

# St John's School Newsletter

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

Issue 2: 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020

## **Principal's Page:**

### **Swim Week**

A reminder this is on next week, the **24 - 28 February**.

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

Thank you to those parents who have indicated they could help with the driving of the van and helping the children get prepared for the lessons. A timetable indicating drivers and times is attached to this newsletter.

A big thank you to **Peter Lyon Shearing** for the use of their van for the week as this makes transport to and from the pool very easy.

If anyone is heading to Alexandra after school on Friday 28th February could they please let me know, as we need to return the van to Peter Lyon that afternoon. Thank you.

### **Parent Information Evening**

Thank you to those parents who attended our parent information evening last Tuesday. It was great to see many of you there.

### **School Stationery**

A reminder that stationery needs to be paid by the end of February please. It can be paid by cheque, cash or internet banking. If paying by internet, please put name and stationery in reference. The account number is:

**03 0951 0066195 000**

### **Swimming Sports**

Our swimming sports will be held on **Monday 9th March** beginning promptly at **1.15p.m.**

### **Postage when ordering uniform items**

When ordering uniform items that we have in stock, you are charged \$5 postage to cover the postage the school has already paid. Also we order uniform from 3 different outlets therefore there is a charge on each of the order forms to cover this.

### **School Trip to Arrowtown Museum**

As part of learning about the history of our school and what school was like in early days we have booked a day at the Arrowtown Museum on **Tuesday 17 March**. We will take part in various activities to do with early days in Central Otago.

We will need to leave school at 8a.m. and not return until about 6p.m. so bus children will need to be dropped off at school for 8a.m. and then picked up again from the school carpark at 6p.m.

The cost of the programme is \$5 for each child. This money can be brought to school or can be paid into the school bank account anytime before Monday 9th March please. The bank account no is: **03 0951 0066195 000**

Please put name and Museum in reference.

Parent helpers are free.

If you can help with transport and supervision on the day could you please fill in the form attached and return it to school by Monday 2nd March. Thank you.

### **Church cleaning**

Thank you to those parents who offered to be put on a roster to help clean our church. I have passed these names on to the parishioner who organises the list. A list will be given out when it is completed. If you are unsure what to do please come and see me and I can show you where the Church key is kept and what you need to do when your turn comes around.

### **Start of Year Mass**

Thank you to those parents and friends who came along and helped celebrate the beginning of the year Mass last week. We are lucky to have Father Sani living closer, as in January Father moved to Alexandra where he is now the Parish Priest.

## **Special Character Clipboard:**

Wednesday 26th February is **Ash Wednesday**.

This is a very important day of the year for Catholics. It marks the beginning of Lent, the 40 day preparation for Easter. Ash Wednesday is, traditionally, 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, eg, volunteering for the Young Vinnies
4. Pray for a set purpose or time each day/week

We will be having a school prayer liturgy to mark Ash Wednesday.

At this, children receive a cross mark of ash on their foreheads. The following words are said,

"Turn to God & know that God loves you".

## **Junior Class News:**

Some stories from recent writing:

In the weekend we went fishing at the Taieri river. We saw three sheep on the way. Then when we heard a fish splash we fished there, but we didn't catch it. Then on the last go I felt the fish. I caught it but it was small. I threw it back.

Xavier Love

I have sharp teeth.

I am orange and black.

I eat meat.

I live in the jungle.

I am a ...?

**Tiger**

Zach Tomalon

I was fishing with the Duncans and I lost my socks. I lost Jack's net and I never told Jack. We put a possum in the eel trap because eels like meat. We caught 1 eel. I held an eel but it slipped out of my hand because eels are slimy.

Isla Jeffries

I live in the snow.

I can fly.

I have fur.

I live in a nest.

I am little.

I am a...

**Snow Owl**

Kaylah McAuley

## **Middle Class News:**

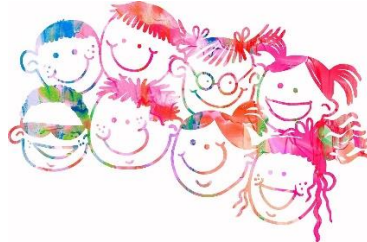
Kia Ora,

We have really settled into our routines at school and The Middle class is no exception! Our new Oral Language programme has brought some exciting challenges and it has been amazing watching the students present to the class. Their confidence will continue to grow, allowing them to feel more comfortable sharing ideas and asking questions. Thank you to all the parent support for this at home, it makes a huge difference when students arrive knowing they are well prepared. We have also really enjoyed writing about 'A Moment in Time' this week. We look at some crazy pictures and try to imagine how the person/animal would be feeling, what sort of things they could hear and also what they could see. Jae has made a great start, writing about the image below.



I can see a huge bear running towards me at full speed. I see people running away from the bear. I hear people screaming "I was only hitting the ball" "HELP! Someone HELP!"

## Senior Class News:



**'Go forth and set the world on fire'**  
St Ignatius Loyola

### **Swim Week has arrived already!**

This is next week from Monday to Thursday for us, due to our Cavalcade walk on Friday. Children come to school first and then will be transported down in the Peter Lyon Shearing van that he has loaned us for the week, which works out perfectly as the first lesson doesn't start until 9.15am.

On Wednesday the children in the Whales group that go to Technology, will walk from the pool to MAS.

Please ensure the children have plenty of food for the week as swimming makes them very hungry. They will also need help with making sure they get plenty of sleep.

If you can please send your child with swim goggles, you will make these sessions so much easier for them.

### **Cavalcade walk (Friday 28th February)**

Thank you to the offers of support with walking alongside the children on this trek. Can Judy, Kim, Kym, Trina and Geraldine all please be at school by 8.30am on Friday morning and we will leave as soon as the last bus child arrives, as we need to be at our convening point not long after 9am. Children will wear mufti and comfortable sneakers that they can walk 7.5km in. They will need

- School bag with plenty of food and water
- Track Pants / leggings and shorts
- Tee shirt
- Sweatshirt
- Light jacket
- Sunhat (and a wooly hat if you think the day will be cool).

We have been asked to provide our own backup vehicle, so if anyone could please drive a car behind us please let me know as I need to ensure we meet the Cavalcade's requirements safety wise. Thank you.

### **Camp Berwick**

Thank you for the forms that have all come back in and for the offers to join us at camp. I am now onto the next stage of planning and this is how our week looks like in terms of adults alongside us...

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
<b>All of camp</b>	Kym Smith Cate Herlihy Anna Greer Wayne Francis Ian Hore	Kym Smith Cate Herlihy Anna Greer Wayne Francis Ian Hore	Kym Smith Cate Herlihy Anna Greer Wayne Francis Ian Hore	Kym Smith Cate Herlihy Anna Greer Wayne Francis Ian Hore
<b>Coming and going</b>	Geraldine Dowling	Geraldine Dowling	Tony Steele	Tony Steele
	Trina Steele	Trina Steele	Heather Dowling	Heather Dowling
	Vaughan Dowling	Vaughan Dowling		
	Kim Gibson	Kim Gibson		
<b>Rafting only</b>		Erin Elworthy Scott Smith		

Thank you everyone for being willing and able to help. As we have 6 adults who will be at camp all week, you do not need to stay the Tuesday night if that is your last day, and can arrive Wednesday morning if that is your first day. This can be your own choice but please do confirm with me asap, so we finalise our catering numbers.

The police vetting forms will come home in the next week but those that are teachers will not need to do this, as this is already covered in your teacher registration.

Camp costs: Children are \$55 for the whole camp, adults are \$80 for the whole camp and for those parents coming for two nights only - please pay \$40. Those that are coming down rafting only, you do not need to pay anything.

The bank account number is 03 0951 0064739 00 and please reference your child's name or the adults name. This needs to be paid by Thursday 26th March.

### **NZ Cricket Cup / Shield matches**

The boys played on Tuesday in very hot conditions in Alexandra and had a loss to Cromwell in their first match, and then were defaulted too in their second match which was very disappointing. This didn't dampen the boys enthusiasm for a day away from school! Thank you to Karl for coaching the team and the parents for transporting and supporting the boys.



The girls have played today and I will have to update you in the next newsletter on their progress.

### **Swimming Sports date**

This date has changed to allow us to have final swimming sessions after the swim week with our classes, to ensure they are ready for the races. The date is now **Monday 9th March and the sports will start at 1.15pm.**

Following this on Wednesday 11th March, I plan to take the seniors to the Patearoa swimming hole to practice their survival skills in deep, moving water. We will leave school at 1.05pm (and pick up the children at technology) and be back by 2.45pm. We will spend approximately 50-60 minutes at the swimming hole. I will be asking for parents to come along and help with transport and supervision.

### **Homework**

Thank you for your support to your child/ren with their homework. The children are doing really well with this and are settling into the daily routine of managing this. If you do not access the internet at home, please encourage your child to use the school laptops to complete anything that needs done for their homework. There is plenty of time before school starts each day.

Thank you for coming along to the parent information evening last week :)

Kind regards,  
Geraldine Duncan.

## Board of Trustees

At our February meeting the Board reviewed the policy:  
Recognition of Cultural Diversity

If you are interested in reading and reviewing this policy, 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.

The Annual and Strategic plans for 2020 were read and approved and discussion was held on repairing the back of the hall which is owned by the Sacred Heart Parish but as a school we use it.

## Notices and Dates:

<b>Week 5</b>	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Swim Week
	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Ash Wednesday
<b>Week 7</b>	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Swimming Sports
<b>Week 8</b>	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Arrowtown Trip
	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Teacher Only Day – School Closed
	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 10</b>	Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Otago Swimming Sports in Dunedin
<b>Week 11</b>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Senior Class Camp at Berwick

-----  
I can help with transport to and from Arrowtown on Tuesday 17th March.

I can transport  children, including my own.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

My car registration and warrant of fitness are current: Yes / No

