

St John's
School

St John's School Newsletter

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

Issue 10: 29th August 2025

Principal's Page:

Nau mai haere mai

Maniototo Cross Country

Congratulations to all the children for their efforts at the Maniototo Cross Country that was held on Tuesday, 12th August. It was great to see everyone participating and giving their best effort. Well done.

A huge congratulations to Xavier Love and Juliette Dowling, who broke records at the cross country. Fantastic effort.



Otago Cross Country

Congratulations to the following children who have qualified for the Otago Cross Country in Dunedin next Friday, 5th September:

Axel McAuley, Ethan Chisholm, Xavier Love, Joshua Barroga, Eli Barroga, Theo Dowling and Juliette Dowling.
Good luck.

PTA AGM

The PTA will hold their Annual General meeting on **Tuesday, 2nd September at 7 p.m.**

Everyone welcome. Come along and see what the PTA is all about - they do a lot to support the children in our school.

Bus Vests

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

Chinese Language Week

New Zealand Chinese Language Week runs from 31st August to 6 September.

Each year NZCLW publishes a trilingual children's book in English, Te Reo Māori and simplified Chinese. Once again, Alina and Alex Cai will help us with this by reading the book to the school. We thank them very much for doing this each year.

School Holidays

Term 3 finishes on Friday, 19th September, and Term 4 begins on Monday, 6th October.

Ngā mihi
Susan Mulholland

Special Character:

-We celebrated another school Mass with Fr Jaewoo, in the Senior Class on Monday, 18th August.

-Caritas Social Justice week runs from 7 - 13 September. The theme "Imagine Peace for All" continues from previous years. We will be focusing on this theme in our Monday morning Faith Focus time.

-Father's Day is on Sunday, 7th September.

We wish all Fathers a "Happy Father's Day".

Junior Class News:

-The Junior Class have been discussing how we can be "Holy and Happy" in our Religious Education lessons. Here are some photos showing examples of the children being holy and happy!

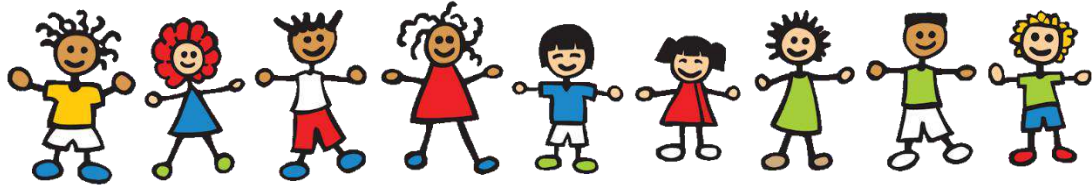




-Here is a photo of Jess Cameron, our newest 5 year old, who we welcomed to school in our last newsletter. Unfortunately, Jess was away sick for her first week of school.



Middle Class News:



Kia ora,

The term continues to fly by, with the next couple of weeks being very busy with curling and our ski trip. A reminder that I will do the ski gear check on Tuesday, 2nd September, as I'm away on Wednesday.

Farewell

We were sad to see Yuri leave us a couple of weeks ago. Unfortunately, he was sick before he left, so we didn't get to say goodbye, but with him just up the road at Omakau, I'm sure we will see him in the near future. We wish him and his family all the best.

Cross Country

I was so proud of all the children for their participation in the Cross Country on the 14th of August. They all ran their hearts out and showed incredible determination. Well done to all our place getters, and a special congratulations to Jack Jeffries and Juliette Dowling, who both qualified for the Otago Cross Country!

Juliette will be heading down to Dunedin next Friday to compete. Good luck, Juliette!

Juliette also set a new record for the Year 5 girls, alongside Xavier in the Year 7 boys—what superstar runners! ☀️



Art for a cause

The students with Mrs Hazlett, have decorated some paper bags that will be delivered to Dunedin Hospital for patients with cancer, to put their belongings in while they have treatment.

This was a lovely thing to do to brighten patients day and the students did a fantastic job!



Congratulations



Congratulations to Evelyn Cai, who has been selected from an audition to perform with the Royal New Zealand Ballet Company in their production of The Nutcracker in Dunedin this November!

Ngā mihi,
Heather Dowling

Senior Class News:

"Ehara toa i te toa takitahi, engari, he toa takitini"

My success (or strength) is not that of a single person but instead the strength of many.

This highlights the idea that true success and strength are not the result of one person's isolated actions, but rather the combined contributions, support, and wisdom of their family and the community that surrounds them. Let us all continue to support our awesome tamariki.

Newsletter Week 7 Term 3

Another term is flying by, packed with both our usual in-class learning and a fantastic range of out-of-classroom experiences. The senior students have once again shown their grit, determination, and integrity. From mastering the ukulele and performing it, to training for and finishing the cross-country, they've gone above and beyond. These achievements, along with the high standard of work they continue to produce in the classroom, are something to celebrate.

Young Vinnies Project

We are making progress with putting together our Survival Backpacks. Thank you to St John Ambulance, Hazlett Contracting, Community Connectors Central Otago, Ranfurly Food Bank, Francis Family, and Strengthening Families for supporting us with donations. We will put these together in the next couple of weeks and pass them on to Strengthening Families to be delivered to the families.

Ukulele

This project has been a huge success, and our jamming sessions with the children and the hospital residents were heartwarming. We've captured a video of the students in action, which I'll get uploaded to the website soon. You can also find it linked in the ODT article below.

I want to extend a special thanks to Tim Carson for his support. As part of his research, he generously shared his exceptional knowledge, teaching our students skills that culminated in a beautiful jamming session. Tim's kind words and calm demeanour were instrumental in building the children's self-confidence. It was a lovely experience for everyone involved. Here is the article from the [ODT](#).

Maniototo Cross Country

Congratulations to O'Neill House for winning the house shield at the cross-country event! The Year 8 leaders in the photo are clearly thrilled and proud of their team's achievement.

A special shout-out to Xavier Love and Juliette Dowling for their incredible performances! They both set new records in their age groups, a very difficult achievement that shows their amazing grit, determination, and speed. We are very proud of you both.

We have lots of children who have qualified for the Otago Cross Country Championship event. Best wishes to Xavier, Eli, Joshua, Ethan, Axel, Theo and Juliette. We look forward to hearing about your experience.

Please check all names in above cross country sentence are here, thanks Fiona.

As part of a prayer activity, the seniors wrote positive affirmations on painted stones, and we lined these up across the back gateway so that all the children saw these as they left the school grounds. We think they worked!

Farewell to Colleen

It was with much sadness that we farewelled Colleen and her family from St John's School and community with an afternoon of games and snacks, as well as adding Colleen's padlock to the gate at Holy Paddocks. She will be missed in the Senior Room, but we wish her and her family all the best on their next adventure and hope they settle into their new jobs and school in Omakau. I (Mrs Gray) was lucky enough to be relief teaching at Omakau School on Colleen and Yuri's first day, and it was great to catch up with them.

Upcoming dates

Week 8 (1-5th September)	Mon- Curling session (wear mufti and bring a bike or ski helmet) Mon - Ski trip parent meeting 3pm in the Senior Room Tues - Curling session (wear mufti and bring a bike or ski helmet) Wed - Ski trip gear check for the seniors Fri - Otago Cross Country Championship event in Dunedin
Week 9 (8 - 12th)	Mon - Ski Trip to Cardrona Tues - Curling session (wear mufti and bring a bike or ski helmet)
Week 10 (15 - 19th)	Tues - Curling tournament (all day) (wear mufti and bring a bike or ski helmet) Fri - newsletter Last day of the term.

Board of Trustees:

-A reminder voting papers for the Board of Trustees elections need to be returned to the voting box in the school office foyer by Wednesday, 10th September.

-At our August meeting, the Board were presented with a curriculum report on English - Writing.

-Our next Board meeting is Tuesday, 9th September, at 7.30 p.m.

Notices and Dates:

Term 3	Sunday 31 st August	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Florence & Juliette Dowling
Week 7		
Week 8	Monday 1 st September	Curling Sessions – Middle & Seniors Ski Parent Meeting at 3pm
	Tuesday 2 nd September	Curling Sessions – Middle & Seniors
	Friday 5 th September	Otago Cross Country Championship in Dunedin
	Sunday 7 th September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Finn & Charlie Dowling
Week 9	Monday 8 th September	Ski Trip – Middle & Seniors
	Tuesday 9 th September	Curling Sessions – Middle & Seniors
	Sunday 14 th September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Keisha Evangelista & Mack Mayo
Week 10	Tuesday 16 th September	Curling Tournament
	Friday 19 th September	Last day of Term 3
	Sunday 21 st September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Zach Tomalon & Harry Dowling



WELCOMING
WEEK
TE WHIRIO MĀHARĀ
5-14 SEPTEMBER 2025



SEPTEMBER 4-14 2025

Weaving the People Together *Whiria te Tāngata*

5-14 SEPTEMBER 2025

Booking Essential
register today!



or call 0800 267 327
admin@coreap.org.nz

5TH
SEPT

Learn. Connect. Create. Māniatoto Art Centre 9am – 3pm

A day of hands-on workshops, kai, and kōrero, from gardening tips and AI, to voice and wellbeing.

8TH
SEPT

Throw your Voice with Confidence. Alexandra Community House 6-8pm

Join a fun, inclusive workshop with Anna Van Riel, local musician, and vocal coach. Build your knowledge and confidence.

9TH
SEPT

Kōrero Across Cultures. Alexandra Community House 6-8pm

A relaxed evening of language and culture. No experience needed, just curiosity and a smile! Kai provided.

11TH
SEPT

Whakarongo Mai Listening Lounge. Alexandra Community House 6-8pm

Slow down, be present, connect, and enjoy an evening of stories and kai. Life stories from locals and newcomers while enjoying cultural cuisine with a Southern African twist.

13TH
SEPT

Learn. Connect. Create. Bannockburn Hall 9-3pm

A day of hands on workshops, kōrero, and creativity focused on storytelling and connection. Keynote presenter Maungarongo Te Kawa.

14TH
SEPT

Learn. Connect. Create. The Packing Shed Earnsclough 9-3pm

A day of hands-on workshops, kōrero, and creativity focused on enhancing wellbeing and connection in our community.
Keynote presenter Maungarongo Te Kawa.

This September, we celebrate 'Whiria te tāngata – Weave the people together' by fostering opportunities for connection, learning, and sharing through the Festival of Adult Learning and Welcoming Communities, strengthening our community bonds.

REAP EVENTS COMMUNITY CLASSROOM

Bringing skills, stories and people together

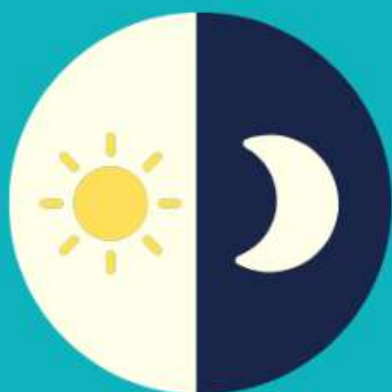


Welcoming
Communities
TE WHIRIO MĀHARĀ



Remember to Brush...

**Morning
& Night**



Every Day

Why Brush?

Plaque is a sticky white layer full of germs (bacteria) that coats our teeth. Brushing twice a day gets rid of plaque. If we don't brush our teeth, these germs aren't removed and plaque quickly builds up. Over time, the plaque can cause holes in our teeth and also harm our gums



2+2

is best to do!

2 minutes to brush all surfaces

2 x daily with fluoride toothpaste

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

Community Oral
Health Service



Talkteeth Southern

