



St John's School Newsletter

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Issue 1: 3rd February 2017

Principal's Page:

Welcome

Welcome back to everyone for 2017. We hope you all enjoyed a restful, relaxing holiday. We especially welcome 2 new 5 year olds to St John's School – **Axel McAuley** and **Marley Weir**.

Staff

Our staff remain the same for 2017, with myself teaching in the Junior Class, Mrs M Yrs 3 – 5 and Mrs Duncan Yrs 6 – 8. Mrs Jayne Hazlett will be teaching the Middle Class on Tuesdays from after morning tea-time and all day Thursday and the Junior Class on Wednesdays. She also teaches in the Senior Class on a Tuesday from 8.50 – 10.40a.m. Mrs Erin Elworthy will teach the Junior Class on Thursday afternoons.

Mrs Heather Dowling will be working with groups and individuals in the areas of literacy and English language. Literacy includes reading, reading comprehension, writing and alphabet activities. Teachers have identified children with particular needs to work with Heather. Heather will work 2 days, Wednesday and Thursday.

Waitangi Day

School is closed on Monday 6th February for Waitangi Day.

Stationery

Children will be issued with new exercise books and a stationery account. Books can be covered, as this does protect them from many things.

Stationery money is to be brought to school by **Thursday 16th February** please.

Cheques to be made out to St John's School. You can also pay by internet banking. The account number is 030951006619500. Please remember, if you are paying by internet banking to put your name and school stationery as a reference. Thank you.

Swimming

We have booked a swim week with the Central Otago Swim School for **Week 4, 20 – 24th February**. Details later.

We also hope to have some swimming times before this – details will be sent out when times and dates are confirmed with Maniototo Area School.

Telephone

A reminder, please when ringing school, do not leave a message for children after 1p.m. as teachers are in their classrooms and there is not always someone in the office to clear messages until after school. If your child/ren are going to be absent from school, please ensure that their teacher is aware of this by texting the school cellphone or ringing the school before 8.50am. Thank you.

A & P Show

This is on **Wednesday 15th February**.

Children are dismissed from school at 12.30p.m. to enable them to attend the show with their parents. We ask that all children are collected from school at lunchtime – 12.30p.m. If there is a problem with this please let us know. Thank you.

Head Lice

Please keep checking children's hair regularly for this, as it is an ongoing problem. Please treat when necessary.

Contact Phone Numbers

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 a.s.a.p. If your contact details and emergency details have not changed, you do not need to do this.

Office Hours

A reminder that Fiona Weir's office hours are Monday 9 – 12p.m, Thursday 9 – 3p.m. and Friday 9 – 12p.m.

Emailing Newsletter

Once again, we will be emailing our newsletters out to families who have provided us with an email address. Each family will also be given one paper copy of this newsletter. Our newsletter comes out every 3 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.

Lucky Books

Please remember if you are ordering lucky books for your children as presents and do not want them to see these, just write a note on the order and you will be rung when they arrive.

Uniforms

Once again there will be particular times when uniforms can be ordered. These will be at the start of each term. If you wish to order outside of these times, you will be asked to pay full postage in the total cost.

You can also order yourself, online at: <http://stjohns.uniformnz.com>

School Uniform

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

Boys:- Summer

Red polo shirt
Grey shorts
School polar fleece/jersey
Grey socks
Brown/Black shoes or sandals

Girls:- Summer

Red polo shirt
Grey shorts
Culottes
School polar fleece/jersey
Black socks
Brown/ black shoes or sandals

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

Toilet area landscaping

There has been a frustratingly long delay in the finishing off of the landscaping around the new and old toilet areas. All this work is under the authority of the Catholic Education Office in Dunedin. Stewart Construction won the contract and unfortunately, the landscaper-sub-contractor pulled out of the job late last year. Because of Christmas, etc, it has taken a number of weeks to organise an alternative. Mr Ross Miller from Ranfurly has now agreed to finish the job. This will take some time to complete, due to his other work commitments. We will have to keep working around this but we are looking forward to the completed job!

Special Character Clipboard:

5th Sunday of Advent Gospel (5th February)

Mat 5:13-16

Salt and Light

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.



The Pope highlighted that in the passage from Matthew (5:13-16) we find “a definition of a Christian: a Christian must be salt and light. Salt gives flavour, it preserves, and light shines”. It is an example that calls us to action, since “light is not meant to be hidden, because when it is hidden it is not even preserved: it is turned off”, and “neither is salt an object in a museum exhibit or a kitchen cabinet, because in the end it is ruined by moisture and loses its strength, its flavour”. ... in the same way that salt — so as not to become “something thrown away, stepped on, an object in a museum or forgotten in a closet” — needs to be used, so too Christians must “give” and “add flavour to the lives of others; add flavour to many things with the message of the Gospel”. A Christian ought not to “preserve himself” but instead “he is salt in order to give”.

Junior Class News:

We start the year with 13 children but we are expecting approximately 8 new 5 year olds to start throughout the year!

During the first 3 weeks, children will be working with Mrs Hazlett on a piece of artwork on "Seasons" for the A & P Show on the 15th February.

Week 4 is Swim week. Our theme for this term is "Bees", which Mrs Elworthy will be working on with the children.

Middle Class News:

Middle Class 2017

Monday, Tuesday (8.50 – 10.30am), Wednesday and Friday – **Mrs Claire Mulholland**
 Tuesday (10.30am – 2.50pm) and Thursday – **Mrs Jayne Hazlett**

| Teaching Coverage- Claire | | Teaching Coverage - Jayne | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| Literacy | (Making Meaning) Reading: Listening Viewing Library Visits Spelling Lists and Homework Handwriting | Literacy | (Creating Meaning) Writing : Grammar Skills Punctuation Skills Presenting (Oral and Written) |
| Maths | Numeracy –Number Other Strands Basic Facts | Maths | Number Knowledge Other Strands Basic Facts |
| PE | Skills Development | PE | Fitness |
| RE | All Strands and Modules Daily Prayers | RE | Daily Prayers |
| Topic | Social Sciences, Science, Health, Technology | Topic | Social Sciences, Science, Health, Technology |
| The Arts | Music School Singing | The Arts | Visual Art Dance Drama |
| ICT | Computer Skills | ICT | Computer Skills |

Senior Class News:

Dream Big, Achieve More!

Welcome to the Senior Room. We have a class of 23 children, and together we will create a busy and happy classroom. Our class focus this year is based upon having a positive attitude ... to change, challenges and people! Our attitude has such an effect on the outcome, so we will be working on building our self-belief, resilience and people skills.

Communication

You will need to read the Senior Room section of the school newsletter each time it comes out. It will include information specific to our class. You will occasionally get a separate notice, when I need to share additional information regarding a class activity.

If you would like to see me to discuss something related to our class or your child's learning, it is a good idea to make an appointment with me so that I can ensure that I can give you my full attention, as some days after school I need to scoot out the door quickly for my own children's after-school activities.

Stationery

Your child's stationery list will have come home by now. There are two expensive items on there that we will be using for the whole school year – one is Mathletics, which gives us a year's subscription, and the other is the Grammar booklet.

Please pay for the stationery either with cash or a cheque made out to St Johns School, or by using internet banking (the account is on the bottom of the stationery list). Please aim to pay for these items in the next couple of weeks, or talk to me about how we can best make this work for you.

Year 7 and 8 Technology options

The year 7 and 8 children will go to the Maniototo Area School on a Wednesday morning for Technology teaching. This year the children will have Woodwork, Food Technology and Science Technology lessons. The cost of these lessons is \$20 (which we pay to MAS) and you will be invoiced later on in the term.

The children go straight to the Area School (so get off the bus up there) and then walk back together after the lessons have finished at around 10.30am. These lessons start next week and I have their stationery already organised for this.

The year 6 children come to St Johns School as normal.

Grammar booklet

Grammar is an area that we have identified as a focus area for teaching school wide. Mrs. Hazlett and I will be teaching these skills at the same time and we have grouped the children for this. So some children will go into Mrs. Hazlett's class and work with her, and some will stay with me. There will sometimes be an activity to finish off for homework to build on the learning started in class.

Maths

This year we are grouping the children for maths across the school (so all children at the same learning stage will learn together). Again some children will move out of my class to another for this teaching, and I will be having additional children come into my class for their math learning.

Mathletics

All of the Senior Room children will be subscribing to Mathletics (an online maths website) this year. There will be a homework component to this where the children work towards getting their 1000points for the week. If your child does not have access to a computer at home, they are able to use time before school and at playtime/class time to get these points. They have a special log in which we have glued into their homework books.

Homework

The children have spelling words and a spelling activity sheet weekly. Sometimes these questions are tough, so please help your child and encourage them to ask me for help also. Details about spelling homework can be found on the front page of their homework book.

I encourage and expect the Senior Room children to read daily as there are many positive benefits from this. Sometimes you might like to hear your child read aloud or take the time to chat about what they are reading, they will enjoy this attention from you. You need to sign their reading homework nightly.

ICT agreement

I am required to seek your permission for your child to use the ICT facilities at school – specifically our class laptops. This form will come home in the next few days. Please read through with your child and sign in the appropriate places.

Finally

My goodness, there is so much information in here for you to take on board! Please do not stress, I am confident that all children in our class will have a positive year. Any questions you have, come on in and ask them ☺

Take care,

Geraldine Duncan

Board of Trustees

Our first meeting for 2017 is on **Tuesday 14 February at 7p.m.**

Notices and Dates:

| | | |
|---------------|---|----------------------|
| Week 2 | Friday 10 th February | School Mass 2pm |
| Week 3 | Wednesday 15 th February | Maniototo A & P Show |
| Week 4 | Mon 20 th – Fri 24 th February | Swim Week |

Kidsfirst Kindergarten Maniototo welcomes enrolments of children aged 2-5 years. Our kindergarten session runs from 9am – 3pm each day and we are pleased to offer ‘no fees’ for all children.

We offer a safe learning environment where your child is encouraged to interact, explore and make decisions. We believe that children learn best when they are engaged in active play and our team of qualified teachers provide a programme which will help stimulate your child’s development and encourage the learning process.

Families/whanau are welcome to come and check things out before enrolling your child. It’s a good opportunity to see what goes on at kindergarten and to ask questions.

If you would like to enrol your child at kindergarten, please contact us on 4449310 or come and see us at 28 Welles Street, Ranfurly. We’d love to see you!

Free Books for School

We are participating in a promotion with Kellogg's and New World. This promotion runs from 1 January – 31 March 2017. If you buy a Kellogg's product and drop your receipt into the box marked St John's School at Alexandra New World, for every two Kellogg's products we get a free book.

GET FREE BOOKS
FOR YOUR SCHOOL WITH
KELLOGG'S AND NEW WORLD

SPORTY KIDS
FOOTY

CELESTINE ROSE

NETBALL GEMS
Hecked on Netball

NEW WORLD

Kellogg's
See you at breakfast

— Back to school —

For every New World receipt dropped into the in-store collection box showing the purchase of two participating Kellogg's products your school will be able to redeem 1 free book. Promotional Period 1 Jan – 31 Mar 2017. Max 20 books per school. For full list of participating Kellogg products and Terms & Conditions visit www.kelloggs.com/freebooks

