

St John's School Newsletter

**6 Stuart Road
Ranfurly
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office@sjr.school.nz**

Issue 2: 22nd February 2019

Principal's Page:

Resignation

It is with much regret and sadness that Mrs Claire Mulholland has informed the Board of Trustees of her resignation, effective from the 12th April, the end of Term 1.

The Board acknowledges the many years of service and dedication Claire has given to her job here. We wish her well in her future endeavours and we will look forward to her visits back to see us.

Swim Week

A reminder this is on next week, the **25th February – 1st March**.

Children need to bring their togs etc every day. Junior Class children need to bring a car seat or booster that can be used for the week. Children may wear wet suits for swim week.

Thank you to those parents that indicated they could help with the driving of the van and helping the children get prepared for the lessons. Your child will have brought home a timetable indicating your day and time for driving the van.

A big thank you to Peter Lyon Shearing for the use of their van for the week. This makes the transport to and from the pool a lot easier.

Swimming Sports

These will be held on **Friday 8th March at 1.00p.m.** at the Ranfurly Pool.

Working Bee

A reminder this is on **Sunday 24 February at 10a.m.** at school.

The PTA would be grateful to anyone available to help with this general tidy-up around the school grounds and repositioning of the sandpit area.

Education Review Office Visit

We have the Education Review Office visiting our school from **Monday 11th – Thursday 14th March**.

They will be observing in classrooms and talking to staff and Board of Trustee members during their visit.

Parent Information Evening

Thank you to those who attended our parent information evening on Wednesday 13th February. It was great to see so many of you there. We have received positive feedback from parents that attended and will look at running a similar evening at the start of next year.

“Our Schooling Futures: Stronger Together” discussion document

This online report proposes significant changes to the way schools are run, governed and managed. It includes a strong focus on improving the wellbeing and success of all children.

The report is open for consultation until the **7th April**. You can read, complete an online survey or add your thoughts/submissions at:

www.conversation.education.govt.nz

Bank Accounts for School

Below is a list of the bank accounts that are used for a variety of activities. Could we please ask that you pay into the right account. Thank you.

St John’s School Board of Trustees –	03 0951 0066195 000
Uniform Account -	03 0951 0045351 000
Camp Account -	03 0951 0064739 000

Stationery

Just a reminder that stationery needs to be paid by the end of February. It can be paid by cheque, cash or internet. If paying by internet, please put name and stationery in reference.

Account number is: 03 0951 0066195 000

Goal Setting Evening

On **Wednesday 6th March** there will be an opportunity for parents to meet with classroom teachers for 10 minutes and look at children’s goals for 2019. This is not compulsory to attend but will be run in a similar way to parent teacher interviews with a shorter 10 minute time slot available.

Please fill in the attached form with your name and the time you would prefer to come along.

Goal Setting Interview Wednesday 6th March

I would prefer: After School 3.15 - 5.30p.m
 Evening 6.00 - 8.00p.m.

Signed: _____

Special Character Clipboard:

Week 5

Currently we are in the first and much smaller block of Ordinary Time in the Liturgical year. In Ordinary Time the priest wears Green vestments. This first block of Ordinary Time starts after the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (This year it was Sunday 13 January) and goes until Shrove Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday - next week). Ordinary time will start again after Pentecost, which is roughly 50 days after Easter Sunday and will continue all the way until the Feast of Christ the King on November 24th, after which Advent will start. Out of a total of 52 weeks in the year, 34 of them are in Ordinary Time.



Everyone of us needs half an hour of prayer each day except when we are busy - then we need an hour."

(St Francis de Sales)



Week 6

Wednesday March 6th is Ash Wednesday. This is one of the most important days of the year for Catholics. It marks the beginning of Lent, the 40 day preparation for Easter. Ash Wednesday is a "Day of fasting and abstinence". This means the Church asks us to refrain from eating meat on this day and to eat less than we otherwise might. Lent is a time of penance when we try to make a little sacrifice and put God first in our daily lives. There are four ways the Church says we can do penance:

1. Give something up
2. Give money to the poor
3. Sacrifice our time for others e.g volunteering for the Vinnies
4. Pray for a set purpose or time each day/week

School/Parish Mass

Thank you to everyone who came along and helped celebrate the start of the school year on Sunday 10th February at mass. Fr Gerard enjoyed mingling with you all during the picnic that followed afterwards. Thank you to all the children who participated during the mass and their parents who supported them.



Junior Class News:

Here are some photos from our first technology challenge on Friday 8th February where we had to make a bridge out of various materials provided. The bridge had to hold a weight that had a picture of a chicken stuck on it.

We enjoyed the challenge of creating a marble run in our session today.



We wrote about the challenge. Here are some of our stories:

We went to the hall. We made some bridges. We made them out of cups, straws and newspaper. Then the bridges got tested. No one's collapsed.

Jae McAuley

On Friday we built a bridge for a chicken. I used newspaper and sticks.

Florence Dowling

On Friday we went to the hall for a technology challenge. We built a bridge for the chickens. It didn't break.

Kaylah McAuley

Middle Class News:

Here is some of the great writing your children have been doing with Miss Flintoff. The theme was **“The Scoop on My Summer”**



My favourite thing about the summer holidays was going to the beach. In the holidays my family and I went to the sandy beaches on a sizzling hot day. Our trip was pretty smooth and we listened to hip hop music on the way in our flashy, sparkly car. We went inside a dark, wet cave and took awesome pictures inside. Going to the beach was my favourite thing from my summer holidays because we went inside a very wet, dull cave and found another way out. There were a lot of little sandflies flying about that I got itchy bites from the next day and I could not stop itching them. The more you itched then the more it would hurt badly. Most of all I had a fun time with friends and family from Invercargill. **Alyssa Janerol**



“Ow! What are you doing? Oh, YAY it’s Christmas.” My brother Jake and I had a nasty plan to wake Mum and Dad (the sleepy beauties) to get our bursting santa sacks and see what sweet treats he had given us this Christmas. Tip toe, tip toe. As Jake and I eased closer to Mum and Dad, Jake got ready for the last thing to fall into place.....the Duck Caller!! We had now reached our destination – Mum and Dad’s room. “3, 2, 1. Quack, quack, quack, quack, quack, quack, quack, quack, quack!! “ Ha ha ha. Can we go and get our Santa sacks, p.l.e.a.s.e?” I asked. “Do you need to?” asked Mum. “Yes, yes we need to. Please, pretty please. Please, please, please.” “OK”, mum said. “Yay” I yelled. This was my favourite part of the holiday because in my Santa sack I got a book, Leggo, chocolate, bike gloves, M&M’s jell pens, a Jo Jo Siwa bath kit, a calendar, hair ties, 72 hair clips and a bunmaker with 4 clips, and a hair tie. **Paige Smith**

My favourite thing in the holidays was the Big Bash with my friends Tom, Toby, Jock, Thomas, Callum and Ethan. Toby and I played squash for a little while until the prize-giving. Then the awards were given out. The Alexandra team won \$500 for winning 3 games, then gave it to Finch’s boy who can’t walk. Then we played Manhunt till 11 o’clock, then we played Truth or Dare. The Big Bash was my favourite thing because Dad dropped a catch that put me into hysterics just before he face planted! I loved when he was wicket keeper and he couldn’t move because he was too stiff. Best of all, was being with my friends. **Fred Dowling**



Senior Class News:

Sleep is the best meditation! Dalai Lama

'NZ Cup 20/20' and 'NZ Shield Challenge' Cricket

On Monday our two teams headed away with their coaches to their respective tournaments. Both teams had tough games and were unable to come away with a win, but did enjoy the day out and the opportunity to play. Thank you very much to the girls coach Ryan Dowling who drove the MAS van and took all the girls to Oamaru, and the parents of the boys for transporting them to Alexandra, and Lauren Shaw for co-coaching the boys team with Karl McDiarmid. We again appreciate you giving up your time to allow the children to take up this opportunity.



Swim Week

Next week is a big week with our 5 swim sessions. Please help your child to get adequate sleep so that they can cope with the week and include extra food in their lunchboxes to accommodate their appetites in relation to this exercise.

Homework

This is going really well and I appreciate the time you have taken to help your child with their spelling words, and signing their book. We have started STEPs and are under control with the book work and online activities and there will be no need for me to set specific regular homework with this, although I may occasionally send home a task to be done. Everyone achieved their Mathletic points last week which made the teacher feel very proud :)

Dunstan Zone Triathlon

Thank you for returning the forms for this and next week we will sort teams and set in place a training guide for the children. This will hopefully include lunchtime sessions at school where we run, bike and swim if I am able to manage it.

The date of the Dunstan Zone event is Wednesday 27th March.

The Central Otago Triathlon Champs will be held the following week on Thursday 4th April.

Goal setting

The children will be working through their goal setting process next week and you are invited in to talk these over on Wednesday 6th March. I am happy for your child to attend this as they are the owner and driver of their goals.

Thank you also to the parents who made it to the meeting where we talked about how the Senior room operates, etc. It was great to see 14 of our 18 families represented and your support means a lot to me.

Congratulations

Ella Gibson has been playing for the Otago Country U15 cricket side over the last couple of weekends. They have been doing really well with their matches and Ella is particularly enjoying her progress and success with bowling. Congratulations Ella and good luck for your remaining games.

Stationery

Thank you for the stationery money we have received so far. If you are still to play, please pay for the stationery either with cash or a cheque made out to St Johns School, or by using internet banking - the account is on the bottom of the stationary list.

Class writing

This week we created a class poem based around summer. Enjoy reading this and ask your child to point out their stanza to you.

That was Summer!

*Remember that time when you were riding through deep mud
Racing to get to the other side
Feeling the mud slapping my back
That was Summer.*

Remember that time
Licking an ice block slowly
Dripping down my neck
My tongue sticking like glue
My friend pulling the refreshment off
That was Summer

*Remember that time.
Mowing the long grass
Smelling the freshness thrown into the air
Relaxing with a cold drink in the hot sun.
That was Summer.*

Remember that time
We went swimming in the Taieri River
Splashing in the freezing black water
The dog jumped in to say hello
That was summer.

Remember that time
Down at the Sowburn
Feeling the cold water swallowing my body and pulling me deeper
Resurfacing and dragging myself up the wet rocks, ready to jump again
That was Summer.

Remember that time
Munching on lollies in class
When the others were working without sugar,
But then we had to run it off with the dog.
That was Summer.

Remember that time
Mustering along the hillside
With the dogs following alongside
Eyeing up the sheep with excitement
That was Summer

Remember that time
You dived deep into the pool
Cold water hitting your face
Goggles flying right off
The pool water stinging your eyes
That was Summer.

Remember that time
When we were standing
In the burning sun
And sweat was dripping
Down my neck
That was Summer.

Remember that time
Keeping my eyes on the bowler
Getting ready to smack the ball for 6!
Fist bumping my partner
That was Summer.

*Remember that time
Riding up Mount Buster
Shooting the wet dirt into the air
That was Summer.*

*Remember that time
Watching pigs fall on the ground dead
Sweat and blood dripping down my back as
I haul it up the hill panting
That was Summer.*

**Remember that time mowing over the long grass.
Blocking up the lawn mower
Angrily poking the clumps out so we could go again
That was Summer.**

Remember that time
Slicing through the chilling water
The refreshing liquid swallowing my body
Panting as I reach the opposite end
That was Summer.

Remember that time
Running through the long grass
Racing to get to the other side of the paddock the pup nipping at my heels
The wind whipping through my hair
Then the hard breathing when you finally reach the end
That was Summer.

Remember that time,
You ate a chocolate dipped ice cream.
Racing to eat it before it melts,
Ice cream all around your mouth.
That was Summer.

Remember that time
You were running out of breath
Swimming to the Pontoon at Blue Lake
Soaked with cold water seeping through your wetsuit.
That was Summer!

**Remember that time
Stalking eels up the river
Letting blood run out of the dead rabbit
Trying to get the prongs through the eels head
That was Summer.**

Remember that time
Swimming in the pool
Diving down into the warm water
Coming up with no breath left
That was Summer.

Remember that time
Bringing on 2019 with a bang!
Writing our names with sparklers
Staying up late watching movies till 2 in the morning
But it only got dark at 11 that night
That was Summer!

Remember that time
Spending the whole day in the car
Driving to Christchurch and it was 31 degrees outside
Getting lost on your final few kilometres to your destination
But you got blamed because you were in charge of the sat-nav!
That was Summer!

Remember that time
Chasing pigs, hearing squealing, running flat out
Sticking the pig
Heaving it out of the gully, blood staining my shirt
Weighing the pig
That was Summer.

Senior Room 2019

Take care,

Geraldine Duncan.

Board of Trustees

At our February meeting the Board reviewed 2 policies:
Alcohol/Drugs and other harmful substances
Attendance dues and other income

If you are interested in reading and reviewing these policies, you can:

1. Log onto 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 March**.

Thank You

I would like to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to the catering following Mum's funeral in December. The sandwiches, savouries & slices were delicious!
Special thanks to Cate & Erin for coordinating the catering, Geraldine, also Jo & Jocelyn for serving on the day.

Kind Regards,
Debbie Dowling & family

Notices and Dates:

Week 5	Monday 25 th Feb – Friday 1 st March	Swim Week
Week 6	Wednesday 6 th March Friday 8 th March	Goal Setting Evening Swimming Sports
Week 7	Monday 11 th – Thursday 14 th March	Education Review Office visit
Week 8	Monday 18 th March	School Photos
Week 9	Wednesday 27 th March	Dunstan Zone Triathlon

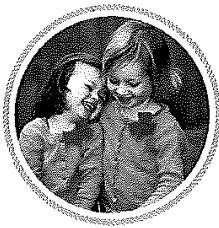




JACK 'n' JILL
PORTRAITS

ANNUAL CLASS PHOTOS

CLASS, INDIVIDUAL AND SIBLING PHOTOS



Jack 'n' Jill Portraits will be here on:

St Johns School

Monday, 18 March, 2019

ANNUAL PHOTO PACKAGES AND PRICES

Multi-Sheet 8x10" Portrait Class Photo Digital Images



\$25



\$20



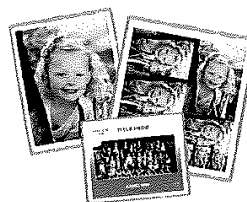
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\$50

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