



# St John's School Newsletter

**6 Stuart Road  
Ranfurly  
03 4449514 (ph & fax)  
office@sjr.school.nz**

Issue 1: 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018

## **Principal's Page:**

### Welcome

Welcome back to everyone for 2018. We hope you all enjoyed a restful, relaxing holiday. We especially welcome a new Year 8 student, Ben Kinney, and his family to St John's School.

### Staff

I continue to teach the Junior Class, Years 1 and 2, with Mrs Hazlett releasing me on a Wednesday (all day) and Mrs Elworthy on a Thursday afternoon (1.15 – 2.50p.m.)

Mrs M – Years 3 – 5 with Mrs Hazlett releasing her on a Tuesday (11 – 2.50p.m.)

Mrs Duncan – Years 6 – 8, with Mrs Hazlett releasing her on a Thursday afternoon (1.15 – 2.50p.m.)

This year Mrs Jayne Hazlett will be working 2 days a week 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 Jayne.

### Waitangi Day

School is closed on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 please 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 5 - 26<sup>th</sup> February – 2<sup>nd</sup> March.**

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 8.50a.m. Thank you.

### **A & P Show**

This is on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

### **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 asap.

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 – 1p.m.

Thursday 9 – 3p.m.

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.

Remember to also check our website:

**[www.sjr.school.nz](http://www.sjr.school.nz)**

## **Scholastic Lucky Books**

Please remember if you are ordering Scholastic 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. If you are needing an order form, you can print one off the website under the “Notices” tab – then “Class Notices”.

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

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.

## **Cyber Safety Presentation**

### **Are you a parent/guardian concerned about how your child uses the internet or mobile phones?**

Maniototo schools are bringing NZ Cyber Safety expert John Parsons to Ranfurly in February. John Parsons is the country’s leading authority on cyber-safety for children, and their parent/caregivers, helping them stay safe in the digital world. Based on years of frontline experience, John has developed a toolbox of highly practical, realistic and proven strategies for both children and their caregivers.



John will be delivering workshops to all students at St Johns School – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, Maniototo Area School – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February and Poolburn School on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

**John will be having a parent information evening on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30pm - 9pm at the Ranfurly Town Hall. Community members are welcome; this is not just an information evening for parents of children attending local schools.**

You will leave with the knowledge on how to help, support and protect your family.

Go to the following websites for more information.



[s2e.co.nz](http://s2e.co.nz)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyHEDQVpe-o>

John will be working with each of our classes on internet safety. Teachers will be attending a workshop with him after school on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February. Then he is holding the above parent information evening from 7.30 – 9p.m. in the Ranfurly Town Hall.

I have heard John speak before and would highly recommend him to all parents, not just those of older children. In these times of increasing day-to-day use of different forms of technology by everyone, it is really important to be aware of safety issues surrounding it, so I would encourage parents to attend this information evening.

### **New Parish Priest**

As some of you know, Fr Pat McGettigan is moving to Invercargill so our Parish Priest duties will be shared by Father Gerald Ansley & Fr Sani.

Father Gerard would like to host a parish BBQ in the presbytery grounds on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February after 5pm Mass (approx. 5.50pm). He has invited all school families to come along. Please bring own meat & drink.

### **Thank You**

A big thank you to Natalie & Diane Bruhns who were here early in January trimming & tidying roses & taking away cuttings.

Also to Ryan & Geraldine Dowling for putting up the tennis net on the multi-turf area before school started. It looks great.

## **Special Character Clipboard:**



### **School Opening Mass for 2018**

This will be held on Monday 5th February at 11.15am. All family members and friends are most welcome to join us.

### **Farewell to Fr Pat**

We would like to farewell Fr Pat McGettigan who is moving to Invercargill. He will be visiting us on Wednesday 7th February so we can wish him well at his new parish. Fr Pat has been a very supportive member of our Board of Trustees and we will miss him and his presence in our school and parish.

### **Baptism Meeting**

Fr Gerard Aynsley will be holding a meeting for all parents interested in getting their children baptised this year on Monday 12th February at 3.15pm. This would be a chance to learn more about the Sacramental programme we have here at school, as well as a chance to ask Father Gerard any questions you may have. **Everyone is most welcome** 😊



## **Junior Class News:**

We start 2018 with 13 lovely children in the Junior Class.

This term I am trialling, children not having an allocated desk. Books, pencil cases etc will be kept on a shelving area and children will be free to choose various areas to sit and work. We will see how this goes!

During the first 3 weeks, children will be working on a piece of artwork for the A & P Show on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February. The theme this year is "Music makes the world go round".

Our theme for this term is "Safety First", which Mrs Elworthy will be working on with the children. The theme incorporates a session on cyber safety with John Parsons, and a basic first aid course on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February with St John staff. It will also cover water safety (swim week) and sun safety, as well as other aspects of safety.

## **Middle Class News:**

Welcome back to school everyone! We are looking forward to a busy and fun-filled term.

### **Old Calendars**

The Middle Class would love to have any old calendars you might have at home, especially those from businesses (large and with a ring binding at the top). We use them to record our group reading work on, by writing on the back of them and hanging them for reference in the classroom.

Any size and any year's calendars would be greatly appreciated 😊



### **Caterpillars**

Everyone is most welcome to come and observe the swan plant in our classroom that has several caterpillars eating their way happily through the leaves(at least 5!). The children are continually checking the caterpillars to see what they are doing, and they are a truly intriguing process to observe.



### **Middle Class Swimming**

Tuesdays from 9am to 9.45am.

Thursdays from 11.35am to 12.30pm.

Please remember to bring your togs, towel and goggles in a swimbag.

Swimming will begin on Thursday 8th February.

## Senior Class News:



It's cool to be kind.

You will have all received my 3 page class newsletter on Tuesday night. There just seemed so much to tell you!!

### **Swimming**

With quite a large class, and a range of swimming abilities I have realised that I will need some help to make progress!

I will be working with the children in two groups. I am looking for adults to help supervise one group of children while I work with the other group. Your work conditions might be a little damp and hot, but it will be stress free :) – you can always dive in for a dip while the children get dressed.

Our swim times are

Monday: 11.35am – 1.15pm

Tuesday: 9.45am – 10.30am

Thursday: 12.30am – 1.15pm

If you can help supervise, send me a text (0273272408) prior so I can confirm we are going to the pool that day.

### **Camp Calves**

Thank you to the people who bought our lovely calves at the school concert last year. I will be organising invoices to come out to you soon.

Our class camp is straight after Labour Weekend for 4 days (23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> October) and we are going to Camp Columba, which is near Gore.

### **Tennis Racquets**

The PTA has put together our tennis net and it is in place on the turf – the temperatures this week have been similar to those felt at the Rod Laver arena in Melbourne!

I am on the hunt for any tennis racquets that people may have stored away at home that they no longer use. If you have any that you are happy to donate to us, please send them along with your child or drop them into the Senior Room. Ask your friends also, as we would put them to good use.

Thank you again to the PTA for helping provide our children with great gear and resources to use. Your hard work is greatly appreciated.

Kind regards

Geraldine Duncan

## Board of Trustees

Our first meeting for 2018 is on **Monday 12th February at 7p.m.**

Please note change of day and date.

## Notices and Dates:



CENTRAL OTAGO  
FARMING FOR PROFIT

### Dry Relief Event

**Friday 9 February. 4:00 – 6:00 pm**  
**Patearoa School**

Had enough of the dry season? Bring the family down to the Patearoa School for a relaxed, social get-together, featuring:

- Timely tips on managing the dry conditions by renowned local consultant **Peter Young**.
- Resources & information on drought support.
- Keynote speaker – local cricketing star **Shane O'Connor** will share some yarns from his career.

BBQ & refreshments provided. Children welcome. BYO picnic chair/blanket & swimming togs for the kids. For more information contact Nicola Chisholm at AgFirst: [nicola.chisholm@agfirst.co.nz](mailto:nicola.chisholm@agfirst.co.nz); 027 610 2221.

Kindly sponsored by:




<b>Week 2</b>	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Waitangi Day – School Closed
	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Cyber Safety Presentation
<b>Week 3</b>	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	BOT Meeting
		Baptism meeting at 3.15pm
<b>Week 4</b>	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Maniototo A & P Show
<b>Week 5</b>	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Swim Week

