

St John's School Newsletter

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Issue 9: 16th August 2024

Principal's Page:

Nau mai haere mai

Mufti Mania Pyjama Day

Thank you to everyone for their gold coin donations for Pyjama Day at the end of last term. We raised \$95.00 to support Holy Trinity School in Papua New Guinea.

Cross Country

This event is on **Tuesday 20th August at 1 pm** at the Maniototo Stadium.
You should have received a letter yesterday (Thursday) with details about this event.

Staffing 2025

For 2025 Mrs Geraldine Duncan has decided to reduce her full time teaching position and will be job sharing teaching the Senior Class with Mrs Rachel Gray. Geraldine will teach Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays and Rachel, Thursday and Fridays.

Daffodil Day

Friday 30th August is "**Daffodil Day**" which is a nationwide day of fundraising for the New Zealand Cancer Society.

We will have a mufti day on this day.

Children can wear bright clothes, including yellow or just ordinary mufti clothes and bring along a gold coin donation for the Cancer Society. Thank you.

Bike Safety

A reminder that children will be participating in some bike safety sessions with our Police Education Officer, Mr Garry Milford, on Monday and Tuesday the 2nd and 3rd of September.

If children have a bike we ask parents if they could please drop bikes and helmets off to school any day (between 8 am and 5 pm) during the week of **26th August**.

The bikes can be put inside the hall, thank you.

Please let the class teacher know if your child doesn't have a bike.

Thank you.

Ngā mihi,
Susan Mulholland

Special Character:

*Congratulations to those children who celebrated their Confirmation on Sunday 4th August. Please see the Middle Room news for a photo of these children.

*Thursday 15th August was the Feast of the Assumption. This day celebrates the assumption of Mary (Jesus's mother) into heaven.

Mary is the patron saint of Catholic people in New Zealand.

*Attached to this newsletter is a letter re our Parish "Planned Giving" programme. We have been asked to share this letter with our school community.

Junior Class News:

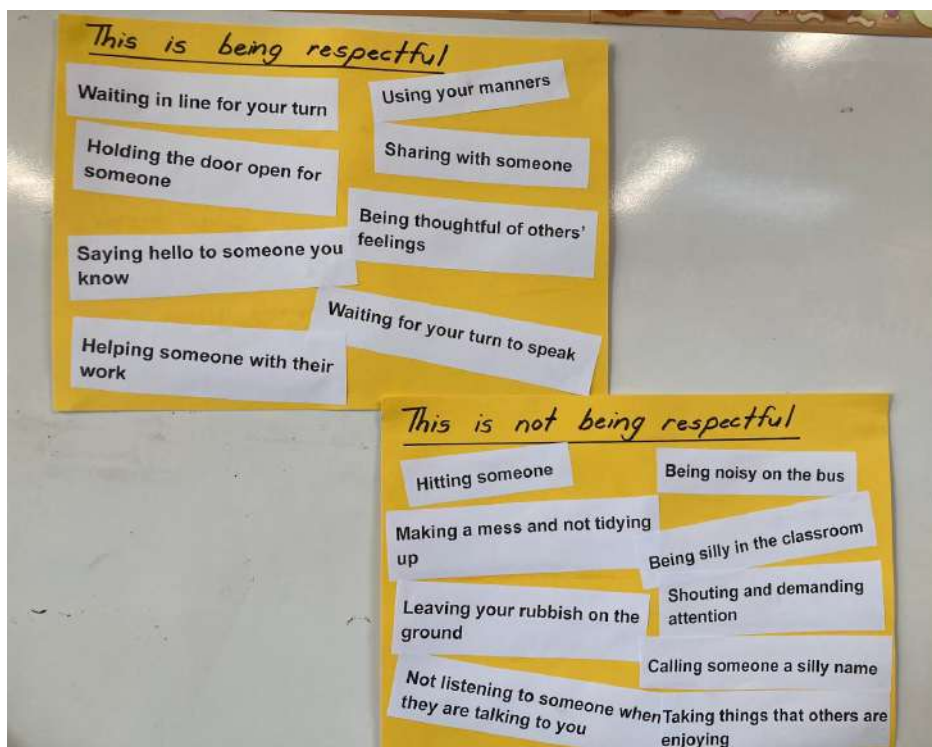
-The Junior Class welcomed new 5 year old **Zach Carig** to our class on Wednesday 14th August.

Unfortunately we only have Zach with us for a couple of weeks as the Carigs are moving.

We wish Roger and Ellen, Marcus and Zach all the best with their shift and new job in a new community.



-In Religious Education this week the Junior Class had to sort sentences into:
 "This is respectful behaviour"
 "This is not respectful behaviour"
 We had fun role playing some of these scenarios.



Middle Class News:



Kia Ora! Kumasta!

Wow! I can't believe that we are almost halfway through the term already! Time is certainly flying. In the Middle Room we have been enjoying following the Olympics over the past few weeks and doing lots of activities around it.



If I was an Olympian the sport I would do is Rugby Sevens because I love playing rugby and I would have the best try celebration in the whole team. I would also tackle people and stop them from scoring. I would stand on the podium with my teammates and hold our medals up. I would train my heart out and I would get my teammates to train with me until we were almost puffed. When we are in the Olympics we will try our hardest in every game. We will win a gold and be proud of ourselves.

Ben Scott

If I was an Olympian I would enter in... running. I would compete in the 1500m run because I like running for a long time! I would run it as quick as a fly. The crowd would be going wild when the race started. I would be in the lead for the whole time. As I race to the finish line the crowd would go wild. As I'm nearly at the finish line, I hear the crowd buzzing more than they were before. I felt my heart beating faster and faster. It would be as if I was the world champion. As I reached the finish line, I would receive a medal. It would say 'Olympian Star' on it. New Zealanders would be going wild. It would be epic!

Juliette Dowling



On the 12th of August, the Middle and Senior class went to the Maniototo Area School to see Bailey Unahi to hear her fascinating story.

When we got inside, Bailey greeted us with warmth and told us about how she ended up in a wheelchair, because she was at a party and she was under a balcony and it collapsed on top of her which left her with a broken spinal cord. But she didn't sit at home and say "I'm in a wheelchair I can't do anything, she went out there and said, "I'm in a wheelchair, I'm going to go out there with a positive attitude". She tried skiing after her accident in a seat with one ski called a sit ski. At first, it was hard but she got better and better and now look at her. She's training to qualify for the Paralympics in Milan in 2026, with her inspiration in her head... Lisa Carrington.

Bailey was an inspiration to me. I want to say no to the bad things and turn them into a silver lining.

Millie Smith

Congratulations to Jade, Keisha, Colleen, Neale, Zach, Ben, Charlie, Theo, Jack, Yuri, Juliette, Greta, Olivia and Maggie who completed their Confirmation in church on the 4th August. It was a special day with the Bishop attending.



Ngā mihi,
Heather Dowling

Senior Class News:

'It doesn't cost anything to be kind.'

Kia ora koutou families

This week, we have dealt with unkind and bullying behaviour among classroom members. In our prayers yesterday, we focused on building our understanding of kindness, how to show it to others, and how it makes us feel good. Did you know it only takes 13 muscles to smile? In today's prayers, we learnt about showing empathy to others - being able to 'Put Yourself In Someone Else's Shoes' and sense and relate to other people's feelings. This allows you to be kind and compassionate. As a group, we are working on moving forward together positively.

A great term for the senior class comprises the following elements ...

Having fun.	When playing games with each other, we want to make them competitive yet fair by having even teams and agreement on the rules.
Having activities and events to look forward to and to prepare for.	This term, we have: Maniototo Cross Country (next Tuesday) Years 3-8 Ski Trip Our school sheep will have lambs later in the term Starting athletics training at the end of the term
Completing our work and feeling good about what we have produced.	By having a good attitude to our work and being determined, focused and positive. Staying on task and not mucking about.
We like being with others.	Showing patience and kindness to our classmates Including everyone and anyone Being a cooperative person Be a nice person to others
Our class can achieve the above as a group that works well together.	

Young Vinnies

This term, the Young Vinnies will be writing letters to people at the hospital. You will have already received a letter from your child in response to the letter you wrote to them last term. We have also chosen someone to write to tell them about our holidays (and had some responses!), so we will continue with this skill.

The Young Vinnies Executive will also organise an opportunity for us to look after the Ranfurly environment - this will be a rubbish run.

Homework

Please encourage your child to develop a personal reading habit at home, as this has immense benefits in all areas of learning.

We now have several children who have reached the 20 certificate milestone in Mathematics: Xavier, Colleen and Karl. This week, we have another four children who will reach this milestone.

Ski Trip

We have 39 children and 23 adults going on our ski trip. A note regarding the payment, the parent meeting and the ski gear check went home last week. For those children not going, they will attend school as normal for a great day with Mrs Dowling.

Cross Country

This is next Tuesday. We have run the cross-country course several times and can all complete it. It is normal for your child to have nerves on race day and to feel slightly sick with these. They will be okay, they can all complete the course, and very importantly, they will get House points by doing the event. There is quite a lot of chat between the children about what house will win the shield for this event!

Children can qualify for the Otago Cross Country event, which will be held in Dunedin on Friday, September 6th. Qualification times are as follows: Years 4-6: under 9 minutes, Years 7-8: under 12 minutes.

Being Prepared for Learning

Lastly, please ensure your child has a red and blue pen for school, a pencil, a pencil sharpener, and a ruler. It is much easier for them to be organised if they do not have to borrow from others.

Kind regards
Geraldine Duncan.

Board of Trustees:

-At our August meeting the Board were presented with a Maths - Number curriculum report.

-We reviewed four policies:

- Concerns and Complaints
- Media
- Performance Management,
- Professional Development

Are you going overseas for the school holidays?

*When you return, you can now complete a digital **New Zealand Traveller Declaration (NZTD)** before you fly back into New Zealand – replacing the need to fill out a paper declaration card on the plane.*

Everyone coming into New Zealand needs to complete an NZTD. You'll answer questions about your trip and what's in your bags. You can complete it at a time that suits you, on the [NZTD website](#) or by downloading the [NZTD app](#), and submit it 24 hours before your trip back to New Zealand.

*Download the NZTD app today!
travellerdeclaration.govt.nz*

Notices and Dates:

Week 4	Sunday 18 th August	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Xavier & Greta Love
Week 5	Tuesday 20 th August	Maniototo Cross Country
	Sunday 25 th August	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Jessie Greer & Josie Herlihy
Week 6	Friday 30 th August	Mufti Day for NZ Cancer Society, Daffodil Day
	Sunday 1 st September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Eli & Joshua Barroga
Week 7	Monday 2 nd & Tuesday 3 rd September	Bike Safety sessions for each class with the Police Education Officer (students will be asked to bring their bikes to school for these days, if possible)
	Friday 6 th September	Otago Cross Country in Dunedin
Week 8	Sunday 8 th September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Finn & Charlie Dowling
Week 9	Sunday 15 th September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Zach Tomalon & Harry Dowling
Week 10	Sunday 22 nd September	Sunday Mass at 4pm Altar Servers: Karl Suplente, Neale Plena & Marcus Carig