

# St John's School Newsletter

6 Stuart Road  
Ranfurly  
03 4449514  
[office@sjr.school.nz](mailto:office@sjr.school.nz)

Issue 5: 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025

## Principal's Page:

Nau mai haere mai.

Welcome back for Term 2.

### Thank you

A big thank you to those parents who helped with transport for the Junior and Middle Class students to Wilson Road for our planting morning with Tiaki Maniototo, at the end of last term. Also, thank you for the great help with the planting. It was a busy morning, helped by perfect weather. Congratulations to the students and helpers for their efforts with planting 750 native plants!



### Entertaining at Maniototo Hospital

On Tuesday, the whole school walked to the hospital to entertain the residents for an hour. It was a great opportunity for the students to interact with the residents and staff, and everyone enjoyed it.





### **Special Character Review**

Our Special Character review dates have now changed to Monday and Tuesday, the 5th and 6th May. We will have two representatives from the Dunedin Diocese Catholic Education Office here for the visit. They will spend time in each classroom observing prayer time and Religious Education lessons over the two days. They will also talk to the Board of Trustees, students and staff about the special character of our school.

### **Pink Shirt Day**

On Friday, the 16th May, it is Pink Shirt Day, but because we will have a number of Middle and Senior Class students away at the Dunstan Zone Rippa Rugby tournament, we will participate in Pink Shirt Day on **Thursday, 15th May.**

On this day, children can wear pink clothes or brightly coloured clothes and bring along a gold coin donation as a fundraiser for the Mental Health Foundation.

Pink Shirt Day is celebrated throughout New Zealand and is a day where communities, schools, and workplaces promote kindness, inclusion and anti-bullying and celebrate diversity - "Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying."

### **Easter Celebrations**

We ended Term 1 on Friday, 11th April, with a "Stations of the Cross" liturgy in our Church. We followed the story of Jesus's death by following the pictures/stations of this on the walls of our Church. After this, we had our annual "Easter Egg Hunt" in the school playground.



### **Honey**

Holy Paddocks honey can be purchased from school - \$20 for a 750ml jar.

Ngā Mihi  
Susan Mulholland

## **Special Character:**

On Monday afternoon, we held a special prayer liturgy to celebrate the life of Pope Francis, who died on Monday, 21st April.

We learnt some more about Pope Francis and the process, beginning soon, of electing a new Pope.

Loving God,

You entrusted the care of your Church on earth to Pope Francis, and now you have called him to yourself.

We entrust his soul to your boundless mercy.

For his lifelong service, we thank you.

For his care for the poor and marginalised, we thank you.

For his witness to simplicity, we thank you.

Protect your Church in this time of transition.

Guide the Cardinals in their sacred duty.

Grant them wisdom and courage, hope and charity, and the faith they need to discern your holy will.

Amen.

## **Junior Class News:**

Here is some writing about our Mums.

My Mum is fantastic. She helps me feed the lambs.

*Walter Dowling*

My Mum is great. She makes the best cheese pizza ever.

*Miller Barnish*

My Mum is helpful. She helps me build a marble run - the biggest one ever.

Braxton Chalmers

My Mum is awesome. She is great at cooking fancy steak.

Harry McSkimming

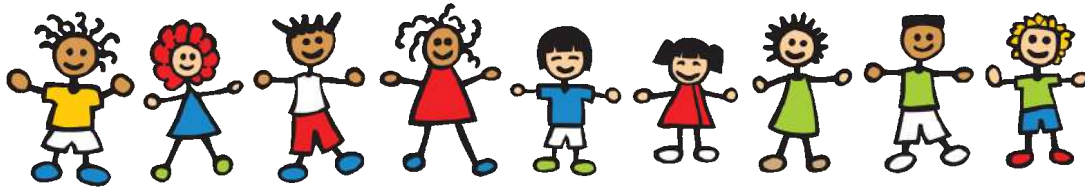
My Mum is great. She cares for my baby, Zev and me. She loves me. She makes me chicken and eggs.

Kyle Dang-ay

My Mum is amazing. She helps me put seeds in the garden to grow into some cauliflower.

Fergus Smith

## Middle Class News:



Welcome back to Term 2!

This always seems to be the busy term with winter sports, and we have hit the ground running in the Middle Room.

We had an amazing time during our visit to the hospital this past Tuesday. Our students showcased their talents by singing waiata and performing plays for the residents. It was heartwarming to see the joy on the residents' faces, and our students truly enjoyed the experience of entertaining them.

The visit was such a success that the children are keen to return later this year.

### **Reading**

In the first part of the term, our Year 4 and 5 students have begun their novel studies. They'll bring home a chapter book with specific pages to read each night. It's important for them to stick to the assigned pages so that everyone in their group is at the same point in the story the following day.

### **Writing**

This term is the Speeches and Poetry Recitation. The children will start these next week.

**Year 3** - Memorise and recite a poem. They are to recite a poem using an expressive voice and gestures. They will be given their poem at school and will then bring it home for homework to keep practising.

**Year 4** - They are going to retell a story. They will have to retell a story known to them using cue cards. We will write the retells at school, and then the students will bring home cue cards to practise saying them with expression and gestures.

**Year 5** - They are going to write a speech about the topic 'For the Cause'. We will write this at school, and then the children will bring home cue cards to practise using expression and gestures.

### **Maths**

This term, we're focusing on addition and subtraction strategies. The students are learning to add and subtract using a variety of strategies, aiming to solve problems in their heads without relying on physical materials.

### **R.E**

We have been learning all about Pope Francis this week. The students have studied his role in the Catholic Church, how he helped people, and the process of assigning a new Pope.

We are starting the topic of 'Being Church' next week, which is about the different Sacraments that are in the Catholic Church and how they are linked to Jesus' life on Earth and the student's connection through them to God.

## **Rippa**

I have 17 students who are keen to go to the Rippa tournament on the 16th, which is great.

More information will be coming out over the next week. Thank you to Gaz and Tim, who can coach the teams. We will start having practices at school next week.

Ngā mihi,

Heather Dowling

## **Senior Class News:**

"Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi,"

"With your food basket and my food basket, the people will thrive."

Week 1, Term 2.

Welcome back.

It is nice to see everyone back for Term 2. It has been a busy start to the term with lots more activities coming up.



**Xavier Love: Otago Swimming Sports**

This yellow ribbon is very special.

Xavier received this in Faith Focus on Monday for placing 3rd in the 11 year old boys backstroke event at the Otago Primary Swimming Championships that were held in term 1.

Xavier now has certificates/ribbons from both the Otago Athletics and Otago Swimming events - a very impressive achievement.

Congratulations Xavier!

### **'Life Skills' development**

This term, alongside their regular homework, we've set an individual challenge focused on developing important life skills. Inside the back of your child's homework book, you'll find a range of challenges designed to encourage responsibility, initiative, the development of new capabilities, and thankfulness. These are personal goals for your child to work towards achieving by the end of the term.

We encourage you to have a conversation with your child about these challenges, discuss what interests them, and help them decide on the actions they will take to achieve their chosen goals. This is an opportunity for them to take ownership of their learning and growth in these 'life skill' areas.

### **Hospital Visit**

On April 29th the St John's School children went to the hospital and sang songs, and did plays and nursery rhymes. All the children had a great time and they all did really well. We hope the hospital members had a great time and hope that maybe we could even go back another time and sing more songs and have more fun.

Isla Jeffries.

### **Young Vinnies**

The executive met this week and held a class meeting to finalise their Term 2 plans, with a strong focus on community support. These plans involve:

- **Caring for Our Community:** On Tuesday, 13th May (afternoon), we will be collecting pinecones to share with our parishioners and older or unwell community members.
- **Supporting Families:** Throughout weeks 6-10, we will hold a weekly sausage sizzle, with all proceeds going to the Strengthening Families organisation in Ranfurly.
- **Connecting with Hospital Residents:** Near the end of the term, we will be writing letters to the residents at the local hospital.

You will have received a letter from the Young Vinnie executive on Wednesday in regards to pinecone collecting. Please return this by Monday.

### **NYLD (Year 8 only)**

Thank you, parents, for returning the forms, and our travelling adults are myself, Angela Francis and Anna Jeffries. We had a brief look at the website this week, and the excitement levels are building. You might like to look at it yourself. [Here is the link.](#) More information will come home to parents in week 2 detailing the travel arrangements and what to bring.

### **Rippa**

The annual Rippa Rugby tournament is happening on the 16th of May. We will be entering 4 teams from St John's school, with the seniors being a part of the year 5-6 team and two year 7-8 teams. Thank you to those who are able to help with coaching and managing the teams. We will be in touch regarding times for practices. Notices with more information will be sent home later next week.

### **Speeches**

The theme for the speech competition this year is 'All for the Cause' and will involve each student writing a persuasive speech that they will present later in the term. The writing of this speech will be done at school, during school time, but I do encourage you to discuss the topic with your child and help them to understand the components of persuasive language.

### **Homework**

There is a slight change in this routine for term 2. Homework will be written in at school on a Friday for the following week. Spelling testing and the marking of the homework sheet will be on a Friday.

### **Reflection**

What a fantastic start to the term it's been. It's been pleasing to see the children listening carefully in class, completing their homework, and buzzing with energy. We have had two lovely prayer sessions led by the children on respect and farming. Your children have a growing awareness of what is happening in the world and they show care, concern and a desire to make a difference in others' lives.

This week, however, we've had a couple of instances of behaviour during playtime that need addressing. During tag, some children have gone out of boundaries and, unfortunately, we have had an instance of a classmate tripping someone so they fell when we were walking back from the hospital visit. This kind of behaviour is not okay and will not continue. We are working with the children to reinforce the importance of playing safely and respectfully with each other. These are small behaviours that are easily changed.

On a brighter note, we are impressed with the effort the students are putting into their Athletics. Our goal this term is for every child to earn their Athletics points each week, and it's fantastic to see that most students are well on track with their certificates. I have checked in with anyone who is struggling to get their weekly points and offered support and/or changed their Athletics program. I am available before school and at play and lunch to give additional help and I enjoy doing this, so please encourage your child to ask if they are stuck. When helping them at home, use the 'i' button on the page for worked examples and sometimes you will need to google the meaning of the maths terms.

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping our children be their best selves, both in their learning and in how they interact with each other. We look forward to another positive and productive term ahead.

Ngā mihi nui,  
Geraldine Duncan and Rachel Gray.

### **Looking ahead to May**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Activities planned at this stage</b>
2	5 - 9th May	Catholic Review team visiting school.
3	12 - 16th May	National Young Leaders Day in Dunedin - Year 8 children - Mon Pine Cone Collecting - Tues (wear mufti) Dunstan Zone Rippa Tournament - Fri.
4	19 - 23rd May	Dunstan Zone Rippa Tournament postponement date - Mon.
5	26 - 30th May	Catholic Schools Day - Wed
6	2-6th June	School Speech Competition
7	9-13th June	Maniototo Schools Speech Competition - Town Hall
8	16-20th June	Matariki - Friday is a Public Holiday

### **Board of Trustees:**

\*This term, the Board of Trustees are preparing to advertise for the position of a new Principal for 2026.

\*A reminder that Board elections are coming up in September, so if you are interested in putting your name forward, please come along to a meeting and see what it's all about.



## Notices and Dates:

### Bank Account Details

Below is a list of bank account details that you might want to save in your phone for future reference.

St John's School Board of Trustees - 03 0951 0066195 000

St John's School Camp – 03 0951 0064739 000

St John's School Uniform Account – 03 0951 0045351 000

Young Vinnies – 03 0951 0083139 000

Please make sure when paying into any of the school accounts that you put what the payment is for in the reference field then it can be allocated to the right event/class.

<b>Term 2 Week 1</b>	Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Finn & Charlie Dowling
<b>Week 2</b>	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Catholic Review team visit
<b>Week 2</b>	Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Keisha Evangelista & Mack Mayo
<b>Week 3</b>	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	NYLD for Year 8's in Dunedin
	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	BOT Meeting
	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Pink Shirt Day
	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Rippa Rugby Tournament in Alexandra
	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Zach Tomalon & Harry Dowling
<b>Week 4</b>	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Rippa Rugby postponement day
	Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Theo Dowling, Nathan Smith & Maggie O'Neill
<b>Week 5</b>	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Cyrus Janerol, James Badillo, Neale Plena
<b>Week 6</b>	Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Ben & Olivia Scott
<b>Week 7</b>	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Axel & Kaylah McAuley & Archie Weir
<b>Week 8</b>	Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Caleb Cai & Jae McAuley

## ***Local School Child Season Pass 2025***

Unlimited Cardrona and Treble Cone season pass for local primary and secondary school kids - available to purchase online or in-store.

### **LOCAL PRIMARY CHILD SEASON PASS**

***\$179***

### **LOCAL SECONDARY CHILD SEASON PASS**

***\$259***

#### ***EXISTING ONLINE PROFILE***

Your new season pass will be automatically loaded on to last year's red card (lift pass).

#### ***NEED A NEW CARD?***

Please pick up your red card (lift pass) at our Wānaka, Queenstown, Cardrona or Treble Cone offices.

***[Click here to purchase online](https://secure.cardrona-treblecone.com/s/local-school-child-season-pass/p/local-school-child-season-pass-2025)***

Or copy this link: <https://secure.cardrona-treblecone.com/s/local-school-child-season-pass/p/local-school-child-season-pass-2025>

For information on our 2025 local kids programmes; Ride Tribe Cardrona, Ride Tribe TC, Ride Tribe Minis & Academy email [kids.programmes@cardrona-treblecone.com](mailto:kids.programmes@cardrona-treblecone.com)

For all winter product information visit our website - [cardrona-treblecone.com](https://cardrona-treblecone.com) or email [info@cardrona-treblecone.com](mailto:info@cardrona-treblecone.com)