

St John's School Newsletter

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Principal's Page:

Welcome Back

Welcome back to everyone after the holidays. We hope you all had a relaxing, enjoyable break.

Strike Percussion Group Performance

We have been invited to Maniototo Area School for the day on **Friday 12th May** to watch a performance by the Strike group and then to take part in various workshops for the day. The performance takes place first thing on Friday morning and then we will rotate round workshops in our year groups.

Children can go straight to M.A.S. on this day, on buses, or in cars, and meet us at the gymnasium ready for the performance to start at 8.50a.m.

Also at the end of the day, the same arrangements will take place, with children catching buses, and being collected by parents from M.A.S. at 2.50p.m.

The cost is \$5 per pupil and this can be brought to school anytime before Wednesday 10 May.

Maniototo Area School have sent us a list of lunch time food that is available for purchase on this day. If you are interested in purchasing this, could you please fill in the attached order form and send along with money by Wednesday 10th May. We have to let M.A.S. know orders before Thursday so no late orders will be accepted. Thank you.

Farewell

We bid a sad farewell to William, Wiremu and Bettina, Manu and Atama and Kate and Bill Reid.

Also Albert, Junior, Trinity and Niko and Rolisa and Ulisala and Baka Ulisala, who are all moving in a couple of weeks time, to almost, the top of the North Island!

We wish you all the very best with your new ventures and new school and community.

Hockey Coaching

Each class has 3 sessions of hockey coaching coming up with Bev Helm on the 4th, 5th and 11th May.

Special Character Clipboard:

May is the month of Mary, the mother of Jesus. In May we pray the Rosary each morning as a school. The Rosary is a prayer to remind us that Jesus loved us so much that he died on the cross for us.

All children are most welcome to bring along their own rosary beads to use for prayers in May.

The rosary tells the story of Jesus' life in four parts:

The Joyful Mysteries

The Sorrowful Mysteries

The Glorious Mysteries

The Luminous Mysteries

Catholics have been given a very special gift in the rosary. Each time we pray the rosary we should focus on Jesus' life as well as a special person or intention that we want to pray for.



Saint Dominic



Dominic was a priest who founded the Dominican order in the year 1215. The Dominican priests live very simple and prayerful lives.

Dominic received a vision from Our Lady who showed him a wreath of roses, representing the rosary. She told him to say the rosary daily, teach it to all who would listen, and eventually the true faith would win out. Dominic was one of the first people to begin to pray the rosary. He spread devotion to it and used it to strengthen his spiritual life.

Caritas 24 Hour Challenge Fundraiser

Congratulations to all the children for their involvement last term, in our Caritas Lenten Challenge, to give up something for 24 hours. Can all sponsorship cards and money please be returned to class teachers by **Friday 12th May**.

All money will be donated to Caritas for the work they are doing to help the people of Kiribati.



Junior Class News:

This term we will have several new children coming along for pre-school visits:

Ethan Chisholm (who starts school at the end of May)

Harry Jeffries (who starts school mid-June)

Arthur Lilley (who starts school at the end of June)

We welcome them and their parents and families to the Junior Class.

Middle Class News:

Welcome back to everyone for Term Two.



Handwriting is a teaching and learning focus in our classroom this term, with linked writing being taught to the whole class on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Some children may be bringing home practice sheets as part of their home learning, so that parents can help them with correct formation of letters, as this is essential to being able to successfully link letters. Handwriting is used in all aspects of the school programme, and is an essential skill that must be developed by all children.

Skills that children must have before handwriting begins are:

- 1 Small muscle development.
- 2 Eye-hand coordination.
- 3 The ability to hold utensils or writing tools.
- 4 The capacity to smoothly form basic strokes such as lines and circles.
- 5 Letter perception, including the ability to recognise forms and notice likeness and differences.
- 6 Being able to relate to printed language and understand how letters make words and that English is written from left to right.



Senior Class News:



**Live Simply
Dream Big
Be Grateful
Give Love
Laugh Lots.**

Welcome back for term 2!

Missing homework reading books

We are missing two books that were taken home for reading during term 1. These books are borrowed from a resource centre, and we will be charged for these if we can't find them.

The books are

1. 'This is War' – a Navigator book set.
2. 'Crazy Adventures' magazine – a Fast Zone Magenta book.

These books are at someone's house. Please have a thorough look, and if you find them send them in asap.

Homework

Homework is similar to last term...

- a) Spelling words to learn every night, with testing on Friday
- b) Spelling activity sheet – to be handed in by Thursday morning
- c) Mathletic points (1000) to get by Sunday night
- d) Reading every night for 15-20minutes.

Reading can be from any of the following sources

- a novel of the child's own choice (the school library, or my personal library is a good place to get these from)
- a picture book (I have a class set from which the children can choose from)
- an article in a magazine
- a newspaper article
- a non-fiction book on factual information.

Let's keep building on our reading mileage. Many of the class have set a goal around how many pages they want to read this term, please take the time to chat with your child about this.

ALL (Accelerating Literacy Learning)

I have started working with my three groups this week and we are set up in the hall. The focus of this learning is to fast track our writing knowledge and skills, and to build our confidence with these aspects. Each child in the ALL programme has been encouraged to have a special book for writing outside of school time, and this is something that all of our class could benefit from doing.

In this special book your child might write an imaginary story, a bucket list, instructions on how to do something, draw a labelled diagram, a poem ...really whatever takes their fancy.

If your child wants to share this writing with me at school, they are most welcome to bring it in.

Self-management

We all have a busy term ahead with sporting practices and games, so as a class we are focused on

- being well organised with homework, our gear and our space (desk)
- eating well
- getting plenty of sleep
- being patient with others.

Help us to do these things, as we are still learning how to best manage ourselves.

Thank you

Geraldine Duncan

Board of Trustees

*Finally, the toilet area is finished!

Grass seed has been sown around the paving area and we ask children and adults to stay off this over the coming winter months.

*The floor in the new toilets was also redone over the holidays.

*Curriculum reports on “Learning Languages” and “Maths – Other Strands (Geometry, Measurement, Statistics and Algebra)” were presented to the Board of Trustees at their April meeting.

*Our next Board meeting is on Tuesday 9th May at 7p.m.

P.T.A Notice

The P.T.A would like to thank everyone for selling the raffle tickets and prizes in the recent Easter Raffle.

Here are the results from the raffle:

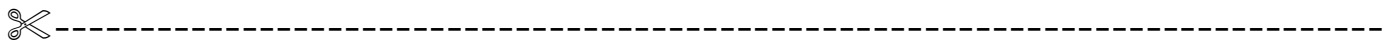
1 st Prize:	Ben Gibson
2 nd Prize:	Vaughan Dowling
3 rd Prize:	Susan Pike

There were also 8 smaller prizes and the winner of those were:

Aaron (Dumapis card), Mark Paterson, Bridget Becker, Bailey Dowling, Alison Weastell, Arphil Tordilla, Katrina Suddaby and Charlie Dowling.

Notices and Dates:

Week 2	Friday 12 th May	Strike Performance at MAS
Week 6	Monday 5 th June	Queens Birthday – School Closed
	Thursday 8 th June	Rippa Rugby Tournament for Middle & Senior Classes



Food Order for Strike Percussion Day at Maniototo Area School on Friday 12th May

Name: _____

How Many?

Sausage \$2.00

Muffin \$2.00

Drink (juice box) \$2.00

TOTAL \$ enclosed _____

