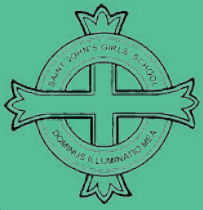




# NEWSLETTER

St John's Girls' School

22 November 2024



Greetings from  
the Principal

Namaste, Malo,  
Ata Marie

**Whakatauki -  
Māori Proverb**

*He taonga  
rongonui te aroha  
ki te tangata*

Goodwill towards  
others is a precious  
treasure



What a wonderful week we have had here at school. There has been much celebration and community spirit.

We have some very tired girls, particularly our Year 8's, who are busy preparing and organising events for us all to enjoy. This contribution for the students makes such a difference to our Special Character and sense of family, whanaungatanga. Student voice and ownership of learning play a large part in our girls' success.

## Dance Sharing

Wednesday's dance sharing was incredibly enjoyable for many reasons. Each class performed an engaging and polished routine and there was a lot of pride in the hall. The cheering from the older girls as Room 1 focused so hard on their moves was encouraging and heart-warming. The teamwork and class support that was on display mirrored our teaching of values. For some girls yesterday's sharing was challenging and outside their comfort zone but they did it, and they did themselves proud.

## Lip Sync Competition

Yesterday we held the second ever house lip sync competition. Our Year 8's of 2023 started this competition and it is quickly becoming a highlight on the calendar. The staff were immensely proud of all of the girls who competed for their houses today. The atmosphere was electric. There was so much clapping, cheering and joy! It was the safest space to be silly, take a risk and entertain. Mahi pai to our Year 8 class who taught an item to all of Room 1 who were able to showcase it together. It went down so well that they did it again in assembly this morning!

## Greats and Grands

Last week's Greats and Grands (which is a time-honoured tradition) was a morning of togetherness, love and pride. We saw just under 100 grandparents and great grandparents join their little people for a morning of sharing, classroom time and entertainment. Thank you to the many guests who joined us; it was an incredibly special morning. Ka pai to our Year 7 girls for their top notch morning tea catering!



## Values Cup Recipients

### Thank You

Thank you to the Boards and Parents' Association for their committed work in contributing to our school. Much of your time and effort goes unnoticed but what you do is invaluable, and our school is better for having you in your roles. Thank you.

There are many 'lasts' happening at the moment, both for our leaving girls and for me. You look at things with extra fondness when you know you're stepping away from them. I know that those girls finishing up at St John's are cherishing their final weeks, as am I.

Do take care over the weekend and we look forward to seeing the girls bright and rested on Monday!

God bless

Nathan Hughes  
**Tumuaki - Principal**



**Greer Valli**  
**Room 4**



**Lucy Jenkins**  
**Room 3**





# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## NOVEMBER

- **26** Familiarisation Morning
- **28** More FM Pack the Bus  
Maori Consultation Evening [6pm Staffroom]  
Disco [6-7.30 pm Whole School]
- **29** Aviary shared pizza lunch

## DECEMBER

- **2** Tabloids
- **5** BoT Meeting [5.30pm]
- **6** Father/Daughter Netball [2.00pm]  
Reports Out
- **9** Prizegiving/Christmas Service Practice
- **10** Christmas Service - First Church [6.30pm]
- **11** Farewell Assembly for Mr Hughes [2.00pm]
- **12** **Last Day of Term 4**  
Prizegiving - First Church [1.30pm]  
Leavers' Function - School Hall [3.15pm]

## 2025

- **3 February** **Staff only day**
- **4 February** **First day of school for students**
- **6 February** **Waitangi Day [school closed]**
- **27 February** **School Photos**
- **4-7 March** **Yr 7 Camp - Stewart Island**
- **6 March** **All Saints Athletics**
- **31 March - 2 April** **Yr 5 Camp**
- **31 March - 4 April** **Yr 8 Camp**
- **2-4 April** **Yr 6 Camp**
- **11 April** **Last day of Term 1**
- **16 December** **Last day of school for students**



- Term **1** 4 February to 11 April
- Term **2** 28 April to 27 June
- Term **3** 14 July to 19 September
- Term **4** 6 October to 16 December

# WEEKLY AWARDS

## CONGRATULATIONS

### ROOM 1

Charlotte Risk, Imogen Dixon-Calder, Olive Reilly, Addison Findlater

### ROOM 2

Mackenzie Smithies, Lucy Dixon-Calder, Amelia Maxwell, Grace McLeod-Young

### ROOM 3

Nikita Zeestraten, Aoife Gordon, Lara Preiningner, Charlee Miles

### ROOM 4

Rosie Laughton, Aaliyah Solly, Agnes Russell, Ashlyn Shepherd

### ROOM 6

Aliviah Giles, Briar Nicholl, Eilidh Gordon

### ROOM 7

Sophie Crosbie, Isla Patterson, Maisie Korteweg, Ava Moore

### ROOM 8

Zoe Laughton, Evie Arthur, Meila Spain, Nicole Carnie

### VALUES CUP

Greer Valli  
Lucy Jenkins

Room 4  
Room 3

### PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Indy Frost  
Aggie McKenzie  
Cambrie-Portia James Carman-Oneroa

Room 1  
Room 1  
Room 1



# CHRISTMAS BOX CHARITY

In the senior syndicate the girls have been loving their inquiry learning. They have been diving into their learning about charity.

With Mrs Dawkins Room 7 have made some really cool Christmas boxes for the less fortunate. This charity is called Christmas Box Charity. The boxes are filled to the brim with baking supplies, teddy bears, bath bombs, books and much much more! Most of these things are second hand.

Room 4 have also done a lot of research towards this topic as well. They have done lots of fun activities and have learnt a lot about this too. If you need to know something about a charity, go to Room 4!

We have also sent Christmas boxes filled to the brim with gifts to some children in Fiji and we all hope that they really enjoy them on Christmas day.



From Your Kaiarahi  
Gracie Dennis



# ROOM 4

## THE GIFT OF GIVING



*“You never know how big of an impact even the smallest contribution can have.”*

### INQUIRY TERM 4

In Room 4 we are learning all about The Gift Of Giving. We have looked into various charities and how they help people in need.

Kaye McCall visited us on Monday to show us her mahi for Samaritan's Purse who do an outreach called 'Operation Christmas Child'. She spoke to us about the children in Ghana who they send the Shoeboxes to.

*“They were so happy when they opened the presents last year.”*  
**Greer**

*“Last year they gave out 11 million shoeboxes. The kids get a shoebox once.”* **Simone**

*“Many people started following God and believing because they were really happy about the shoeboxes. In most of the shoeboxes there was a book about Jesus in it.”* **Ava**

We believe that even small acts of kindness can have a lasting impact on the lives of those in need. This term, we are excited to create our own shoeboxes for children to donate to a charity that is making a real difference in our community.

We are going to use what we've learned from Mrs McCall to make our own Shoeboxes to help local people in need here in Southland.



# ROOM 6

# SAMARITIAN'S PURSE

Operation  
Christmas Child



Room's 4 and 6 had Mrs McCall from the Operation Christmas Child society come in to help us create Christmas shoeboxes. We had loads of fun building the boxes and packing them for the kids that will get a special gift on Christmas. Mrs McCall showed us a video of children in Ghana getting a gift, and they were very happy. The society's goal is to spread Jesus Christ's word around the world, giving them hope and joy on Christmas.



## STUDENT QUOTES

*"Firstly, we were given net diagrams of the boxes and folded them together. Secondly, we filled our gifts with wonderful little trinkets. Lastly, we were given rubber bands to keep our boxes closed."* **Maya P**



*"When we started to make these boxes we all got told to think about the people we are gifting to. All I could think about was wishing I could see their reactions. It was so heart warming that we all got this opportunity."* **Ella**

*"Kaye talked to us about the charity, what they do, and what happens once the boxes get to the kids. We got to make and fill the boxes with fun toys and things for the kids to do."* **Emily B**



*"I had such a great time making the Christmas boxes! Just thinking about how we can bring a smile to a child in a less fortunate part of the world warms my heart. It makes me even happier to know that I was able to help one of them."* **Morrigan**

# ROOM 7

## INQUIRY

Charities Within  
Our Community



### INQUIRY FOCUS



Our Inquiry focus has been based on charities within our community. We have researched a variety of organisations who help those in need. It has been enlightening to learn about the wonderful people who volunteer or give so much of their time to help others.

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



We were fortunate to have Nakaysha's Mum, Kaye McCall talk to us about Operation Christmas Child. She provided us with a great variety of gift items and we each packed a shoebox to send overseas. It was a wonderful experience and meaningful to be a part of the giving process. (It has certainly made us appreciative of what we have).

**HAROLD THE GIRAFFE!**

It started in 1988

Founded by Trevor Grice

The Charity is International

Community funded

**History**

Trevor Grice suffered malnutrition and at the age of 10 he went to an orphanage and missed lots of schooling due to illness. Trevor wrote a book called the great brain robbery in 1977. Trevor founded the life education trust in 1988, and created Harold as its mascot.

**What does it do?**

Harold the Giraffe is the mascot of the life education trust. The life education trust is a charity that goes around schools and kindergatens teaching kids about health friendships and life decisions.

**LIFE EDUCATION**  
Learning with Harold

**CANCER SOCIETY**  
how they support families

what they aim to do

THEY AIM TO ENCOURAGE THE ILL PATIENTS TO STRIVE THROUGH TREATMENT. THEY ALSO RAISE MONEY SO DOCTORS CAN FIND CURES AND HAVE MONEY FOR MEDICINES IN THE HOSPITAL.

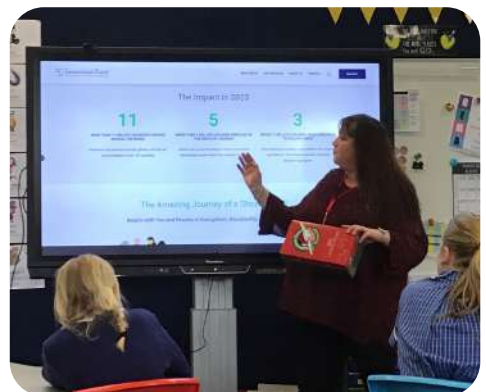
CANCER SOCIETY SUPPORTS FAMILIES WITH CANCER, THEY ENCOURAGE THEM TO LOOK AT THE BRIGHT SIDE.

fundraisers

DAFFODIL DAY IS THE NATION WIDE FUNDRAISER FOR THE CANCER SOCIETY THEY ALSO DO FUNDRAISERS SUCH AS SAUSAGE SIZZLES, RAFFLES, QUIZ NIGHTS AND CHOP THE MOP EVENTS.

support

WE CAN SUPPORT THIS CHARITY BY DONATING MONEY AND VOLUNTEER.



# ROOM 8

## CHANGES

*One door closes,  
another opens*



### NEW BEGINNINGS

Room 8 have all been to their orientation days for their new schools. In class we are thinking about when one door closes another opens. Here are some poems that have been written.

### LEAVING OUR MARK ON SJGS



We are also working on how we can leave our mark at St John's. We are each going to paint a fence pailing to start a decorative fence. Mr Hamilton has been amazing helping us get the primer and background for our posts painted.



Girls' High has come!  
But St John's must go.  
I will leave friends,  
But I can make more.  
I am the leader of St John's,  
Soon I'll be a newbie.  
No strict expectations,  
But more bullies.  
No more walking to school,  
I'll have to drive.  
I'll miss you St John's,  
Girls' High here I come.  
*Ingrid*

Hello Southland Girls' High School,  
Goodbye St John's.  
Ki ora busing to school,  
Ka kite driving.  
Hola being youngest in Year 9,  
Adios 20 people in a class.  
Goodbye St John's,  
I'm going to miss you.  
*Alysha*

Hello Girls' High,  
Goodbye Big family.  
Hello Red shoes,  
Goodbye black shoes.  
Hello endless hallways,  
Goodbye little corridors.  
Hello bike rides home,  
Goodbye after school care.  
Hello older girls,  
Goodbye little girls.  
Hello new adventure,  
My time has come and I must go.  
Goodbye my childhood.  
*Sofia*

Putting on a new dress, and brand new shoes.  
I was ready for the day, my anxiety was true.  
Brand new people, Maybe they would be helpful.  
Would they be mean, or was I over doubtful?  
The clunks of red shoes, down the open halls.  
I'll miss this home, I'll miss this school.  
Hello Southland Girls' High,  
Goodbye St John's.  
*Star*

Excited but scared,  
New beginning about to start.  
First step into a new adventure,  
The last step, before high school.  
Slipping my red shoes on,  
Nerves flying round in my tummy,  
Excitement buzzing round,  
Time to make friends.  
I'll miss the amazing teachers,  
Goodbye friendly students.  
The memories I have made,  
Fun times that slayed,  
Goodbye St John's,  
Hello Girls' High!  
*Greer*

St John's is becoming history,  
Soon, it will just be a memory.  
Knowing the way to go,  
So long, smaller space.  
See ya, St John's,  
Greetings, Girls' High,  
What a big change,  
Learning everyone's name.  
Shaping my future pack,  
Moving forwards, not back.  
*Nicole*



Order their  
Back to School  
stationery  
now and  
**beat the rush!**



Class lists are  
ready to view at  
**[myschool.co.nz](https://myschool.co.nz)**

**Stationery  
for 2025**

**Printed lists are being sent home on Tuesday  
26 November and will be available on our  
Website and Skool Loop**

We've teamed up with OfficeMax to make your back to school shop super easy. And if you order in December, you'll go in the draw to WIN 1 of 5 \$1000 cash prizes\*.

Your child's class list is already loaded. Just go to [myschool.co.nz](https://myschool.co.nz). Simply add your details, check that you want everything on the list, then click and confirm - and OfficeMax will get your delivery underway with free delivery on orders over \$70\*.

You can pay by internet banking, credit card or debit card. Zip# is also available, so you can pay in 4 interest free payments over 6 weeks and still get your order right away. Plus, you'll be helping our school earn school rewards\* that we use to purchase much needed extra resources for our school.

Quotes for WINZ are available by contacting 0800 724 440 or via email [enquiry@myschool.co.nz](mailto:enquiry@myschool.co.nz).

We encourage you to order early to ensure your child has all their stationery requirements ready to go in plenty of time for the start of Term 1.

So go ahead and beat the back to school rush, order today and give them the best start possible.

#Zip Pay in 4 is available to approved applicants only and subject to completion of satisfactory credit checks. For more information visit [myschool.co.nz/zip](https://myschool.co.nz/zip). T&Cs and late fees apply. Zip Co NZ Finance Limited FSP 598969.

\*T&Cs apply, see [myschool.co.nz](https://myschool.co.nz) for details.

TE WAHI TĀKARO O  
**MOTUPŌHUE**  
ADVENTURE PARK



# OPENING DAY

**Saturday 23 November, 2024 | 10am-2pm | Pearce St car park, Bluff**

Bring your bike or gym shoes down as the biking and walking tracks will be open!

10am Opening ceremony - activities through to 2pm.

Guided bike rides for all cycling abilities - come on down and give it a go!

**Free shuttle** taking bikes and experienced riders to the top of Bluff Hill to try the advanced trails.

  
southland  
**mountain bike club**  
[www.southlandmtbclub.co.nz](http://www.southlandmtbclub.co.nz)

  
**Invercargill**  
CITY COUNCIL