

St John's School Newsletter

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Principal's Page:

Welcome Back

Welcome back for Term 2.

This is always a busy term when teachers are testing children and assessing for mid-year reporting later in the term.

We have two public holidays this term:

*Queen's Birthday - Monday 6th June

*Matariki - Friday 24th June

Masks in Classrooms

As you are aware, at Orange level, face masks are no longer a requirement at school. However masks continue to be strongly encouraged when indoors. There will be times when we ask children in Years 4 and up to wear a mask, eg, for Faith Focus time on a Monday when we are all together in a small space, school Masses and any other times we are all together indoors. If there are a high number of covid cases at school or in the community we may ask that masks be worn in classrooms for a time. Children may continue to wear face masks all the time inside, if parents wish them to.

Masks on buses

Students aged 12 and above are still required to wear a face mask on school transport.

A reminder please to keep children at home if they are sick or displaying any covid symptoms.

School Mass

Our first school Mass for the year will be held on:

Monday 9th May at 9a.m.

Parents and family members are invited to come along and join us for this celebration.

We ask that masks be worn inside the church please.

Pink Shirt Day

We will be having a mufti day on **Friday 20th May** to support Pink Shirt Day.

Pink Shirt Day is about working together to stop bullying, celebrating diversity and promoting kindness and inclusiveness.

Children can dress in pink or bright coloured mufti clothes on this day and bring along a gold coin donation to support this cause. Thank you.

Maniototo Community and Educational Wellbeing Survey

All families have been emailed the above online survey. It is about access to support services in our community. It is not a compulsory survey to fill in. Please feel free to fill it in, if you wish to.

Containers from last PTA catering

There is one unnamed container in the office area at school from the last PTA catering. If you think it is yours could you please come and collect it or ask your child to pick it up for you. Thank you.

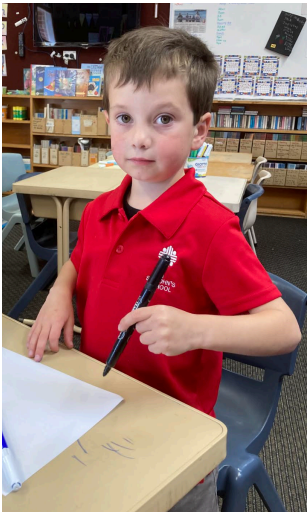
Special Character Clipboard:

-In our Religious Education lessons we will be working on the "Jesus" strand of the curriculum. We learn about the life of Jesus, how Jesus showed love and respect for others and how we can live as Jesus did.

-May is the month of Mary, the mother of Jesus. In our prayer times during May we will all join together at the start of each day in the Senior classroom, to pray the Rosary which is a special traditional prayer to Mary based on Bible stories. We have a school set of Rosary beads which we use to count the prayers we say. Children are welcome to bring Rosary beads from home if they have them.

Junior Class News:

*We welcome new 5 year old Archie Weir, and his family, to St John's School.



*This term Mrs Gray will continue to teach the Junior Class the topic of Maori and European explorers in Social Sciences.

Middle Class News:



Welcome back to Term 2 in the Middle Room!

I love seeing all the smiling faces enter the classroom this term!

We've had a couple of children off school this week, isolating, so I am looking forward to seeing them back in class soon.

We have started a new novel this week called 'The Wishing Chair'. The children enjoyed our novels last term and I love seeing their love of reading grow.

This term we are studying Multiplication and Division in Maths and the children have chosen to study and write reports on 'Natural Disasters'. We are learning about Hurricanes first and have found out some fascinating information already about how they form and move around.

We are lucky to have Mrs Hazlett come in and help with reading on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. I have 6 reading groups, so this ensures that each group gets read with regularly, with my older groups taking themselves for a 'Book Club' once a week. She also comes and helps with Maths as well to take groups, or support students in their individual learning.

Mrs Gray is taking Topic and Music this term on a Thursday for an hour and a half. The children will be looking at the Voyage of Kupe to New Zealand and other Maori activities.

We have started doing some Rippa skills this week in preparation for the tournament coming up. The children are doing really well, and it's great to see students who haven't played before giving it a go. They have been well supported by their teammates.

This is our busy sport term, so we will be regularly reminding each other in the Middle Room to be kind and show resilience.



Nga Mihi,
Heather Dowling

Senior Class News:



Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud.

There have been photos uploaded to the school website this week - check them out.

Camp Berwick

Fantastic, amazing and fun! We had a blast and I hope the children have told you so much about their adventures. The kids were great and they made the most of every opportunity.

I was supported by a great group of parents and Kym and Cate fed us very well. I must say - the camp baking that you all provided was delicious!

There are many photos on the School Website - so pop across and look at them.

Young Vinnies.

The group is very proud to let you know that they donated \$2000 to the Caritas Pacific Relief Fund for Tonga. This incredible amount of money was raised through the sausage sizzles and two work afternoons that the children did. Your support with this project was greatly appreciated - right from purchasing sausages for your children's lunch, through to driving and supervising children at their workday jobs.

This term the children have turned their attention to Ukraine. They have pledged to donate \$1000 to the St Vincent de Paul Society which is gathering monetary funds to send to the aid organisation in Ukraine.

There are several activities in the pipeline...

- a. Sell hot soup and cheese rolls for Friday lunches for part of the term (the children will send home a survey about this to gauge parent interest)
- b. Life Skills development through a series of challenges. I have been considering what skills and attitudes that we learn throughout our primary years, which help set us up for our secondary schooling journey. See below for an explanation of this challenge.

Life Skills Challenge

This challenge runs for all of term 2, or can be completed sooner if achieved.

The goal is for the children to develop age appropriate skills that will help them manage themselves in different situations. The child has to find a sponsor who will pay them \$20 for completing these skills, which is then given to the Young Vinnies group. This sponsor might be someone in your wider family or a family friend.

The Senior Room children will all do this as Young Vinnie members. They would like to invite any Middle and Junior Class children to join them in this challenge.

The challenge is outlined below.

If you would like to do this, please text the school phone and we will send a challenge card home with your child.

Senior Room			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children will do this as they are the Young Vinnie members. The children should complete 14/16 challenges. Sign the box when achieved. 			
Responsibility	Thankfulness	Capable	Initiative
Take on a responsibility at home for a month and complete this regularly and to a high standard. My job was:	To write a thank you note or card to someone. This could be a coach, the bus driver etc. I wrote to:	Load, start and unpack the dishwasher for a week. Putting the items in the correct place in the cupboards.	Save enough in Banquer to pay a deposit on a house.
Fold my own washing, and put it away neatly in the wardrobe and drawers for a week.	Volunteer to help out in some way. This could be in our own family or a neighbour. Learn to do this without being told too.	Use the phone: Hold a phone conversation with an adult or an older sibling. You need to create conversation and be engaged.	To set myself a time limit for technology use outside of school hours, and to stick to this time limit for two weeks.
Keep a pet or plant alive by taking responsibility for feeding and watering (and exercising) it for an extended amount of time.	To thank the people in my home that provide me with food, clothing, love and support. To learn to do this regularly without adult prompting.	To learn to cook a dish that the family can eat by the end of the term.	To work the washing machine correctly, hang the clothes on the line so they dry easily and bring them back in. Do this 5 times.
To unpack my own school bag (h.w out, notices out, lunchbox cleaned out)	Make my own school lunch for a week.	Get myself up and ready for school on time for two weeks.	Display good basic manners in different settings.

Middle Room			
Challenge by choice. If your child would like to participate, please text the school phone saying so. The children should complete 12/16 of the challenges.			
Help prepare my own school lunch for one week.	Brush and do my own hair for school.	Pack my own school bag for a week at home with a lunchbox, homework and notices.	To write a thank you note or card to someone. This could be a coach, the bus driver etc. I wrote to
Get my uniform out each night ready for the morning for two weeks.	Thank my coach/bus driver each time I see them.	Ask someone how they are when they say 'Hello' to you.	Bring your dishes back to the kitchen after each meal.

Help to prepare a meal.	Keep my room tidy.	Feed pets or bring firewood in.	Volunteer to help a neighbour or grandparent with a job at home.
Encourage other students in your class by complimenting them on their hard work.	Play a board game/game with someone at home instead of being on devices for one night. Show resilience if you don't win and say 'Well done' to your opponent.	Bring your unclean washing out each day for two weeks to be washed.	Make your bed each morning for two weeks.

Junior Room

If you and your child would like to participate, please text the school phone saying so. The children should complete 10/16 of the challenges.

Brush my teeth properly on my own.	Use a knife and fork correctly at meal times.	Brush my own hair each day.	Unpack my own school bag each day when I get to school and when I get home.
Keep my room tidy.	Thank the bus driver and car driver every day.	Put my dirty clothes in the laundry.	Do not throw a tantrum if I lose at a game or cheat! (ie UNO)
Feed the pets at home.	Thank whoever made dinner for the family.	Pick up my own play equipment and put away the games / sports gear.	Set the dinner table.
Hold the door open for somebody.	Get myself dressed for school.	Be able to say hello when someone greets you and answers their questions.	Start to learn to tie my own shoelaces.

Dates coming up.

Rippa Tournament - Thursday 19th May (pp Friday)

Pink Shirt day - Friday 20th May

National Young Leaders Day (NYLD) - year 8 only: Tuesday 31st May

Reports come home - Friday 1st July

Parent and Teacher interviews - Tuesday 5th July, Wednesday 6th July.

Whakataukī - Proverb

E huri tō aroaro ki te rā, tukana tō ataarangi ki muri i a koe.

Turn and face the sun and let your shadow fall behind you.

Kind regards,
Geraldine Duncan.

Dunstan Zone Rippa Tournament.

Thank you to those who returned the rippa information and replied to the text. We have entered a team at each grade level.

	<i>Team</i>	<i>Coach</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Yr 3/4	SJ Racers	Luke Jeffries	Sharon Scott
Yr 5/6	SJ Dashers	Logan Dowling/Gerard Weir	Geraldine Dowling
Yr 7/8	SJ Torpedoes	Ryan Dowling	Kym Smith

Thank you very much to the volunteers that offered to coach and manage teams, and for those people who have offered to transport children. It is really important for us in these types of situations that people are able to take a carload of kids, as this means we can get everyone there. Every offer of transport will be used.

Only a small number of children were interested in being a spectator, so we have decided that those children will spend the day at school in the Junior Room with Mrs Mulholland. This decision was also based on our transport numbers available. We have no draw out yet and will share this with you when it is received.

Transport details will come home next week.

Board of Trustees:

-Our next meeting is on Tuesday 10th May at 7p.m. at school.

-Board of Trustee elections are coming up in September, from the 5th - 23rd. If you are interested in becoming a Board member please come along to a meeting and see what is involved.

Notices and Dates:

Week 1 T2	Sunday 8 th May	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Paige Smith & McKinley Francis
Week 2	Sunday 15 th May	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Axel & Kaylah McAuley
Week 3	Thursday 19 th May	Rippa Rugby Tournament postponement day – Friday 20 th
	Friday 20 th May	Pink Shirt Day

	Sunday 22 nd May	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Chloe & Jae McAuley
Week 4	Sunday 29 th May	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Harry & Isla Jeffries
Week 5	Tuesday 31 st May	National Young Leaders Day - Year 8's
	Sunday 5 th June	New Roster will be available soon
Week 9	Friday 1 st July	Reports/Portfolios out
Week 10	Tuesday 5 th & Wednesday 6 th July	Parent/Teacher Interviews

Covid Information Update from the Southern District Health Board

What to do if you have to self-isolate

If you live with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 you are a [household contact](#) and will need to:

- self-isolate for 7 days (from the day the first person tests positive). You can end your self-isolation on the same day as the 'case' provided you have no new or worsening symptoms, and your RAT tests were negative.
- get tested using a [Rapid Antigen Test \(RAT\)](#) when the first case in your house gets to days 3 and 7 of their isolation or you develop symptoms. (If you become symptomatic, you should also get a test. If the result is positive, you are required to isolate for 7 days from that point.)
- Your isolation does not restart if additional members of your household are identified as cases during the first case's isolation period.
- After the initial isolation period ends there is a 10-day window during which no household contacts of the original case can be re-classified as household contacts. You only need to begin isolation again during these 10 days if you test positive yourself.
- 10 days after the original isolation period ends the usual rules apply. If a new household member (not the original case) tests positive, they and all other household contacts (who have not yet become cases themselves) must isolate for 7 days.

Avoid or minimize contact with the person with COVID-19 as much as possible, during your isolation by:

- staying away from others (in your own room if possible)
- keeping the room well ventilated with fresh air
- using a separate toilet and bathroom or using it after everyone else
- disinfecting and cleaning all surfaces you touch
- washing your hands often
- using separate cups, plates, glasses and wash in very hot water
- avoiding shared household spaces like the kitchen
- if you have to share a space, everyone should wear a mask and keep a distance of at least 2 metres.

If you are a casual or [close contact](#) (and don't live with the positive case) and are not experiencing any symptoms, you do not need to stay at home, but you should monitor your health for **10** days. If you later develop COVID-19 symptoms, you should stay at home and ring Healthline (0800 358 5453) for advice and information about testing.

