



St John's School Newsletter

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Principal's Page:

Strike Percussion Group

The children enjoyed the Strike Percussion Group and workshops at Maniototo Area School on Friday 12th May. They all participated with enthusiasm, especially in the drumming workshop!

Queen's Birthday Weekend

School is closed on **Monday 5th June** for Queen's Birthday weekend.

Reports/Portfolios

Mid-year reports and portfolios will be sent home with children on **Friday 16th June**. Portfolios need to be returned to school after parents have looked through them.

We ask that parents make a comment on children's work in the portfolio, as a record that you have looked at and read the samples of children's work in there.

Mid-year reports can be kept.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

These will be held on **Tuesday 20th June** and **Wednesday 21st June**, after school both days and on the evening of the 20th June. Times 3.15 – 5.15p.m. and 6 – 8p.m. Each interview is 15 minutes.

Please fill in the attached form indicating your preference day and time and return this to school by **Tuesday 6th June**. Thank you.

A reminder that children in Years 1 – 8 do not attend interviews.

A list of interview times, etc, will be sent out nearer the time.

Snow Day Procedure

Procedure in the event of snow/icy conditions.

In the morning, if school is closed, or if any of the buses are running late – a notice will be broadcast on the local radio station Burn 729AM/87.9FM.

If there is reason to send bus children home early during the day, parents will be contacted and notified of the time of departure for buses. If we are unable to contact any parent/caregiver, then those children will remain at school until parents can come and collect them.

Decisions on buses and conditions are made by the Bus Controller at Maniototo Area School, in conjunction with bus drivers.

Special Character Clipboard:

FAITH FACT FOR WEEK 4



This week is the second anniversary of Pope Francis's Document "Laudato Si". In the document "On Care for Our Common Home" Pope Francis addresses issues on environmentalism, poverty, science, technology and other topics such as [urban planning](#), [agricultural economics](#), and [biodiversity](#). He talks about our responsibility and need to care for our home including the environment and the people.

This document has been applauded, by both political and religious leaders. "As Pope Francis reaffirms, climate change is an all-encompassing threat. ... I applaud the Pope for his strong moral and ethical leadership. We need more of such

inspired leadership. Will we see it at the climate summit in Paris?"

([Kofi Annan](#), the former UN secretary-general)

YOU ARE INVITED



**Our Term Two Parish and School Mass
will be held on Monday 29th May
at 11.15am
with Father Gerard Aynsley.
Everyone is most welcome.**



Junior Class News:

We welcome Ethan Chisholm and his family to St John's School. Ethan started school on Wednesday 24th May.

Here are some photos of some of the Junior Class in the drumming workshop at Maniototo Area School on Friday 12th May.



Middle Class News:

Thank you to the **parents** who are able to come in each day to **help** us with our Literacy programme. We are very busy each morning with learning activities in Handwriting, Spelling, Vocabulary, Personal Writing, Oral Language and Guided Reading. It is great to have an extra pair of hands, ears and eyes, to give the students as much support as possible while they learn.



Our **“Quick Write”** programme is a daily opportunity for children to write on a visual or written prompt that challenges them to think outside the box. We discuss the prompt, I record any vocabulary they would like to use in their writing on the whiteboard and then the students have a 10 minute time period in which to write. Their audience are each other, but I thought you might enjoy some of the more “out-there” samples!

Topic: Would you rather have a self-driving car, or a spaceship?

I'd have a spaceship. That way I'd avoid traffic. I could meet aliens. My spaceship would be like a rocket ship but it would be automatic and blue with gold stripes. It would have an ice-cream parlour too, with chocolate, berry, strawberry and any other flavour of sauce that you would like. I'd have hot pools, cold pools, spa pools, pools, butlers, maids and servants too. Everything I ever dreamed of would be there – horses, pups, kittens and other animals too.

Alivia Steele

I would have both. I would use my self-drive car to go to Auckland zoo and on my way home I would visit William and stay the night. My space ship will have a spa pool and I'll go to every place in the world. My favourite one would be to go to the moon, and I'll get some cheese.

Ben Gibson

I would have a self-driving car because I could read and have a cup of tea when my car is hooning down the street to get to the ice-cream parlour. I would be able to get to the airport in one minute to get to Hawaii. It would be the best dream in the world. My friends would be so jealous of my car at school, but I don't think I could transport a horse float!

Phoebe Hore

I would like a self-driving car so that I could be lazy while I drive the car. I would play songs that I like over and over again. Also, I could go to sleep and when I woke up I would do a fart and it would be so stinky that it would almost kill everybody in the back seat, or at least blow the car up and then we would have to walk.

Luke Shead



Senior Class News:



Be nice in words and actions.

Welcome back for term 2!

National Young Leaders Day

This event for the year 8 children is being held on Monday. NYLD has been running for a number of years now, and every year the children come back to school inspired by, and with, many amazing stories to share from the guest speakers. Thank you to Ro and Rose for offering to transport the children, if your child is travelling with Ro or Rose please remember the transport money, and be at school on time for drop off and pick up.

Self-management

Well done children for managing your homework so well for the first four weeks of the term. Life is much easier when we can be proactive (organised, prepared for what is coming up, not rushed) rather than being reactive (rushing to complete work, feeling pressured), and we do a better job. The seniors are well motivated in all areas of school work and homework, and I'm proud of my class for having this attitude.

Rumblings and Mumbblings!

I have spoken to the class about ensuring they do their end of day jobs properly, especially collecting sports equipment as we are regularly having gear left outside. This concerns me, as our sports gear is very important to all of us and we don't want to have any go missing over night or in the weekends. The children who do this job have told me they will be more thorough, but if you do come across sports gear out on our grounds outside of school time, please put it beside the ramp on the side door entrance so we can put it away when we come back to school the next day.

But on a positive, the two missing books that I mentioned in the last newsletter have been returned. Thank you.

Absenteeism

If your child is away from school, please text the school cellphone to let us know. The number is 027 266 1758, or phone on 4449 514. We mark our role online now, and we have to mark a reason for being absent. Please let us know why your child is absent, so that I don't need to mark 'unjustified absence'.

I will be absent myself in week 6 and Mrs Heather Dowling will be teaching our class. This transition will be smooth as Heather teaches the class 4 afternoons a week while I do 'Writing Club' work.

Current classroom learning

Maths: Our focus is on fractions, decimals and percentages which involves lots of specific vocabulary, and being able to visualise what these would look like. Your children will be practicing this on Mathematics, and may need your support with this as they build their knowledge bank.

RE: Jesus and how he is a role model to us.

Topic: The 'Magnificent Maniototo': history, industry and our culture.

Reading: Continuing building our comprehension through close reading and comprehension. Building our reading mileage by reading for pleasure each day in our homework.

Writing: Developing a clear writing structure, that is logical and flows. We are selecting words to inform, entertain and give the reader a sense of what the characters are feeling.

P.E: Ripa Rugby skills for the upcoming tournament.

Reports and Portfolios

Mrs Mulholland has mentioned details regarding these at the start of the newsletter. It is very important that you ***please complete the 'Mid year evaluation'*** sheet with your child as we use this to help us set goals for the remainder of the year. I also need the portfolios returned to school prior to the interviews so I have a chance to read this evaluation.

Be nice in words and actions

As usual the majority of children are very capable of managing their own behaviour superbly. But I have deliberately chosen this quote for a reason... what you say (as well as the look on your face, and the tone of voice used) sends a clear message to the receiver and those around you. Treat others as you want to be treated, laugh along with others (not hard at them as I have been hearing) and remember to always behave in a way that you would be happy for your grandmother to witness!

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the interviews 😊

Thank you

Geraldine Duncan.

Storage Solutions Needed

We are looking for 2 bins/drums to store hockey sticks and cricket bats in our sports shed to keep it tidy. If you have something that maybe what we are looking for, we would really appreciate it. Thanks

Board of Trustees

*At our last meeting on Tuesday 9th May, the Board were presented with a review report on Health and Safety in the school. Policies, procedures and hazard information had been reviewed by Susan Mulholland and Natalie Bruhns.

Attached is our Health and Safety policy for you to read.

*A report was presented from Mrs Heather Dowling on a 2 day "Davis Dyslexia" course that Heather attended in the April school holidays. Heather hopes to use some of the strategies and techniques she learnt about at the course, with some of the students she works with.

*The Board agreed to participate and contribute with Maniototo Area School to bring John Parsons to our area early next year (February).

John is very knowledgeable in the area of cybersafety and will spend a day working with each of our classes, our staff and then there will be a joint parent evening, open to all parents from both schools. If you google John Parsons, NZ, some information about him comes up. He is very informative and knowledgeable on the internet, chat rooms, Facebook and other social media and the problems that arise with children (young and older), how to prevent these and what to do when situations arise. He will be well worth coming and listening to.

Notices and Dates:

Indoor Curling Coaching

Starts 26th May – Friday evenings from 5.00 – 6.00pm

Week 5	Monday 29 th May	School & Parish Mass 11.15am
		National Young Leaders Day for Year 8 in Dunedin
Week 6	Monday 5 th June	Queen's Birthday – School Closed
	Thursday 8 th June	Rippa Rugby Competition Year 3-8
Week 7	Friday 16 th June	Reports/Portfolios out
Week 8	Tuesday 20 th June Wednesday 21 st June	Parent/Teacher interviews

