



St John's School Newsletter

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Issue 6: 23rd May 2025

Principal's Page:

Nau mai haere mai.

Pink Shirt Day

Thank you to everyone for their participation and donations on Pink Shirt Day. We raised \$140.50 for the NZ Mental Health Foundation.



Rippa Rugby Tournament

Thank you to those parents who helped with transport, coaching and managing for the Rippa Rugby tournament in Alexandra last Friday, 16th May, which the Middle and Senior classes took part in. It sounds like it was a great day.

Photos in the Middle Class section of the newsletter.

Support Staff Day

We celebrated our Support Staff on Thursday, 22nd May. We are lucky to have support staff working in each classroom for 4 or 5 mornings of the week, as well as in the office and cleaning our school. They are a valuable resource and are greatly appreciated by teachers and students for all the extras they do for us. So a big thank you to: Fiona Dolina Sharon Becky Ange

Catholic Schools Day

Wednesday, the 28th May, is Catholic Schools Day. The theme for 2025 is "Shine like stars in the world." We will be talking about this in Faith Focus next week and will celebrate as a school by joining together for some games on Wednesday afternoon.

Website for Parents

A new webspace for parents on: <https://www.education.govt.nz/parents-and-caregivers/schools-year-0-13/parent-portal>

shows practical videos, activities and resources for supporting learning that are easy to understand and show how you can take an active role in your child's education. It has a 'parent-friendly' version of updates to curricula which show what your child is learning, why it is important, and year levels showing when children will be learning certain things.

School closed

School is closed on **Monday, 2nd June, for King's Birthday** and then on **Friday, 20th June, for Matariki**.

Speech/Poem Competition

Our school speech and poem competition will be held in our school hall on **Friday, 6th June**, beginning at 9.15 a.m.

The timetable will be:

9.15 a.m. - Year 1 and 2 nursery rhymes and poems (These will take between 5 and 10 minutes).

9.25 - Year 3 poems Year 4 retells Year 5 speeches (Finish approximately 10.40a.m.)

11 - 12.30 p.m. - Year 6, 7 & 8 speeches

Students will be selected from here to represent our school at the "Maniototo Speech Competition" to be held in the Ranfurly Town Hall on Thursday, 12th June from 10 a.m. - 2.30p.m. approximately.

Parents and family members are welcome to come along and listen to these, but please come before each session begins so children are not put off during their speech by the door opening and people coming and going. This event is not suitable for pre-schoolers as it needs to be quiet and without distraction for those delivering their speeches. Thank you.

Coming up

Reports and portfolios will be sent home on **Thursday, 19th June**. Reports can be kept. Portfolios are to be returned to school before the end of the term. Thank you.

Parent-Teacher interviews will be held on **Tuesday, 24th June**, afternoon and evening and on **Thursday, 26th June**, afternoon.

Term 2 ends on Friday, 27th June, and Term 3 begins on 14th July.

Next term we have a teacher-only day on Friday, 15th August. Staff will again be joining with Maniototo Area School for the day and continuing our learning on the new Maths curriculum.

Ngā Mihi

Susan Mulholland

Special Character:

-Our Special Character Review team could only come for a day on Monday, 6th May, so they are returning on Monday, 26th May, to spend another day with us. They enjoyed visiting classrooms and talking to students and staff.

-On Thursday, 29th May, it is the Feast of the Ascension. In Faith Focus time, we learnt about how on this day, we remember Jesus ascending into heaven 40 days after his Resurrection.

-We welcome Fr Jaewoo back from his holiday.

Junior Class News:

*In Religious Education, the Junior Class have been learning about what “being holy” means. We have learnt about things and places that are holy, eg, our prayer table and candle, religious statues, rosary beads and our Church. We also discussed how we can be “Holy Heroes” in our own lives. Pope Francis said, “Holiness doesn’t mean doing extraordinary things, but doing ordinary things with love and faith.”

Here are some Holy Heroes. These are displayed in the corridor outside the Junior Class.



Holy Hero – George McKirdy



Holy Hero – Walter Dowling



Holy Hero – Lochy Barnish



Holy Hero – Thea Huddleston



Holy Hero – Fergus Smith



Holy Hero – Willow Eketone

*All the Juniors have quickly learnt their nursery rhymes and poems. Now we are practising saying these slowly and clearly. As said in the general part of this newsletter, the speech and poem competition will take place in our hall on Friday, 6th June. The Juniors will recite their poems/nursery rhymes first at 9.15a.m, and this only takes 5 - 10 minutes. This is followed by the rest of the school's poems, retells and speeches. Parents are welcome to come along and listen to these.

Middle Class News:



Kia Ora Koutou,

I can't believe we are almost halfway through the term! The weeks are flying!

Rippa Tournament

Well done to the students who represented our school at the Rippa Rugby Tournament in Alexandra last Friday! Their determination, sportsmanship and excellent behaviour made us all incredibly proud.

A huge thank you to our dedicated coaches:

- Logan, Tim and Gaz, who generously donated their time during school hours to coach our players.
- Wayne, who coached our senior team on the day.

Special thanks also to our amazing team managers who kept everything running smoothly on competition day:

- Sarah Ball, Geraldine Dowling, Gabrielle Love, Sharon Scott and Sharon Thompson.

We're truly grateful to all the parents who transported our students to Alexandra and provided enthusiastic sideline support throughout the day. Your commitment to our school community is what makes events like this possible!



Ngā mihi,
Heather Dowling

Senior Class News:

Week 4, Term 2.

National Young Leaders Day



The year 8's had a fabulous day at the Dunedin Town Hall being inspired, being loud and doing some dance moves!

The day started with past pupil and communication whiz, Amy Scott, who spoke about personalities. She gave us some awesome insights into different types of personalities and how we can all get along better by understanding and flexing a little. Food for thought and a skill that we are ready to learn more about.

We also had the inspiring Cam Calkoen speak. This professional speaker and adventurer reminded us that inspiration is everywhere. He talked about being resilient, taking a moment to smile, and thinking about how to live our awesome lives. His message was all about believing in yourself, working hard, setting goals, spotting opportunities, and going for it.

Elisa Harley, who at just 18 is the CEO of Enviro Pots. She's making biodegradable pots to help replace those plastic ones we usually use. Her message was all about staying true to yourself and remembering there's always someone out there to help. She encouraged us all to be change-makers.

We also had Jase Te Patu, founder of Hauora Aotearoa, come and speak. He brought such great energy and was a fantastic storyteller. He reminded us that a little bit of stress is normal, but to handle it, we've got to look after ourselves. Think calm mind, active body, finding what makes you happy and having fun, and connecting with others.

We were also treated to some amazing live music by the talented Georgia Lines. Her performance was powerful and inspirational. She shared some great advice too, like how it's okay to be nervous – it just means you care. She reminded us to be proud of ourselves and to lean on our support networks. Plus, she shared some wise words about social media - only share about 5% of our lives online.

Thank you very much to the BoT for allowing us to attend by paying for the tickets and for our wonderful parents who came along - Ange and Anna.

The children are leading activities of their choice in the school to continue growing their skills.

'Life Skills' development

Please check in with your children regarding this activity. It is in the back of their homework book and requires your signature.

The aim is to have this completed by the end of the term.

Young Vinnies

Caring for Our Community:

On Tuesday, 13th May, we headed out to collect pinecones to donate to our parishioners and anyone who would like some. We had two teams - one headed to the Francis property and another to the Dowling farm. In total, we collected 94 bags of cones - outstanding effort, everyone. Thank you very much to Gabby, Luke, Geraldine, Jeorge, and Alex for helping us with transport and support.

The cones are outside the church, and anyone can take a bag. They are free.





Coming up: Throughout weeks 6-10, we will hold a weekly sausage sizzle on Tuesday 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th with all proceeds going to the Strengthening Families organisation in Ranfurly. We have already donated 10 pairs of winter pyjamas and are keen to support them further.

Rippa Rugby

On Friday the 16th May, most of the year 3-8 students attended the Dunstan Rippa Rugby tournament in Alex. We entered 4 teams as a school and each played 4 games against other teams from around Central Otago. The competition was tough but the St John's teams held their own and played great Rippa! A huge thank you to Tim O'Neill, Wayne Francis and Logan Dowling for coaching our teams, and also to Geraldine Dowling, Sharon Thompson, Gabby Love and Bridget Becker who managed each of the teams! Thank you also to those who came along to cheer our teams on. It was a great day.





Speeches - update

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.

Ngā mihi nui,
Geraldine Duncan and Rachel Gray.

Looking ahead to May

Week	Dates	Activities planned at this stage
5	26 - 30th May	Catholic Schools Day - Wed
6	2-6th June	Sausage Sizzle - Tues School Speech Competition - Fri
7	9-13th June	Sausage Sizzle - Tues Maniototo Schools Speech Competition - Town Hall
8	16-20th June	Sausage Sizzle - Tues Reports/portfolios home - Thurs Matariki - Friday is a Public Holiday
9	23 - 27th June	Sausage Sizzle - Tues Parent-teacher conversations - Tues/ Thurs.

Board of Trustees:

-Board elections are coming up on Wednesday, 10th September.

If you are interested in joining the Board of Trustees, please speak to a current Board member or come along to a meeting and see what it's all about.

Our returning officer for the election is Sharon Thompson.

-At our May meeting, the Board were presented with a curriculum report on Maths - Other Strands. This includes measurement, geometry, statistics and algebra.

-Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 10th June, at 7.30 p.m.

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.

Term 2 Week 4	Sunday 25 th May	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Theo Dowling, Nathan Smith & Maggie O'Neill
	Wednesday 28 th May	Catholic Schools Day
Week 5	Sunday 1 st June	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Cyrus Janerol, James Badillo, Neale Plena
	Monday 2 nd June	King's Birthday – School Closed
	Tuesday 3 rd June	Sausage Sizzle
	Friday 6 th June	St John's School Speech/Poetry Competition
Week 6	Sunday 8 th June	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Ben & Olivia Scott
	Tuesday 10 th June	Sausage Sizzle
	Thursday 12 th June	Maniototo Speech Competition
Week 7	Sunday 15 th June	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Axel & Kaylah McAuley & Archie Weir
	Tuesday 17 th June	Sausage Sizzle
	Thursday 19 th June	Reports/Portfolios sent home
	Friday 20 th June	Matariki Day – School Closed
Week 8	Sunday 22 nd June	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Caleb Cai & Jae McAuley
	Tuesday 24 th June	Sausage sizzle
		Parent/Teacher Interviews – afternoon & evening
	Thursday 26 th June	Parent/Teacher Interviews – afternoon
	Friday 27 th June	Last day of Term 2
School Holidays	Sunday 29 th June	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Harry & Jack Jeffries
	Sunday 6 th July	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Colleen & Yuri Torres
Term 3 Week 1	Sunday 13 th July	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Jade Aquino & Millie Smith
	Monday 14 th July	First day of Term 3

Reward Ideas for Happy Teeth

Try these great non-food reward ideas for a healthy happy smile!

School-Based Rewards

- Extra art, reading or library time
- Sitting with friends or in a special seat
- A special certificate from the teacher or principal
- Being the 'Student of the Day' or 'Classroom Helper'
- Acknowledgment during assembly or in a newsletter

Extra Time & Privileges

- Extra playtime or special 'free choice' time
- A special outing or extra time for a favourite activity
- A movie night, family game night or a sleepover with friends
- Choosing a bedtime story or helping to plan an activity or outing

One-on-One Time

- Reading a book or playing a game together
- Working on an activity, baking or crafting together

Small Items & Tokens

- Stickers, temporary tattoos, fun stationary or art supplies
- Books, magazines, comics and bookmarks
- Trinkets, wristbands, magnets, frisbees, trading cards
- Activity sheets or pocket card or games sets
- Coupons, vouchers, gift certificates or play money

Active Rewards

- A new ball, jump rope, or hula hoop
- Trip to a park, beach or playground
- Time to play a favourite sport or outdoor activity
- A bike ride, walk or swim with family or friends

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

Community Oral
Health Service



Talkteeth Southern



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 SECONDARY
CHILD SEASON PASS

\$259

LOCAL PRIMARY
CHILD SEASON PASS

\$179

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

For all winter product information visit our website -

cardrona-treblecone.com or email info@cardrona-treblecone.com