

St John's School Newsletter

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Principal's Page:

Nau mai haere mai

Welcome

We welcome a new 5 year old student, Harriet O'Neill, to St John's School.



Maniototo Cross Country

A reminder that this is being held on **Tuesday 23rd August at 1p.m. at the Maniototo Stadium.**

Children should have received a notice with all the details about the cross country on Thursday 18 August.

School Trip to Arrowtown

A reminder the whole school is going on a day trip to the Arrowtown Museum on **Thursday 15th September.** Permission slips from parents need to be filled in for every student and returned to school asap.

The \$5 cost of the trip can be paid into the following school bank account number anytime before **Friday 9th September.**

03 0951 0066195 00

Please put your name and use "Museum Trip" as a reference. Thank you.

\$5 cash can also be brought to school if that is easier.

School Buses

The Ministry of Education through School transport has been reviewing routes and consulting transport providers on proposed amendments to bus routes within the Maniototo. Changes to routes will be made known mid term 3. A term's notice will be given before proposed changes take place. Please see the website for factors that affect changes in routes.

<https://www.education.govt.nz/school/property-and-transport/transport/designing-or-changing-a-school-bus-routes/>

Daffodil Day

On **Friday 26th August** we will have a "Wear Yellow Day" to support the Cancer Society's Daffodil Day. Children can wear a splash of yellow, a full yellow outfit or just mufti clothes to school on this day. They can bring along a gold coin donation for the Cancer Society. Thank you.

Fun In The Snow

Here are some photos showing the fun children had in the snow on the 9th August.



Special Character Clipboard:

*On Friday afternoon, 5th August, our older students led us in a “Move It Challenge”.

The “Move It Challenge” is an idea put out to Catholic schools from the Catholic Aid Agency - Caritas. The challenge focuses on understanding how lack of access contributes to poverty. It highlights the plight of people who have to travel long distances to access needs like water, food, safety, health and education. Our challenge was to continuously carry buckets of water for 30 minutes, in teams, without spilling any. The teams were made up of children of mixed ages, from 5 - 13 years old. They carried buckets relative to their size around a course in our school grounds. They had to go over, under, on and through many obstacles. Most teams managed to do this without spilling much water at all. A couple of teams lost quite an amount of water due to unfortunate incidents!

Students all agreed it was very hard work carrying the water and concentrating on getting around the obstacles without spilling water.

It was a fun challenge and made us realise how lucky we are to live in and around Ranfurly in New Zealand, where our water comes at the turn of a tap.





*Thursday 1st September is “World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation”. Pope Francis encourages us to “pray for our common home” and “rejoice in creation’s sweet song of life and hope.”



Junior Class News:

The Junior Class have been busy on Wednesday afternoons with Mrs Gray, beginning their preparation for the Dunstan Community of Learning exhibition in Term 4 at the Central Stories Museum in Alexandra. Here are two photos of children decorating their sails which will go on the waka they will make.



Middle Class News:



Hi Everyone,

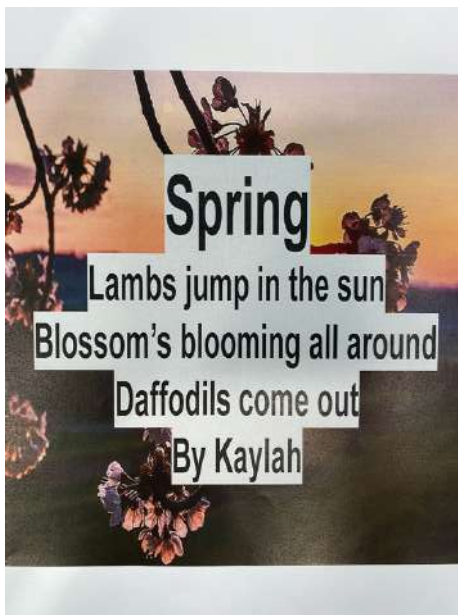
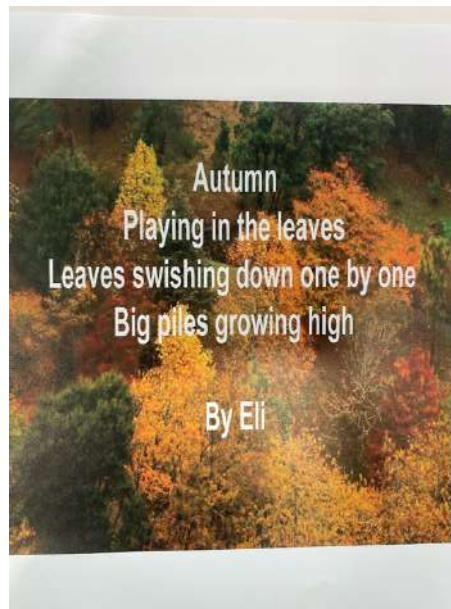
Last week the Middle Room went on our Overnight Stay at the Otago Museum. We started at the Otago Settlers Museum where we did a Scavenger Hunt, had lunch and then went to Ten Pin Bowling. We played two games of Ten Pin Bowling before heading to the Otago Museum where we learnt about fossils. We had Pizza for tea and then did an activity called the Olympic Odyssey where the children had to make up a flag, anthem, sport and national costume for their given country. We slept in the Museum and then headed for a swim at Moana Pool in the morning. It was so much fun!!!

We'd like to say a big thank you to the PTA for donating money towards our trip and to the parents that came with us!! We really appreciate all of your help!





Here is one of the season's paintings that we did and some Haiku about seasons. Haiku is a Japanese form of poetry with 3 lines containing 5 syllables, 7 syllables and 5 syllables. Enjoy reading some.



Curling is coming up with our first session next Friday 26th August. Thank you to the parents that have offered to help with transport.

If you are yet to pay, can you please try and do that as soon as you can. It's \$16 per child. The account number is 03 0951 0066195 00.

The children are to wear mufti on these days - comfortable clothing that will be appropriate for the curling rink and allow them to stretch as they slide down the ice. They must wear flat soled shoes - sneakers - so they can put a slider on. The other curling dates are: 2nd September, 9th September and 16th September.

Senior Class News:

Today is a great day to be happy!

Kia Ora families

Our class has been smaller than usual, with some children away sick or on holiday. Children have started arriving back at school over the week and I am always so happy to see them back after being unwell. It has been a long winter with sickness but spring is coming, and the warmer days will hopefully see everyone returning to good health. But having reduced class numbers has not affected our get up and go. We have had a very productive week with Young Vinnie activities.

Caritas Challenges

Sweat It Challenge - this week we spent a couple of hours picking up litter and rubbish around parts of Ranfurly. There was a lot. The kids were great at this and very enthusiastic about their finds, which included a pair of rugby boots and sneakers, and a camping chair. Treasures! Thank you for the donation of bags for rubbish collecting and to Judy, Cate and Kim for joining us on our mission and providing transport.

Stop It Challenge - Yesterday saw us having a very basic classroom with no heating, lights, desks, chairs, toastie pie machine and technology. This allowed us to experience what school life is like for children in impoverished areas where the basic necessities that we take for granted are not available. What a day to get creative in other ways. In the morning the children worked on their gold mining huts with Mrs Gray, we then painted stones for next week's Faith Focus and then moved on to our next Caritas challenge.

Live It Challenge - Over the last few weeks we have been collecting cardboard boxes and yesterday we held 'The Block NZ' senior room style, creating two big houses - one for the boys, another for the girls. This was very entertaining and there were some creative talents shining through! The houses are in the hall and will stay up for a couple of weeks, so you may like to come and have a look at them.

Photos of all of these activities have been loaded onto the school website www.sjr.school.nz under 'Our Photos'.

Central Stories student lead exhibition - Ka Mua Ka Muri

This is being held in November at the Alexandra Central Stories museum and the focus is on showcasing our stories as they relate to the NZ History curriculum. Currently the children are working with Mrs Gray on creating gold rush inspired buildings and equipment for display at this. The children may come home looking for items to use - particularly schist rock, cardboard etc. They will talk to you as they need equipment but it would be a good idea to check in with them.

Over the previous weeks the class has been watching short videos on the goldrush history that have been interesting. You can find these on Youtube under Toitū Otago Settlers Museum and are the Gold of Otago series. This is the first one ... [Gold of Otago episode 1](#) and there are 12 in total. They may interest you.

Crosscountry

This event is being held at the Maniototo Stadium next Tuesday. A notice regarding this came home yesterday.

Our class is well prepared and although the race is tough, we all know that we can complete it. The children are looking forward to the feeling of finishing and also earning their house points to go towards the school shield.

Children that qualify for the Otago Cross Country will be notified later next week.

Ski Trip for years 5-8 children

A parent meeting will be held next Thursday. There are details about this in another section of the newsletter.

Curling

These sessions start next Friday. There has been a letter of transport help sent to the driving parents today.

The key information is

- Children wear appropriate comfortable mufti that they can slide in. They must wear flat soled shoes (sneakers) so that they can put their slider on.
- Please pay for the lessons if you have not done so yet. It is \$16/child and the account number is 03 0951 0066195 00.

Curling dates are listed below.

Here are the dates of what we have coming up.

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 attending the ski day - they need to have everything on the gear list at school this day. First Kiwi Curling session - wear mufti
Friday 2nd September	Otago Cross Country in Dunedin Kiwi Curling session - wear mufti
Friday 9th September	Kiwi Curling session - wear mufti
Thursday 15th September	Arrowtown trip
Friday 16th September	Kiwi Curling session- wear mufti
Monday 26th September	Kiwi Curling Tournament
Wednesday 28th September	Tiaki Maniototo planting day which the Junior Room and the Year 6's will help with.

Congratulations

Elliot Greer - completing his Home Physics science badge.

Gold certificates in Mathletics (20 certificates which means achieving 1000+ points for 20 weeks).

- George Dowling
- Phoebe Hore
- Sam Elworthy.

Tessa Steele and Chloe McAuley - have been playing Central Otago netball recently and enjoyed a successful day at their Wanaka tournament last weekend.

We also have a number of children attending weekly development hockey coaching sessions in Cromwell that will lead onto weekend tournaments. Good luck to the children involved in this.



Paige Smith - has had success with the luge at the recent races held over the holidays and start of this term. Paige is the current Naseby Cup Junior Women's Champion.

Kind regards

Geraldine Duncan.

Board of Trustees:

*At our August meeting we welcomed Garrad Eketone and Anna Jeffries to our Board of Trustees. Garrad is a new parent representative and Anna Jeffries has been appointed by Bishop Michael Dooley as one of his representatives on the Board.

We farewelled Kym Smith who has been our Board of Trustees treasurer for approximately 5 years. A big thank you to Kym for keeping us on track financially and the time you put into this role. We have not replaced Kym yet - Fiona Weir will help out with financial reports and accounts for the time being.

*We looked at, and reviewed, the following policies:

- Bullying and online bullying
- Surrender and retention of property and searches
- Abuse recognition and reporting
- Child protection
- Harassment
- Making a protected disclosure

These are all open to be reviewed by parents.

If you are interested in viewing these policies please go to:

1. Log onto www.schooldocs.co.nz
2. Click Search for your school
3. Start typing the school name and then select it from the dropdown list
4. Enter the community username and password: sjr sjr
5. Put the name of the policy in the search section and it should come up for you to read
6. Select your role (board member, staff member or parent/caregiver) from the dropdown list.
7. Enter your name (optional)
8. Submit your ratings and comments.

*A curriculum report on English - Writing was presented to the Board.

*Our next meeting is on: **Tuesday 13th September at 7.30p.m.**

Notices and Dates:

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
	Friday 26 th August	Kiwi Curling Session
	Sunday 28 th August	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Paige Smith, McKinley Francis
	Friday 2 nd September	Otago Cross Country in Dunedin
		Kiwi Curling Session
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
	Friday 9 th September	Kiwi Curling Session
	Sunday 11 th September	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Chloe & Jae McAuley
Week 8	Thursday 15 th September	Arrowtown Trip
	Friday 16 th September	Kiwi Curling Session
	Sunday 18 th September	Sunday Mass – 4pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Harry & Isla Jeffries
Week 9	Sunday 25 th September	Sunday Mass – 5pm NOTE: change of time Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Eddie & Marley Weir
Week 10	Monday 26 th September	Kiwi Curling Tournament
School Holidays	Sunday 2 nd October	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Cyrus Janerol, Hayley Barroga, Joshua Barroga
	Sunday 9 th October	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Ben Gibson, Xavier Love
	Sunday 16 th October	Sunday Mass – 5pm Altar Servers/Bell Ringers: Elliot & Jessie Greer

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.

