

St John's School Newsletter

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Principal's Page:

Athletic Sports

What a great day we had last Friday for our athletic sports.

A big thank you to parents who helped run each event - we could not have run these sports without you. Also thank you to parents who were able to come along to support children.

O'Neill House won the event with 18.81 points and McAuley was a close second with 17.56 points. Congratulations to all the children who gave their best efforts in all events.





Below is a list of overall age group winners.

	Boys	Girls
U8	Zach Tomalon – 18 points	Florence Dowling – 26 points
U9	Xavier Love – 34 points	Isla Jeffries – 25 points
U10	Jae McAuley – 33 points	Marley Weir – 34 points
U11	Eddie Weir – 34 points	Josie Herlihy – 31 points
U12	Jacob Sutherland – 33 points	Chloe McAuley – 37 points
U13	Toby Duncan – 37 points	Tessa Steele – 38 points
13+	Billy Watson – 37 points	Georgia Elworthy – 21 points

House points – O’Neill House 18.81 points
 McAuley House 17.56 points

End of Year Concert

Due to guidelines from the Ministry of Education and Health re Covid alert level 2, the end of year concert has been cancelled for 2021.

Each class will have a separate low-key “book presentation” which parents will be invited along to. We will let you know when this will happen nearer the time.

NB: To attend these presentations we will need to see evidence prior, of parents having had at least one vaccination (Ministry of Education guidelines).

Vaccination Status

We are still wanting an email or photo from those over 12 year old students showing the date of Dose 1 and Dose 2 covid vaccinations please.

Thank you to those who have already sent this in. If you haven’t done so, could you please do this asap, thank you.

We would now like to start collecting this information from parents who are going to be volunteering to help at any school activities please (reading helpers, transporting children for school activities, sports helpers etc).

This information will be held by the school in accordance with the Privacy Act and will only be shared with public health authorities.

Please email or message a photo of vaccination status to: 027 266 1758 (school cellphone number) or to: office@sjr.school.nz

As I said in the last newsletter, if you are intending to help out in any capacity in classrooms or with school activities you will need to be fully vaccinated and provide evidence of this.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Middle Class and Mrs Hazlett who recently supported the SPCA by writing book reviews of their favourite animal themed book.

They received this comment back:

“Students from the Middle Class at St John’s School in Ranfurly submitted creative, interesting, and catchy book reviews that made the judges here at SPCA want to go out and grab the books immediately. A BIG thank you to The Middle Class for supporting SPCA and for these fantastic book reviews!”

Special Character Clipboard:

We have recently celebrated two special days in the Catholic Church:

1st November is **All Saints’ Day**.

We remember all the saints who have done many wonderful and holy things in their lives.

2nd November is **All Souls’ Day**.

This is a day we remember and pray for all those who have died, especially our relatives and friends.

Junior Class News:

The Junior Class have been busy completing some end of year assessments.

Here are some stories we wrote recently for assessment. Each child started with the sentence:

I stepped off the train/plane/boat with my suitcase.

I stepped off the train with my suitcase. I was in an old mine. I didn't feel right. I felt like I took the wrong train. The mine train was still there. I quickly ran onto it. The next stop was Fiji. I quickly jumped off it. I undid my suitcase and got out the umbrella and lived a happy life at Fiji.

By Charlie Dowling

I stepped off the plane with my suitcase. I was excited. I started to talk to the people and then I knew where I was. I was at England. I saw the Queen. I was never ever going back home.

By Kheizeah Bryant

I stepped off the train with my suitcase. I was at the farm with my suitcase and I was feeding out to the cows and it was fun. In my suitcase were all the tools for the farm.

By Jack Jeffries

I stepped off the boat with my suitcase and bag. I was an animal and dinosaur expert. An adult wolf's howl can be heard from ten km away. A wild cheetah can run faster than a jet car. Snow leopards can climb the highest mountain. I travel around the world to answer more animal facts.

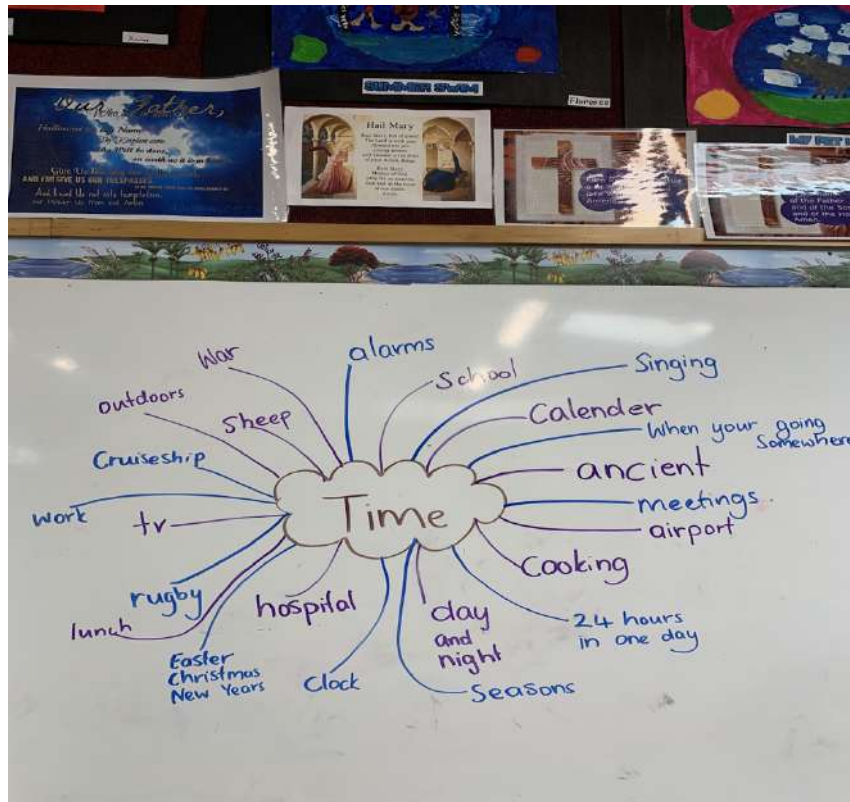
By Caleb Cai

Middle Class News:

A warm welcome, it has been a very busy couple of weeks. What a fantastic day we had for athletics last week.

*Students have really settled into the term, the class has finished money and are now onto time. Time has a lot of variations to it and if you have time at home, have a conversation with your child/children about time and what time you do things. We use time in so many ways in our own daily lives and it's important to educate children about this.

As a class we brainstormed what time is, where we see time and how we use time, there were a range of ideas the class came up with, as seen below.



As you can see the students all had a range of ideas about time and how time is used in our everyday lives.

*I was really impressed with how all the students went on the last topic of money, and it just shows how much money is used in our lives.

*All the students have been busy with their book bonanzas which has been great. We are still reading novels at home. If I don't send a student home with their reading book they will still be reading their novel. We continue to go to the school library once a week.

*Please ensure that your child/ren have a drink bottle at school. The weather is getting warmer. They are more than welcome to leave the drink bottles in class. But they will be asked to take them home on a Friday to get cleaned.

*I was really impressed with the middle class's attitude and commitment on athletics day, it just shows how dedicated we can be to sports.

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

Nga Mihi
Bailey Smith

Senior Class News:

Positive Vibes

Kia ora koutou,

Yet again our children are continuing to follow in their parents footsteps and be generous with their time and energy. A very energetic crew turned up to shear the PTA owned sheep at Awatea a couple of weekends ago. The children loved helping out and being there with their Dads amongst all the action.



Last Sunday a great crew of parents and children joined together to do a day's tailing at Phil Dowling's as a fundraiser for the winter sports clubs. When I called in I was blown away by how many children were there from St John's and it was evident that they were having a great time.



School Drills

This term the senior class started off learning about earthquakes as we were preparing for the National 'Drop, Cover and Hold' drill that many NZers took part in on October 28th. One aspect of our learning was about how well prepared we are for an event like this at home. Your child may have asked you about this and now is a good time to make sure everyone in your household knows how to exit your home, where to assemble and that you have an emergency kit ready to use.

Following on from this we have practiced our school fire drill and will be practicing our lockdown drills. A lockdown could happen for any variety of reasons and it is important that our children know where to go to, and what to do once there. Each classroom has a lockdown kit that we would use in this situation and practicing and being prepared is reassuring for the children and myself.

Halloween Cake

I am so thankful that there are children in my class that are generous with their skills! This amazing cake was whizzed up by Tessa Steele to celebrate Halloween. It looked amazing and tasted even better. What a lucky class we are.



Tiaki Maniototo Logo competition



Eddie recently was awarded his amazing prize package for winning the competition. Here he is pictured in a shirt that was made especially for him with his design on it. What a wonderful prize.

The children's prizes were generously supported by local businesses and they were very excited to receive their vouchers.

St John's School Athletic Sports

A fabulous afternoon of competition and fun! Congratulations to all of our children for participating and to those who won their age groups. At times like this when we are faced with challenges on how best to hold events under Covid guidelines, our small school spirit is great to see and makes the extra help that you give, and work that we do behind the scenes, well worthwhile.

Little Mt Kyeburn walk

The senior class will be doing this 5km hill walk on Monday 29th November. We will meet at school at 8.50am and will head to the starting point. I would like to be walking by 10.30am at the latest. I cannot guarantee a time that we will be back at school at this stage, but I will do a practice walk beforehand and firm up a timeline to give you. It may be that children need to be picked up from school after the walk. Next week I will be sending home a notice asking for volunteers to join us on the walk. As Mrs Mulholland has said at the start of the newsletter, to join us on this walk you will need to show the school evidence of having had at least one vaccination (Ministry of Education guidelines).

Gold certificates

We are at **100% achievement** for the Senior Class. Congratulations to Eddie for achieving 20 certificates and \$20,000 in Banqer.

Book Club

The children have declared that they want to do another round of Book Club meetings, so all children have selected a new novel that they felt would interest them. They will have a set amount to read on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evening for homework, and some children will need parents to help them read this. You will see the details in their homework book.

Holy Paddocks

There is a fresh batch of stock on our farm. We have 6 new hens and calves, all kindly donated to us from 'Fred's Hen Farm' and from Luke and Anna at Maniototo Dairies. Pop in and have a look at them if you are at school, and remember you can buy school eggs at any time.

The children are going to start leading the calves next week - they are welcome to bring gumboots to school for this. We will be selling these calves at the end of the term and the money raised will go towards the Senior Room camp to Berwick in term 1 next year.

Vegetable Garden



When you visit the farm you will see our vegetable gardens which are looking great. Dick Parker came in and worked with the senior class to do some planting in the tunnel house - he was very generous at sharing his wealth of knowledge with us and has worked with the PTA to help set us up for success.

We also had Jo Wakelin from Cromwell Polytechnic work with us to plant 6 kowhai and harakeke seeds each. I am very hopeful that this will be a success - although a kowhai plant is a long term commitment as it would be 7 years before they flowered. But a commitment worth undertaking.



School Sports Tops

There are another 5 tops from children in our classroom to be returned to school please. I need these back asap.

Ka kite
Geraldine Duncan

Board of Trustees

*At our November meeting the Board reviewed a policy on:

Maori Educational Success

If you are interested in reading and reviewing this policy 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

*The triennial Board of Trustee elections which were to be held in May 2022 have now been put back until September 2022.

*The Board approved the purchase of two new sunshade sails to be put up outside the Senior Class. These will replace the one that was there which had been repaired several times after wind damage.

Calendar Orders

The calendar orders have been sent home. The account details for paying online was not put on the form. If you are paying for the artwork online, please pay into St John's School Board of Trustees account 03-0951-0066195-000 putting **your name & calendar** in the reference field. Also just write on the order form that is being returned to school that it is to be paid online.

Notices and Dates:

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	Monday 29 th November	Senior Class Walk up Little Mt Kyeburn
	Sunday 5 th December	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Mac & Finn Dowling
	Friday 10 th December	Biking the Distance to Auckland – Young Vinnies fundraiser
Week 8	Sunday 12 th December	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Tom & Harry Dowling
	Tuesday 14 th December	Last day of School Year 2021
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

Swimming Lessons

Billy Laing Swim Coaching - 27th-31st December

School Age Children

Ranfurlly Swimming Pool

Registrations will be taken from November, please contact Belinda 021384416 to enrol.

