



St John's School Newsletter

6 Stuart Road
Ranfurly
03 4449514 (ph & fax)
office@sjr.school.nz

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Principal's Page:

Nau mai haere mai

Welcome back

Welcome back for Term 3.



We welcome new student, Keisha Evangelista, and her family to St John's School. Keisha is in Year 5 and has recently arrived in New Zealand from the Philippines.

Pyjama Day

Thank you to all families for their gold coin donations on the last day of Term 2 on our "Pyjama Day." We raised \$101.40 for Laura Vicuna School in Bethlehem, Israel.

Maniototo Cross Country

This is being held on **Tuesday 23rd August** at the Maniototo Stadium.

Children in each class will be busy preparing for this at school by daily running to get fit. Children can wear (or bring) shoes suitable for running in and they need a drink bottle of water each day.

Masks

We will continue as we have the last couple of terms with masks being worn by Year 4's and up when we are all together as a school group.

69% of our students have had Covid.

If you would prefer your child to wear a mask all day please let us know as we are happy for this to happen.

We have disposable masks available for children to wear.

Staff wear masks daily and all visitors to the school (including parents) are expected to wear a mask in the school buildings. Thank you.

Dunstan Community of Learning Exhibition (COL - also known as Dunstan Kahui Ako)

On the 11th November our school will be part of the above group of schools exhibiting at Central Stories Museum and Gallery in Alexandra.

This exhibition will showcase the learning students across our group of schools have engaged in this year about “our stories” as they relate to the Aotearoa NZ Histories curriculum and our own local curriculum. During this term each class will be working with Mrs Gray towards making a display exhibit for this, tying in with the “Voyagers” topic we have been working on this year. We will get the opportunity as a school to visit the museum in November to view the exhibition.

Special Character Clipboard:

-This term in Religious Education each class will be working on finishing the “Holy Spirit” strand. Then they will move onto the “Sacrament” and “Church” strands.

-For those children who made their Confirmation in Term 2, the next step in their faith journey is First Holy Communion. This will be celebrated on **Sunday 27th November**. Please keep this date free if your child is involved in this.

Mrs Anna Jeffries will prepare this group for the sacrament of Holy Communion in Term 4.

-Sunday 15th August is the “Feast of the Assumption of Mary”. It is a day when the Church celebrates Mary, the Mother of Jesus, going to heaven. Mary is the Patron Saint of Aotearoa New Zealand. The Catholic Church assigns one date out of the year for each canonized saint - known as the Saint’s Feast Day. The saints are remembered on their individual feast days with special mention, prayers and sometimes, a scripture reading.

Junior Class News:

The Junior Class have had a busy start to the term. We have several more 4 year olds coming along once a week for school visits this term.

We all enjoyed the holiday break. Here are some holiday stories:

In the holidays I went ice skating and Juliette was there. It was my first time. I pushed a trolley. It was fun.

Bryleigh Barroga

In the holidays I went to Mitre 10. Mum got some plants. Dad got some tools. I played on the playground.

Archie Weir

In the holidays I went to Queenstown. We got King's crowns. The ducks thought that the crowns were bread. Then we went to a park. The park had a slippery slide but Mum said that it was time to go on our boat. When we got on the boat Walter hugged Dad and when we got home we watched a movie. It was terrific.

Juliette Dowling

Middle Class News:



Welcome back to Term 3!

Time sure is flying by and in no time we will be on our overnight stay in Dunedin.

Thank you to everyone for selling the chocolate and getting all your paperwork in on time.

We welcome Keisha to the Middle Class this term. She is a welcome addition to the Year 5's and it's been great to see the children welcome her in and include her in our classroom activities. We also welcome Becky Bruhns who is helping out 4 days a week from 9am until 12pm in the Middle Room as our Teacher Aide.

This term we are learning about Fractions in Maths, we have some novel studies in Reading and we are learning about Poetry in our Writing. Mrs Gray is teaching Topic and Technology this term and in R.E we are learning about the Sacraments. We have talked this week about how we can feel, see and hear God's presence around us.

This week we have learnt about, and written some limericks which tested our rhyming ability. They have turned out great and I have shared some below.

*There once was a girl called Jessie,
She was very, very messy
She ate some food
And got a bad mood
Then gave her temper to Bessie*
Jessie Greer

*There once was a boy called Matt
He had a new black cat
He liked to scratch
On the flower patch
While resting in a black hat*
Isla Jeffries

*There once was a dog called Bog
Who really hated the smog
He ran away
That smoggy day
And he ended up in a log*
James Marshall

Senior Class News:

We Succeed Together Ki te kāpuia e kore e whati

Kia Ora families

Welcome back for term 3. It has been great to be back in the classroom with the children and they are all in a positive mindset for a productive term.

Here are the dates of what we have coming up at this stage.

Wednesday 3rd August	Ski Trip information is due back to school. Please do not be late with this as we have deadlines to meet for Cardrona.
Friday 5th August	Move it Challenge - does anyone have any large buckets that we could use for this activity please? They will be returned.
Tuesday 9th August	Jo Bell visiting - Young Vinnies coordinator visiting.
Tuesday 16th August	Clean up Ranfurly session by the Young Vinnies, starting at 12.30pm (more information below)
Thursday 18th August	A school day with no furniture, electrical or battery powered resources.
Friday 19th August	Ski trip money due. If you would like assistance with this, please contact me.
Tuesday 23rd August	Cross Country - this will be our first competitive School House event for the year. Who will win the event - McAuley House or O'Neill House?
Thursday 25th August	Parent Ski meeting 3pm in the senior room- one representative from all families of children attending needs to come to this.
Friday 26th August	Ski gear check for the children - have everything on the gear list at school this day. First Kiwi Curling session - information will come out closer to the time. Transport will be needed.
Friday 2nd September	Otago Cross Country in Dunedin. Kiwi Curling session.
Friday 9th September	Kiwi Curling session.
Friday 16th September	Kiwi Curling session.
Monday 26th September	Kiwi Curling Tournament.
Wednesday 28th September	Tiaki Maniototo planting day which the Junior Room and the Year 6's will help at.

Homework

The routine will continue for term 3.

All children should reach the 20 certificate achievement for Athletics this term.

Spelling testing / AWS word chain check-ups will happen on Fridays.

The poetry recital (of the poem practised throughout the week) will happen on Fridays.

Reading at home needs to continue. We visit the library every week so this gives an opportunity for children to get out new books.

Science badges - we now have two science badges completed by Chloe and George. Keep working away at these during the term.

Poetry homework explanation ...

<p><i>I Met a Dragon Face to Face by Jack Prelutsky</i></p> <p>I met a dragon face to face the year when I was ten, I took a trip to outer space, I braved a pirate's den, I wrestled with a wicked troll, and fought a great white shark, I trailed a rabbit down a hole, I hunted for a snark.</p> <p>I stowed aboard a submarine, I opened magic doors, I travelled in a time machine, and searched for dinosaurs, I climbed atop a giant's head, I found a pot of gold, I did all this in books I read when I was ten years old.</p>	<p><u>Homework task</u></p> <p>This term the children will be learning about poetry.</p> <p>One of the activities they will do is to practice reading aloud a poem each week as part of their homework, that they will present to their classmates on Friday.</p> <p>They can learn the poem by heart, or use the paper as a prompt. They can dress up. They can act and mime. Most of all I want them to have fun while speaking clearly, and with expression.</p> <p>The poem will be stuck into their homework book each week.</p>
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Role Models unit - started at the end of term 2.

This links into the Social Justice learning that we will be doing during Faith Focus this term on racism.

This very powerful poem and a short speech by Takunda Muzondiws is an example of how racism is felt by different people in our culture. This is something for us all to reflect upon and to consider what and how we speak to our children about different cultures.

Young Vinnies

This term the Young Vinnies focus is on the Caritas activity of 'One Day of Difference for a Lifetime of Change'.

The four parts of this are as follows and at our Young Vinnie meeting this week, the children have decided on doing the following actions. These have been chosen to try and give them an opportunity to see life in someone else's shoes or to make a difference in our community.

<i>Sweat It - Me Whakapau Werawera Tuesday August 16th 12.30pm</i>	Clean up areas around our community Wear - mufti and bring garden gloves to wear. We need - help with transport and supervision please <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a trailer for gathering the rubbish into• bags to collect rubbish in - horse feed/hen mash sacks. If you can help, please message the school cell phone. Thank you.
<i>Stop It - Me Kati Thursday August 18th</i>	Have a full school day with no furniture, pie warmer, toastie pie machine, laptops or TV. Just the floor and our pens, pencils and exercise books.
<i>Move it - Me Neke Friday 5th August</i>	Complete a 30 minute water carrying activity for the whole school to imitate what it is like for children to go to the village well to gather water for their families. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We need large buckets (capsule containers for example) as well as normal sized buckets please.
<i>Live It - Me Whakaora Thursday August 18th</i>	Build cardboard shelters that could be used to sleep in (which we won't be doing sorry but I have encouraged the kids to consider sleepovers with their cardboard boxes - if they are really keen). If you have cardboard boxes that are not needed at home, could you please donate them to us and drop them off at school.



Crosscountry

This event is being held at the Maniototo Stadium on Tuesday 23rd August, so we have 3 weeks more training time before race day.

All children will participate in this event in their year group. By finishing the race each child gets a house point (with more points awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd placing) and can qualify for the Otago cross country event that is being held in Dunedin on Friday 2nd September.

The following distances are approximate for each group ...

Year 7 and 8 - 2km

Year 5 and 6 - 1.6km

Year 3 and 4 - 1.2km

Year 1 and 2 - 800m.

The senior class is completing a training programme for this and we have made a great start. Everybody has a positive and determined mindset and just gets the job done. Running is not 'fun' for everyone but is an opportunity to develop mental resilience as well as physical fitness and strength. I am proud of the effort each child is putting into the training sessions and it would be good if you can give positive feedback to them at home also.

All members of the class can currently comfortably run two laps of school which is about 1.1km and we will build this up in the following weeks.

Children are welcome to bring running clothes and a woolly hat to wear for training.

Congratulations

George Dowling - for the completion of his Large Animals science badge. This has been an interesting badge for George to complete and he has worked at this very diligently.

Logan Suddaby – has completed the Food Technology badge and even made cottage cheese and biscuits suitable for people with coeliac disease. What a great effort.

Paige Smith - has achieved the 20 certificates goal in Athletics.

Kind regards
Geraldine Duncan.

Board of Trustees:

-A reminder that nominations for the Board of Trustees close at noon on **Wednesday 3rd August**.

-Our next Board meeting is on **Tuesday 9th August**.

Notices and Dates:

Week 1 T3	Sunday 31 st July	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Rosa & Josie Herlihy
Week 2	Sunday 7 th August	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Logan & Mckenna Suddaby
Week 3	Thursday 11 th & Friday 12 th August	Middle Class trip to Dunedin
	Sunday 14 th August	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Fred & George Dowling, Jacob Sutherland
Week 4	Sunday 21 st August	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Phoebe Hore, Ethan Chisholm
Week 5	Tuesday 23 rd August	Maniototo Cross Country
	Sunday 28 th August	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Paige Smith, McKinley Francis
	Friday 2 nd September	Otago Cross Country in Dunedin
Week 6	Sunday 4 th September	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Axel & Kaylah McAuley
Week 7	Monday 5 th September	Years 5 – 8 Ski Trip
	Sunday 11 th September	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Chloe & Jae McAuley
Week 8	Sunday 18 th September	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Harry & Isla Jeffries

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.

Covid reinfection advice

This advice comes from the Ministry of Health:

You are more likely to become reinfected as your immune response from the vaccine or your previous Covid infection decreases over time.

- If it is 28 days or fewer since the last infection, there's no need to test.
- Within 28 days, symptoms are most likely due to lasting effects of the initial infection or a different new respiratory infection. A new Covid infection is difficult to diagnose within 28 days because symptoms, viral levels and test positivity may fluctuate during this time.
- Covid like symptoms may well be caused by other infections like the common cold, flu or a chest infection.
- If a person develops new Covid symptoms, and it's 29 days or more since their previous infection, it's possible that it's a reinfection with Covid and they should take a rapid antigen test. If that test is positive, they will need to isolate for a second time for seven days.
- For most people, illness caused by reinfection is likely to be no more severe than a first infection, but they can experience different symptoms.
- If a person is not getting better, or becoming increasingly unwell, they should call Healthline on 0800 358 5453 or their doctor/healthcare provider.

