



# St John's School Newsletter

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## **Principal's Page:**

### Welcome

We welcome new 5 year old Jessica Greer to St John's School.

### Life Education Trust

We all enjoyed the Life Education Trust mobile classroom visit on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May. Each class had 2 lessons in the classroom and lessons focussed on healthy eating and nutrition.

### Catholic Schools' Convention

Geraldine Duncan and myself will be away Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June attending the 3 yearly Catholic Education Convention in Wellington. Mrs Anna Jeffries will be relieving in the Senior Class and Mrs Jayne Hazlett in the Junior Class.

### Holidays in term time

Please be aware that if you are choosing to have a family holiday in term time teachers will not be providing school work during this time. We would prefer children to enjoy the holiday, learn from the experience and if they want to, write about some things they do while they are away.

### Queen's Birthday Weekend

School is closed on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June** for **Queen's Birthday Weekend**.

### Snow Day Procedures

Procedures 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.

Please check our website: [www.sjr.school.nz](http://www.sjr.school.nz)

## Thank you

A big thank you to Judy Hore who provided two royal cakes for us on the occasion of Meghan Markle and Prince Harry's wedding! It was delicious.



## Fire evacuation practise

We recently had a practise of our procedure if we ever have a fire at school. Here are the children lining up under the goalpost as part of this procedure.



## **Special Character Clipboard:**

### Thank you

\* Thank you to everyone for their excellent effort with the Caritas Challenge – we raised \$1,025.60 for Caritas (Catholic Aid Agency).

\* Also thank you for the gold coin donations on the Nano Nagle mufti day. We raised nearly \$100 for this.

### Pentecost

At Focus time, the children recently learned about the story of Pentecost. Pentecost Sunday was celebrated on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May. Pentecost is a Christian Holy Day and celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit 50 days after Easter Sunday. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, and the beginning of their ministry spreading God's word.

## **Junior Class News:**

Here are some stories from the Junior Class writing time.

I had a hot dog and Dad had a burger. My hot dog was huge.  
McKinley Francis.

At St John's School I play on the monkey bars and I like them.  
Harry Jeffries

I went in Kerry's cadillac and we both went to the furniture shop.  
Harry Dowling

I like to play with Jae on the mounds and we like to dig for bones.  
Axel McAuley

## **Middle Class News:**

### **WINTER WOOLIES**

As the temperatures drop as we head into winter please ensure your child has a jumper at school every day. It would also be a great idea if children had a jacket at school on cooler winter days to keep them warm while playing outside. Children are welcome to bring slippers to school for use in the classroom as often shoes are becoming dirty. Children are asked to remove their shoes if they are dirty.

### **BOOK BAGS**

Book bags are highly recommended for all children in the class! Book bags help children to organise themselves for their learning as all items are kept together. It also helps books stay neat and tidy.

### **INTERVIEWS**

Later in the term there will be interviews. This is the best time to discuss your child academically. I am in the process of learning in depth information of children's knowledge in a range of curriculum areas. I do this over a variety of contexts to get a clear picture of where they are in their learning so I can provide the best information to you.

### **MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**

Later in the term we will be exploring a unit around music. We will be making our own musical instruments. Please ask your child to begin to put aside possible items they could make a musical instrument from, for example, rubber bands, tissue boxes etc. I will be looking for parent help to help with craft knives. A follow up letter will be sent home in a few weeks.

### **LIBRARY**

We attend our school library each Friday. Children are reminded to bring their library books for each session.

Thanks for your warm welcome into the school community!

## Senior Class News:



**“Don’t aspire to be the best on the team. Aspire to be the best for the team”**

### Camp Columba

Thank you to those people that sent back the yrs. 1 – 7 survey around my questions with my future planning for camps, I will be able to let you know the Senior Room EOTC plan in the next newsletter. I will hopefully also be closer to having a cost for Camp Columba, as they are currently waiting on Adventure Southland to get back to them so that they can let me know.

### Central Otago Rippa Rugby Competition (Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June)

Thank you to parents for returning permission slips for this event, and your offers of transport and coaching. More information will come home closer to the time and hopefully we will have the draws by then. At this stage I can confirm that it runs from 9.30am – 2.30pm and we have entered 4 teams, 1 at both yrs. 3 and 4 and 5 and 6, and two at yrs. 7 and 8.

Coaching at the yr. 3 and 4 level is Ryan Dowling, yr. 5 and 6 Tracy Crossan and yr. 7 and 8 Mark Paterson and Phil Dowling. I am not going to give you a training timetable but if you could each text me the days of the weeks that suit you to come in, and my class and I will get things sorted for you. It is ok to text me the morning of.

Parents – please work on your child’s fitness at home as this is a big day out. The legs are pretty tired by the end of it so help your child to prepare for this.



### Topic: Bigger and Better

We are getting closer to start this unit and we will be beginning with a farm visit to my home at Craigneuk. 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 transport out in cars and so closer to the time I will send home a letter asking for parents to come join us. The date of this trip is Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> June which is different from the original date that I gave you.

### Homework

Keep working on those timetables!

### Library

We have now had two visits to the library and the children have enjoyed them. It’s a great space with so many fabulous books – try to visit yourself at some stage if you can fit it in. It really is a wee treasure and one we should utilize fully.

### **Extra! Spelling Quiz for the Central Otago Region (Wed 13<sup>th</sup> June)**

Thank you for sending back the information regarding this – a parent letter will come home later this week. It will be the first outing for our new school hoodies that the PTA have purchased – they are smart and we will be dressed for success!



### **Central Otago Orienteering Champs (Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> June)**

This event is being held in Wanaka on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June. It is a running event where children find points located on a map in a set order. I have very little information about this at the moment but will share when I find out the details!

### **Google Classroom**

The Senior Room students now have a school email address that allows us to use Google Classroom online. The children are excited about using this and you may receive an invitation from them (via email) to visit this and read their writing. You just need to follow the links on the email.

### **Sickness and tiredness**

There is an awful flu bug travelling through the class. If your child is sick please keep them at home and text or phone in to let us know. This bug takes a few days to recover from.

### **Upcoming dates**

- NYLD (National Young Leaders Day) for the year 8 children – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May in Dunedin. Be at school at 7.30am.
- Queens Birthday – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June.
- Central Otago Orienteering Champs – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June.
- Extra! Spelling Quiz - Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June (yr. 5/6 starts at 4.15pm, yr. 7/8 at 6.30pm).
- 'Bigger and Better' unit farm visit – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June to Johnny Duncan's property.
- Rippa Rugby Tournament – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June (pp. 22<sup>nd</sup> June).
- Reports and portfolios home – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June
- Yrs. 3-8 Ski Trip 17<sup>th</sup> August (p.p 24<sup>th</sup> August) – information will come out next week.

Thank you

Geraldine Duncan

## Board of Trustees

\* A curriculum report on “Social Sciences” (used to be Social Studies) was presented by Susan, to the Board.

\* At our June meeting the Board will be looking at, and reviewing the policy “Reporting to Parents on Student Progress and Achievement”.

If you are interested in reading and reviewing this, you can:

1. Log onto [www.schooldocs.co.nz](http://www.schooldocs.co.nz)
2. Click Search for your school.
3. Start typing the school name and then select it from the dropdown list.
4. Enter the community username and password: sjr sjr
5. Put the name of the policy in the search section and it should come up for you to read.
6. Select your role (board member, staff member or parent/caregiver) from the drop-down list.
7. Enter your name (optional)
8. Submit your ratings and comments.

\* Our next Board meeting is on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June** at 7p.m.

### 2018 Snow Sports School Hobbits and Hobblets ski programme

You have the opportunity to sign up for this 6 week programme through Cardrona ski field. It is aimed at beginner, intermediate and advanced kids and runs from July 29<sup>th</sup> – September 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 11am – 3.30pm on Sundays.

If you are interested in this please email Fiona Weir at [office@sjr.school.nz](mailto:office@sjr.school.nz) and she will forward the information to you.



**Notices and Dates:**

<b>Week 5</b>	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	NYLD in Dunedin for Year 8's
<b>Week 6</b>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Queens Birthday – School Closed
	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Central Otago Orienteering Champs
<b>Week 7</b>	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Spelling Quiz in Cromwell
<b>Week 8</b>	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Rippa Rugby Tournament in Alexandra
<b>Week 9</b>	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Reports & Portfolios sent home
<b>Week 10</b>	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> & Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Parent/Teacher interviews
	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of Term 2



# WIN

## *The ultimate* **Highlanders** **Experience** *for our school*

Pulse Energy are giving one lucky school the chance to win a visit from the Highlanders and we would love to win!



### Prize includes

- Visit from some of the Pulse Energy Highlanders
- Healthy snacks for the whole school
- Assigned Highlanders Jersey

### 2nd Prize

- 100 Double Passes, Highlanders v Rebels 14 July



Nominate our school at [pulseenergy.co.nz/schools](http://pulseenergy.co.nz/schools)