Sanskrit through games. Years 2 and 3 are learning simple sentences and doing more complex mental maths in Sanskrit. From Year 4 onwards, all students have been practising writing in Devanagari script, with our older students now writing complex words and forming meaningful sentences.



Physical Education

Years 1-8 Term focus: Gymnastics & Ball Games

This term, students built confidence, teamwork, and key movement skills through gymnastics and ball games. In gymnastics, they practised rolls, balances, handstands, and cartwheels, combining these into mini-routines that showed creativity and control. Ball games focused on throwing, catching, dribbling, and striking, with games like benchball and modified basketball encouraging teamwork, communication, and fair play. Across all activities, students strengthened coordination, resilience, and confidence in trying new challenges.

Years 9 & 10 Term focus: Badminton and Basketball

This term, students focused on badminton and basketball, developing both technical skills and game awareness. In badminton, they refined serving, forehand/backhand shots, drop shots, and smashes, while also learning strategies for singles and doubles play. In basketball, they developed ball-handling skills such as dribbling, passing, and shooting, before applying offensive and defensive principles like spacing, movement, and man-to-man defence. Small-sided games helped build confidence before moving in to full game situations. Across both sports, students strengthened tactical thinking, teamwork, and resilience, while contributing positively to a supportive and competitive learning environment.



Our World Out of Wack! – School's Art Exhibition

Earlier this term, our school was proud to take part in the Massey Cluster Visual Arts Exhibition, held at North West Shopping Centre. The exhibition brought together creative works from schools across West Auckland, all based on the theme "Our World Out of Wack!"

Our students' display was a real standout and a strong contender among them any imaginative entries on show. Their hard work and creativity shone through, and we are so proud of the way they represented our school.

A big thank you goes to Cowhill School for hosting this year's exhibition and to North West Mall for providing such a vibrant public space to showcase our young artists.



In-School Eve Htaun se Interschool Speech Competition Results

As part of their English learning, students participated in an in-school speech event held this term. The theme, Land Whenua, was in line with the interschool speech theme and gave our students a meaningful platform to express their ideas.

Years 5 through 8 participated, and the stakes were high! Each student rose to the challenge—delivering fully memorised speeches with confidence, clarity, and poise. It was inspiring to see them present their thoughts so powerfully. House points were also on the line, adding to the excitement. After a very close contest, it was Sankha (Conch) House that claimed the Speech House Cup this year—well done!

From our school, Jahnavi (Year 6) and Arjuna (Year 7) were selected to represent us at the interschool speech competition. Both did a fantastic job, and we are beyond proud to share that Arjuna went on to place 1st in the Year 7 division—a tremendous achievement!



ARJUNA YEAR 7

1st place in Inter-school competition



JAHNAVI YEAR 6



J a n m a s t a m H K S

What a joyful and uplifting Janmāsta-mī celebration we shared this term! Thank you to all who joined us and supported our school at this most auspicious occasion.

Each year group offered something special on the day— from dramas, skits, and dances to bhajans, shlokas, and mantras. Highlights included the Year 1 drama on Krishna's appearance, the Year 8 rendition of the Dasavatara Story, and the creative freeze-frame reenactments of the Dasavatara by our senior students. We also enjoyed a lively mrdanga presentation and a beautiful girls' choir led by Madhava Sangini Mataji.

It was wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm and devotion shine through their performances.



HARE KRISHNA SCHOOL CHOIR



MRDANGA STUDENTS



YEAR 7



YEAR 6



HARE KRISHNA HIGH SCHOOL



HARE KRISHNA HIGH SCHOOL



YEAR 1 STUDENT



HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA



YEAR 7



YEAR 7



HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA



HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA



YEAR 2



YEAR 8



YEAR 1 DRAMA



YEAR 1 DRAMA



HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA



YEAR 1 DRAMA

Earlier this year, I returned to the school to see the children's book club. The children were very excited to see me and to hear about my new book. I was very happy to see them and to hear about their progress. The children were very excited to see me and to hear about my new book. I was very happy to see them and to hear about their progress.



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EXPLORING ARCHITECTURE- MIDDLE SCHOOL INQUIRY PROJECT

This term, our Year 7 and 8 students have been immersed in the fascinating world of architecture, developing their reading, research, and creative skills across three exciting units.

Unit 1: The Marae

Students began by exploring the marae and its cultural significance from an architectural perspective. A highlight was their visit to the museum and workshop, which brought this learning to life.

They studied the different parts of the marae, learned about carving and weaving patterns, and discovered the meanings behind important Māori symbols. Along the way, they gained new te reo Māori vocabulary and an appreciation of tikanga Māori. Back at school, students applied their learning by designing their own marae. They incorporated weaving, carving, pillars, and symbols from their own cultural backgrounds. Many chose Vaivāva symbols and wrote thoughtful explanations and labels to accompany their designs.



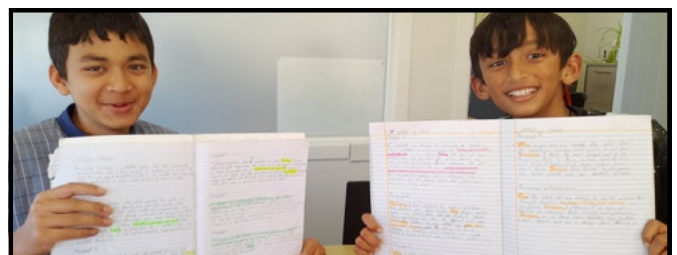
Unit 2: Ancient Indian Temple Architecture

In their second unit, students travelled (through text, video, and sketching) to India to explore the three main temple architectural styles found in the north, central, and south of the country. They worked in pairs to research, compare, and write paragraphs about these styles. Students sketched temples in detail, enriching their understanding through group projects and shared learning.

Unit 3: European Landmarks

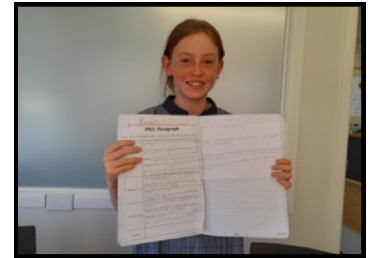
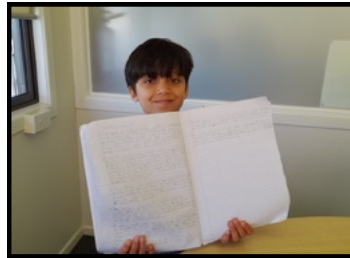
Finally, students turned their attention to some of Europe's most famous buildings, such as the Colosseum, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, and the Sagrada Família. They sharpened their non-fiction reading strategies and comprehension while learning the stories behind these remarkable structures.

As part of their inquiry, each student has chosen a city and selected three of its iconic buildings. Their reports explore the historical importance, cultural values, purpose, and architects behind these landmarks. They are presenting their findings creatively through infographics on Canva, detailed drawings, and even videos.



Special Workshops with HG Suhrit K a Prabhu

Alongside these units, students were blessed to have five workshops with HG Suhrit K a Prabhu, a renowned and highly respected devotee architect based in Henderson. He guided the students on a journey through architecture and inspired many to seriously consider the profession in the future. His sessions were dynamic and interactive, filled with quizzes, engaging tasks, competitions, and drawing challenges—complete with exciting prizes!



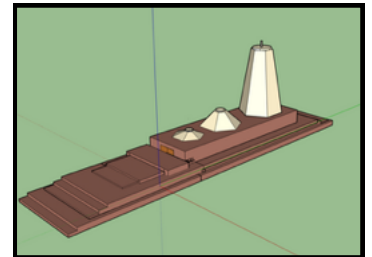
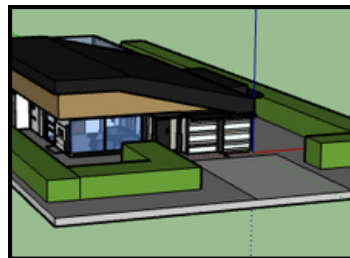
We are deeply grateful to Suhrit K a Prabhu for his time, expertise, and inspiration.

To conclude this journey, students also went on an architecture trip, visiting some of the houses designed by Suhrit K a Prabhu. They completed learning tasks connected to these designs, which gave them an authentic experience of seeing architecture come to life.

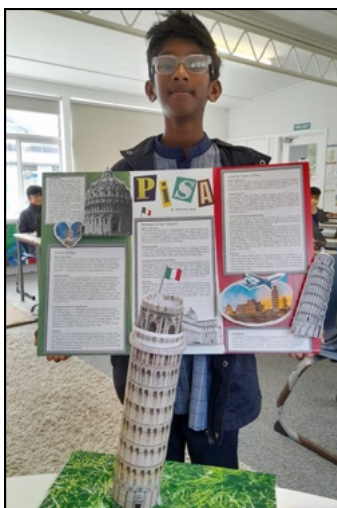
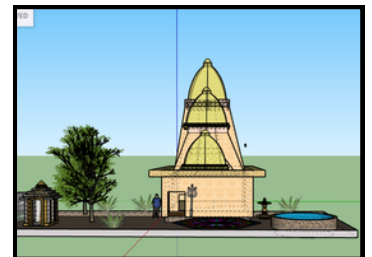
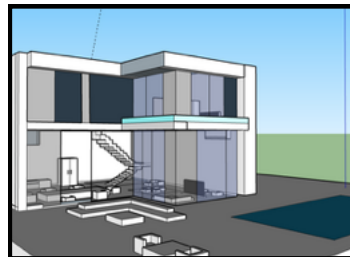
Inquiry Art—Bringing Ideas to Reality

For their inquiry art, students designed their own buildings, rooms, and temples using the digital tool SketchUp.

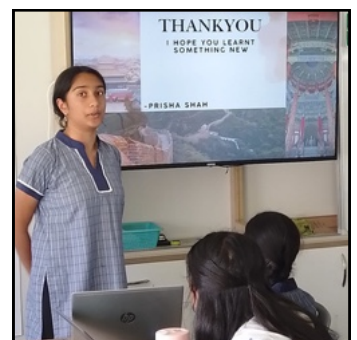
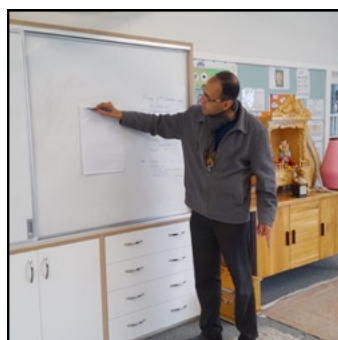
They incorporated everything they had learned and transformed their ideas into creative architectural models.



These designs will soon be 3D printed, and each student will write detailed explanations about the sections, materials, and design features of their creations.



It has been a truly inspiring and enriching journey. Students have not only deepened their understanding of architecture across cultures but also developed their creativity, research skills, and appreciation for design.



Year 11 Geography Trip

A recount of the experience by a Year 11 student:

In Week 5 of Term 3, our Year 11 Geography class visited Omaha Beach—around an hour's drive from Auckland—to collect primary first hand data for our NCEA internal assessment: Geography 1.2.

The trip included visiting four key sites of the beach: The cliffside area, the mid beach surfing club area, lagoon way, and the end of the beach where the groyne was located. At these four sites we collected data like finding the slope/ incline of the beach's profile with equipment like an inclinometer to find how the slope varied across four sites. We also collected sediment samples and used an anemometer to find the wind speed at each location. Using observational skills we made sure to look out for any other factors that could have influenced the beach's structure. The trip proved both educational and enjoyable because it helped us gain information of the beach by which we could use to further analyse the coastal environment.

Working in groups also made the data collection process efficient and fun, as the experience was a refreshing change from our usual classroom environment. Overall the trip deepened our understanding of the different coastal processes occurring at Omaha beach and how these processes work together to affect the beach's environment.



A visit with Bhakti Avjivino

Later in the term, we were blessed with a very special visit from Bhakti Vinoda Maharaj, who was visiting SKOON Auckland for the first time. Maharaj addressed Years 5, 6, and 8, and the joy of the occasion was mutual—he was just as delighted to meet our students as they were to meet him.

Maharaj reminded the students how extremely fortunate they are to be receiving both academic and spiritual education, noting how rare and valuable this is. He captivated the classes with stories and analogies from our scriptures, showing how even devotee children can inspire their parents by example. Students were completely enamoured—attentive, focused, and often laughing at Maharaj's humor and engaging style.

It was a truly memorable experience that left a deep impression on both students and teachers alike.



Term 4, 2025 Events

Term Dates: Mon 6th October - Thursday 11th December
 School is closed for Labour Day Mon 27th October

Exam dates:

From the 4th November, Our Year 11 students will be off on study leave in preparation for the external exams.

Vaishnava Festivals

Diwali - Tuesday 21st October

Govardhan Puja - Wednesday 22nd October



SKOON Auckland has a number of festivals that we observe together. Please go to harekrishna.org.nz to see details.



SUN SAFETY IN TERM 4

From Term 4, all students are encouraged to wear a hat and sunscreen to protect their skin from the sun. HKS will be providing sunscreen to all students.

sun

Thank you of your kind service!

HARE KRISHNA SCHOOL Uniform

You are now able to buy both Hare Krishna school junior and the new senior school uniform from Prestidges (formerly Elizabeth Michael Uniforms) at 65 New North Rd, Eden Terrace or order online 24/7!

To shop online 24/7. Simply visit

www.prestidges.co.nz and register for Hare Krishna School by entering the school code **HK195**. We can courier to you or you can select pick up from the Prestidges, 65 New North Rd. We are open:

Mon - Thurs 9.00am - 5.00pm

Fri 9.00am - 4.00pm

Sat 9.00am - 1.00pm

UNIFORM DETAILS

Junior Uniform - years 1-8 - boys and girls

Senior Uniform - years 9-13 - boys and girls

Plus there are some all of school items listed under Accessories

A new Sports uniform has been introduced and this can be worn by both junior and senior students. Categorised under SPORTS you will find:

General Sports uniform - Navy PE top and matching navy PE shorts

House Tees - these are available in all house colours: red, green, blue and white

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65 New North Road, Eden Terrace, Auckland 1021
 P: 09 358 1680 • uniforms@prestidges.co.nz • www.prestidges.co.nz

DONATIONS

We would like to thank each and every one of you for your kind donations towards the school prasadam program and their endeavours. Every contribution is appreciated!

If anyone would like to donate to our school, you can send funds to Hare Krishna School
 12-3085-0342272-00 and put your child's name reference.

HKS Lunch Program

This term we welcomed our head cook and introduced a refreshed menu of our school lunch program. The change has been very positive, and we sincerely thank everyone of their support.

If you would like to sponsor a lunch celebration for a birthday or other special occasion, please contact Arita and Raji at adm in@harekrishna.school.nz



FRIDAY FEAST