



St John's School Newsletter

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Issue 1: 4th February 2022

Principal's Page:

Welcome

Welcome back to everyone for 2022. We hope you all enjoyed a restful, relaxing holiday.

We welcome some new students and families to our school:

Noah Smith (Year 7)
Nathan Smith (Year 5)
Jimmy Jeffries (Year 1)
Oscar Jeffries (Year 1)
Bryleigh Barroga (Year 1)
Izzy Eketone (Year 1)

We also extend a warm welcome to Mrs Heather Dowling as she begins her new job teaching the Middle Class.

We welcome Mrs Rachel Gray (formerly known as Miss Heaney). We congratulate Rachel and Cam on their surprise New Year wedding and extend our best wishes to them. Mrs Gray will be the release teacher in all classrooms this year.

Staff 2022

Mrs Geraldine Duncan continues to teach Years 6, 7 and 8 with Mrs Rachel Gray releasing her on a Thursday morning until morning tea time.

I continue to teach the Junior Class, Years 1 and 2. Mrs Rachel Gray will be releasing me all day on a Wednesday and on a Thursday afternoon.

Mrs Heather Dowling will be teaching the Middle Class, Year 3, 4 and 5. Mrs Rachel Gray will be releasing Heather on a Thursday morning from 11a.m. - 12.30p.m.

Mrs Hazlett will continue to work three mornings (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday) with groups and individuals in the areas of literacy. Literacy includes reading, reading comprehension, writing, spelling and alphabet activities. Teachers have identified children and groups of children with particular needs to work with Jayne.

Waitangi Day

School is closed on **Monday 7th February** for **Waitangi Day**.

Stationery

Children will be issued with new exercise books and a stationery account.

These accounts will include Mathletics (an online Maths programme that supports the classroom programme) for the Middle and Senior class students.

Exercise books can be covered as this does protect them from many things, but this is not a requirement. If you would like to cover your childrens' books please ask them to bring the books home one night to do this. Thank you.

Stationery money is to be paid by **Friday 18th February**, please.

Internet banking can be made to the following account number: **03 0951 0066195 00**

Please remember, when paying by internet, to put your name and "School Stationery" as a reference.

Thank you.

Swimming

We have booked a swim week for the whole school with a private swimming tutor, Jo Blackie for **Week 3: 14 - 18 February**.

Each class has 1 or 2 weekly pool sessions for Weeks 1 and 2 and individual teachers will let you know these times and days.

We will be working out ability grouping during these sessions for our Swim Week.

A reminder that children need to bring their swimming gear in a bag of some sort that is easy to carry to swimming.

Telephone

A reminder, please, that when ringing the school cell phone or landline, do not leave a message after 1.15p.m. as teachers are in their classrooms teaching and there is not always someone in the office to clear messages until after school. The cellphone is also difficult for teachers to access and hear, in class time.

If your child/children are going to be absent from school, please ensure that the classroom teacher is aware of this by texting the school cell phone or ringing the school before 8.50a.m. Thank you.

Pie Warmer

The pie warmer glass has now been replaced so the pie warmer will be back in use from Monday.

A & P Show

This has been cancelled for 2022 due to Covid restrictions.

Up-to-date contact details

Attached to the paper newsletter is a form for parents to fill in to enable us to update our files. Please fill in one for your family and return it to school asap.

If your contact details and emergency details have not changed, you do not need to do this.

Office Hours

A reminder that Fiona Weir's office hours are:

Monday 9 -1p.m. Thursday 9 - 3p.m. Friday 9 - 12p.m.

If you have uniform enquiries it is preferable that you contact Fiona about this during her hours.

Emailing newsletter

Our newsletters will be emailed to those families who have provided us with an email address. If you don't receive your newsletter by email please contact Fiona Weir on office@sjr.school.nz

Our newsletter comes out every 3 weeks so you should receive a newsletter in weeks 1, 4, 7 and 10. For anything else that comes up, eg swim week, there will be a separate newsletter.

Remember to also check our website:

Scholastic Lucky Books

Please remember if you are ordering Scholastic Lucky Books for your children as presents and do not want them to see these, just write a note on the order or let us know and you will be texted when the books arrive.

Uniforms

The start of each term is the time when we order school uniform items. If you wish to order outside of these times, you will be asked to pay full postage in the total cost. If you are needing a uniform order form, you can print one off the website under the "Notices" tab - then "Class Notices"

You can also order yourself, online at:

<http://stjohns.uniformz.com>

School Uniform

A reminder that children are to dress in correct uniform please:

Boys-Summer

Red polo shirt

Grey shorts

School polar fleece or jersey

Grey socks

Brown/black shoes or sandals

Girls - Summer

Red polo shirt

Skort

School polar fleece or jersey

Black socks

Brown/black shoes or sandals

We ask that children who have long hair, have this tied up with brown, red, green, black or white hair ties.

Collecting of plastic bread tags

We are still collecting the plastic bread tags (no wooden please). These are collected to help fund wheelchairs for those in need in South Africa and to keep them out of landfills. The box for putting the bread tags in is outside the Principal's Office in the office area at school.

Head Lice

Please check your children's hair regularly for this, as it is an ongoing issue. Please treat this when necessary.

School Buses

A reminder that masks are to be worn by students who are in Year 4 and up on all school buses. We have been asked by the Ministry of Education transport advisor to reiterate to parents and caregivers the following points:

- It is the responsibility of the caregivers to get bus children to pick-up locations and to collect them from drop-off locations.
- It is recommended caregivers and children arrive at the bus stop locations at least 5 minutes prior to the time advised by the bus provider.
- Caregivers should stay with their children while they are waiting for their school transport in the morning and meet them in the afternoon as they get off the bus.

Parent Information Evening

On **Tuesday 15th February** we will be holding a parent information evening. You can attend all sessions or as many as interest you.

The presentation explains the expectations and programmes in each class.

Junior Class 7 - 7.20p.m.

Middle Class 7.30 - 7.50p.m.

Senior Class 8 - 8.20p.m.

We look forward to seeing you then.

Mask Coverings for Years 4 up

Here are the guidelines we have been given from the Ministry of Education re this.

“Staff and children in Years 4 - 13 must wear face coverings when inside at school when we are at Red. Public health advice is that an appropriate face covering will fit snugly and seal well around facial contours. This can include single use, disposable masks (medical masks) and re-usable fabric masks with three layers.”

Covid-19

We are regularly receiving updates from the Ministry of Education re Covid-19.

Here at St John's School we will continue to:

*display QR code posters for the NZ COVID tracer app

*provide hand sanitizer at entranceways

*all year 4 and up students will be wearing a mask indoors

*keep our visitor register and attendance registers up to date

*be monitoring for illness and asking anyone who is unwell to remain at home, or to go home.

Please ensure if children are unwell, or starting to develop a cold or sore throat, they stay at home.

*encourage people with relevant symptoms to seek medical advice through Healthline or their GP and get tested for COVID if recommended to do so

*reinforce the importance of good hand washing and drying

*reinforce good cough and sneeze etiquette

All parts of our school continue to be regularly cleaned.

Power off

We have been informed that the power will be off at school for a day on **Friday 18th February**.

It will be off all day from the previous night until 2.30p.m.

Please ensure that children have nothing to heat up in the pie-warmer or to cook in the toastie sandwich maker on this day. Thank you.

Special Character Clipboard:

Next Monday the 7th February we have a holiday to remember Waitangi Day.

We commemorate the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi on this day in 1840. Waitangi Day was first commemorated in 1934. The Treaty is often called “The Founding Document” of New Zealand. It is an agreement and exchange of promises made between representatives of the British crown and representatives of Maori.

Ko nga pae tawhiti

Whaia kia tata

Ko nga pae tata

Whakamaua kia tina.

The potential for tomorrow depends on what we do today.

Junior Class News:

-We begin 2022 with 11 children in the Junior class. We welcome four new five year olds (or nearly 5 year olds!) to our class:

Jimmy Jeffries, Oscar Jeffries, Bryleigh Barroga and Izzy Eketone.



-All Junior Class children should have brought home a letter about homework expectations for the year. Also a stationery account and a reading helper list. If you can help with reading please fill in the form and return it to school asap.

A reminder that to help with reading you need to be double vaccinated and be prepared to show your vaccine pass for scanning. If you have any questions please come and see me or text.

-Our theme for this term is "Voyagers". Mrs Rachel Gray will be taking this theme in the Junior Class during my release time. Children will be talking about their family backgrounds and family -The Junior Class will be going swimming next **Tuesday 8th February from 1 - 1.45p.m.**

Could you please ensure children bring their togs, towels, goggles etc on this day. Thank you.

Middle Class News:



Wow! What a fantastic start to the term we have had!

I feel very lucky to be teaching the children in the Middle Class this year. We extend a warm welcome to Nathan Smith who has joined us this year.

It has been a different start to the year with most of our class in masks, however, the children have been handling it really well and we make sure that we get outside for regular breaks.

This week we have made our own class treaty, we've written about our holiday memories, started doing an 'All About Me' poster and started our Reading and Maths programmes.

I look forward to meeting you all at the Parent Information Evening in Week 3.

Heather Dowling

Senior Class News:



**“Alone we can do so little, together, we can do so much”
Helen Keller**

Welcome back to the school year.

Classroom newsletter

You will have all received the class newsletter that was emailed home on Monday. Thank you for keeping up to date with our communication and setting your children up for a great first week.

Class Orientation Evening

Mrs Mulholland has mentioned this earlier in the newsletter. I have decided that at this I will share the camp information with you, so that I can answer any initial questions that you have.

Senior Room Camp

Camp Berwick from 11th - 14th April.

Homework

We have written this into our homework books and this routine will be in place for next week. Help your child with this aspect of their schooling and sign the appropriate places that they will show you. I suggest starting to learn the spelling words over the weekend to make next week's work easier.

Aquatics

We have one swimming slot each week allocated to us. This is on a Tuesday. Everyone is expected to swim. The children need to bring along their togs, towel and goggles and can wear a swim cap if they wish.

A reminder that all children over 12 years and 3 months need to show me their vaccine pass before we go to the pool, and we will take these with us.

Mrs Gray - our classroom release teacher.

Kia Ora from MRS GRAY!

I am so excited to be teaching the seniors on Thursday mornings! We are going to delve into our family history, creating family trees online and hopefully expanding this into our own interactive websites!

The students may come home and ask about their ancestors so be prepared to answer any questions or find out more alongside them.

Finally,

I have loved being back in the school setting with your children over the last few days and I'm confident that we are going to have a positive term. Life is good in the Senior Room! Every child has made a very positive start to the term and I love seeing them arrive through the door every morning.

Senior Room 2022



Me mahi tahi tātou - Mo te oranga o te katoa
We shall work together for the wellbeing of everyone.

Kind regards,
Geraldine Duncan.

Board of Trustees

Our first meeting for the year is on **Tuesday 8th February at 7.30p.m.**

Notices and Dates:

Week 1	Sunday 6 th February	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Harry & Isla Jeffries
Week 2	Monday 7 th February	Waitangi Day. School Closed.
	Sunday 13 th February	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Eddie & Marley Weir
Week 3	Monday 14 th – Friday 18 th February	Swim Week
	Tuesday 15 th February	Parent Information Evening
	Friday 18 th February	Stationery Money Due
		Power off at school. No food to be heated please.
	Sunday 20 th February	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Cyrus Janerol, Hayley Barroga, Joshua Barroga
Week 4	Sunday 27 th February	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Ben Gibson, Xavier Love
Week 5	Sunday 6 th March	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Elliot & Jessica Greer
Week 11	Monday 11 th – Thursday 14 th April	Senior School Camp at Berwick

