



# St John's School Newsletter

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## Principal's Page:

Nau mai haere mai

### Thank You

Thank you to those parents who helped transport children to Naseby last Friday morning for ice skating. The weather was perfect and children enjoyed their skating session.



### Parent/Teacher Interviews

Thank you to those parents who were able to come along to parent teacher interviews this week. If you were unable to come and would like an interview please contact the classroom teacher early next term to arrange a suitable meeting time.

## Email hacked

At the end of last week staff were sent an email that looked like it came from me but didn't.



The email did not come from my school email address and was not written in the manner I would use. Please be careful not to open any email that looks different to what I would normally send as, after discussion with others, it sounds likely that it would lead to more, supposedly coming from me, asking for money for school causes. Just press delete! If you are unsure please ask me.

## School Holidays

We have quickly come to the end of another term. **Term 3 begins on Monday 25th July.** Enjoy a restful and safe holiday.

## **Special Character Clipboard:**

This week in our Faith Focus time we learnt a bit about "Laura Vicuna School" in Bethlehem, Israel. Today we have enjoyed a pyjama day and our gold coin donations will go to Caritas (a Catholic Aid Agency) who are helping out this school to provide:

- laptops and projectors for classrooms
- round tables for group work
- repairs to toilets and bathrooms

We compared our school to this school and it made us very thankful for the great resources we are lucky to have in each of our classrooms.



## Junior Class News:

Here are some recent stories that we wrote about elephants:

Elephants care for each other. They live in a herd.

By Georgia Dodds

Elephants have long trunks. They have big ears.

By Izzy Eketone

Elephants have long trunks, in fact they are the biggest animals in the world. They eat grass and leaves off trees. They are nearly extinct. Poachers kill them.

By Maggie O'Neill

Elephants have long trunks.

By Oscar Jeffries

Some elephants live in Africa. They eat with their trunks. They are the biggest animal in the world.

By Olivia Scott

Elephants are almost extinct. Poachers hunt elephants. The Asian elephants and the African elephants have different sized ears.

By Greta Love

Elephants have long trunks. They have big ears. They use their trunks to drink water.

By Evelyn Cai



Picture by Evelyn Cai



## Middle Class News:



Phew! We've made it to the end of the term! What a busy term it has been with children's sport at the weekend and families that had to isolate themselves with Covid. The children have coped well and we have continued to learn a lot and see progress happen. We have enjoyed reading 'The Faraway Tree' this term and we've had great discussions about this book. We've had fun using our imagination and coming up with different lands that we would like to visit.

The children enjoyed doing plays this term. It was a fun way to do our reading and meant we had to use expression and act out the meaning of our words. The children enjoyed making their masks with Mrs Hazlett and then performing for an audience.



The children enjoyed their skating session last week. Thank you to all the parents that helped with transport and on the ice. It was great to see the children helping each other out and see their confidence grow over their time on the ice.

Thank you to the parents that could come to Parent Interviews. I really enjoyed meeting with you all and discussing your child's progress. I look forward to meeting with the other parents next term who couldn't make it. I would really appreciate it if you could let me know if your child is going to be away for any reason, particularly if you know in advance. A text to the school cellphone or an email would be fantastic, thank you.

Have a great holiday everyone and I look forward to seeing you all back next term!

### Does anyone want to join me?

I have spoken to Fr Gerard about what is required for me to become a Catholic. He has given me some material to look at and we will have a couple of meetings together. If you are interested or even just curious please let me know.

Heather Dowling



## Senior Class News:

**Mā to huruhuru ke rere te manu.  
Adorn the bird with feathers so it will fly.**

Kia Ora families

Another term is drawing to a close. Like me, you will be wondering where the weeks have got to. Term 2 is so busy for a lot of you with sporting commitments, so thank you for your continued dedication to homework routines, and for helping your child to keep up good sleep routines. Again this term has seen some cases of Covid in our class, and some flu but overall we have come through pretty well. I hope all of the children have good health over the holidays, so they can fully enjoy their break.

We have had a very positive last week together and have been working on a 'Role Model' unit that I have designed in relation to the last letter you received from me regarding behaviour. So far we have learnt about different forms of communication (passive, passive-aggressive, aggressive and assertive) and verbal and non-verbal communication. Our sessions have been fun and provided an opportunity for children to ask questions and present possible scenarios. I am pleased to let you know that I am seeing the children be more mindful of what they say to others and considerate of how the other person receives that communication. We will continue to work on this after the holidays.

## **Class 'Shout-Outs'**

### Balmoral Book Bonanza

Many of our class are working towards completing the BBB activities. The details of this are in their homework books. Phoebe Hore and Sam Elworthy have received their voucher to use at the Balmoral Dairy. Congratulations to them both, I know they will enjoy their treats. Thank you, Mr and Mrs Cai for supporting this initiative.

### Mathletics achievements

Rosa Herlihy has reached the 20 certificate goal in Mathletics, earning a whopping \$20,000 in Banquer and the satisfaction of completing this challenge. For every week of the school year, she has achieved 1000 plus points. Congratulations!

There are also a number of children who have completed everything in their Mathletic programme to green bar level. This takes a very focused effort and is quite amazing - George Dowling and Logan Suddaby have completed the year 6 program, and Paige Smith and Chloe McAuley the year 8 program. There are hard and detailed tasks involved in this that take time and perseverance to complete.

### Young Vinnies Ukraine fundraiser - 'Life Skills Challenge'

Thank you to the children for completing this challenge and receiving their \$20 sponsorship. I have enjoyed hearing about meals that children have prepared, how the washing of dinner dishes is going, that it is quite difficult to fold some clothes etc. I think the children enjoy learning new skills and being able to contribute to home life. There have also been some lovely cards sent to people and phone conversations held with family members in other places. A big shout out to the children in the Middle and Junior Room who have also achieved this. Your support of your children's effort in this challenge is acknowledged as I am sure that at times some nagging was needed!

If you wish to pay online, here are the details. The account number is 03 0951 0083139 00. Please reference this 'Ukraine'

### Science Badge

As you know, the children who signed up to this were expected to complete work on their science badges for the last two weeks of the term. Quite a few of the children have shown me a number of activities and have been able to share their knowledge in an interesting and confident manner. We now have our first science badge completed - congratulations to Chloe McAuley who has achieved her Marine Biology badge. Wahoo!

### House ownership in Banquer

All of the senior class children are now proud owners of an investment property in Banquer. This means that they also receive a rental income. Next, we will learn about vehicle ownership and no doubt your child will soon be the proud owner of their own car, scooter or bike.

### **Looking ahead to Term 3**

Cross country is being held on Tuesday 23rd August. We will be completing our training towards this after the holidays, but keeping a good level of fitness over the holidays is important as this will make the adjustment to training a little easier. The Year 6 children run about 1.6km, and the Year 7 and 8 children run about 2km.

The ski trip this year is for children from years 5-8. The date is Monday 5th September.

### **Holidays**

Enjoy this time with your children and be happy together. If you have time, please practise telling the time with your child on both an analogue and digital clock and talking about how many minutes to, from a certain time etc. I have noticed that some of the children find this challenging and it is a skill that gets better with lots of real-life practice.

Kia pai to hararei - have a nice holiday.

Kind regards  
Geraldine Duncan.

## Board of Trustees:

Board of Trustee elections are being held in August and September this year. Nominations close on Wednesday 3rd August. Voting papers will be issued by Wednesday 10th August. If you are interested in becoming a Board member please come along to a Board meeting or talk to a current Board member: Ryan Dowling, Cate Herlihy, Kym Smith or Logan Dowling. Our next Board meeting is on Tuesday 9th August at 7p.m.

## Notices and Dates:

<b>School Holidays</b>	Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Tessa Steele, Florence Dowling
	Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Mac & Finn Dowling
	Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Tom & Harry Dowling
<b>Week 1 T3</b>	Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> July	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Rosa & Josie Herlihy
<b>Week 2</b>	Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> August	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Logan & Mckenna Suddaby
<b>Week 3</b>	Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> August	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Fred & George Dowling, Jacob Sutherland
<b>Week 4</b>	Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> August	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Phoebe Hore, Ethan Chisholm
<b>Week 5</b>	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> August	Maniototo Cross Country
	Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> August	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Paige Smith, McKinley Francis
<b>Week 6</b>	Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Axel & Kaylah McAuley
<b>Week 7</b>	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Years 5 – 8 Ski Trip

## **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.

