

St John's School Newsletter

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Issue 2: 26th February 2021

Principal's Page:

Parent Information Evening

Thank you to those parents who attended our parent information evening last Thursday. It was great to see many of you there.

Swimming Sports

Our swimming sports will be held on **Friday 5th March** beginning promptly at **1.15p.m.** There will be no more swimming sessions after this.

When children start at St John's School they are put into a house, either O'Neill house or McAuley house. Attached is a list of the names of children in each house. This year we have also attached a colour to each house: O'Neill House - green, McAuley House - red.

Points from swimming sports events are added up to get an overall house winner. Each school event throughout the year has a house winner and at the end of the year a shield is presented to the overall house winner from events held.

School 75th + 1 Jubilee

This is all go for the weekend of March 19th - March 21st (Otago Anniversary Day).

We would like to involve any children who are about that weekend for the welcome to our school on Saturday 20th March at 11a.m.

The PTA are also asking for help for the following:

- 2 people to serve a cup of tea and sandwiches in the school hall at approx 11.30a.m. on Saturday morning the 20th March.
- 2 people to waitress at the dinner on the Saturday night (20 March) from approximately 7 - 10p.m. at the Maniototo Stadium.

If you are able to help please contact Ang Francis on 027 450 4945

Thank you.

Working Bee

As part of the preparations for the Jubilee we would like to have a working bee to do a general tidy up around our school grounds, **on Sunday 7th March** starting at 10a.m.

Jobs to do include:

Tidying up of tussocks
Spider web removal from carpark fence and sports shed area
Front gardens by school office need a little tidy up and cut back
Woodchips to be spread out under playground
Spraying/weeding

Please bring along:

Gardening tools

Old wool fadges to put weeds into

Trailer

Rakes

Spray backpacks

Stationery

A reminder that all beginning of the year stationery accounts should be paid now. If you haven't paid this could you please do so asap. Thank you.

Attendance Dues message from Diocese

Dear Whanau

You will receive in the mail this week your first invoice from the Attendance Dues Service. Along with this invoice is a letter explaining the new payment methods. The two options for payment in 2021 are either to set up a regular payment plan as per the amounts on the payments table included or to pay the full amount before the end of March. If you could please see to this in a timely manner that would be much appreciated. For families, that are having difficulty in meeting the ongoing costs, we would encourage you to make contact with either your school or Parish Priest, and not the Attendance Dues offices directly.

Kind regards

The Attendance Dues Service

Enviroschools trip to Naseby

On **Tuesday 9th March** we are planning a school trip to the swimming dam area at Naseby. The purpose of this trip is to water test at various locations, eg, swimming dam, pond and water race. The Enviroschools teacher, Anna, will help us with this and will bring along all necessary equipment.

We will leave school at 9a.m, spend the morning water testing, have lunch at the playground at 12p.m. and then return to school.

If you are able to help with transport please fill in the form below indicating how many children you can take to and from Naseby. Thank you.

Children will be able to wear mufti clothes for this day, with suitable footwear, eg gumboots for being in shallow water.

If the weather is not good we have a postponement date of Tuesday 23rd March.

Name: _____

I can transport _____ children altogether, including my own.

Special Character Clipboard:

*Wednesday the 17th February was **Ash Wednesday**. This is a very important day of the year for Catholics. It marks the beginning of Lent, the 40 day preparation for Easter.

Traditionally, Ash Wednesday and Lent were times of fasting and abstinence. But now we are encouraged to put God first in our daily lives and do more to help others.

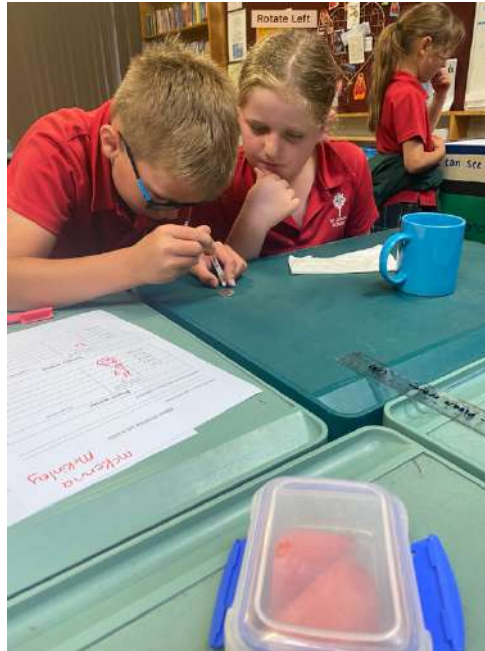
This year we had a school prayer liturgy to mark Ash Wednesday but due to Covid restrictions the children did not receive a cross mark of ash on their foreheads.

* A big thank you to all the altar servers and bell ringers for their continued commitment to turning up on their rostered Sunday to help out at Mass. Also to parents who bring them along. It is much appreciated by the Parish members.

Junior Class News:

On Tuesday the 23rd February we enjoyed our "Water Activity" day. The whole school was divided into 5 groups and rotated around 5 activities to do with water. The enviroschool teacher, Anna, showed us the water testing equipment we will use at Naseby on 9th March and she explained what we had to do with each different piece, so we look forward to using this equipment.

Here are some photos of all classes from the "Water" day.



Middle Class News:

Wow, what a busy few weeks we have had at St John's. We are getting into the swing of school life, with more 'normal' days the students are quickly learning new routines and knowing the expectations of the Middle room.



We worked hard to complete our Show Art and the results are incredible, it was such a shame we did not get to show them off to the community.

They are displayed proudly in the classroom so parents and caregivers please pop in for a look if you can.



On Tuesday we had a special 'Water Day' with Anna from EnviroSchools. Here is what Jessie Greer wrote about the day:

On Tuesday the 23rd of February we learned all about water. My favourite rotation was the bubble art with Mrs Mulholland. I blew the biggest bubble I had ever seen. The bubble blower I got could blow about 10 bubbles in one blow only. We used green, blue, pink and yellow. It looked beautiful when they were all done. To make the mixture we used bubble mixture and food colouring.



Looking forward:

- Tuesday, 2nd of March we will be swimming at 9am.
- Friday, 5th March is the school swimming sports.
- Tuesday, 9th March, Enviroschools water testing day in Naseby.



Senior Class News:

Follow your dreams



Kia ora koutou,

Senior Room Motto 2021

Don't talk ... Just act

We are in a good routine with our Mathematics and homework. Nearly all of the class has got their parent signatures every night and are in a steady routine with this task.

We have settled into class routines also and our school day is running smoothly. This is topped off with us taking our responsibilities around the classroom and school seriously and completing our jobs to a high standard.

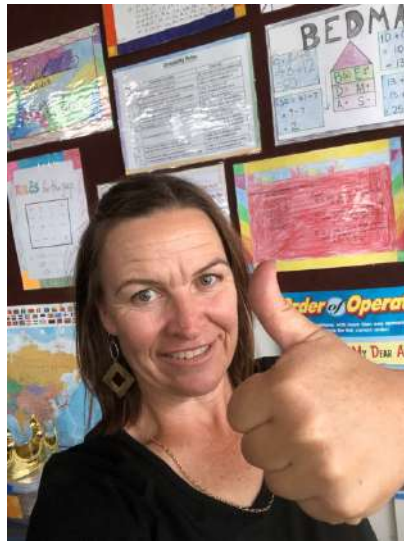
Don't say ... Just show

Every day this happens - the seniors are being positive role models in the playground and are leading with their actions and words (which we don't shout!).

Don't promise ... Just prove

100% completion of over 1000 points on Mathletics by everyone for the first 2 weeks
Spelling testing results that made us smile
New knowledge that we can apply
Our independent work habits are developing

This makes me smile with pride in my class.



Camp Columba

Only 3 weeks until camp. Please start checking you have the items on the gear list and ask around to borrow from others for anything you don't have.

Camp costs need to be paid also and are due by Friday 5th March. The costs are \$50 for children and \$40 for adults - (\$20 for adults only going for half the time).

The internet account number is 03 0951 0064739 00, using your child's name as a reference. This account number is different to other school account numbers so please ensure that you use the correct one.

The camp meeting is on Thursday 11th March at 7.30pm. Please add this to your calendar. Straight after this meeting I need to spend time with those parents attending camp.

Class swimming

Our last swimming slot is next Tuesday. Please send your child along with their togs, towel and goggles.

Habits, Hygiene and Happiness



We have had a great time learning about how to cleanse our skin and moisturise it. There were many different products tried and the children all had their different favourites.

In addition to this we have clarified our understanding of what are good body hygiene habits to follow each day and given reflection to what makes us feel good and not so good and how we deal appropriately with strong emotions like anger.

This photo shows the children cleansing their skin.

T20 Cricket

A fabulous class trip! We will explore our understanding and knowledge of our NZ sporting hero's further next week in relation to our trip to the Sports Hall of Fame but overall this was such a great experience. One to consider repeating in 2022.

Hei kona and enjoy your weekend everyone.

Kind regards,
Geraldine Duncan

Board of Trustees

Next Board of Trustee meeting is on the 9th March at 7.30pm

Notices and Dates:

| | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| Week 5 | Friday 5 th March | Swimming Sports |
| | | Senior Camp money due |
| | Sunday 7 th March | Working Bee at 10am |
| Week 6 | Tuesday 9 th March | Enviroschools Trip to Naseby |
| | Thursday 11 th March | Camp meeting at 7.30pm |
| Week 7 | Mon 15 th – Fri 19 th March | Senior School Camp |
| | Fri 19 th – Sun 21 st March | School Jubilee |
| Week 8 | Monday 22 nd March | Otago Anniversary Day School Closed |



House Groups

McAuley House - Red

Georgia Elworthy
Ryan Crossan
Chloe McAuley
Tessa Steele
Rosa Herlihy
Elliot Greer
Jacob Sutherland
Mac Dowling
Sam Elworthy
Logan Suddaby
Axel McAuley
Jae McAuley
Finn Dowling
Cyrus Janerol
Mckenna Suddaby
Jessica Greer
Kaylah McAuley
Xavier Love
Arthur Elworthy
James Marshall
Charlie Dowling
Ben Scott
Juliette Dowling
Olivia Scott
Greta Love
Millie Smith
Ezra Mukai

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O'Neill House - Green

Hunter Sutherland
Toby Duncan
Billy Watson
Paige Smith
Phoebe Hore
Fred Dowling
Tom Dowling
Ben Gibson
Hayley Barroga
Eddie Weir
Josie Herlihy
George Dowling
Marley Weir
Ethan Chisholm
Harry Jefferies
McKinley Francis
Harry Dowling
Isla Jeffries
Florence Dowling
Joshua Barroga
Zach Tomalon
Theo Dowling
Caleb Cai
Jack Jeffries
Eli Barroga
Maggie O'Neill

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