



St John's School Newsletter

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Principal's Page:

Welcome

A special welcome to St John's School to new 5 year old, James Marshall and his family.

Bread Tags

Please encourage your children to collect bread tags - "Bread tags for Wheelchairs" has been established in South Africa for the past 13 years with the NZ arm launching in February this year.

There is a collection person in Clyde and we are happy to collect the bread tags here at school and then get them to the collection point. There will be a special box set up in the foyer area at school for children to put any bread tags into. Thank you.

You can find out more about this if you google "bread tags for wheelchairs"

Jewellery

A reminder that jewellery should not be worn to school, please.

Daffodil Day - Mufti Day

Friday 30th August is New Zealand's annual Daffodil Day. Children can wear yellow or bright mufti clothes to school on this day. We ask that they please bring a gold coin along to support this cause. Thank you.

Bus vests/Pie warmer/PTA

Children are to continue to wear their bus vests until the end of this term please when they can be handed back in to school.

The PTA have purchased new ones for next year. A big thank you to them for this.

Also thank you to the PTA for the purchase of a new pie-warmer for school.

We are very lucky to have the PTA who financially support us with a lot of activities, resources, sports gear and prizegiving books each year.

Special Character Clipboard:

This week at "Faith Focus" time our school talked about the **Feast of the Assumption of Mary**. Our Church remembers that Mary, the Mother of Jesus, rose to heaven to be with God. The feast day is celebrated on the 15th August each year.

Junior Class News:

In some of our writing times we have been turning "boring" sentences into more interesting ones. Here are some from this week's "boring" sentence - **The fish swam.**

The stripey fish went fast to the barrier reef to school. When school had started two great white sharks came and seven fish got eaten.

By Arthur Elworthy

The rainbow trout went down the waterfall. It did a back flip.

By Harry Dowling

The big fish is swimming away from a shark in the coral reef.

By Xavier Love

The big fish was trying to catch a small fish. The big fish did not know a shark was behind him. He got eaten!

By Finn Dowling

The rainbow fish found a coral reef but then there was a shark. The fish swam as fast as he could. Then the fish lost the shark and the shark got stuck in the rocks.

By Cyrus Janerol

The flounder swam slowly to the river.

By James Marshall

Middle Class News:

The Middle class is still looking for a few more shoe boxes, if you have any we would really appreciate them.

The middle class would like to thank all the parents and grandparents who came along to watch our space extravaganza at the end of last term. The children enjoyed presenting their learning to you. A special thank you to Fiona Dowling who helped the children bring their costumes to life.

The children have been practicing their running for cross country and are looking forward to Friday.

We are busy in the classroom preparing for speeches.

For topic this term we are looking at 'Our stories, our places'. We are finding out how the land and people in Maniototo have changed and are also looking at native vs introduced items. Some children have indicated they have something at home they would like to show the class that relates to the topic, children are welcome to bring in items. We are excited for the Museum visit to come to us near the end of the term.

Senior Class News:

Strong Legs - Big Heart

Cross country

The children have worked really hard in their training for the cross country and I am sure that you will see evidence of this in their running today. Running is not easy for any of us, whether we are the fastest or the slowest - but I have been most impressed by the children's determination and resilience in training.



We welcome Sage back this week after his time in America, and I couldn't help but notice that he had grown even more while he was away. So we did a line up to see what our height order was now - we really do have some very tall people in our class.

Part of our pubertal development is an increase in height and I am looking forward to talking with you all about this topic on Thursday 29th September at 7pm in my classroom, prior to starting teaching the unit of work.



Snow Fun!

We enjoyed the snow while it was here but are very appreciative of the warm classrooms that our board provides for us. Please remind your children to wear their vest to school everyday if biking, scootering, walking or busing as they are not very visible in their school uniforms, and their safety is very important to us. They should also wear a jacket if it is cold.



School Farm Update!

The School Farm project is coming along very well, the fences are all up and the hen run is looking awesome! We now only need a gate on our run and we will be ready for our hens arrival next month, and some boards on one fence and then we can have our six bobby calves arrive also. These have been kindly donated by Maniototo Dairy.

We are in the routine of having sausage sizzles each Friday to help raise money for milk powder to grow our calves nice and strong. We will also be mustering up our flock of sheep at some point too! At the end of the year we will be auctioning off our calves at the school concert, so that is something for you all to look forward to as well.

We want to thank Mr Watson and Mr Hazlett for coming in and driving posts for us. We are looking forward to inviting them back to our school farm naming and opening ceremony, so they can see what else we have developed.

Our next job will be organising a competition to name the farm, and our calves.

Maia and the Young Vinnies



S & B
CONTRACTING

Scott Watson 027 4248427

For All Your Fencing Requirements

Maths Competition

Thank you to those people who were able to transport us to this fun competition in Alexandra yesterday. We had a blast! All of our teams did very well and we placed 2nd in both the year 7 and 8 categories and received a scientific calculator and block of chocolate each.



At this competition Maia, Annie and Alivia received their prizes from Paper Plus for the recent writing competition that Alexandra Primary school hosted. Well done girls.

Curling Lessons

Miss Flintoff has organised our curling sessions for us. The dates are

Wednesday 4th September 11.15-12.15pm

Thursday 12th September 11.15 -12.15pm

Friday 13th September 1.30 - 2.30pm

Monday 16th September 1.30-2.30pm

The school tournament date is Tuesday 24th September. Time to be confirmed.

If you have volunteered to help transport children, can you please be at school 25 minutes prior to our lesson, so we can arrive and have our shoes on and be ready to start on time. Thank you again for your support with travel and paying for lessons.

Ski Trip

This is on Tuesday 27th August. Prior to going we have two important aspects that we go through to ensure the day runs smoothly.

The first is the **ski gear check on Monday 19th August**. Your child brings each item on the ski gear checklist to school in a bag to show their teacher. We check this off on a list so that we know that the children are appropriately dressed for the day and will cope with the cold. Please make sure your child has everything they need at school on this day. They then take the gear home again, ready to wear for ski day.

If you need any items on the list, please do ask about these, as people will have spare clothing. Here at school we do have some spare jackets and pants which we are very happy to lend to people. Just come and ask and we will help you.

The second aspect is a **parent meeting that I run in the senior room straight after school on Monday 19th**. At this I outline how the day runs (this is very important as we don't want people to delay us getting the children to lessons on time or to have people unsure of the school's expectations). I also cover safety aspects (helmets and fluoro vests are compulsory on the ski day for all adults and children), show you footage of the mountain and generally get people set up so they know what they need to do. Any **first time ski participants with our school attend this meeting and anyone else who would like to come along** to check they are up to date with what is happening.

Safety on a school ski trip is very important. Fiona Weir and I have spent a significant amount of time getting the paperwork in place but it will only be successful if everyone is on the same page and understands that the children are the key focus of the day.

Below is a list of gear that is required:

- ❖ Long sleeved thermal/wool top
- ❖ Thermal bottom layer – long johns or thermal leggings
- ❖ Another warm top layer – sweatshirt, jersey, fleece
- ❖ Waterproof and windproof jacket
- ❖ Ski pants
- ❖ Ski goggles or sunglasses
- ❖ Warm hat that covers the ears
- ❖ Warm waterproof gloves

Extra! Quiz Competition

This is next week (Tuesday 20th) and we have 18 children attending from years 5 -8. We are looking forward to the experience and are hoping that we can answer many questions confidently! I am attending this with the children since our numbers are quite high. A letter went home on Wednesday to the parents of the children involved.

Sporting Success

Many of our children have been recognised for their sporting successes in recent weeks. Congratulations to you all and well done on committing to your team with determination and a positive attitude.

Jake and Maggie recently took part in luge racing and both won or placed in the Naseby Cup races and Maggie is the NZ Junior Luge champion. Well done.

We also have a number of children playing representative hockey for Central Otago - congratulations and best of luck for your team campaigns.

PTA Support

The PTA have generously subsidised children's skating and curling lessons, which really does save parents money. Thank you to them for this support.

At their recent meeting we asked for support in purchasing some sports equipment (cones, hoops, rugby balls, and gear bags) as well as a new pie warmer.

As a teacher and on behalf of the students in my class, I want to extend a very grateful thank you to the PTA for the vital support you give us in many ways. We really appreciate everyone's hard work in the background so that the children can have access to activities at a reasonable cost, and that we can have enough equipment for our classes.

Mrs Steele

As you know, Mrs McAuley passed away recently. Trina has been teaching in our classroom and so we wanted to extend our love and support to her. The children wrote beautiful messages to her and I felt really proud of them. They are empathetic and kind, they live our school values in their daily actions and these are qualities that are so important and will never leave them. We are lucky to have children who are like this.

Mrs Steele has now finished her time with us and so I will be back in the classroom full time.



Kind regards
Geraldine Duncan

Board of Trustees

- At our last meeting a curriculum report was presented to the Board on reading. We also discussed mid-year school-wide writing data.
- The school Health, Safety and Welfare policy was reviewed.

Notices and Dates:

Week 5	Tuesday 20 th August	Extra! Quiz Competition
Week 6	Tuesday 27 th August	Middle & Senior Ski Trip
	Thursday 29 th August	St John's School Speeches
Week 7	Monday 2 nd September	Maniototo Speech Competition
	Tuesday 3 rd September	Postponement Date Ski Trip
	Wednesday 4 th September	Curling for Middle & Senior Classes
Week 8	Thursday 12 th September	Curling for Middle & Senior Classes
	Friday 13 th September	Curling for Middle & Senior Classes
Week 9	Monday 16 th September	Curling for Middle & Senior Classes
Week 10	Tuesday 24 th September	Curling Tournament

