



St John's School Newsletter

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Issue 3: 17th March 2023

Principal's Page:

Nau mai haere mai

Otago Anniversary Day

School is closed on **Monday 20th March**, for Otago Anniversary Day.

School Holidays - end of Term 1

Term 1 finishes on Thursday 6th April and Term 2 starts on Wednesday 26th April.
(Teacher Only Day Monday 24th April)
(Anzac Day Tuesday 25th April)

Farmsafe Day

On **Friday 31st March** our whole school will be spending the day at Maniototo Area School taking part in a "Farm Safe Day".

If it is wet the day will be postponed.

We will walk to M.A.S. to begin the day at 9.30a.m. Children will be put into mixed groups depending on the year group they are in. A sausage will be provided for every child but children still need to bring lunch boxes and drink bottles with them. The modules we will take part in will be confirmed nearer to the day. Children will catch buses home from Maniototo Area School at the end of the day. If you collect your child from school please come to the Area School gymnasium area at 2.45p.m. (approximately) to collect children at the end of the day. Thank you.

We will send a reminder notice re this nearer to the 31st March.

PTA Meeting

There is a PTA meeting being held on **Wednesday 22nd March at 7p.m.** at school. Everyone welcome.

Measles

This information is from the Ministry of Health:

Are you and your whānau protected from measles?

With people travelling overseas again, there's a risk that someone with measles could unknowingly bring the disease back to Aotearoa.

Measles spreads easily and quickly, usually between people who are unimmunised or only partially immunised. It can be serious and life threatening. In the 2019 measles outbreak in Aotearoa more than 30% of the people infected had to be admitted to hospital.

The best protection against measles is the free MMR vaccine. It will protect you and your whānau, and prevent the virus from spreading.

You will be protected against measles if you:

- had 2 doses of the MMR vaccine
- had measles before
- were born before 1 Jan 1969.

If you're unsure if you or your tamariki have had any or both doses of the MMR vaccine, check by calling your GP or hauora provider. Alternatively, check your Plunket Well Child Tamariki Ora book. If you're still not sure, be safe and get immunised – there are no safety concerns with having an extra dose. MMR vaccines are free at your local health provider and many pharmacies.

As measles still occurs in many countries, if you're travelling overseas these holidays it's especially important to be immunised to prevent the risk of being unknowingly infected and causing an outbreak in Aotearoa on your return.

More information about the measles vaccination can be found here:

[Measles vaccination – Ministry of Health](#)

Special Character:

Friday March 17th is St Patrick's Day. St Patrick of Ireland is one of the world's most popular saints. Patrick used the shamrock to explain the Trinity - the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

This week is the anniversary of the election of Pope Francis and marks his 10 years as Pope. He was the first pope from Latin America and the first to use the name Francis.

Junior Class News:

Here are some photos of the Junior Class enjoying the Footsteps dance lessons with Kate, the tutor.



Lost polo shirt

At the swimming sports one of the 5 year old boys picked up the wrong red polo shirt in the boys changing rooms at the end of the day. He has returned a Size 8 shirt that has no name on it. Someone has a red polo shirt Size 4 that has the name **Flynn** written on the white tag on the inside seam. Could Middle and Junior Class parents of boys please check children's red polo shirts and please return Flynn's if your child has it.

Thank you.

Middle Class News:



Hi Everyone,

It's been another busy couple of weeks.

We have finished our Statistics topic and have moved on to Place Value and Addition and Subtraction. To reiterate what I said at the Parent Evening - if the children know their basic facts to 20 and have a quick recall of these, it will help them to work out harder equations.

Our Middle Room garden looked fantastic a couple of weeks ago, thanks to Jae watering it over the summer. We were lucky enough to have Becky bring her juicer to school and we juiced the beetroot out of our garden (adding some apples) to make it taste a bit sweeter. We enjoyed our beetroot juice and were surprised at how well it tasted.



Swimming Sports

I was very proud of how well the children swam in the swimming sports. They all did so well and it was great to see them enter lots of races.



Footsteps

Footsteps has been so much fun! The children, Becky and I have really enjoyed learning all the different dances. We've had lots of laughs as we try to master the moves and remember the routines. We hope you enjoy the showcase on Friday.



Rippa Tournament

The Rippa Tournament is coming up next term on the 12th May. There will be a notice coming out about it next week. In the Middle Room there is the opportunity for 10 students in each age category to go to Alexandra to play Rippa Rugby. The categories are Year 3/4, Year 5/6 and Year 7/8. We have to have at least 3 girls in each team.

We will need coaches and managers for each team, so it would be wonderful if you could fill out the form when it comes home next week.

Ngā mihi,
Heather Dowling

Senior Class News:

Mistakes are proof that you are trying

Goodness isn't our school term moving past quickly. The children are working relatively diligently and are in a good routine with homework, notices and self organisation. Thank you for your support with these areas.

'Resilience - Bounce Back' learning

We are continuing to grow our knowledge and skills around this topic and this week had a great opportunity (following a prayer focus) to discuss what we can and cannot control in our life, and the things that we have some choice over.

This was really valuable as it gives me an opportunity to guide the children in understanding that now they are growing up, they can try to make deliberate choices and be proactive rather than reactive. Your children have good hearts and they are accepting and encouraging to each other, and this reflects what you have taught them at home.

We have also discussed and shared our ideas for coping strategies. The children model their ideas on what you do. We specifically discussed the ones below and how they help us out.

The big one at this stage is 'Stop and think before you respond'. This ties in with avoiding being reactive in a way that makes the situation escalate. Little things can be annoying for kids and it can be hard to be patient all the time, but your children try very hard to think before they do.



Coping skills and 'bounce back' strategies		
Take some time out in a safe place	Tummy breathing or being mindful of what 'I am grateful for'	Listen to calming music
Going for a run or exercise	Talking to a trusted friend or adult	Set a new and realistic goal
Choose to focus on the positive	Think "I can't do that ... YET"	Play with or spend time with a pet
Try a new idea or solution	Remind yourself of your strengths	Stop and think before you respond.

Mrs Gray's work

Rachel has been teaching the children about ecosystems and they have been loving this. Their vocabulary is certainly growing and they have been asking her many thoughtful questions about how different aspects of ecosystems relate to each other, and what would happen if something in that system were to disappear.

They are going to be moving onto preparing our beehives for when we set them up.

Sausage Sizzle

Thank you for returning the orders and the numbers have now been finalised. The sausages for the first two weeks were donated from school families, and another family is donating ice blocks - thank you for this support. If anyone else wants to donate, please get in touch. Donations can be bread, sausages or ice blocks.

If any senior parent can help supervise the sausage sizzle on these dates (Friday 24th March, Thursday 30th March, Thursday 6th April), please let me know. Supervising takes approximately an hour (11.45-12.45) and involves watching the children cook the sausages, helping them deliver them to the classrooms and then tidying up afterwards.

Footsteps Dance

Fun, challenging and very engaging! What a great experience this has been. Hopefully you were able to come along and see what we learnt today at our presentation time. Our brains certainly got a great workout, alongside our limbs! Thank you to the PTA for supporting this initiative, it has been very worthwhile.

Physical Activity Leaders

On Monday 27th March, the year 8 students will be attending this course at Maniototo Area School from 9am - 12.30pm. This is being hosted and run by Ella Brown from Sport Central. Sharon Thompson (our teacher aide) will attend with our students. They will wear their school uniform and will walk to and from MAS with Sharon, leaving at 8.50am from St John's School.

As a Physical Activity Leader (PAL), the children will learn skills to lead the rest of our school in being active. This is something that we have participated in the past, but with Covid it had slipped away. Our PAL's in the past have run lunchtime games, helped build fitness by organising running clubs, and done their best to be an active and positive role model. They do all of this with direction and support from me.

Otago Swimming Sports

It has been a long time between swims at Moana Pool for our competitive swimmers, so we are very excited to be sending a group of 4 children to compete on Sunday 26th March in the Otago Primary Schools Swim Champs.

Best wishes to the following children for a successful and rewarding day ...

George Dowling
Harry Jeffries
Jae McAuley
Isla Jeffries.

Thank you to Becky McAuley for completing the timing of each event at Swim Club.

Housekeeping

I am away from school on Wednesday 22nd and from Monday - Friday of the following week. Sarah Paterson will be teaching on these days.

The first **HPV visit** from the year 8 children is on Thursday 30th March.

We will be participating in a '**Water day**' on **Tuesday 4th April**. This is to replace the event that was cancelled last year. There are no details available yet but we will be needing support with transport on this day to get the middle and senior children to the site.

School website - there have been photos loaded recently of various activities from class activities. One being the children sharing their paper bag creations with the Middle and Junior children. This has been a great project and I am proud of the children's work on this.

Rippa Rugby - The date for this is Friday 12th May in Alexandra. If we have enough children interested, we will enter teams in the Yr 3 /4 and 5/6 and 7/8 sections. We will be sending out information regarding this before the end of term, seeking coaches and managers for each team. If you could help with this, please do volunteer, as we need your support. Thank you.

Kind regards,
Geraldine Duncan.

Senior Room Motto 2023

Before
We speak - we listen
We quit - we try
We do - we think
We react - we breathe.



Board of Trustees:

- * At our March meeting the BOT was presented with, and discussed, a curriculum report on Visual Language which is part of the English curriculum.
 - * Discussion was held about teachers attending a Ministry of Education workshop on “The NZ Curriculum Refresh”.
- The NZ curriculum is being refreshed in a phased approach over the next four years.
- * Our next Board of Trustees meeting is Tuesday 9th May at 7.30p.m.

Notices and Dates:

Term 1 Week 7	Sunday 19 th March	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Harry & Isla Jeffries
	Monday 20 th March	Otago Anniversary Day School Closed
Week 8	Wednesday 22 nd March	PTA meeting at 7pm at school
	Sunday 26 th March	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Noah & Nathan Smith
		Otago Primary School Swimming Championships in Dunedin
Week 9	Friday 31 st March	Farm Safe Day
	Sunday 2 nd April	Sunday Mass at 4pm (NOTE: change in time) Altar Servers: Eddie & Marley Weir
Week 10	Sunday 9 th April	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Eli & Joshua Barroga
School Holidays	Sunday 16 th April	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Xavier Love & James Marshall
	Sunday 23 rd April	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Hayley Barroga & Jessie Greer



Get Ready for Netball

Sunday 26th March 2023,
10:00am- 12:00 noon

Molyneux Netball Courts
for Years 5&6 and 7&8



\$10 per person

Please register online at

www.sporty.co.nz/centralotagonetball

under the Calendar/Events tab

Registrations close 5:00pm on Tuesday 21st March

For further information contact

conetball@gmail.com



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The News

KICK START HOCKEY DAY!

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FANTASTIC DAY FOR THE KIDS IN THE HOLIDAY!

Queenstown

Tuesday 11 April: 10:00-11:30
(Year 1-4) / 12.00-2.30 (Year 5-8)

Wanaka

Wednesday 12 April: 09:00-10:30
(Year 1-4) / 11.00-1.30 (Year 5-8)

Cromwell

Wednesday 12 April: 2.30-4pm
(Year 1-4) / 2.30-5.00pm (Year 5-8)

Alexandra

Thursday 13 April: 10:00-11:30
(Year 1-4) / 12.00-2.30 (Year 5-8)

More information? www.coha.org.nz
Questions? Send email to:
development@coha.org.nz

**HOCKEY**
CENTRAL OTAGO

paperplus
Cromwell

Digital Banking Workshops

FREE

Learn the how to stay safe online and 1:1 support with your digital banking from Central Otago Budgeting Services.



Alexandra - Mon 27th Feb

Learning Hub Central Stories Alexandra

Workshop 1 10am-12noon

Workshop 2 1pm - 3pm

Workshop 3 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Cromwell - Monday 6th March

REAP Rm -19 Molyneux Ave

Workshop 1 10am - 12noon

Workshop 2 1-3pm

Roxburgh - Monday 13th March

Council Chambers, Roxburgh Library

Workshop 1 10:00am - 12noon

Workshop 2 1-3pm

Ranfurly - Friday 31 March

Māniatoto Art Centre

Workshop 1 10:30am - 12:30pm

Workshop 2 1-3pm



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Ines Maria Almeida, Theatreview

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**SATURDAY 22 APRIL 10AM ALEXANDRA
CENTRAL STORIES MUSEUM
\$27 TICKETS: CENTRAL STORIES**

