



St John's School Newsletter

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Issue 15: 27th November 2023

Principal's Page:

Congratulations

Congratulations to the 23 children who took part in the Otago Athletics Day in Dunedin last Tuesday 21st November.

A special congratulations to the following children who placed in their events:

- 1st: Eddie Weir - high jump, 800m
Marley Weir - high jump
Marcus Carig – long jump, under10 relay team
- 2nd: Eddie Weir - long jump
- 3rd: Marley Weir - discus, under 12 relay team
Keisha Evangelista - under 12 relay team
Mckenna Suddaby - discus
- 4th: George Dowling - shotput
Xavier Love - hurdles
Nathan Smith - shotput
- 5th: Kaylah McAuley - high jump
- 6th: Noah Smith - hurdles
Jae McAuley - discus
Marcus Carig – high jump
- 7th: McKinley Francis - 800m
- 8th: Jacob Sutherland - hurdles

End of Year Concert

It was great to see the children's performance of our end of year concert "Don't Be Afraid". They were enthusiastic throughout the practices and always listened and participated in singing and actions and tried hard to act out their parts.

Congratulations to those children who had speaking parts. They very quickly learnt their lines. We were very proud of every single child - well done to them all.

Beekeeping session

Our next beekeeping session with Anna is on **Friday 1st December** in the afternoon. Please remember children **must** have gumboots to wear for this.

Our last session for this term will be on the afternoon of **Tuesday 12th December**.

Reports/Portfolios

End of year reports and portfolios will be sent home with children on Friday 8th December. Reports may be kept but portfolios are to be returned to school by Tuesday 12th December.

Thank you.

Ranfurly 125 years

Next weekend is the big celebration of Ranfurly's 125 years. As part of this, there is a Fun Day on **Saturday 2 December** which involves a grand parade. We have volunteered to participate in a low key way in the grand parade. We will use our school banner and any children who can come or are there, could come along and walk behind one of us, or an older student, who will carry the banner. We would like children to please wear their school uniform for the parade. They could bring this to change into or bring home clothes to change into after the parade.

The time we have been given to meet is 12p.m. at the tennis courts behind the Stadium building.

Could you please fill in the form at the end of this newsletter so we have an indication of the number of children we will have.

End of Year Mass

A school Mass to celebrate the end of the year and our Year 8s leaving will be held on Monday 11th December at 11a.m. in our church.

Everyone is welcome to join us for this celebration.

Year 8 Graduation

This is taking place on **Monday 11 December at 1.30p.m.** in the school hall.

Last day 2023

Our last day of school for 2023 is **Thursday 14th December**.

Buses will be leaving school at 12.45p.m. (lunchtime) but school is open until 2.50p.m. as usual. If your child is to catch the bus home at lunchtime please let the class teacher know this. Thank you.

First day 2024

The first day of school for 2024 is **Wednesday 31st January**.

Swim Week 2024

Next year our swim week is very early in the term 5th - 9th February.

School is closed for Waitangi Day on Tuesday 6th February so there will be swim school that day.

As we may not have a chance to swim before swim week children will be put into the same groups as last year with new children put into a group the teacher thinks they may fit into. Jo, the swimming instructor, will sort any changes to the groups on day one of swim week.

Merry Christmas

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and blessed Christmas and best wishes for 2024.

Meri Kirihimete

Susan Mulholland

Special Character:

*We received an email from Bishop Michael Dooley last week informing us of priest changes which take place in our diocese at the end of January.

We were sorry to see that Father Sani and Father Gerard are both shifting - Father Sani to Gore and Father Gerard to Invercargill.

They have both supported our school very well for a number of years and they will be missed by us all. We wish them all the best in their new roles.

Our new parish priest is Father Jaewoo Lee who will live in the Ranfurly presbytery for 3 days a week and in Dunedin the other 4 as he will also be co-chaplain of Dunedin Public Hospital. Father Jaewoo will be in Ranfurly each Sunday - Tuesday.

*Sunday 3rd December is the first Sunday of Advent. It is a time for preparation for the birth of Jesus.

At school we have an advent wreath with 5 candles on it - 3 purple, 1 pink and 1 white.

The 1st candle (purple) represents Hope, the 2nd (purple) represents Love, the 3rd (pink) represents Joy, the 4th (purple) represents Peace and the white candle in the middle represents the birth of Jesus.

Junior Class News:

Here are some photos from our first beekeeping sessions on the 17th November with Anna.

Everyone enjoyed it and got up close to the bee hives and we even saw some honey on one of the frames.... and lots of bees!

We put the bee suits on. They are white. We had a net on our head. We saw honey.

Lochy Barnish



Mrs Susan Mulholland
Nika Miller, George Love, Georgia Dodds



Junior Class getting bee suits on.

Middle Class News:



The Concert

Phew! We made it!

Thank you to everyone who came to our Christmas concert. The children worked very hard to put together that performance and I was so proud of the finished product.

Thank you to Mrs Hazlett who made all the props for the concert along with the Senior children and all the Teachers and Teacher Aide's who worked so hard behind the scenes. It takes a real team effort to put on the concert and I really appreciate all the support. A big thank you to Ewan and Heather, who spent a lot of hours at the hall setting up the sound and lighting - it really is the icing on the cake!



Beekeeping

We have been lucky to have Anna Pettigrew come in and take us over to the beehives. We enjoyed our first session dressing up in the bee suits and getting to see where the hives are and what they look like inside. We have another session this Friday and we can't wait.



Triathlon

I was lucky enough to accompany a group of 10 students to the Dunstan Zone Triathlon on the 15th of November in Cromwell.

The children all competed well at this event, as it isn't easy and they have long distances to run, bike and swim, with the added complication of biking on the grass.

The students did very well and I was proud of their determination and the way they supported each other.

Results:

Isla Jeffries 2nd

Harry Jeffries, Harry Dowling, Arthur Elworthy 8th

Marley Weir, Josie Herlihy 4th

Eddie Weir 4th

George Dowling, Jacob Sutherland, Sam Elworthy 8th



Senior Class News:

Week 7

*"The future starts today, not tomorrow." St. John Paul the Great.
Pope of the Catholic Church from 1978 - 2005*

Kia ora koutou,

We have had several busy weeks at school. There has been a lot happening and a lot of planning for further activities to finish the year.

Maniototo Athletics Sports

The Athletic Sports Day was excellent. The children had prepared themselves well and performed and behaved in a manner that was a credit to themselves. The achievements of the class overall were impressive - in every age group that our class featured in, we achieved overall placings. Eddie and Marley Weir placed 1st and 2nd in the prestigious McSkimming Cup, our two school houses placed 1st and 2nd, we set four new records (one for Nathan Smith, 3 by Eddie Weir) and we won both relay events. In terms of results that is impressive, but the aspect that made me proud was the children's attitude. They took it upon themselves to understand how each event worked in regards to points for placings and the standards, they were deliberate in their practice and worked hard to improve their technique, and they had the desire to do well. The support for each other was also evident and the comments I heard made to each other at the 800m finish line were supportive, admirable and showed comradery. We get so much from these experiences. Following this, a team of 23 children from our school was awarded the opportunity to represent Maniototo at the Otago Athletic Sports Day. This was also a successful day and the top 8 results are listed on the Principals Page, but in summary, 13 of our children achieved a top 8 result and five children achieved a top three placing. That is pretty incredible for a small school and something that I am quite chuffed by. Thank you parents for your support with the organisation and running of this day, it is great to have you down there as it is busy and somewhat intense with all the events happening. Our success is also reflective of the heavy parent involvement that you give.

Dunstan Zone Triathlon

This was held on Wednesday 15th November in Cromwell. Again the children gave it their all. It is a tough event as not only is each leg a good distance but they are competing at a fast pace, which is always challenging. Mrs Heather Dowling travelled over with our competing children and was impressed by the attitude and results the children achieved and was thankful to the parents for helping with marshalling on the race course.

School Concert

This was amazing! Gosh, it is great to see the children come together to put on a whole school production. I particularly admire how the children know where they have to be in each scene, that they remember their lines and are brave and act their part with confidence when on the inside they are nervous. Our children are lucky to experience this opportunity and I know how much you love seeing them on the stage.

You will have had a chance to look at your child's book prize over the weekend. This year I did this a little bit differently and allowed the children to choose the book themselves from my selection, thus ensuring that all have a book that they want to read. Treasure these gifts from our PTA and encourage your child to read them over the summer break.

Congratulations to Hayley Barroga on receiving the Principals Cup, we are all proud of Hayley for achieving this award.

Young Vinnie activities

Thank you for returning the Young Vinnie paperwork so that they can work on the next steps for the baking day and Ranfurly clean up activities. You will receive more information from them this week.

'Wool in Schools' container

We are lucky enough to have 'The Wool Shed' onsite at school from 1-15th December. This is a converted shipping container that contains many fun and interesting resources that are designed to help our children understand wool's place in our lives, and why it should be part of our future. Each class will spend time here during the last weeks of the year and you are welcome to come in and look at it also. This website gives you more information [The Wool Campaign website](#).

Camp Columba 2024 Website

The Senior Room children (and some parents) will be attending camp from Tuesday 2nd to Friday 5th April. Camp Columba is located at Pukerau near Gore. This is an amazing camp experience that is a firm favourite in the children's minds. I am sharing the date with you now as Tuesday is a holiday and the Middle and Junior Room children will not be at school, but we will be travelling to and starting our camp activities. Please keep this in mind and make sure the date does not clash with anything else that you plan for Easter 2024.

Year 8 Graduation

This is being held on Monday 11th December at 1.30pm in the school hall. It will be followed by the ceremony of the graduates adding their lock to the Holy Paddocks gate.

After this we will bury a woollen school jersey and a synthetic top so that we can track the breakdown of the different materials over time.

The other proposed end of year activity that I texted you about last week ... I am awaiting confirmation of the date from the organisers. I will send out more information once this is in place. Thank you for the offers of transport - we have enough people to make this happen which is great. If your child will be absent on Monday 4th December, let me know asap.

Lastly, I do ask that families please read the notices that come home from school and return notices on time. It is becoming more common that we are replying to texts for requests for information that has already been shared, and having to follow up with parents to return information to school so that we can progress to the next part of organising an activity. I understand that people are busy but please make managing school life a priority.

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 Board meeting in November the Board read and reviewed the following policies:

- Health Education
- Religious Education - Encounter with Christ
 - Growth in Knowledge
 - Christian Witness

Notices and Dates:

Term 4 Week 8	Saturday 2 nd December	Ranfurly 125 Years Celebration – Parade : meet at 12pm
	Sunday 3 rd December	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Eli & Joshua Barroga
Week 9	Saturday 9 th December	“Night at the Races” – fundraiser for P.T.A
	Sunday 10 th December	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Xavier Love & James Marshall
Week 10	Thursday 14 th December	Last day of Term 4, 2023
	Sunday 17 th December	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Hayley Barroga & Jessie Greer
School Holidays	Sunday 24 th December	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Sam & Arthur Elworthy
	Sunday 31 st December	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Florence & Juliette Dowling & Olivia Scott
	Sunday 7 th January	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Finn & Charlie Dowling
	Sunday 14 th January	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Zach Tomalon & Harry Dowling
	Sunday 21 st January	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Josie Herlihy & Ethan Chisholm
	Sunday 28 th January	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Karl Suplente, Jade Aquino & Marcus Carig
Term 1, 2024 Week 1	Wednesday 31 st January	First day of school 2024
	Sunday 4 th February	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: George & Theo Dowling & Nathan Smith

Ranfurly 125 Years

Could you please fill in the form below so we have an indication of the number of children we will have.

My child/children will be able to participate in the Grand Parade celebrating Ranfurly 125 years on Saturday 2nd December.

Signed: _____

Swimming Lessons. - Ranfurly

Billy Laing lessons

27-31 Dec 2023

Please message Belinda Colling via cell (021384416) or FB if you wish to enrol your child.

**Age Group Champions
Maniototo Primary Schools Sports 2023**

Under 8		
	Girls	Boys
1st=	Abigale Graham (MAS) Isla Rutherford (Poolburn)	Max Stevenson (Strath Taieri)
2nd	Greta Love (St Johns)	Chrysler Houpapa (MAS)
3rd		Riley Stevenson (Strath Taieri)
Under 9		
	Girls	Boys
1st	Rosa Scott (Strath Taieri)	Toby McFadyen-Beck (MAS)
2nd	Esme Hore (MAS)	=George Dykes (Strath Taieri) =Monty Anderson (Poolburn)
3rd=	=Juliette Dowling (St Johns) =Sophia Crutchley (St Johns)	=Theo Dowling (St John's) = Richie Lynch (Strath Taieri)
Under 10;		
	Girls	Boys
1st	Thalia Hepi (MAS)	Edward Wilson (Strath Taieri)
2nd	OSharne Huriwai-Kirk (MAS)	Marcus Carig (St Johns)
3rd	Truly Pilgrim (MAS)	Archie Jones (Strath Taieri)
Under 11		
	Girls	Boys
1st	Tayla Smith (MAS)	Xavier Love (St Johns)
2nd	Kaylah McAuley (St Johns)	Tyrell Hore (MAS)

3rd	Mckenna Suddaby (St Johns)	Joshua Barroga (St Johns)
Under 12		
	Girls	Boys
1st	Marley Weir (St Johns)	Jae McAuley (St Johns)
2nd	Laura Paterson (MAS)	Axel McAuley (St Johns)
3rd	Madi Bankshaw (Strath Taieri)	Te Huri Geary (Poolburn)
Under 13		
	Girls	Boys
1st	=Josie Herlihy (St Johns) =Lexi McFadyen-Beck (MAS) =Ruby Cameron (Poolburn)	Eddie Weir (St Johns)
2nd		Vladimir Badillo (MAS)
3rd		Jonty Russell (MAS)
13+		
	Girls	Boys
1st	Zoe Lithgow (Poolburn)	Jacob Sutherland (St Johns)
2nd	A'eva Cairns-Whitcombe (MAS)	Noah Smith (St Johns)
3rd	Katelyn Hughes (MAS)	James Gare (Poolburn)



ORDER FORM PTA Drench Fundraiser

Please return to school by 1st December 2023

Vetlife Ltd will invoice you on delivery of the product to your school with 20th of the following month payment terms. Drench can be delivered to the school for pickup or collection from Vetlife Ranfurly.

Visit www.vetlife.co.nz/ptafundraiser for further information

St Johns School
will receive \$50
per drum purchased!



Name/Trading Name	Postal Address	Email	Number of drums Matrix Hi-Mineral 20 ltr \$670 excl GST	Price total

Reference details for delivery

Child's name: _____
 Contact Number: _____
 Class: _____

a free Boehringer Horizon work shirt while stock/sizes last and a voucher for a complimentary 10-day post-drench FEC test. Vetlife reserves the right to change terms and conditions without notice. Vetlife Ltd is a registered trademark - all rights reserved. VLA0002b published October 2022.



*Offer valid until December 31, 2023. Terms and conditions apply – full details available at www.vetlife.co.nz/ptafundraiser. The purchaser will receive

