

St John's School Newsletter

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Issue 10: 6th September 2024

Principal's Page:

Nau mai haere mai

Welcome

We welcome new 5 year Ruby Dodds to St John's School.



Maniototo Cross Country

Congratulations to all the children for their efforts at the Maniototo Cross Country that was held on Tuesday 20th August.

Otago Cross Country

13 children were eligible (through their times) to attend the Otago cross country held in the Kaikorai Valley College grounds today Friday 6th September.

We hope they had a great day and enjoyed the experience.

Daffodil Day

Thank you to everyone for their gold coin donations for Daffodil Day and the Cancer Society, last Friday. We raised \$130.00 for this cause.

Thank you to St John Ambulance

A very big thank you to Glenis and Janet from St John Ambulance who came to school on Wednesday (in the ambulance) and presented us with a new first aid kit donated by the local St John organisation. They also gave us boxes of plasters for each classroom.



Bus Vests

All bus vests can be washed and returned to school before the end of the term, thank you.

School Holidays

The end of the term is very quickly approaching.

Term 3 finishes on Friday 27th September and Term 4 begins on Monday 14th October.

School is closed on **Monday 28th October** for Labour Weekend.

Special Character:

Caritas Social Justice Week runs from 8 - 14th September. This year the theme continuing from last year is "Imagine Peace for All". We will be focusing on this in our Monday morning Faith Focus time.

Junior Class News:

Here are some stories about the cross country written by some Junior Class students:

At the cross country I got fourth. I got points for O'Neill house. We won the shield.
Willow Eketone

At the cross country I got third. I had a speedy start.
Fergus Smith

At the cross country we had to wait a long time till it was our turn. When it was our turn we raced against Maniototo Area School and Strath Taieri. The clapper went bang! We were off. We had to go down the ditch, through the sheep yards, under the goal post and past the finish line. I came 5th. I am in O'Neill House. O'Neill House won. I loved it.

Evelyn Cai

At the cross country I fell down. I got up and ran fast to the finish line.

Zach Carig

At the cross country I came 2nd. Mum and Dad and Pat were there. We had to sit on a mat. O'Neill House won. At the end, I got an ice cream. I was in the back but I sped up. I was competing against Maniototo Area School and Strath Taieri. I had to go through the sheep yards. A lot of people cheered for me. Paddy and Robbie rolled down the hill. I got to stand on the podium. It was fun.

Arthur Dowling

Here are some photos of our bike safety lessons earlier this week, with the Police Education Officer, Garry Milford.



Middle Class News:



Kia ora, Kumasta and Ni hao,

We are flying towards the end of the term. It's been a busy old couple of weeks in the Middle Room and no sign of slowing down.

Cross Country

I was so proud of our students who all ran their hearts out at the Cross Country. They had trained hard and all did so well on the day.

Congratulations to Eli, Theo and Caleb who qualified for the Otago Cross Country. Eli is heading down to Dunedin today to compete and we wish him lots of luck.



Jack



Evie



Maggie

Cornhole

We were lucky enough to have the Year 6's come and teach us how to play Cornhole. This is one of the games that the PTA has purchased for the school. It was a lot of fun!



You have to throw your bean bags into the hole to get maximum points.



Bike Safety

Mr Milford came on Monday and Tuesday of this week to take the children for a Bike Check and for some obstacle courses using their bikes to get them used to stopping and slowing down and checking for vehicles. The children were very good on their bikes.



Maths

We finished our topic of Multiplication and Division and the children did very well in their test. Keep up the tables testing at home, even though it's not in the homework anymore. It is a lot easier if the children know their times tables for them to progress in their Number work.

We are now looking at the Calendar this week. They need to know the months of the year and how many days in each month.

You may remember this rhyme yourself from your school days:

30 days have September, April, June and November,

All the rest have 31, except for February all alone.

It has 28 days clear, and 29 in a leap year.

Next week we will start the topic of Time, so it would be a great help if you could support your child to read an analogue clock as well as a digital one at home.

Writing

We have been focussing on Fictional writing the last couple of weeks. We have been writing character profiles and this week we have been looking at how a good author would write about a setting to make it descriptive and interesting. Here are a couple:



The navy-coloured night sky shone over the jagged tower of rocks. The roaring sea below was smashing the cliff with brute force as if they were fighting. The rocky cliff lay among the starry dark sky. The faint drifting smell of fresh food wafted from dry land.

Caleb Cai

An aurora-like sky stretched across the light brown mountains. The blue and purple stars are like an ocean of colours. The rocky mountains shone from the light of the glowing night. A navy blue sky was covered in pink clouds. Wolves were howling as the moon rose making it even brighter than the stars. Some stars looked like dots of sparkles.

Maggie O'Neill

Giant trees tower over the tiny huts. The high-vis orange and Barbie pink flowers stand out from the lush green grass. The old little buildings are slowly rotting away. The greenery is slowly eating up the old huts.

Ben Scott



Overnight Stay

This week you will have received paperwork regarding our overnight stay in Dunedin on the 24th and 25th of October.

This has all the information you need so far regarding the trip and the forms I need filled in and signed before I can take your children away.

Thank you for taking your time to read through and fill them out.

A big thank you!!

Thank you also for all your hard work in selling our chocolate boxes. We made \$1200 towards our camp, so it was well worth doing and this along with \$575 from the PTA towards our trip has helped to keep the cost really low. Thank you to the PTA for contributing towards this - it is greatly appreciated.

Ngā mihi,
Heather Dowling

Senior Class News:

"Treat others the way you want to be treated." - Golden Rule

Kia ora koutou families



I have been away from school this week, following my boys at their secondary school hockey tournaments. I have loved this opportunity to be with them and my extended family.

Thank you to Mrs Paterson and Mrs Hazlett for teaching the children in my absence. I know they both enjoy their time in the senior room.

Earlier this week, it was bike safety learning, and Mrs Hazlett has managed to fit in painting the corn hole boards between her writing and maths lessons. They look fabulous.

Young Vinnies

The Young Vinnies have continued working quietly in the background, focusing this term on acts of service to others. Earlier in the term, each class member crafted a newsy letter to a Maniototo Hospital and Rest Home resident. These letters were well received, and many of the children have received letters back. This has been exciting, and it is a highlight for the children to hear these read aloud. We have wonderful people living in our local hospital, and they have shared a little of themselves in their letters.

Our next activity is to clean up some areas of Ranfurly. You will have received a letter from the executive last week asking for help with trailers, bags, and adult supervision. If you can help out, we would love to see you. The children are very enthusiastic about this task and look forward to it. It always astounds them how much rubbish we collect.

Jo Bell, the Youth Coordinator for the Society of St Vincent de Paul in Dunedin, will visit us next week. She will teach us how to appreciate how Jesus communicates his teachings through the parables and investigate the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son parables in more detail and their meaning. We always look forward to her coming to visit. She has wonderful energy and is a favourite visitor of ours.

Pauline Stringer

Pauline is a very welcomed and wise woman in our classroom. She has spent five sessions with us to finish the 'Our Amazing Body' lessons. These have been excellent, and your child may have asked you some questions about your journey through puberty and your current health habits. Pauline commented on what a great group they were to work with, and I was proud of how the children asked such a wide range of questions. They have already bought their handouts and Q and A booklet home.

I appreciate Pauline's guidance and support in these lessons. Her knowledge is far more detailed than mine, and she treats each question with the respect and time it deserves.

Olympics

We have done a great unit on learning about the Olympics, and we will finish with an investigation into the impact of hosting an Olympic Games. The impact is quite mind-boggling—approximately \$9.7 billion for the facilities and operations for Paris to host the Summer Olympic and Paralympic events. We have been awed by the athletes' abilities, and many class members dream of being athletes at future Olympics.

Mathletics Gold Certificates

We now have many children who have achieved their twenty weeks of certificates for the year. Joshua Barroga, Marcus Carig, Arthur Elworthy, Xavier Love, Kaylah McAuley, Finn Dowling, McKinley Francis, Cyrus Janerol, Colleen Torres, Karl Suplente.

Their hard work has paid off, literally, in Banquer. Each milestone earns the equivalent amount of money, so 20 weeks = \$20,000.

Farmer Time

I have signed up the senior class for Farmer Time New Zealand, an educational programme run by Sheep and Beef NZ that brings farming directly into the classroom through Google Meets. Our farmer is Hamish Dunlop, who farms a sheep and beef property at Ararata near Hawera in inland Taranaki. We will chat with him a few times each term and learn about what is happening on his farm. I am excited about this.

Each year, the group has completed different tasks in preparation for this. The Year 8's made a slideshow to share with him about our school, community and the Maniototo. The year 7's found out about his area and the Taranaki. The year 6 wrote a letter to his children (to which they got a reply from his daughter, who is in Year 8) and came up with questions for him to answer. This programme will help us further understand the journey of food from farm to fork in the ever-changing agricultural industry.

Otago Cross Country

Today, eight children represent St John's at Dunedin's Otago Primary Schools Championship event. We are very proud of Marley Weir, Josie Herlihy, McKinley Francis, Ethan Chisholm, Xavier Love, Isla Jeffries, Joshua Barroga, and Eli Barroga for taking up the opportunity to tackle the fast and muddy course at Kaikorai Valley. Good luck to them!

Ski Trip

This is on Monday at Cardrona Ski Field. I will meet all the families at 7.30 am at rentals. Please remember to bring the ski bag from school containing the

Cellphone list - everyone must put one in their pocket

High visibility vests - everyone wears one of these (skiers, boarders and non-skiers)

If your child travels with someone else, they will need money for dinner on the way home and spare gear if the weather is wet.

All children in years 3-8 who are not attending the ski trip go to school as normal and will be taught by Mrs Dowling. She is looking forward to working with the children for the day, so please make sure they go to school.

Curling lessons

These are coming up. You received a note earlier this week, and we are organising transport to and from these lessons. There is a Curling Tournament on Tuesday 24th September.

Farewells

Since our last newsletter, we have farewelled two students. Florence Dowling has moved to Maniototo Area School, and Marcus Carig has moved to St Joseph's in Ashburton. We wish these children the very best, and we will miss them.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, I have been working with our class on creating a classroom where children feel safe, supported, and valued. We have continued learning to show respect for others, have self-control, and listen carefully to scripture and God's messages in our prayers. As a group, we are working on moving forward positively. I encourage you to promote positive behaviour and please talk to your child about the importance of treating others with kindness and respect. If you notice any signs of bullying or concerning behaviour, please reach out to me or the principal.

Being Prepared for Learning

Lastly, please ensure your child has a red and blue pen for school, a pencil, a pencil sharpener, and a ruler. It is much easier for them to be organised if they do not have to borrow from others.

Kind regards
Geraldine Duncan.

Board of Trustees:

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 10th September at 7.30p.m**

Notices and Dates:

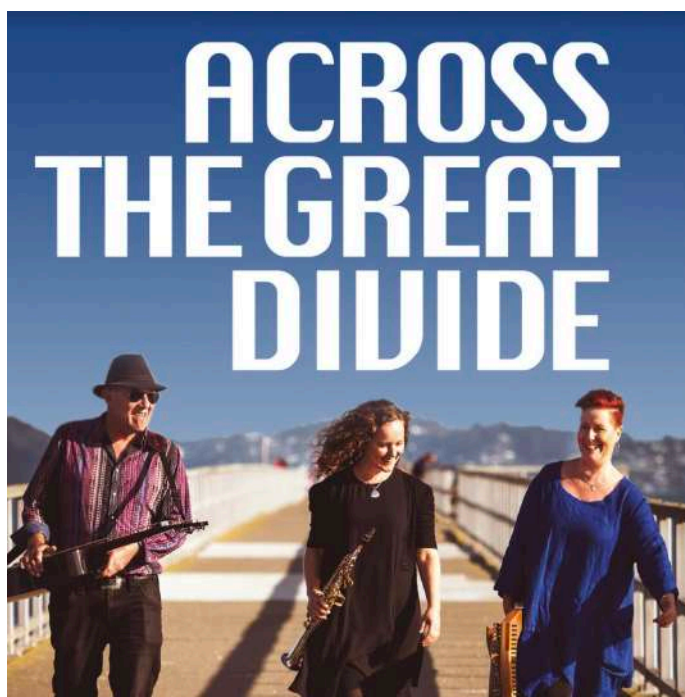
Week 8	Sunday 8 th September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Finn & Charlie Dowling
Week 9	Sunday 15 th September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Zach Tomalon & Harry Dowling
Week 10	Sunday 22 nd September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Karl Suplente, Neale Plena & Marcus Carig
School Holidays	Sunday 29 th September	Sunday Mass at 5pm (NOTE: change of time) Altar Servers: George & Theo Dowling, Nathan Smith
	Sunday 6 th October	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Cyrus Janerol & Keisha Evangelista
	Sunday 13 th October	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Ben & Olivia Scott

Term 4 Week 1	Sunday 20 th October	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Axel & Kaylah McAuley
Week 2	Sunday 27 th October	Sunday Mass at 5pm Altar Servers: Caleb Cai & Jae McAuley
Week 3	Monday 28 th October	Labour Weekend – School Closed

Cross Country Results

Year 1	Boys	School	Girls	School
1	George Love	St John's	Greta Wilson	Strath Taieri
2	Lochlann Barnish	St John's	Alexis Bankshaw	Strath Taieri
3	Fergus Smith	St John's	Nika Miller	St John's
4	Hugo Fairweather	MAS	Willow Eketone	St John's
5	Zac Carig	St John's	Sahara Saunders	Strath Taieri
6	Kyle Dang-ay	St John's	Amiria Cribb	St John's
Year 2				
1	Blake Sutherland	MAS	Georgia Dodds	St John's
2	Arthur Dowling	St John's	Stella Dykes	Strath Taieri
3	Hudson Jones	Strath Taieri	Belle Stevenson	Strath Taieri
4	Mason Nyhof	Strath Taieri	Millie Harley	MAS
5	Ollie Baxter	Strath Taieri	Evelyn Cai	St John's
6	Flynn McSkimming	St John's	Briella Graham	MAS
Year 3				
1	Max Stevenson	Strath Taieri	Izzy Eketone	St John's
2	Arthur Wilson	Strath Taieri	Aria Cairns-Whitcombe	MAS
3	Oscar Jeffries	St John's	Bryleigh Barroga	St John's
4	Riley Stevenson	Strath Taieri	Alex	MAS
5	Hudson Crutchley	MAS	Evie Steele	St John's
6	Kahu Houpapa	MAS	Maddie Norman	MAS
Year 4				
1	Liam Wilson	MAS	Juliette Dowling	St John's
2	Jack Jeffries	St John's	Kora-Lee Martin	MAS
3	Tayne Larson-Macaulley	Strath Taieri	Abigale Graham	MAS
4	Archie Sutherland	MAS	Georgia Clark	MAS
5	Digby Jones	Strath Taieri	Greta Love	St John's
6	Reuben Hagen	MAS	Autumn Forbes	MAS
Year 5				
1	Toby McFadyen-Beck	MAS	Oshane Huriwai Kirk	MAS
2	Eli Barroga	St John's	Ella Turner	Strath Taieri
3	George Dykes	Strath Taieri	Tessa Stevenson	Strath Taieri
4	Oscar McAtamney	MAS	Sophie McAtamney	MAS
5=	Theo Dowling/Caleb Cai	St John's	Truly Pilgrim	MAS
6			Rose-May Poihakena-Jackson	MAS
Year 6				
1	Xavier Love	St John's	Nikita Wilson	MAS
2	Joshua Barroga	St John's	Thalia Hepi	MAS
3	Edward Wilson	Strath Taieri	Isla Jeffries	St John's

4	Arohie Jones	Strath Taieri	Florence Dowling	St John's
5	Tim Geddes	Strath Taieri		
6	Marcus Carig	St John's	Jessie Greer	St John's
Year 7				
1	McKinley Francis	St John's	Laura Paterson	MAS
2	Jae McAuley	St John's	Vanessa Kinney	MAS
3	Ethan Chisholm	St John's	Madison Bankshaw	Strath Taieri
4	Harry Dowling	St John's	Annabelle Scott	Strath Taieri
5	Finn Dowling	St John's	Phoebe Dunn	Strath Taieri
6	Cyrus Janerol	St John's	Tayla Smith	MAS
Year 8				
1	Matthew Costelloe	Strath Taieri	Marley Weir	St John's
2=	Lucas Clark	MAS	Josie Herlihy	St John's
2=	Vladimir Badillo	MAS	Jayda Devrill	MAS
4	Karl Suplente	St John's	Lexi McFadyen-Beck	MAS
5	George Dowling	St John's	Aesha Cairns-Whitcombe	MAS
6	Noah Spooner	MAS		



The Mānīatoto Community Arts & Cultural Inc. and Arts on Tour NZ are bringing Across the Great Divide, featuring traditional, contemporary, and original songs and tunes from Celtic, Scandinavian and Americana roots to Ranfurly on Tuesday the 17th of September, 6.30pm at the Ranfurly Town Hall. Tickets are \$25 pp and available at Burn Radio, Maniototo Pharmacy and via Facebook Messenger 'Arts In The Mānīatoto'.

Across The Great Divide features guitarist and arguably Aotearoa's finest dobro player Tony Burt, internationally respected and gifted Swedish saxophonist, Hanna Wiskari Griffiths and music specialist and Scots traditionalist, on harp, guitar, and vocals, Karen Jones. You will be drawn into their special Transatlantic musical world. Original and traditional tunes and airs; Americana original compositions all receive the same skill and passion in their delivery until you are no longer aware of their different musical roots, nor any divide at all.

An Across The Great Divide concert isn't a quiet affair. Strap yourself in for a wild, toe tapping and emotion laden journey, perfectly held together by their passion for their traditions.

Call Amie Pont for further information.