

# St John's School Newsletter

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## Principal's Page:

Nau mai haere mai

### Thank you

Thank you to those parents who came along on Monday or Tuesday morning to our open Maths lessons as part of NZ Maths Week. The children enjoyed having parents see what we do in Maths and join in some of our everyday activities and games with them.

### Mufti Mania day

On the last day of term 2 we participated in the Caritas "Mufti Mania Day". Students donated \$123.50 to supporting Oecusse School in Timor Leste. Thank you for all your donations.

### All Black bench gifting event

On Wednesday the 9th August rugby players from St John's School and Maniototo Area School were invited to the information centre for the unveiling of a macrocarpa bench seat presented to our community by the NZ Rugby Union. Two All Black players presented the bench: Sevu Reece and George Bower. Lochy Barnish, our youngest rugby player, helped unveil the bench seat.



Lochy Barnish and Finn Dowling with All Blacks Sevu Reece and George Bower

Lochy Barnish representing St John's School, and Callum McSkimming (MAS), unveiling the seat.

Then George Bower came to school for a question and answer session with all children. The children enjoyed this very much.



Joshua Barroga, Axel McAuley and Ethan Chisholm getting their George Bower "Weetbix Stats" cards signed by George Bower himself.

George Bower



After question and answer time!

### **Parent Consultation**

As a school we are required to consult with our school community at various times. It is important for us to get as much parent voice as possible so your ideas can be incorporated into our planning and objectives. This year we are gathering your ideas on two things.

1. Health and Physical Education programmes that we teach at St John's School
2. Ideas that we could use in developing our school strategic plan for 2023 - 2027.

The strategic planning ideas will be more aspirational ideas that you would like for your child/children. This year we have set up a survey on Goggle forms. This was emailed out from Fiona Weir, our office administrator to all families on Thursday 3rd August. If you have not received this please check your spam box. If it is not there please email [office@sjr.school.nz](mailto:office@sjr.school.nz) or text the school cellphone and Fiona will email you the survey form again.

We would like responses to be completed by Friday 18th August.

All responses are anonymous.

Thank you.



### **Buses**

We have been asked by the Ministry of Education bus liaison person to “remind parents and caregivers that it is their responsibility to supervise their children prior to the children boarding the school bus in the morning and once they get off the school bus in the afternoon. This is especially pertinent during the winter months as visibility is poorer due to the time of year and the weather conditions. School buses are not able to wait at bus stops for children to be collected so it is important that the caregiver is on time.”

### **Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease**

This virus is going around in classrooms at the moment. The information below is from the Ministry of Health website. This virus is usually mild and lasts 3 - 7 days. Symptoms include:

mild fever, painful red blisters on tongue, mouth, palms of hands or soles of feet, loss of appetite, sore throat and mouth, general feeling of weakness or tiredness.

The recommendation from the Ministry of Health is to keep children home until blisters or spots have dried up. Frequent hand washing is recommended.

### **Cross Country**

This event is on **Tuesday 22nd August at 1p.m. at the Maniototo Stadium**. A letter with details will be sent out separately next week.

## **Special Character:**

On Tuesday 15th August it is the Feast of the Assumption. This day celebrates the assumption of Mary into heaven.

Mary is the patron saint of Catholic people in New Zealand.

In Faith Focus this week we talked about things we are grateful for. Each class was given a jar from Mrs Duncan and we have been thinking and writing things we are grateful for. It is great to hear how important family and friends are and how grateful we are to have them.

## **Junior Class News:**

The Junior Class really enjoyed their sports coaching sessions of soccer with Jess and hockey with Berber. Here are some photos of us taking part in the sessions.





## Middle Class News:



Kia Ora,

### Spelling Course

I attended a two day course on 'The Code' - a spelling programme developed by Liz Kane. It follows a Structured Literacy approach to learning letter sounds and rules for spelling. It was a fantastic course and I learnt a lot from it which I have started to implement into the classroom. I have started to teach spelling explicitly for 20 minutes each day which means that I teach the children the rules and spelling patterns and review them daily. I therefore am not sending spelling words home to learn as the children are doing them in the classroom.

### Football

The students enjoyed the Football coaching on the 26th of July. We had Jess come over from Cromwell to teach us some Football skills and then we played some games. Watch out FIFA 2035! There were some great skills and the children loved having little football games against each other.







### **Almost Sleepover**

We had an 'Almost Sleepover' on Friday 28th July. In the Middle Room we had read the first Harry Potter novel, so the children stayed after school on Friday and we had hot chips and nuggets for tea and watched the Harry Potter movie. The children got dressed into their Oodles or PJ's and snuggled up with pillows and blankets to watch the movie. We all had a great time! Thank you to the Cai's for donating the nuggets!



## **Maths Mornings**

Thank you to those parents that could make it to our Maths mornings. Hopefully you got a glimpse into how our Maths programme runs and our daily routines. The children are currently learning about Multiplication and Division. I have been impressed with their weekly Times Tables results. It just takes practise, practise, practise.

Keep warm!  
Ngā mihi,  
Heather Dowling

## **Senior Class News:**

### **Whakatauki - Māori proverb.**

**Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi**

I shared this at our school Faith Focus this week.

This whakatauki talks to our community, to collaboration and a strengths based approach. It acknowledges that everybody has something to offer, a piece of the puzzle, and by working together we can all flourish.

## **Coronet Peak Ski Camp**

This is two weeks away and the excitement is building. We have spent some time looking at the Coronet Peak website and will be learning about the safety signage and trail colours next week. Please take the time to look at the website with your child to help familiarise them with where we will be based, [Coronet Peak](#) and [Joel Lodge](#) where we are staying.

Upcoming dates:

Parent Meeting - Wednesday 16th August 7pm

Child ski gear check - Friday 18th August at school.

All children bring their full set of ski gear to school to show me, I tick this off as part of the safety checklist.

I expect to see the following ...

Ski jacket

Ski pants

Waterproof gloves

Ski goggles/sunglasses

Knee-high ski socks

Thermal bottom layer

Long-sleeved woollen top (thermal underlayer)

Warm layer under the ski jacket

Warm hat

Sunblock

## **Balmoral Book Bonanza**

The children are continuing to work on this and we are close to having our first children receive their hot chip voucher. Please encourage your children with their work on the tasks as they all enjoy reading and I'd love to acknowledge their efforts.

### **A note from Mrs Gray**

The senior room has been looking at the history of Ranfurly with Mrs Gray and has compiled an interview questionnaire. Throughout the next week, you may be asked about your knowledge and experience of Ranfurly or asked to assist as the students interview older members of the community. The information gathered will be extremely valuable as they learn more and more about our local history.

### **Mathletic Gold Certificates**

Congratulations to Jae McAuley and McKinley Francis for being the first to achieve their 20 certificates! This means that for 20 weeks they have achieved the goal of getting over 1000 points or more. They have been closely followed by Keisha Evangelista, Harry Dowling, Cyrus Janerol, George Dowling and Karl Suplente.

Kai pai tamariki - Auē te wanane! Wow, how awesome!

I'm so impressed that they have reached this goal as it takes perseverance, determination and diligence. Once the children have achieved their Gold Certificate, they work towards getting 'Green Bars' on the activities in a topic.

### **Kiwi Sport Curling**

We are now booked for our 3 annual lessons at the Maniototo International Ice Rink.

The dates of these are

Friday 8th September

Thursday 14th September

Friday 15th September.

There will be a notice coming home on Monday regarding this. **The children need to bring in \$12 each please to pay for these lessons**, and again we acknowledge the PTA for supporting us by paying another \$12 per child so that we can keep these costs down to a reasonable level for you.

### **Cross Country**

This is happening on Tuesday 22nd August and we are very well prepared. The children have been training hard and have a positive attitude. On Tuesday we went down to the stadium and ran over the course and everyone was strong, determined and finished in style. I am looking forward to seeing the children compete and finding out which house comes out on top with the points between McAuley and O'Neill.

The Otago Cross Country is on Friday 1st September. Children who run under 9 minutes for the Year 4-6 age group, and Under 12 minutes for the Year 7-8 age group qualify to attend this event, although please note that there is a restriction on the number we can enter in each age group from our zone, so that may affect someone's eligibility. The Otago Primary Schools Cross Country is held at Kaikorai Valley College in Dunedin.



## **NZ Rugby Union**

On Wednesday the children who play rugby were invited to a ceremony at the Railway Station to unveil a special bench seat that has been gifted to our community. Although the weather was bitter, the excitement levels kept us all warm, as we waited for the two mystery special guests. The ripple of excitement as they stepped from the car was real, and we were very excited to have the two stars below in our midst.



George Bower



Sevu Reece

After the official ceremony, we were very lucky to have George Bower accompany our George Dowling back to school and we spent time asking him questions about his career. Three of our children were also lucky enough to have the Stat Attack card for George Bower and we learnt that he is 183 cm tall and weighs 115kg, he first played for the All Blacks in 2021 against Tonga in Auckland and has 11 test caps. He is a prop so hasn't scored any test tries but does all the mahi to make it happen for the backs! Hopefully, George will be back playing soon as he currently has a knee injury. He was a lovely man and we felt very lucky to have spent time with him.

### **Sniffles and coughs**

It seems to be a time of year when we have a few runny noses amongst the children, probably due to the cooler weather and sometimes rapid changes in temperatures. I have been encouraging the class to manage their sniffles in a hygienic manner, so we are following these guidelines

- a. Practise good hygiene with regular hand washing. Particularly emphasis on no nose picking, using tissues and cleaning hands before eating and after being outside
- b. Coughing and sneezing into our elbows.

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 last meeting held on Tuesday 8th August the Board was presented with a curriculum report on Writing.

-We also reviewed two policies on:

- Inclusive Education
- Maori Educational Success

If you would like to read or review these policies please go to:

1. Log onto [www.schooldocs.co.nz](http://www.schooldocs.co.nz)
2. Click Search for your school
3. Start typing the school name and then select if 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

## Notices and Dates:

<b>Term 3 Week 4</b>	Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> August	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Xavier Love & James Marshall
<b>Week 5</b>	Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> August	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Hayley Barroga & Jessie Greer
<b>Week 6</b>	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August	Maniototo Cross Country
	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> & Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> August	Senior Class Ski Camp
	Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> August	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Arthur & Sam Elworthy
<b>Week 7</b>	Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Jacob Sutherland & Florence Dowling
	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Kiwi Sport Curling
<b>Week 8</b>	Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Mac, Finn & Charlie Dowling
	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	Kiwi Sport Curling
	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Kiwi Sport Curling
<b>Week 9</b>	Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Zach Tomalon & Harry Dowling
<b>Week 10</b>	Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Sunday Mass at 5pm (NOTE: change of time) Altar Servers: Ethan Chisholm & Josie Herlihy


# THE

COMEDY HYPNOTIST

# Gerard V

# HYPNO

# SHOW



**CASH ONLY BAR**

**Ticket Price: \$40**  
*includes supper*

*There will be... raffles, silent auction and lots of laughs!*

Phone: 0272926850

Fundraising for Kids at Play Ranfurly

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> September ,  
2023

**Showtime:** 7:00pm

*Doors open 6:30pm*

**Location:** Maniototo Park  
Stadium

