



St John's School Newsletter

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

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Principal's Page:

Welcome

Welcome back to everyone for Term 2. We especially welcome a new 5 year old to St John's School – Arthur Elworthy.

We also welcome Miss Helen Flintoff who is relieving in the Middle Class while Mrs M is away.

Special Character Review

On Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th May we have two visitors coming to our school to review the Special Character of our school. They are Philomena O'Connell-Cooper and Debra Whitty.

Phil is a retired principal who was principal for a number of years at St Joseph's in Queenstown and then Principal of St Joseph's in Takapuna, Auckland. Deb is DRS at St Brigid's School in Dunedin.

They will be reviewing how our school maintains its Catholic Character. In this process they will observe teaching of Religious Education in each classroom and have discussions with staff, Board of Trustee members and pupils.

Life Education Trust

On Monday 14th May we have the Life Education Trust mobile classroom coming. Each class will have 2 lessons in the mobile classroom focusing on "Nutrition and healthy eating".

Lunchtime noodles in a cup

After an incident earlier this week with someone being burnt with hot water from noodles, we do not want any child from the Middle or Junior Class having noodles at lunchtimes please.

Bus & Cycle Vests

These have been given out to children today to be worn at all times when waiting for the bus, on the bus and when they get off the bus. Please do not write names on the vests. The teachers have a list of the children and the number vest they have.

A Note of Sincere Thanks

I would like to thank the St Johns School community for their support of me and my extended family, following the death of my dear husband, John.

To the BOT - thank you for allowing me time away from school to grieve.

To the PTA – thank you for the delicious food following John’s funeral.

To the staff – thank you for your support and friendship.

To the families – thank you for your words and acts of kindness.

To the children – be sure that God is with me, and you, during this difficult time, and that John is now with God – the knowledge of which, gives me great comfort.

Kindest regards

Claire Mulholland DRS



Women’s International Hockey Tournament

The Pioneer Energy Tri Nations Women’s International Hockey tournament will see the Vantage Black Sticks (world ranking 4th) go up against trans-Tasman rivals Australia (5th) and Japan over 9 days of exciting international hockey from 19-27 May at the Pioneer Energy Sports Turf in Cromwell. The exciting news for students is that Paper Plus is sponsoring 1000 FREE tickets for School Aged children to any of the pool play matches! To get your FREE ticket (you must be accompanied by a paying adult) head to Paper Plus Cromwell, Wanaka, Alexandra or Queenstown Airport

REAP Worker – Strengthening Families in the Maniototo

REAP Worker – Strengthening Families in the Maniototo

15 hours per week

Do you have a passion to support families?

Can you:

- Work independently
- Establish strong community networks
- Facilitate and have strong communication skills

For more information contact Central Otago REAP for further details for this position based in Ranfurly.

manager@coreap.org.nz or 0800 267-327

Closing date: 18th May at 5pm

Special Character Clipboard:

Faith fact for week 30th April – 4th May

For centuries, the Catholic Church has set aside the entire month of May to honour Mary, Mother of Jesus. In May special prayers called The Rosary may be said.

We will be praying the Rosary each day in the last 3 weeks of May from the 15th – 31st May. Children may bring along their own rosary beads for this.



Mass Time Change

A reminder that Mass is now at 4p.m. each Sunday in our Church.

Caritas Challenge Money

A reminder that all Caritas Challenge sponsorship money, is due back at school by Friday 11th May. Many thanks for your support.



Junior Class News:

* We welcome Arthur Elworthy to the Junior Class.

* For the first half of this term, the Junior Class will be working on "Fire Wise", a fire safety unit, with Mrs Elworthy.

* During this term the Juniors will be working on a physical education programme called "On Your Marks". I have been to a workshop on this and it involves a Sport Central co-ordinator, Greta, coming for 6 sessions with myself and the Juniors and working on stability (eg, balancing), locomotion (eg, jumping) and manipulation (eg, catching). These 6 sessions are spread throughout this term.

Middle Class News:

For those of you who are unsure my name is Helen Flintoff. I have recently moved to the Maniototo and I will be teaching the middle class for the remainder of Term 2. I have moved from Oamaru where I have been previously teaching. It's been a pleasant surprise teaching 21 children in comparison to 33!

Thank you for the warm welcome received by the wider school community. I have enjoyed my first week in the middle class getting to know and teach children. Children are settling into routines and we have some great learning happening!

What's been happening?

This week the middle class has enjoyed science with Mrs Hazlett making a fizz inflator!



In class we have been creating self-portraits.



What's to come?

Life Education – (Harold) week 3.

Kind regards
Helen Flintoff

Senior Class News:



“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body” Joseph Addison

Welcome back to school for term 2 everyone. We have a ten-week term ahead with not many extra's on at this stage but it is definitely a term where people are busy travelling to winter sport, so life in general is busy.

Camp Columba

I visited the camp recently and was very excited about the facilities. This camp is based upon experiential learning and has an array of activities that we will do – high ropes, kayaking, raft building, abseiling etc. It will be amazing! I am currently working out my camp plan for the future years, and so a survey will come home next week with an array of questions on it for you to answer.

Technology at MAS

This continues again this term on a Wednesday afternoon at MAS for our year 7 and 8 students. There is a slight change as the woodwork teacher is on leave for the term, so the children on this rotation will do drama with Mrs. Graham instead.

Topic

Our first topic is based around ANZAC day and we will be working with an excellent resource titled Walking with an Anzac. The children will be deciding upon a line of inquiry that interests them and then working through the steps to find out the information they need. If your child wants to bring in any family memorabilia linked to the topic they are most welcome.

I would also love to have someone come in and talk to my class about WW1 and/or 2 – so if on your travels you have visited any of the places linked with this and you would be comfortable talking to my class and answering some questions, please let me know. The children are very interested and they would love to hear about your experiences.

We will then be moving onto a science based unit called 'Bigger and Better' that has been developed by Young Farmers NZ and RMPP. This unit looks at genetics, breeding and the smart use of developments in scientific research to assist sheep and beef farmers to increase stock productivity etc. We will be visiting a farm, learning about how mutton is cut up and used and possibly visiting a meat works. This learning will link strongly to many of our children's day to day lives and you may find yourself being questioned closely!

Homework

This remains the same for term 2. The STEPS group has tasks assigned by Mrs. Hazlett, as well as daily personal reading and Mathletics points. The remainder of the class has 20 spelling words and a task sheet, and daily personal reading and Mathletics. The spelling task sheet is handed in completed on Wednesday morning, spelling testing is on Friday morning.

If your child is not fluent in their 2- 12 times tables, please work on these with them as the maths that we do in class relies on a strong knowledge base in this area. Practice these everywhere – travelling in the car (you call them out, your child answers), while you prepare tea, before bed etc. By fluent I mean they can be answered with no hesitation.

Library

We will be visiting the Maniototo Community Library on a Wednesday. I plan to visit every second week, starting this week so our next visits should be week 3, 5, 7 and 9. Children will need their library card to borrow books and I can send a link out for children who don't have one and you can fill this in at home.

Extra! Spelling Quiz for the Central Otago Region

This is being held at Cromwell College on Wednesday 13th June and children can be entered in teams of three in the two sections (yrs. 5/6 at 4.15pm and yrs. 7/8 at 6.30pm)

I am keen to support teams to enter this event and so have a talk about it with your child and I will send home some information regarding this next week.

Sickness and tiredness

This is the winter term where bugs are more prevalent and the children get tired. Please keep your child home if they are unwell so they don't spread bugs and remember to text the school cell phone, as we have to know the whereabouts of your child every school day. Develop a clear routine around homework and bedtime routines so that your child is well organised and getting enough sleep – our school days are busy and our brains are active. Good healthy simple food, sleep, and knowing we are prepared are three good ways to help your child be ready for the daily learning challenges.

Primary Interschool Equestrian event (written by the riders)

On the first Saturday of the holidays we went to the Palmerston interschool equestrian event. We did turnout, dressage, showjumping and a dress-up competition. In turnout we placed 2nd, in dressage we came 2nd, in showjumping we came 2nd and in the dress-up competition we got 2nd! We also got mentioned in the sportsmanship trophy for being supportive of everyone. It was an awesome day, and we got 1st overall, which was exciting, and we won a shield, which we have at school. It was the first primary schools equestrian event held in Palmerston.

Our individual results were:

Hannah: 1st in 70cm jumping, 1st in dressage

Briar: 2nd in dressage, 2nd in 60cm jumping

Ella: 2nd in 40cm jumping

Maggie: 1st in dressage, and 2nd in 50cm jumping

We would like to thank our parents for taking us down and Jo Dowling for being our super coach and making sure we looked great in our school brow bands, saddle blankets and hat covers.



Upcoming dates

NYLD (National Young Leaders Day) for the year 8 children – Monday 28th May in Dunedin.

Farm visit linked to our unit 'Bigger and Better' – Friday 1st June to Johnny Duncan's property

Queens Birthday – Monday 4th June

Extra! Spelling Quiz - Wednesday 13th June

Thank you

Geraldine Duncan

Board of Trustees

* Our next meeting is on Monday 7th May at 4.30p.m.

Notices and Dates:

Week 2	Monday 7 th May & Tuesday 8 th May	Catholic Special Character Review
Week 3	Monday 14 th May	Life Education Trust Mobile Classroom visit
		First Session of “On your marks” – Junior Class
Week 5	Monday 28 th May	National Young Leaders Day in Dunedin for Year 8s
Week 6	Monday 4 th June	Queens Birthday – School Closed

Free Friday night curling coaching
start on Friday 4th May from 5.30-6.30pm
at Maniototo International Curling Rink,
Naseby

