

St John's School Newsletter

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Issue 13: 3rd December 2021

Principal's Page:

Welcome

We welcome Evie Steele, a new five year old, to St John's School.



End of Year

We are quickly coming to the end of the school year for 2021.

Our last day of school is on **Tuesday 14th December**. This is a normal school day 8.50a.m. - 2.50p.m.

End of Year Reports and Portfolios

End of year reports will be given out to children to bring home, along with their portfolios, on Friday 10th December.

Reports can be kept but we ask that you please return the portfolios to school on Monday the 13th December with a parent comment about your child's work on the self-evaluation page.

Thank you.

End of Year Mass

Our end of year Mass will be held on **Monday 13th December at 10a.m. in the Church.**

Because of the restriction of numbers we are allowed, we invite **1** parent from each family to attend this but we **must** have evidence of parents having been vaccinated. If I don't already have this information I will be asking to see your vaccination pass please before you can come into the Church.

Unfortunately entry will not be permitted if this is not adhered to.

Masks must be worn, please.

Book Presentations

*After the end of year Mass the **Junior Class** will have their end of year book presentations in the hall from approximately **11 - 11.30a.m.**

Two parents from each family are invited to this (Parents only - no sibling or others, sorry).

*After the Junior Class have finished and left the hall, the **Middle Class** book presentations will take place from approximately **11.35 - 12.05p.m.**

Two parents from each family are invited to this (Parents only - no sibling or others, sorry).

*The **Senior Class** book presentations, graduation and calf auction will then take place from **12.15p.m.**

This will take longer.

The Year 8 students who will be leaving at the end of this year can invite **two** parents and **one** grandparent to this.

Once again, evidence of vaccination must be shown to come to the book presentations and if I haven't already received this, you will be asked to show this prior to entry. Please let grandparents know if they are intending to come to this.

Masks must be worn, please.

Merry Christmas

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and blessed Christmas and best wishes for 2022. Meri Kirihimete.

A reminder school begins for 2022 on **Tuesday 1st February.**

Special Character Clipboard:

We are now in the Church season of "Advent".

On Monday at Faith Focus, an advent wreath was displayed to the children and the first candle was lit.

Advent is the four weeks before Christmas and begins on the Sunday nearest to November 28th. A candle represents each Sunday before Christmas. There are three purple candles and 1 rose one. The purple candles symbolise hope, love, peace and the rose coloured candle symbolises joy.



Junior Class News:

*We have been busy over the last five weeks with weekly school visits from 4 four year olds. We look forward to welcoming these children on day 1, 2022 - Jimmy Jeffries, Oscar Jeffries, Bryleigh Barroga and Izzy Eketone.

*Here are some photos of the Junior Class checking out how much their lettuces are growing!



*Mrs Elworthy has been busy working on Christmas craft with the Junior Class. Here is one of the beautiful Christmas trees that they have made and decorated.

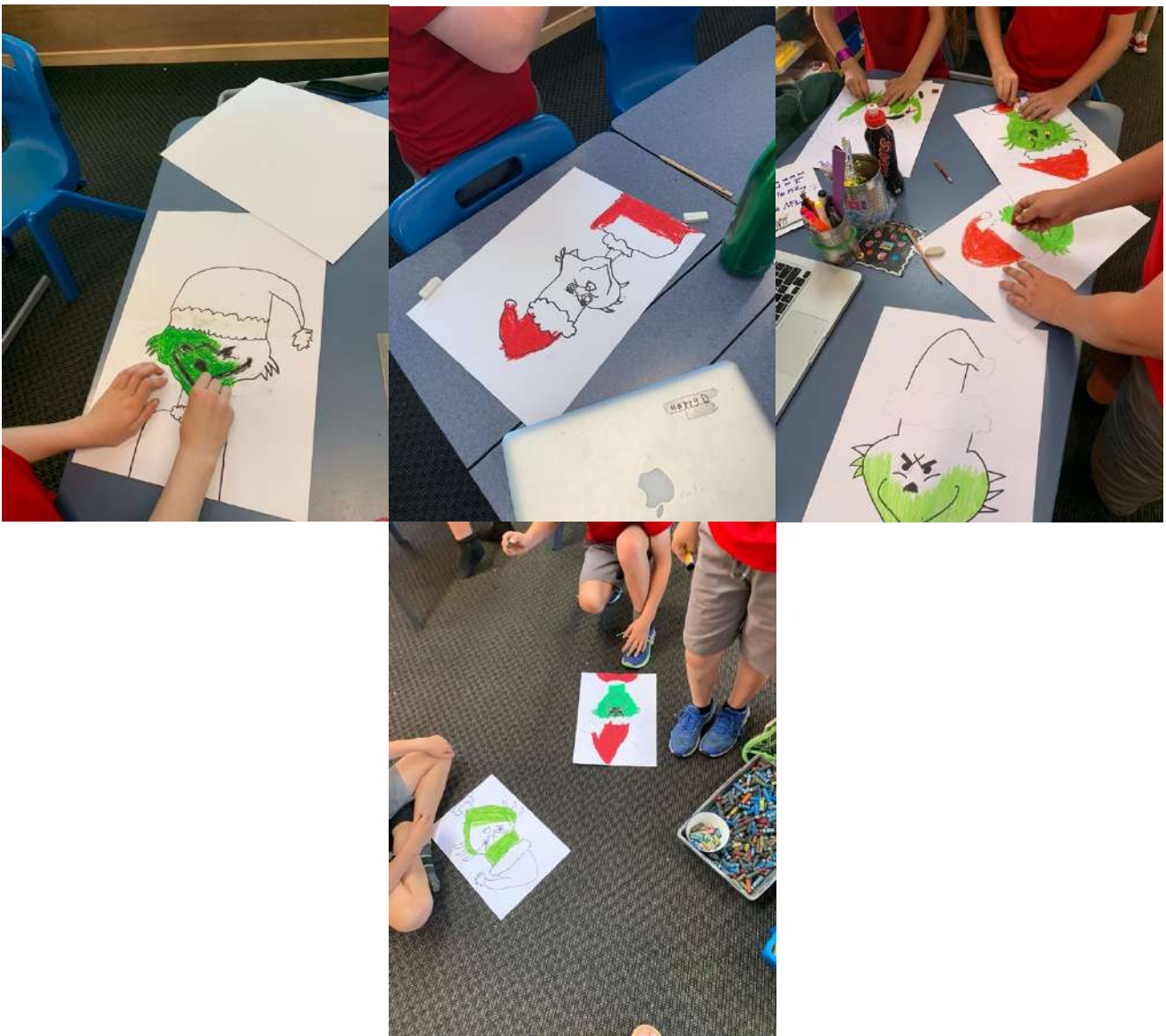


Middle Class News:

Tena Koutou Katoa, what an exciting year it has been! This year has gone by so fast. The students have been busy learning about temperature. We had a big discussion around how temperature is used in our lives, such as the weather and cooking.

Writing the last two weeks has been around Christmas and the students have been letting their imagination go wild. Lately, the students have been writing about a variety of Christmas adventures. For example 'what if they were an elf', 'what a day would be like as an elf', 'what would be your duty as an elf' and so on.

We have also been doing some artwork. We listened to the book, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas!" Then we drew the grinch. This was a good listening task, following instructions and colouring in appropriately.

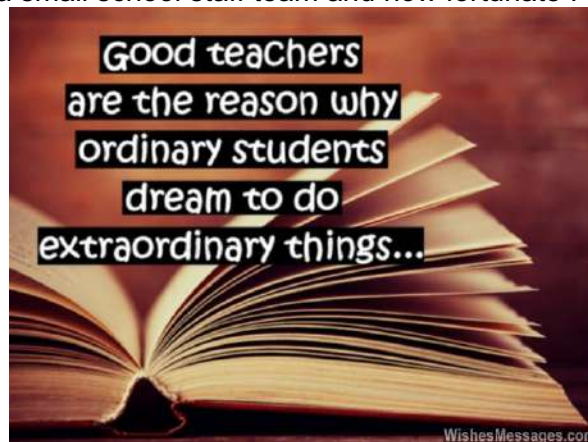


Also, the students have been looking at other countries and finding out information such as how other countries celebrate Christmas, what they eat, their traditions, and making notes of what they do differently to us.



This is my first class photo that I would like to share with you all.
Class of 2021 Year 3 to 5

Thank you, everyone: tamariki, whānau, school and the wider community for the past three terms. I have been privileged to be able to be a part of your child's learning journey. I would also like to mention the special qualities of a small school staff team and how fortunate I was to be a part of it.



I am excited for the next chapter of my teaching career. As my last few days draw closer, I wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Nga Mihi
Bailey Smith

Senior Class News:

**Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened.
Dr Seuss.**

Kia ora koutou,

We have had a great few weeks since our last newsletter.

Little Kyeburn Track

On Monday we were welcomed to the week with a sunny and warm day ... which was perfect for our class walk up the Little Kyeburn track. We set off from school with our trusty adult team of Becky McAuley, Kym Smith, Renee Weir and Kim Gibson, and we were ready to conquer this walk. One of the first things that we saw was a beautiful waterfall, and then we wound our way along a bushy track, sometimes having to push our way through the undergrowth. After a few creek crossings where lots of the kids got more than their drink bottles wet, we started on the uphill slog. This then evened out to a lovely walk along the top of the hill to the little DOC hut. The children still had enough energy to walk over to 'The Sands' and play tag. This gave the adults a nice rest! While at the top we had a magnificent view of the countryside, and we could see Mt Cook really clearly. From there on it was a cruise down the hill and back to school.

Thank you to everyone involved in this activity. We had a great day out that was fun, and developed our endurance, perseverance and teamwork.



'Our Amazing Body and its Changes'

We had a really educational visit from Becky McAuley as part of our 'Amazing Body and its Changes' unit. She spent an hour with us and was bombarded with questions about our hair and how best to care for it. I learnt a lot and have been able to improve my hair care habits - and so hopefully your child has done the same. Next week Becky Bruhns is visiting us, and we are learning about massage, essential oils and well-being. I am really looking forward to this session as well.

I am really pleased with the content of this unit and how it has gone overall. We have certainly grown our knowledge and vocabulary (and spelling words!).

Young Vinnies

Our Friday sausage sizzle is going really well. The Executive has the lunch preparation sorted and everyone is enjoying their pack. Thank you for getting your orders back to school on time as this makes it easier for the organisers. Next week is our last one. Tomorrow a group of children and adults are going shopping and will be purchasing gifts for the children connected to the Foster Hope charity. So far we have raised over \$1000! This is without the PTA's support which we have now decided we do not need.

Secret Santa

Next week we are all being a Secret Santa to another class member.

This means that your child has one other classmate that I have given them, that they make an extra special effort with for the week so that they feel valued, special and a bit spoiled. We have brainstormed ideas of what we could do for our Secret Santa. This list is from your children's ideas - not mine!

<i>Make at home</i>	<i>Buy</i>
<i>Baking A card with a special message A crafty thing Write them a special note Paint a rock Make them a bookmark Create a secret message on a google doc - share with Mrs Duncan to print at school.</i>	<i>Lollies Small toys Fishing lures A Christmas decoration Food</i>

- Your child then names the item in some way but doesn't put their own name on it.
- They put it in a bag at Mrs Duncan's desk.
- Mrs Duncan hands them out every day next week.
- We will reveal our Secret Santa on Monday 13th December.

Calves for Camp Berwick fundraising

Our 6 calves are looking forward to meeting their new owners soon! We have been working with them daily, and they are quiet and mostly well-behaved on a lead. Last Friday they received a visit from Vanessa the Blue Cross Vet who dehorned and castrated them. The kids were very hands-on with this and enjoyed learning more from Vanessa.



Tom Turkey

We have currently been adopted by Tom the Turkey who belongs to Toby. He is loved and spoiled at school and here he is being read a special story by Jacob. 'I love Lemonade' is a humorous story that has a funny storyline based around a turkey that always makes the children laugh.






End of year routine for 2021 Monday 13th December

10 am - School Mass with Fr Sani.

12.15 pm - Meet in the hall for a) The book awards for each child
b) The Athletic and House Awards
c) The Principals Cup
d) The year 8 Graduation Ceremony.

Then the children will auction the calves. Anyone is allowed to purchase these and you are not limited to buying one! Parents from other classrooms can be at this part. The children will need your support at this, as they sell each of our 6 calves. So please come along and help them out.

Introducing our Calves	If you would like a viewing of the calves before auction day, get in touch, and we will give you a tour.	
Name, gender and selling 'team'	Photo	Special Qualities identified by the 'team'
<p>Daisy</p> <p>Heifer</p> <p>Angus / Shorthorn / Friesian</p> <p>Team: Tom, Jacob, Fred, Chloe.</p>		<p>She is currently the biggest.</p> <p>Very calm calf.</p> <p>Great bone structure.</p> <p>Special markings on her face.</p> <p>Would be an excellent nurse cow.</p>
<p>Ginger Ninja</p> <p>Heifer</p> <p>Shorthorn / Friesian</p> <p>Team: Billy, Ben, Eddie.</p>		<p>Beautiful colouring.</p> <p>Very calm calf.</p> <p>Friendly.</p> <p>Has a mothering instinct.</p> <p>Loves to eat.</p> <p>Calm on the lead.</p>
<p>Angus</p> <p>Steer</p> <p>Angus / Shorthorn / Friesian</p> <p>Team: Toby, Hunter, Sam.</p>		<p>Great on the lead.</p> <p>Calm.</p> <p>Great markings.</p> <p>Won't jump fences so guaranteed to stay where it should be!</p> <p>Will eat your roughage and will make a great Angus burger at McDonald's.</p>

<p>Spark</p> <p>Heifer</p> <p>Angus / Friesian</p> <p>Team: Paige, Phoebe, Rosa.</p>		<p>Shiny coat.</p> <p>Strong and big-boned.</p> <p>A big calf that will grow fast.</p> <p>Very alert.</p> <p>Has a weakness for milk and muesli.</p>
<p>Freckles</p> <p>Steer</p> <p>Shorthorn / Hereford / Friesian</p> <p>Team: Tessa, Georgia, Hayley.</p>		<p>Very photogenic.</p> <p>Cute!</p> <p>Drinks fast.</p> <p>Calm and friendly.</p> <p>First to the feeder every time.</p>
<p>Pirate</p> <p>Steer</p> <p>Hereford / Friesian</p> <p>Team: Ryan, Mac, Elliot.</p>		<p>Loves muesli.</p> <p>Big and beefy.</p> <p>Loves food.</p> <p>Shiny coat.</p> <p>Big-boned.</p> <p>Good to handle.</p>

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 13th December.

Ka kite
Geraldine Duncan

Board of Trustees

Our last meeting for the year is on Sunday 12th December at 5.45p.m. at school.

Notices and Dates:

Week 7	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
Over Holidays	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
	Sunday 2 nd January 2022	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Fred & George Dowling, Jacob Sutherland
	Sunday 9 th January	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Phoebe Hore, Ethan Chisholm
	Sunday 16 th January	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Paige Smith, McKinley Francis
	Sunday 23 rd January	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Axel & Kaylah McAuley
	Sunday 30 th January	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Chloe & Jae McAuley
	Sunday 6 th February	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Harry & Isla Jeffries

Swimming Lessons

Billy Laing Swim Coaching - 27th-31st December

School Age Children

Ranfurly Swimming Pool

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



Cardrona Alpine Resort - Local Child Summer Season Pass 2021/22

This year we're pretty stoked to be offering a Local Child Summer Season Pass – it's the perfect opportunity for young bikers to join us for a summer adventure and to make the most of the long, warm days! We've got lift-accessed downhill mountain bike trails for all levels of riders, and for those new to the sport (or those wanting a re-fresh) our experienced bike instructors are around to take you out for a session. We'd love it if you could share information on this pass with parents/pupils attending your school; it would be awesome to see some familiar faces from winter back up at the mountain.

Local Child Pass Price: **Year 1-8 \$99** **Year 9-13 \$129**

Applications for this pass can be made via the following link [Summer 2022 Local Child Season Pass \(jotform.com\)](https://www.jotform.com)

In the meantime if you have any other questions please let us know by contacting Cardrona or Treble Cone.

