



# St John's School Newsletter

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Issue 1: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020

## **Principal's Page:**

### Welcome

Welcome back to everyone for 2020. We hope you all enjoyed a restful, relaxing holiday. We especially welcome our new, nearly 5 year old, Theo Dowling to St John's School.

### Staff 2020

This year we welcome Miss Rachel Heaney to our school. Rachel will be teaching Years 3, 4 and 5 in the Middle Class.

Mrs Duncan continues to teach Years 6, 7 & 8 with Mrs Hazlett releasing her on a Tuesday afternoon. Mrs Hazlett will continue to work 2 and a bit days (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday) with groups and individuals in the areas of Literacy (this includes the Steps programme) and English language. Literacy includes reading, reading comprehension, writing, spelling and alphabet activities. Teachers have identified children and groups of children with particular needs to work with Jayne.

I continue to teach the Junior Class, Years 1 and 2. This year Miss Helen Flintoff will be releasing me on a Wednesday (all day) and Mrs Erin Elworthy on a Thursday afternoon. I have also been lucky enough to have been awarded a Ministry of Education Principal's sabbatical for term 3 this year. This means I will be away from school all of Term 3 working on an educational project as well as doing some overseas travel. Mrs Elworthy will be relieving in my classroom and Mrs Duncan will be Acting Principal during Term 3.

### Waitangi Day

School is closed on **Thursday 6th February** for Waitangi Day.

### Stationery

Children will be issued with new exercise books and stationery account.

Please note these prices are cheaper, only for the beginning of the year because stationery has been ordered in bulk. After this the prices will be more expensive for items.

These accounts will include Mathletics and the Steps programme if children in the class are involved in either of these online programmes. (The Steps programme will run in the Junior and Middle Classrooms and the Senior Class will be working on a grammar programme).

Please note the Steps workbooks cost \$12 at the beginning and as a student progresses they will need the next Steps workbook, so they may need 2 -3 workbooks a year and the price will differ.

Exercise books can be covered, as this does protect them from many things.

Stationery money is to be brought to school by **Friday 21st February**, please.

Cheques to be made out to **St John's School**. You can also pay by internet banking to the following account number: **03 0951 0066195 00**

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: 24 - 28 February**.

Unfortunately we have been informed by the District Council that we will not be able to use the pool on other occasions as we have done for class lessons in the past.

This is due to new nationwide regulations which state that a lifeguard needs to be present when anyone is in the pool. Our Council have been unable to find staff to cover this role. We are very disappointed with this as it means our children have very limited opportunities for learning about swimming safety and for their own swimming skill development.

There are discussions in place at the moment with the CODC re this and if the situation changes and we can get swimming times we will let parents know.

### **Telephone**

A reminder, please, when ringing school or the school cell phone, do not leave a message after 1.15p.m as teachers are in their classrooms teaching and there is not always someone in the office to clear messages until after school. The cellphone is also difficult for teachers to access and hear, in class time.

If your child/children are going to be absent from school, please ensure that the classroom teacher is aware of this by texting the school cell phone or ringing the school before 8.50a.m. Thank you.

### **A & P Show**

This is on **Wednesday 19th 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.

### **Up-to-date contact details**

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.

If you have uniform enquiries it is preferable that you contact Fiona about this during her hours.

### **Emailing newsletter**

Our newsletters will be emailed to those families who have provided us with an email address. If you don't receive your newsletter by email please contact Fiona Weir on [office@sjr.school.nz](mailto:office@sjr.school.nz)

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 or let us know and you will be texted when the books arrive.

### **Uniforms**

The start of each term is the time when we order school uniform items. 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 a uniform 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.uniformz.com>

### School Uniform

A reminder that children are to dress in correct uniform please:

#### Boys - Summer

Red polo shirt

Grey shorts

School polar fleece or jersey

Grey socks

Brown/black shoes or sandals

#### Girls - Summer

Red polo shirt

Skort

School polar fleece or jersey

Black socks

Brown/black shoes or sandals

We ask that children who have long hair, have this tied up with brown, red, green, black or white hair ties.

### Head Lice

Please check your children's hair regularly for this, as it is an ongoing issue. Please treat this when necessary.

### Parent Information Evening

On **Wednesday 12th February** we will be holding a parent information evening. You can attend all sessions or as many as interest you.

The presentation explains the expectations and programmes in each class.

**Junior Class 7 - 7.20p.m.**

**Middle Class 7.30 - 7.50p.m.**

**Senior Class 8 - 8.20p.m.**

We look forward to seeing you then.

### School 75th Jubilee

A reminder that our school 75th jubilee celebrations take place from 20 - 22 March, 2020 (Otago Anniversary Weekend).

If you are interested in attending this, please register, either online: [www.sjr.school.nz](http://www.sjr.school.nz) or pop into school and pick up a registration form.

## **Special Character Clipboard:**

A prayer for a new School Year



Next week we have a holiday on Thursday 6th February to remember Waitangi Day. We commemorate the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi on this day in 1840. Waitangi Day was first commemorated in 1934. The Treaty is often called "The Founding Document" of New Zealand. It is an agreement and exchange of promises made between representatives of the British crown and representatives of Maori.

Ko nga pae tawhiti  
Whaia kia tata  
Ko nga pae tata  
Whakamaua kia tina.

The potential for tomorrow depends on what we do today.

### **Junior Class News:**

- This year we start with 13 children in the Junior Class and we welcome Theo Dowling to our class. Each child will have a named file box container to keep their pencil cases and book bags in.
- During the first 3 weeks of term the children will be working with Miss Flintoff on a painting for the A & P Show on Wednesday 19th February. This year the theme is "Here comes the Cavalcade".
- Our theme for this term is linked to our school 75th jubilee in March. We will be learning about our school history and what school used to be like in the past.
- All Junior Class children should have received a letter about homework expectations for the year, this was given out on Wednesday. If you have any questions please come and see me.

### **Middle Class News:**

Kia ora and welcome back to school for 2020!

I'm sure there were some very nervous children at the start of the week, just as I was, that are feeling more confident and excited about school.

I am looking forward to being a part of your child's education and have absolutely loved meeting them and building those learning relationships this week.

We have spent our time setting up some classroom routines and expectations and the parents can expect more information regarding home learning and activities over the coming weeks. In the meantime, continue to encourage reading every night as well as doing basic facts (times tables, addition and subtraction questions).

It has been lovely to meet some of the parents already and I look forward to catching up with you all at some stage before or at the parents meeting in week 3.

If you have any questions or concerns, or just want to say 'hi' you can contact me via email or organise a time to catch up.

[rachel@sjr.school.nz](mailto:rachel@sjr.school.nz)

## **Senior Class News:**



**“Alone we can do so little, together, we can do so much”  
Helen Keller**

Welcome back to the school year.

### **Classroom newsletter**

You will have all received the newsletter that was emailed home on Monday. Thank you for keeping up to date with our communication and setting your children up for a great first week.

### **Class Orientation Evening**

Mrs Mulholland has mentioned this earlier in the newsletter. It is important to me that I have a person from each family at this meeting as this is when you will understand how our classroom operates, and how best to support your child. I will also be sharing camp information and paperwork with you, which is really important for me as this is a safety and planning aspect of camp that I prepare well ahead of time.

### **Senior Room Camp**

Camp Berwick from 6th - 9th April.

### **Stationery**

Your child's stationery list was sent home on Wednesday. Please pay for the stationery either with cash or a cheque made out to St Johns School, or by using internet banking - the account number will be on the bottom of the stationery list.

### **Year 7 and 8 Technology**

This starts next Wednesday at MAS from 11.05 - 1.05pm. The children involved have a notice glued into their hw book that you might like to read.

### **Homework**

We have written this into our homework books and this routine will be in place for next week. Help your child with this aspect of their schooling and sign the appropriate places that they will show you. I suggest starting to learn the spelling words over the weekend to make next week's work easier.

### **Aquatics**

We are working with the Council towards being able to offer school swimming so I will keep you informed of this, as what we have been offered at the moment (no school swimming time in the town pool) is unacceptable. I will keep you and your child informed.

### **ICT agreement**

This form will come home next week. Please carefully read through with your child and sign in the appropriate places.

### **Cricket**

Thank you for returning the notices regarding the cricket match in Dunedin. I will purchase the tickets and be back in touch next week with the final details.

### **Finally**

I have loved being back in the school setting with your children over the last few days and I'm confident that with good attendance, a happy demeanor and an open and inquisitive nature that we are going to have a brilliant term. Life is good in the Senior Room! Every child has made a very positive start to the term and I love seeing them arrive through the door every morning.

### **Next week, you can expect to see coming home with your child**

1. The school ICT agreement
2. The cricket travel notice and information regarding how to pay for your ticket
3. Information regarding our swimming times and days.

### **Holiday Recipe**

We have had fun playing with words and reflecting on our summer breaks. Enjoy these examples of children's work.

#### **Recipe for the Best Summer Ever!**

½ C of fun Wanaka trips  
A pinch of lying on the couch  
1 T of warm dam water at midnight  
Tbsp of Christmas with friends and family  
100g of hot summer days outside

Fold together the Wanaka trip, lying on the couch and hot days. Then sift in Christmas and pour in warm dam water. Whisk together and place in oven at best Summer ever temperature for 10 mins.

Sprinkle parties, sleepins and biking on top and eat within the 6 weeks of the hot holidays. Enjoy!

*By Tessa Steele*

#### **The Summer Special**

1 ounce of pork chops  
2 tbsp of eel  
1 sleep over  
5 C of boat racing  
6 pinches of friends/family  
½ C of swimming

1. Defrost pork chops then put them in a tray, then batter the eels and put in a separate roasting dish.
2. Then grind the sleepover into a marinade, then pour into a plastic boat in the roasting dish.
3. Then add 6 pinches of friends/family into the big roasting dish and blend swimming and pour into the roasting dish alos, then get the eel and place it on the top.
4. Put the dish in oven for an hour at a summer heat of 28°C
5. Then enjoy your meal. Beware, maybe crunchy.

*By Billy Watson*

### A recipe for a successful summer!

1 C of pinecone wars at Ma's  
3 ounces of a crazy New Years party  
40 grams of white chocolate  
1 Dtsp of music  
2 C of jumping in the dam at midnight  
1 tsp of juicy fruit

Mix the crazy New Years party with the dessert spoon of music. Add a midnight swim and pinecone wars at Ma's. Top off with juicy fruit dribbling down your chin and a dash of white chocolate. Bake for 24 hours and enjoy on a fresh summers day.

*By Annie Dowling*

Kind regards,  
Geraldine Duncan.

### **Board of Trustees**

Our first meeting for the year will be held on Tuesday 11th February at 7.30p.m.

### **Notices and Dates:**

<b>Week 4</b>	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Maniototo A & P Show
<b>Week 5</b>	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Swim Week
<b>Week 8</b>	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	St John's School 75 <sup>th</sup> Jubilee
<b>Week 9</b>	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Otago Anniversary – School Closed
<b>Week 11</b>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Senior Class Camp at Berwick

