



NEWSLETTER

St John's Girls' School

17 February 2025



Greetings from the
Acting Principal

Kia Ora, Tafola
Lava, Kia Orana

Nau mai, haere mai! What an incredible start to the school year. It has been the most wonderful time at school over the past couple of weeks. There is a keen sense of positivity and plenty of smiling faces around! As I have been around the playground at break times, I have noticed how much the girls are enjoying being back at school. There is confidence in the air!

Our new girls have become St John's girls quickly and it is wonderful to see how they are settling into their new school environment. Many of the staff have commented on just how quickly our new girls have adapted to St John's routines and also how they have created new friendship circles. This is a testament to the kindness of our girls, and how they support our new ākonga from the start. I have spoken to many of the new girls over the past two weeks and all have commented on just how much they love life at St John's!

At our Staff Only Day at the beginning of the year, I shared the whakatauki you can see to the left with our staff. It is a whakatauki that is incredibly important to me as an educator, and one I reflect on often. Everything we do at our school is centred around what is best for our learners - they are truly at the heart of everything we do. The home-school partnership is vital to this. We strive to work together as a team for the benefit of your daughter.

Meet the Teacher Evening

We hope to see many of you at our upcoming Meet the Teacher evening on Wednesday 19 February at 6pm. This is an excellent forum for sharing information with you all at a school level, and then for you to learn about the routines of your daughter's classroom. This is also a wonderful opportunity to connect with new whānau in our community.

Family Fun Night

Our annual Family Fun Night is being held on Tuesday 25 February. Beginning at 5:30pm, whānau arrive with their dinner and find a space for a picnic on our back field. Rest assured, we have invited the sunshine for the evening! The Parents' Association kindly provide entertainment, best-dressed competitions and ice blocks for our tamariki. Our Year 8 leaders will help with organising the running races on the night. Everyone is encouraged to dress up in their daughter's house colours.

Camps

We are excited to have our entire senior syndicate heading away to their respective camps this term. There is so much learning that takes place on camp and most of it relates to our KIPRRR values, particularly resilience and perseverance. It is also a wonderful way for the classes to come together as a team. When classes come back from camp, their team dynamic is certainly stronger. This is the reason why we hold camps at the start of the year.

Thank you to our wonderful camp parent volunteers. We could not provide these opportunities for our girls without your support.

Please look out for your daughter's camp invoice. Payment is required the week before departure.

Whakatauki - Māori Proverb

*Whakatauki: Ko te
ahurei o te tamaiti
arahia o tatou
mahi*

Let the uniqueness of
the child guide our
work.





Values Cup Recipients



Aggie McKenzie
Room 2

Swimming

We started school swimming last week with all Year 1-8 girls attending lessons. There was an incredible vibe at the pool, and it was wonderful to see so many girls pushing themselves and rising to new challenges. Mrs Netty Dennis, our sports coordinator, has done a stellar job of organising our school lessons.

Your daughter will need togs, a towel and goggles [named] at school every Monday.

To ensure your daughter fully benefits from her swimming lessons, we kindly request that out-of-school appointments are not scheduled on Monday afternoons. However, we understand that some appointments may be unavoidable. If you need to pick up your daughter on a Monday afternoon, please do so by 1:00pm, before we depart for the pool.

Attendance and Punctuality

We have a strong emphasis on high attendance and punctual drop-off and pick-ups. It is important your daughter is at school on time and every day. One day off each fortnight equates to 20 school days off a year. This makes for a considerable lack of consistency in learning. Please do not be offended if your daughter's attendance rate is discussed with you by her teacher, or myself. We want the very best for every one of our girls.

Drop Off and Pick Up Times

Students may arrive on site from 8:20am. We recommend arriving by 8:30am to allow ample time for organisation before the morning assembly.

All students must be picked up promptly at the end of the school day. Back gate duty [Avenal Street] concludes at 3:10pm. Any students not collected by this time will be brought back to the senior cloakroom steps.

Students still on site at 3:15pm will be taken to After School Care.

Invoices

The Term 1 invoices will be arriving shortly. These are due by the mid-term date. Please act on these promptly. Your contribution is what allows our school to provide what it does for your daughter.

When settling your invoices, please ensure you are paying into the correct account [Board of Trustees or Board of Proprietors] and include your daughter's name as a reference.

Thank you for your continued support of our wonderful school.

Holly Bradshaw
Tumuaki Whakakapi - Acting Principal





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- **17** Swimming [1-3pm]
- **19** Rm 7 Camp Meeting with Parents [5.30 pm]
Meet the Teacher - Hall [6pm]
Parents' Association Meeting - Staffroom [7pm]
- **25** Swimming [1-3pm]
- **27** School Photos [am]
7yr old Running [Adventist Christian School] [pm]
BoT Meeting - Staffroom [5.30pm]

APRIL

- **2-4** Yr 6 Camp
- **4** Junior Athletics Day [Rms 1-3]
- **7** Swimming [1-3pm]
- **8** Grip Leadership - Gore
- **9** Passover Feast
- **10** Easter Service Rehearsal [9am]
- **11** Easter Service - First Church [1.30 - 2pm]
Last Day of Term 1
- **28** First Day of Term 2

MARCH

- **3** Swimming [1-3pm]
- **4-7** Yr 7 Stewart Island Camp
- **6** All Saints Athletics
- **7** All Saints Athletics [postponement day]
- **10** Swimming [1-3pm]
- **12** House Bonding Day [Queens Park]
BoP Meeting - Staffroom [5.30pm]
- **17** Swimming [1-3pm]
- **18** Rocky Shore Bluff Visit - Rooms 1-3
- **19** Interviews [2.15 - 6pm]
School finishes at 2pm
- **20** Interviews [3.15 - 6pm]
- **21** Aquavan Visit - Stadium [selected students]
- **24** Swimming [1-3pm]
- **27** Lit Quiz [Gore]
BoT Meeting - Staffroom [5.30pm]
- **31** Swimming [1-3pm]
- **31-2** Yr 5 Camp [31 March to 2 April]
- **31-4** Yr 8 Deep Cove Camp [31 March to 4 April]



WEEKLY AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS

ROOM 1

Lily Vaughan, Harriet Telfer, Alora Bosma, Annabel Flannery

ROOM 2

Navy Sloane, McKenzie Klye, Elliece Goodwright, Charlotte Dore

ROOM 3

Pippa Vaughan, Sophia Risk, Grace McLeod-Young, Charlotte Farley

ROOM 4

Victoria Duncan, Nikita Zeestraten, Amelia Goodwright, Lola Rutledge

ROOM 6

Danielle King, Lauren Beer, Scarlett Anderson, Jayne Holms-Johnston

ROOM 7

Samantha Parry, Evie Erskine, Emily Laughton, Greer Pine

ROOM 8

Neveah Roughan, Charlotte Beer, Meila Iosefo, Willow Harper

VALUES CUP

Aggie McKenzie

Room 2

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

-



SJGS NEWB'S

We are so excited to welcome all of our new girls to St John's. We interviewed some of them to see how they have been finding our wonderful school so far. This is what they had to say.....



Charlotte Farley

Year 4 / Room 3

"I have a lot of friends and it's very easy to make friends! Room 3 is giving good vibes!"

Georgia Mead

Year 5 / Room 5

"10 out of 10! I have made lots of friends, I had a great first day and I love my new class."



Navy Sloane

Year 2 / Room 2

"Great class, great school. School is fun and I am learning lots. 9/10 - I love my new school!!!!"



We are so happy that the girls are fitting in right away and we hope they all enjoy their learning journey at SJGS.

**From your Yr 7 Kaiarahi:
Bailey C, Greer P, Evie E, Briar N**



Kia ora,

We are excited to have the Chatbus service operating at our school on Mondays this year!

The Chatbus service is run by a Board (consisting of 10 schools) and is formally known as Chatbus South Trust. They currently employ Sandra Lea as one of their Chatbus South counsellors. She is a fully qualified and registered Counsellor.

For new families to the school, here is a short video on our Facebook page that shares the story of how Chatbus originated and gives an overview of this service: [Chatbus video](#)

Here is a link to our Chatbus Facebook page where our counsellors regularly share posts to support parents with strategies and insights they can use with their children: <https://www.facebook.com/ChatbusSouth>

If you would like to make a referral to Chatbus for your children, please fill out our digital form: [Chatbus Referral form](#)

Regards Sandra Lea
Counsellor, Chatbus South



Just a timely reminder for you to please email the office with any changes to your details so that our records can be updated.

[office@stjohnsgirls.school.nz]

LUNCH
TIME



The girls are able to have food warmed up for their lunches. These are collected each morning and put into our warmer for them. We do ask that the food is wrapped in either tin foil or baking paper and **not put into containers [glass/plastic]** as we have limited space in the warmer as these can cause a potential burn hazard for the people handling them. We also ask that you don't send sausages along for the girls as the fat leaks out of these which makes quite a mess in the warmer.

Thank you for your help with this!

SWIM - SLIDE - SCOOT - BIKE - RUN



SUNDAY
13 April
2025



FROM 8:30AM - SPLASH PALACE AND RUGBY PARK

Individual and team options available for 6-10yrs and 11-14yrs
Mini Splash and Dash - Splash and Dash - Triathlon



Every child over 120cm tall can add in a slide down the hydroslide as part of their event

Win a Class Entry

Win entry for your whole class to KidsTRY 2025.

Tell us WHY your class deserves to win and go into the draw to win free entry for your whole class.

Entries to be sent to southlandtrimulticlub@gmail.com by 7 March 2025 and the winning class will be announced on 10 March 2025.



DELIVERERS WANTED



Immediate Start

Get fit with part time work delivering newspapers and mailers into letterboxes.



If you are aged 11 or older, join our dynamic team.

- Regular weekly work
- No experience necessary
- We are a locally owned company
- It's easy, we drop the newspapers/mailers to your door

Email: deliveries@alliedpress.co.nz

Include your name, address, email, phone number

MAINLAND DISTRIBUTION LIMITED

OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO APPLY



Opening Event

Community Sing - Our Songs Our Stories

Saturday 1st March 2025, 2.30 pm

First Church, Tay Street, Invercargill

We launch Heritage Month 2025 with a very special community event for all ages. Join us in the historic First Church for an afternoon tea, and a good old-fashioned family sing-a-long with musical maestro and choral director, Sally Bodkin-Allen leading us in renditions of popular songs from the past.

A free family-friendly event, though a koha is appreciated.

Do let us know if you're coming to this event by emailing events@heritagesouth.nz by Wednesday 26th February.

