



NEWSLETTER

St John's Girls' School

25 September 2026



Greetings from the
Principal

Kia Ora, Ola, Namaste

**Whakatauki - Māori
Proverb**

**E tohe e taa te
purihi**

*Persistence has its
rewards.*

What a busy and rewarding term it has been!

The whakatauki on the left perfectly captures our Term 3 journey. It is a powerful reminder that our achievements are built on determination and the collective mahi of our entire school community. Every success highlights the ongoing effort and perseverance of our tamariki, kaiako, support staff, and whānau. This shared commitment and resilience are the foundation for how we continue to grow, learn, and thrive together.

SMAC Maths

Mahi pai to our Year 7 & 8 SMAC Maths teams, who took part in the annual competition earlier this week. They may not have finished in the top three, but they approached the competition with pride and enthusiasm, and they truly enjoyed the experience. Official placings will be shared with schools during the holidays.

Rotary Youth Merit Award

We are incredibly proud of Bailey Cooper, who was recognised as the Rotary Youth Merit Award recipient for our kura at the Rotary award dinner last week.

Bailey consistently demonstrates kindness, responsibility, integrity, leadership, and service. She is involved in many extracurricular activities and is a true role model to her peers.

Bailey is a leader by example. She uplifts others, offers quiet support, and acts with integrity in all she does. Congratulations Bailey!



Gymnastics Festival

Our annual Gymnastics Festival was an inspiring display of skill, perseverance, and resilience!

I spoke with the girls beforehand about the importance of stepping out of their comfort zone, being brave, and giving every effort their absolute best, especially when things are tough. They all rose magnificently to this challenge and should be incredibly proud of what they accomplished.

Thank you to the many parents and whānau who came to cheer our girls on. The girls and staff appreciated your support.

Book Fair

Thank you for your wonderful support of our Book Fair. The library was transformed into an enchanted garden by our incredible support staff last Friday. You can imagine the reactions when all was revealed on Monday! The girls have enjoyed browsing the books on offer and I am sure they have come home with a very full wishlist! The profits from the Book Fair will go directly into funding our new library space, which should be underway next year.

The book character dress up day was a huge success, with some excellent costumes on display, from both staff and students!





Values Cup Recipient



Imogen Dixon-Calder
Room 2

Arts Extravaganza

A huge thank you to everyone who attended and supported our Arts Extravaganza last night. We certainly punch above our weight here at St John's, and our performers wowed us all with their incredible talent.

Special thanks go to Mrs Kate McIlwrick for her exceptional organisation, our student tech and backstage crew, and our dedicated staff working behind the scenes to ensure the event ran smoothly. We also extend our gratitude to Shae Risk and the Parents' Association for running the BBQ dinner, snacks and raffles. We had a wonderful community turnout for this event, and we have received lots of positive feedback. We are thrilled you enjoyed the show!

Summer Uniform

A reminder that the summer uniform is to be worn in Term 4. This is listed on our school website: <https://www.stjohnsgirls.school.nz/information-for-parents/uniform/>

A key part of our summer uniform is the navy blue sunhat, which is compulsory for all girls to wear when they are outside during Terms 1 and 4. The best options are bucket or wide-brimmed hats, as they offer the best sun protection. There is a great selection of appropriate hats for sale at The Warehouse.

We have plenty of tired girls, who are ready for some rest over the next two weeks. Have a relaxing and restful holiday break. Stay safe, and we will see you back next term.

Ngā manaakitanga

Holly Bradshaw
Tumuaki | Principal





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

- **12** **First day of Term 4**
- **14** Rm 7 Weaving Wellness programme
Aerobics Festival [2.15 pm]
- **15** School Board Meeting [5.30pm]
- **20** Parents' Association Meeting [7pm]
- **21** Rm 7 Weaving Wellness programme
- **26** **Labour Day [School Closed]**
- **28** Rm 7 Weaving Wellness programme

NOVEMBER

- **10** Cultural Day
- **11** BoP Meeting [5.30pm]
- **14-15** William Pike - Overnight Dolamore Park
- **19** Greats & Grands [am]
Christian Education Speeches [pm]
- **20** Dance Sharing [2.00pm]
- **24** New Entrant Morning [Yrs 2-8 for 2027]
- **25** Mind Mingle [Yr 5/6] at Waihopai School -
2 teams of 4 to attend

DECEMBER

- **1** School Board Meeting [5.30pm]
- **4** Tabloids [1-3pm]
- **7** Tabloids [postponement day]
- **9** Father / Daughter Netball [2pm]
- **14** Christmas Service & Prizegiving Practice
Christmas Service [First Church 6pm]
- **15** **Last day for students**
Prizegiving [First Church 1.30pm]
Leavers' Farewell [3.15pm School Hall]

Starting Dates -2027-

Monday 2 February 2027
Staff Only Day

Tuesday 3 February 2027
Day 1 for Girls

Monday 8 February 2027
Waitangi Day

We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another wonderful year at SJGS!

WEEKLY AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS

ROOM 1

Ellie Pekamu, Mackenna North, Delilah McKenzie, Adeline Gerken

ROOM 2

Harriet Telfer, Evie Bradshaw, Madeleine McKenzie, Gussie Affleck

ROOM 3

Gracie McCallum, Amaia van Westrenen, Navy Sloane,
Georgia Cochrane

ROOM 5

Emily Sewpersad, Lorelai Stirling, Grace McLeod-Young, Lilly Stalker

ROOM 6

Madeleine Davison, Mackenzie Brown, Charlee Miles, Charlotte Dowling

ROOM 7

Lydia O'Brien, Danielle King, Hannah Sloan, Bethany Mehrrens

ROOM 8

Evie Erskine, Willow Murray, Briar Nicholl, Maya Preininger

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Rm 5 Millie Dobbie, Lucy Dixon-Calder

VALUES CUP

Rm 2 Imogen Dixon-Calder



Bonus Points Trophies

Term 3, 2026

At St John's, we love celebrating girls who consistently demonstrate our KIPRRR values of Kindness, Integrity, Perseverance, Resilience, Respect, and Responsibility. Bonus Points are awarded to recognise these positive choices and contributions to our school community. Congratulations to the following girls who have earned a Bonus Points Trophy this term. We are proud of the wonderful example they set and the way they live out the values of St John's Girls' School every day.

Marnie Hughes

Room 1

Lily Vaughan

Room 2

Saffron Smith

Room 3

Lucy Dixon-Calder

Room 5

Amélie Crossley

Room 6

Elise Davison

Room 7

Bailey Cooper

Room 8

Alabaster

1st

Marchant

2nd

Lester

3rd

Enderby

4th



FROM YOUR KAIARAHĪ



GYMNASTICS FESTIVAL

On Friday last week, the Junior syndicate had their Gymnastics Festival. The girls were practicing for this during their PE lessons. In the Gymnastics Festival, all the girls had a routine on bar, beam, floor, and vault. They also had to share some different techniques of using hula hoops, and skipping ropes.

On Tuesday this week, the senior school had their Gymnastics Festival. They had the same events as the juniors, but also got to show a routine on the trampoline. Lots of parents and grandparents came in to watch their daughters show what they have been practising over the term.

Here is what some of the girls enjoyed about the Gymnastics Festival:

AMELIA V

Amelia enjoyed the free choice of the vault and beam, and really liked presenting her floor routine. She liked jumping through the hula hoop, and showing her skipping.

KATIE M

Katie loved how fun and exciting the Gymnastics Festival was, and her favourite rotation was the trampoline. She also really liked the beam; she liked how she got to show lots of her skills in it.

AVA D

Ava really liked the trampoline, and how she had so much choice in picking her routine. Her favourite rotations were the floor and trampoline, and liked how no one would judge her on her routine.

BOOK FAIR

Best Dressed Book Character Winners





THINK
SOLVE
WORK
TOGETHER
ACHIEVE

SMAC MATHS COMPETITION

Year 7 & 8 Students Rise to the Challenge!

MATHS
BUILDS
BRIGHTER
FUTURES

YEAR 7



YEAR 8



π



$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

Small
Steps
Big
Solutions

$$x + y = ?$$



GOOD
PROBLEMS
BRIGHT
MINDS

Two teams of our Year 7 and 8 students competed at the SMAC Maths Competition on Wednesday evening. Working in teams of four, they demonstrated outstanding perseverance, teamwork, and problem-solving skills as they tackled as many challenging maths questions as possible during a fast-paced, 20-minute session.

We are incredibly proud of the way they supported one another, stayed focused under pressure, and embraced the challenge with enthusiasm. Events like these provide a wonderful opportunity for students to extend their mathematical thinking while developing valuable collaboration skills.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PARTICIPANTS

★ AVA AMAR

★ ELISE DAVISON

★ DANIELLE KING

★ ROSIE LAUGHTON

★ BAILEY COOPER

★ EMILY LAUGHTON

★ WILLOW MURRAY

★ GREER PINE

Different
Thinkers
Stronger
Together

★ Well done to everyone for your
outstanding effort and commitment! ★

$$\int_0^n x^2 dx = \frac{1}{3} n^3$$

Mathematics
opens doors

CURIOSITY
CHALLENGE
COLLABORATION
ACHIEVEMENT





SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMME

LUNCH MENU

All subs are made freshly baked white or wheat bread

WWW.SUBWAYEXPRESS.CO.NZ



BE IN TO WIN A FREE 6-INCH SUB WITH YOUR NEXT SCHOOL LUNCH ORDER!

DAN DAVIN LITERARY FOUNDATION
Presents:

COMMUNITY CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

DATE: 26th of September 2026

WHEN: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

WHERE: Invercargill Library, upstairs room

COST: FREE FOR CREATIVE THINKERS

- OPEN TO ALL SKILL LEVELS
- EXPLORE YOUR CREATIVITY
- DEVELOP WRITING TECHNIQUES
- CONNECT WITH WRITERS

REGISTRATION ONLINE: email dandavin@xtra.co.nz

SPACE IS LIMITED ALL WELCOME.

Receive a \$15 New World Voucher
for 30 Minutes of Your Time

Attitudes and Social Understanding

Parent and Child Research Study

What will you do?

- ✓ Parents will look at and describe a picture book.
- ✓ Children will look at and describe a picture book and complete a short Mr Bean video task at school.
- ✓ The activities are simple, engaging, and child-friendly.
- ✓ Parents and children will each complete a short questionnaire.

Time commitment

Approximately **30 minutes** in total

Who can take part?

- ✓ Parents
- ✓ Children aged 5+ years and older
- ✓ Able to attend a short Zoom session

Scan the QR code to learn more and register.

LEARN TO RIDE TERM 4 2026

For riders age 10+

\$110 per term

Includes track and bike
hire, coach & certificate

LEARN TO RIDE

Come along and learn how to ride a track bike on
New Zealand's first indoor velodrome

Monday's 4-5pm

Starting October 12th 2026

Register Online:

[https://www.webscorer.com/register?
raceid=446510](https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=446510)

NOW
TAKING
REGISTRATIONS
FOR TERM 4

03 2199325

OFFICE@CYCLINGSOUTH.ORG.NZ



SOUTHLAND
INCORPORATED