



St John's School Newsletter

6 Stuart Road
Ranfurly
03 4449514
office@sjr.school.nz

Issue 1: 2nd February 2024

Principal's Page:

Nau mai haere mai

Welcome

Welcome back to everyone for 2024. We hope you all enjoyed a restful, relaxing holiday. We welcome some new students and families to our school:

Neale Plena, who is in Year 6 and 2 new 5 year olds: Gab Aquino and Kyle Dang-ay



Staff 2024

We have one staff change this year as Mrs Rachel Gray is on maternity leave. Mrs Erin Elworthy will be teaching the release times for 2024. She will be in the Junior Class all day Wednesdays and Thursday afternoons and will teach in the Senior Class on a Thursday morning until morning tea time and in the Middle Class from after morning tea until lunchtime.

I continue to teach the Junior Class; Years 0, 1 and 2, Mrs Heather Dowling Years 3, 4 and 5. Mrs Geraldine Duncan is the teacher of Years 6, 7 and 8.

Mrs Jayne Hazlett will continue to work three mornings (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday) with individual students in the area of literacy. Literacy includes reading, reading comprehension, writing, spelling, alphabet activities and speech. Teachers have identified students with particular needs to work with Jayne. Sharon Thompson will be working as Teacher Aide in the Senior Class 4 mornings a week with Becky Bruhns as Teacher Aide in the Middle Class 4 mornings a week and Angela Francis 4 mornings a week in the Junior Class.

Waitangi Day

School is closed on **Tuesday 6th February for Waitangi Day** (this is a public holiday.)

Stationery

Children have been issued with new exercise books and a stationery account.

These accounts include Mathletics (an online maths programme that supports the class programme) for the Middle and Senior class students.

Exercise books can be covered as this protects them from many things, but this is not a requirement. If you would like to cover your childrens' books please ask them to bring the books home one night to do this.

Thank you.

Stationery money is to be paid by **Friday 23rd February**, please.

Internet banking can be made to the following account number: **03 0951 0066195 00**

Please remember when paying by internet, to put your name and "School Stationery" as a reference.

Thank you.

Swimming

Our swim week for the whole school is taking place next week, 5 - 9th February (not Waitangi Day). We are very lucky that our PTA pay for a private swimming teacher, Jo Blackie, for this week and we thank them for this.

Individual class teachers will let you know when their class is swimming so look in class notices for this information.

A reminder that children need to bring their swimming gear in a bag of some sort that is easy to carry to swimming. It is also helpful if all children's uniform items have a name on them somewhere, for when clothing gets mixed up!

Thank you.

Telephone

A reminder, please, that when ringing the school cell phone or landline, do not leave a message after 1.15p.m. as teachers are in their classrooms teaching, and there is not always someone in the office to clear messages until after school. The cell phone is also difficult for teachers to access and hear, in class time.

If your child/children are going to be absent from school, please ensure that the classroom teacher is aware of this by texting the school cell phone before 8.30a.m. We are obliged to follow up any absences if we have not been notified of these. It is also helpful if you give a reason your child is absent as we have to code daily absences into our student management system, eg, sickness, doctor appointment, etc.

Computer and Internet Use Agreement/Internet Safety

Students are asked to read and sign a Computer and Internet Use Agreement. Parents are asked to go through this with their children so children understand rules around use of laptops and computers.

As a staff we put photos of children in our newsletter but at times we are asked for photos for other media, eg Positively Maniototo, Tiaki Maniototo. We try to text parents of individual children to get permission prior to doing this but it can be overlooked if in a hurry or busy. We also only try to give photos where there are larger groups and individuals are harder to identify.

If you do not want your child's photo put on other publications outside of school please fill in the form attached to this newsletter and return it to your class teacher. Thank you.

Pie Warmer/Microwave/Sandwich Press

We have a pie warmer available for children to use to heat pies, savouries, etc. We also have a microwave children can use to heat basic food items at lunchtimes. The Middle and Senior Class have a sandwich press they can use to toast sandwiches at lunchtime.

Maniototo A & P Show

The Maniototo A & P Show is being held on **Wednesday 14th February**.

Children will be dismissed from school at 12.30p.m. on this day to enable them to attend the show with their parents.

Buses will collect any bus students from school at approximately 12.40p.m.

If you are unable to collect your child from school on this day and need them to come home on the bus please let the classroom teacher know. Thank you.

Up to date contact details

We require each family to please fill in the contact form as we need up to date information to enable us to contact you or your emergency contact if required. Your emergency contact needs to be someone in the area that we are able to call if we are unable to get hold of parents. Please make sure you fill out all of the form including address, email and phones, both landline (if you have one) and cellphones.

Attached to the paper newsletter is a form for parents to fill in to enable us to update our files. Please fill in one for your family and return it to school asap.

Office Hours

A reminder that Fiona Weir's office hours are:

Monday 9 - 1p.m. Thursday 9 - 3p.m. Friday 9 - 12p.m.

If you have uniform enquiries it is preferable that you contact Fiona during her hours or email her at:

office@sjr.school.nz

Emailing newsletter

Our newsletters are emailed to those families who have provided us with an email address. If you don't receive your newsletter by email please contact Fiona Weir at: office@sjr.school.nz

Our newsletter comes out every three weeks so you should receive a newsletter in weeks 1, 4, 7 and 10.

For anything else that comes up, eg, swim week, there will be a separate newsletter.

Remember to also check our website:

www.sjr.school.nz

Scholastic Lucky Books

Please remember if you are ordering Scholastic Lucky Books for your children as presents and do not want them to see these, just write a note on the order or let us know and you will be texted when the books arrive.

School Uniforms

The start of each term is the time when we order school uniform items. If you wish to order outside of these times, you will be asked to pay full postage in the total cost. If you need a uniform order form, you can print one off the school website under the "Notices" tab - then "Class Notices".

You can also order yourself, online at:

<http://stjohns.uniformz.com>

School Uniform

A reminder that children are to dress in correct uniform please:

Boys - Summer

Red polo shirt

Grey shorts

School polar fleece or jersey

Grey socks

Brown/black shoes or sandals

Girls - Summer

Red polo shirt

Skort

School polar fleece or jersey

Black socks

Brown/black shoes or sandals

We ask that children who have long hair, have this tied up with brown, red, green, black or white hair ties.

Lost Property

Here is a photo of lost property that has been hanging on a hook in our school corridor for sometime. None of it is named. If you think any of it belongs to your family please come in and collect it. Thank you. 2 polar fleeces - size 14 and size 6

2 woolen jerseys - size 82cm and other has size cut off

3 polo shirts - size 10, 8 and 14

1 grey shorts - size 8



School Buses

Each year we are asked by the Ministry of Education transport advisor to reiterate to parents and caregivers the following points:

- It is the responsibility of the caregivers to get bus children to pick-up locations and to collect them from drop-off locations.
- It is recommended caregivers and children arrive at the bus stop locations at least 5 minutes prior to the time advised by the bus provider.
- Caregivers should stay with their children while they are waiting for their school transport in the morning and meet them in the afternoon as they get off the bus.

Each bus student will receive a "Bus Transport Code of Conduct" this week, which is to be read, discussed and signed by both the student and parents, then returned to school. Thank you.

Head Lice

A reminder to check your children's hair regularly for this and treat if necessary. Thank you.

Parent Information Evening

On **Tuesday 20th February** we will be holding a parent information evening. You can attend all sessions or as many as interest you.

The presentation explains the expectations and programmes in each class.

Junior Class 7 - 7.20 p.m.

Middle Class 7.30 - 7.50 p.m.

Senior Class 8 - 8.20 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Covid

A reminder that if your child/children tests positive for Covid please keep them at home.

Also be on the lookout for symptoms - developing cold, sore throat, etc and test for Covid.

Thank you.

Special Character:

Next Tuesday the 6th February we have a public holiday to remember and commemorate Waitangi Day. We commemorate the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi on this day in 1840. Waitangi Day was first commemorated in 1934. The Treaty is often called "The Founding Document" of New Zealand. It is an agreement and exchange of promises made between representatives of the British crown and representatives of Maori.

Junior Class News:

We begin 2024 with 14 children in the Junior Class. We welcome two new five year old students to our class: Gab Aquino and Kyle Dang-ay.

All Junior Class children should have brought home a notice that includes homework expectations for the year and our weekly swimming time for the first part of Term 1. Also a stationery account for new exercise books needed and a request for reading helpers for Terms 1 and 2. If you can help with reading please fill in the form and return it to school asap, if you haven't already done so.

Junior Class children will be working on some artwork with Mrs Elworthy next week for the A & P Show on Wednesday 14th February. The theme is "Smoko Time".

Middle Class News:



Wow! What a fantastic start to the term we have had!



I feel very lucky to be teaching the children in the Middle Room.

You will have all read the letter I sent home earlier in the week with all the information about what is happening over the coming weeks. I will talk about our weekly programme and expectations in more detail at the parent information evening on the 20th of February.

This week we have made our class treaty, written about our holiday memories, started our show art, practised the reading and maths activities and we've started doing an 'All About Me' poster.

We are thankful that Evie's Poppy Pat has been watering and looking after the class garden for us over the summer. We picked some peas this week to eat in class and they were yummy!!!





Once again, please don't hesitate to contact me via the school cellphone or email if you have any questions.

Nga mihi,
Heather Dowling

Senior Class News:

**“Alone we can do so little, together, we can do so much”
Helen Keller**

Welcome back to the school year.

Classroom newsletter

You will have all received the newsletter that the children bought home on Wednesday. Thank you for keeping up to date with our communication and setting your children up for a great first week. Please email me a photo of your child for our classroom display geraldine@sjr.school.nz

Parent Information Evening

Mrs Mulholland has mentioned this earlier in the newsletter. It is important to me that I have a person from each family at this meeting as this is when you will understand how our classroom operates, and how best to support your child. I will also be sharing camp information and paperwork with you, which is important.

Senior Room Camp

Camp Columba from 2nd - 5th April. This will be explained at the Parent Information evening.

Stationery

Your child's stationery list was sent home on Wednesday. Please pay for the stationery either with cash or by using Internet banking - the account number will be on the bottom of the stationery list and is mentioned earlier in this newsletter.

Year 7 and 8 Technology

This starts next Wednesday at MAS from 11.05 - 1.05pm. The children involved have a notice glued into their hw book.

Finally

I have loved being back in the school setting with your children over the last few days and I'm confident that with good attendance, a happy demeanor and an open and inquisitive nature we are going to have a brilliant term. Life is good in the Senior Room! Every child has made a very positive start to the term.

Our Class (Colleen and Joshua are absent)



Kind regards,
Geraldine Duncan.

Notices and Dates:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| 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 |
| Week 2 | Monday 5 th – Friday 9 th February | Swim Week |
| | Tuesday 6 th February | Waitangi Day – School Closed |
| | Sunday 11 th February | Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Cyrus Janerol & Keisha Evangelista |
| Week 3 | Wednesday 14 th February | Maniototo A & P Show – School Closed at lunchtime |
| | Sunday 18 th February | Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Ben Scott & McKinley Francis |
| Week 4 | Tuesday 20 th February | Parent Information Evening – Please see in Principal's page for times |
| | Sunday 25 th February | Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Axel & Kaylah McAuley |

I do not give permission for my child/children's photo to be used in outside of school publications.

Signed: _____



ST JOHN'S SCHOOL

6 Stuart Road, Telephone & Facsimile (03) 4449-514, Ranfurly

Dear Parents

Please provide us with the following details as we need to keep our records up to date in case of an emergency. If any of the following changes during the year, please advise as soon as possible.

Phone Numbers/ Emergency Contact Phone Numbers & Email Addresses

One form for each family to be filled in please:

Children's Name/s:

Address (including rapid number)

Parent's Name & cellphone number

Name

Cellphone number

Landline Number

Emergency Contact

Name

Number

Email Addresses

BUS TRANSPORT CODE OF CONDUCT

My family and I understand and accept the following school bus rules.

- I will:
- sit down quietly in my seat
 - put my bag on the floor or on my knees
 - wear my seatbelt, if there is one, and stay in my seat while the bus is moving
 - wait until the bus stops before I leave my seat
 - walk quietly from the bus when I get off.

- I will not:
- throw anything out of the windows
 - eat or drink on the bus
 - distract the driver while the bus is moving
 - be disruptive or annoying to other passengers.

If I have a concern, I will tell the bus monitor or bus driver.

If I misbehave on the bus, the bus monitor/bus driver may report it, and I may be shifted to a different seat on the bus, or excluded from travelling on the bus for either a set time or indefinitely.

STUDENT NAME

PARENT NAME

Signature

Signature

Date / /

Date / /