

St John's School Newsletter

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Issue 10: 17th September 2021

Principal's Page:

Nau mai haere mai.

Daffodil Day

Thank you to everyone for your donations for our Daffodil Day. We raised \$142.30c.

The photos below show the \$ raised and some afternoon, 'Daffodil Day' craft activities. Also a photo of the Senior and Middle Classes on Daffodil Day.



Junior Class Release Teacher

Miss Helen Flintoff is resigning from her Wednesday position of Junior Class Principal Release teacher at the end of this term and Mrs Erin Elworthy will relieve in this position for Term 4.

We thank Helen for all her work in our school over the last couple of years. She has worked in each class now, in some capacity. We wish her all the best in her greater role with Property Brokers.

Working Bee

Next **Friday, 24th September at 3p.m.** the Board of Trustees would like to have a working bee to get a couple of jobs done at school:

-putting woodchips around the native planting along the fence line (the wood chips have already been strategically placed in piles along in front of the plants, so it shouldn't take too much to spread them around this area. Thank you to Maniototo Contracting for doing this).

-trimming of the lavender plants at the front of the school.

-moving the position of the tunnel house to run lengthways by the rugby field.

It would be great to have a number of people to help get these jobs done.

Please bring along shovels, rakes and battery-operated hedge trimmers, if you have one.

Catholic Schools Day

The theme for Catholic Schools Day 2021 is: Turangawaewae: Catholic Schools - A Place to Stand. It is to be held nationwide on Wednesday 29th September but we are going to celebrate this on Monday 27th September.

Father Sani is going to come and celebrate a school Mass with us at **11.30a.m. on Monday 27th September.**

This will be dependent on us being back in Alert Level 1.

Bus Vests

As it is getting much lighter now in the mornings and daylight saving is nearly here (26th September), we would like all bus vests to be washed and returned to school anytime before the end of the term. Thank you.

School holidays

Term 3 ends on Friday 1st October and Term 4 begins on Monday 18th October.

School is closed on Monday 25th October for Labour Weekend.

School End of Year Concert

This is booked to be held on **Tuesday evening the 7th December.**

Special Character Clipboard:

This week is Catholic Social Justice week. We have been talking about this at Faith Focus on Monday mornings and looked at the story from the Bible about The Beatitudes. We watched a powerpoint that explained the Beatitudes in children's language and made them very easy to understand. Over the next two weeks we will be trying especially hard to put the Beatitudes into practice in our daily actions and thoughts. These are the Beatitudes:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Junior Class News:

The day before lockdown we had been busy writing stories about our Dads for Fathers Day. We have made these into a class book.

Here are some of them:

My Dad's name is Jeffrey Tomalon. He lived in the Philippines. He loves spicy foods. Also he is 41 years old. He works on a dairy farm. He does huge hugs to me. I always love it. He loves biking with his friends a lot. He is funny, strong, fast, also nice. I love him.

By Zach Tomalon

My Dad's name is Luke. He kisses me goodnight. Dad feeds out to the sheep and cows. He tricks me. He is fast. I love him.

By Juliette Dowling

My Dad's name is Ryan. My Dad is a farmer. I do farming with him. He is funny, he tells funny jokes. He is a seller, that means he sells stuff. Dad is cool. He has a car and a truck that's cool. Dad is very nice. He lets me eat mints in his truck. His favourite food is chops. Dad is very strong. His favourite animals are cows. Dad is magnificent.

By Theo Dowling

My Dad's name is James. He is a farmer. I help Dad feed the bales to the sheep and cows. Dad likes hot sauce on his dinner. I love him.

By Olivia Scott

My Dad's name is George Barroga. He loves watching basketball. My Dad is very silly. My Dad works on a dairy farm so we get lots of milk. My Dad is a Filipino. He has lots of calves. He works very hard, he is very nice. He is very fun to play with and I love him.

By Eli Barroga

My Dad's name is Jason Smith. We play the "Don't Wake Up Dad" game. I like helping Dad on the farm. I go in the tractor with him. Dad likes spicy food. He is funny. Dad is great.

By Millie Smith

My Dad's name is Sam Marshall. He's cool. He's funny. He's always helpful. His job is a handyman. He's always working with the tools. He's very strong. He sometimes takes me hunting and fishing. I love him.

By James Marshall

Here is a photo of the Junior Class on Daffodil Day.

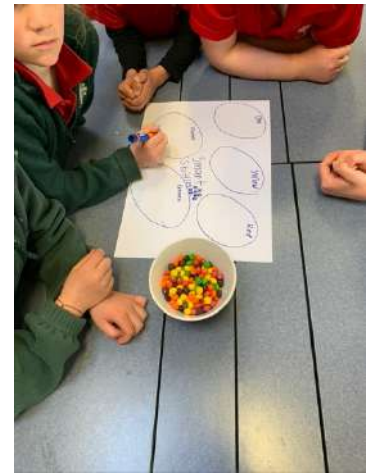


Middle Class News:



Kia ora everyone, welcome back. It is so good to get back into the classroom and get back to some normality. With returning back we are busy getting ready for the upcoming cross country and trying to be motivated in each run we do in the class. I was very impressed with each student's effort over lockdown and having a daily google meet at 10 am was the best time to check in with the students who were there. It was good to see how they were finding their work, and answer any questions they had. I really enjoyed all the fun activities the students got up to in their spare time. I especially enjoyed hearing about the newborn calves and lambs that were born and getting to know their names was really cool.

Before lockdown in maths, the students had been learning about statistics and understanding the enquiry cycle. There was a fun activity the other day that was based around Skittles and trying to work out how many of each colour were in each packet of Skittles. The students were split into three equal groups and got to work together and come up with ideas around the colours of skittles.



We have now all moved onto fractions. This started over lockdown, and I used a range of methods to show fractions, such as Kit Kats and an apple. We also use materials in class to show different ways to look at fractions such as made up doughnuts and bear counters. This topic will continue to be taught until the end of this term.

The middle class is fortunate to be able to go to curling lessons, where each student has been participating enthusiastically. This has been really fun and also great for students to get out of their comfort zone and try something new.



Over lockdown, we had some really great writing and there are a few of them I will share.

When I came home from school, Eddie and Dad went up the hill so I stayed at home with Mum and we put on the T.V. I heard that we were in covid level 4 lockdown. The next day Eddie and I went up the hill with our dog Toe. When we went up the hill we caught a baby goat. We walked all the way up the hill from home, just Eddie and I. The goat's name is Chalky. That night we slept outside with the baby goat. Eddie was in the hammock and I slept on the ground. We made a shelter out of a tarpaulin with heaps of holes in it.



By Marley Weir

Straight after my google meet Mum got a phone call from Fred who was out at the farm with Dad. He said get out here quickly, we think Sherbet is in labour. We dropped everything that we were doing and sprinted to the car and Mum fanged it down McErlane road to get to Sherbet. Fred was right, so I said I was staying until she had her speckle park calf. But the day flew by and it was 3:30 pm and she still hadn't calved, so Dad had to call the vets now. I was feeling quite worried that the calf might be dead. The vet came flying down the lane in her silver bullet truck. She said we had to get Sherbet into the race. When she was in the race the vet put chains around the calves legs and pulled him out but then the vet said he was dead. I was very sad that Sherbet's calf had died but the vet said if she didn't get the calf out in 12 hours Sherbet would be dead as well so lucky we rang the vet. Dad and I put the trailer on the back of the truck and went to Graham's calf shed and got **3 beefies** so we could mother them onto Sherbs. Their names are Timmy Junior, Fanta and Kolbe.

By George Dowling

Dear Finn

Thank you for your letter.

I have been on Tom's 100 Honda and I have been on my 80 Yamaha. Dad made us a golf course out in the paddock with 5 holes. Tom and I like to go out and play golf 2 times a day. I miss playing with you at school.



By Harry Dowling

Lockdown Fun

During the lockdown, I got to do 3 obstacle courses just around our house. We did all sorts of activities including hula hoops, ring toss, hockey around the cones, balance the ball on a tray, hopscotch, under a tunnel, treasure hunt, soccer goals and hugged a tree. I went around the first obstacle course 14 times. I also played K'nex that I got for my birthday. I made 5 different models. What I made were 3 vehicles, a ballerina for Mum and a rocketship. Finally, I did a long cross-country practice in our community. Eli and I went to the letterbox, around the greenhouse and back.

By Joshua Barroga

Every student had been sent an introduction to Balmoral Book Bonanza before lockdown and I will be checking in regularly to see how the students are doing with this.

Balmoral Book Bonanza

Goal- to complete this by the end of the year, so you can receive your voucher for hot chips at the Balmoral Dairy!

How to Present: Different ways to choose from...

- Act something out to do with the story or act as a character and show this to Miss Smith.
- Redesign the cover of the book.
- Make a quiz about the book (only 5 questions).
- Find five tricky words in the story and write the meaning of these words.

Read 1 non-fiction book and 1 fiction to complete this task.
You can read more if you like.

Fiction (made up)
Novels, myths,
legends, fairy tales.

Non-fiction (true)
Newspaper, magazine article, recipes, instruction
booklets, autobiography books.

I hope everyone keeps well and always email me if you have any questions.

Nga Mihi

Bailey Smith

Senior Class News:

You're on Mute!

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome to our first school newsletter since we went into Lockdown on Tuesday 17th August at 11.59 pm. In between times, we have had two class newsletters that went out via email to the children. These two newsletters were good reading and were a great opportunity for the children to share their own stories and poems from their bubbles, and for the rest of us to get some delicious baking recipes to try. I was very pleased with the work that the children contributed to this and of course, I loved hearing from the children.

Lockdown learning went really well and I was very happy with the work that the children completed. A highlight for me each day was the Google Meets that I had with members of the class, our daily turnout was high and it gave the children a very authentic opportunity to practice their 'online meeting' skills such as ...

- Organisational skills to turn up on time
- Prior preparation skills with organising themselves with daily news, weather updates, jokes, weird facts and chat activities
- Knowing how to set the screen up so that their face could be seen and the background wasn't too dark or distracting
- How to work turning the mic on and off at the appropriate time
- Showing respect and interest through our facial expressions and eye contact
- How to speak up, wait our turn and contribute to an online conversation
- And of course, it was a great opportunity for us to socially connect with each other from our homes which was good for us emotionally and mentally.

The reality is that online meetings will be a norm in our children's lives, so learning these skills now is a bonus for them.

Being in the classroom is the best way for us to connect and learn, but we showed that we are adaptable and that learning online is something that we can manage with a pretty high degree of independence. Ka pai.

Mathletics

We now have 16 of the children in our class at (or past) the 20-week certificate mark. Awesome - this takes determination, perseverance and organisation to manage. By the end of the term, the whole class should have achieved this milestone which is marked with a \$20,000 bonus payment in Banqer.

Curling

We have had two sessions at the rink and these have been fun. Last week one of the children remarked in my car how nice it was to go and do something normal, and I agreed. Being able to move about in our community again and to access local facilities is a real treat, that we have learnt to appreciate.

We have two more curling sessions booked (can you help with transport on the last session? - you will have seen that on the travel notice that came home on Wednesday) and possibly a tournament if the current alert level moves down. From the humble beginnings of our Kiwi Sport curling sessions, have emerged NZ representatives - I wonder who from the Senior Class of 2021 will one day be wearing the silver fern and representing our country on the ice.

Maori Language Week

We have explored Maori language more in-depth this week and completed a variety of activities to build our understanding. Music, quizzes, Google Earth projects and learning to introduce ourselves in Te Reo have all been on our agenda this week.

Balmoral Book Bonanza

We have two students who have completed this and will be able to go and collect their hot chips from Alex and Alina Cai at The Balmoral Dairy. Yummy!

Cross Country

Due to the efforts made with lockdown fitness, the children are in pretty good shape fitness-wise. By the time you read this newsletter, we will have completed our event and the house points will be added up. On Monday morning the children can find out what house won this event - will it be the Mighty McAuley crew or the One of a Kind O'Neill stars? All will be revealed at Faith Focus.

Unfortunately, we have had confirmation that the Otago Cross Country event has been cancelled. This is disappointing but an understandable move with the current Covid level guidelines.

Achievements / Activities of our class members

Tessa and Chloe: were recipients of two special certificates that recognised that their netball team was undefeated in two sections of the Year 7&8 A Grade Netball Competition in Alexandra. That is an impressive achievement.

Billy, Hunter, Toby, Ryan, Fred: received special medals at a team ceremony to recognise that their Open Grade rugby team was undefeated in the Central Otago competition this season. The medals are very special mementoes of a memorable season.

Rosa and Phoebe sat their dance exam last Saturday. This involved completing 12 dances in a row, which were videoed and sent to the examiner who couldn't attend in person. I hope you did really well girls.

This weekend we have boys and girls heading away to play 6aside hockey in Dunedin. Good luck to Tessa, Rosa, Chloe, Ben and Fred. Go hard and go fast!

Ka kite
Geraldine Duncan

Board of Trustees

-At our August meeting the Board were presented with a curriculum report on "Maths - Number" and in September two curriculum reports were presented "Writing" and Religious Education "Christian Witness".

-The Board reviewed two policies:

- Concerns and Complaints
- Behaviour Management

If you are interested in reading and reviewing these policies you can:

1. Log onto www.schooldocs.co.nz
2. Click Search for your school
3. Start typing the school name and then select it from the dropdown list
4. Enter the community username and password: sjr sjr
5. Put the name of the policy in the search section and it should come up for you to read.
6. Select your role (board member, staff member or parent/caregiver) from the dropdown list.
7. Enter your name (optional)
8. Submit your ratings and comments.

Notices and Dates:

Week 8	Sunday 19 th September	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Fred & George Dowling
Week 9	Tuesday 21 st September	PTA – AGM to be held at school at 7pm
	Friday 24 th September	Working Bee at 3pm
	Sunday 26 th September	Sunday Mass – 5pm (NB: Change of time) Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Phoebe Hore, Ethan Chisholm
Week 10	Monday 27 th September	Catholic Schools Day
	Friday 1 st October	Last Day Term 3
	Sunday 3 rd October	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Paige Smith, McKinley Francis
	Sunday 10 th October	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Tessa Steele, Axel McAuley
	Sunday 17 th October	Sunday Mass – 5pm

		Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Chloe & Jae McAuley
Term 4		
Week 1	Monday 18 th October	First Day of Term 4
	Tuesday 19 th October	BOT meeting
	Sunday 24 th October	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Ryan Crossan, Harry Jeffries
Week 2	Monday 25 th October	Labour Weekend – School Closed
	Sunday 31 st October	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Eddie & Marley Weir
Week 3	Sunday 7 th November	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Cyrus Janerol, Hayley Barroga
Week 4	Sunday 14 th November	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Ben Gibson, Toby Duncan
Week 5	Sunday 21 st November	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Billy Watson, Elliot Greer
Week 6	Sunday 28 th November	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Georgia & Sam Elworthy
Week 7	Sunday 5 th December	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Mac & Finn Dowling
Week 8	Sunday 12 th December	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Tom & Harry Dowling
Week 9	Sunday 19 th December	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Rosa & Josie Herlihy
	Sunday 26 th December	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Logan & Mckenna Suddaby

Scholastic Book Club – Issue 5

Below is an email we have had from Scholastic regarding Issue 5 of the book club.

Scholastic New Zealand's Auckland warehouse is currently closed due to the COVID-19 lockdown.

We have received a number of queries from schools and parents enquiring as to the status of their orders. Due to the lockdown, we have a number of unfulfilled orders stuck in our warehouse. As books are deemed non-essential items, we are not able to operate and ship any of these orders to school or homes.

I'm sure that you will understand that this situation is beyond our control, as it is for many New Zealand organisations and we thank you for your patience and understanding.

Rest assured, we will be prioritising these orders as soon as Auckland reaches level 3 and our fantastic team gets back to our warehouse. Auckland orders will be dispatched to schools as soon as Auckland reaches level 2 and students return to in-person learning.

In the meantime, if you have any questions related to your order please email bookclub@scholastic.co.nz. Our Customer Services Team are working from home and will reply to your email with an update as soon as they are able to.

Please stay safe during the lockdown.

The Scholastic Team

St John's School – PTA

The PTA wishes to advise an AGM will be held on **Tuesday 21st September** at 7pm at the school.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Apologies please to **Geraldine Dowling 0274859693**

COMMUNITY CONNECTION SERVICE

With our CO community currently situated at a high COVID response Level there may be more community members looking for assistance to access available support. That's where we can help. Whether you are an individual, family, or business, we can point you in the right direction and connect you with the available support. Anyone in the Central Otago Community is able to register to have one of our connectors contact you.

To make contact or register with us you can:

Scan the QR code

Go to www.coreap.org.nz

Or phone 0800 267 327 and leave a message

