

# St John's Girls' School

## Newsletter – 25 May 2018

### Principal's Comments

Tena koutou katoa – Greetings to you all.

This week we welcomed Lily King and her family. Lily joined the Year 8 class.

### Parents' Association Spellathon

Next week, your daughter will receive some words to learn for the biennial Spellathon. We are focusing on how many new words the girls can learn in the three weeks and are making this part of the house competition. The money raised will be used to purchase information technology bits and pieces, such as more chrome books, and TVs/apple TV boxes to use with iPads. We like this type of fundraising as it motivates the girls to learn more while also benefitting the school. I am sure some girls will come back to ask for more!

### Building Resilience

The girls at St John's have a huge number of opportunities, thus they are incredibly busy. This week alone, we have had Constable Marty in to work with each class, to upskill the girls on cyber safety as well as deliver important messages around road safety to Rooms 1 and 2. We were entertained by Playhouse Theatre, a performing arts group on Wednesday. We always have performing groups in the school just prior to our production or drama festival so that the girls learn what is required for their drama experiences. We were supposed to have the school cross country yesterday but due to the weather this was postponed until next Thursday and today the Year 8 girls have First Aid training with the Red Cross. The house captains and deputies are heading to Dunedin on Sunday for the Young Leaders' Day on Monday and some girls throughout the school have had ICAS tests. As well, all girls are being tested 1 -1 by the classroom teacher and the girls still have all of the routine things such as sport and dance and preparing for dance exams. Many senior girls have just completed a major Statistical Investigation Report and some have had Foods Technology—cooking.

Life is busy and the world seems to be moving at a faster pace. The ease of communication means we all feel obliged to respond to texts and emails thus putting pressure on ourselves. This applies to the girls too.

We spend considerable time talking with the girls in assembly and following up in class, about how to cope with the seemingly endless demands. The strategies below help:

- making lists
- doing small tasks in between doing one big task
- breaking big tasks down into manageable bits
- letting someone know if things are overwhelming
- accepting that we can only do our best and that sometimes we will fail which may make us sad or angry but that it's okay to be sad or angry, as long as we deal with it in a suitable manner
- and that we need to take time for ourselves.

Having resilience has been identified as one of the attributes that future employees need and it is something that we are very aware of at school, not just for the girls but for the adults as well!

What can you do as parents to help? You can help your daughter do some of the things above, to work through their work load. As parents, we want to make our children's lives as stress free as possible.

Sorting their problems for them, is a short term fix. It doesn't lead to independence nor does it lead to building resilience for life. You are better to help them work through their work load, identifying why it has become a problem. Many times it is because they didn't use their time well or were too scared to start in case they made a mistake. Personally, I often find that the job I was putting off because it seemed difficult, was actually really easy once I started, and 9 times out of 10, didn't take long! Take the time to build resilience with your children. They will need this attribute in their lives.

Nga mihi nui (Kind regards)  
Brenda Mackay

## TERM DATES:

### Term 2

#### May

28th Young Leaders—Dunedin  
29th ICAS Science  
31st Cross Country 1.30pm

#### June

4th Queens Birthday—no school  
5th BOP meeting 7pm  
6th Speech Exam Yr 7  
Zone Cross Country  
7th Speech Exam Yr 8  
8th Speech Exam Yr 6  
11-14th ERO visit  
11th BOT meeting with ERO 5.30pm  
14th BOT meeting with ERO 5.30pm  
18th BOT meeting 5.30pm  
19-22nd Life Education  
22nd Reports Out  
Southland Cross Country  
27th Interviews start 2.15pm **school closes 2pm**  
28th Interviews start 3.15pm

#### July

4th & 5th Drama Festival  
6th Stripes  
Last day Term 2

### Term 3

**Congratulations** to the following girls who received awards recently—

Room 1	Gracie Dennis, Summer Behl
Room 2	Ingrid Fleming, Jessica Hay, Esmé McCleery, Pippa Jamieson
Room 3	Hazel Stevenson, Charlotte Torrington, Lily Hillman, Jhordaya Shaw
Room 4	Meah Sommerville, Pippa Keary Georgia Buchanan, Bailey King
Room 5	Jessica Wallis, Taleeha Stewart, Abbie Middlemass, Bailey Bennett
Room 6	Lilyana Ultee, Samara Beck, Asha Dickson, Sara Reynolds
Room 7	Meila Winsloe-Viel, Anna Williams x2 Hannah Middlemass,

#### Values Cup:

18th May	Leah McEwan	Room 2
25th May	Emelia King	Room 3

## REMINDERS

### ABSENCES:

If your child is sick please phone the office or email both the office and class teacher.

office@stjohnsgirls.school.nz

If you are informing the school of a future date your daughter is going to absent please send a note to the school office (Mrs McEntyre will inform the class teacher) or email dates etc to the office and class teacher.

**If a child is not at school and we haven't heard from you Mrs McEntyre will phone to check.**

## Aviary News

The aviary has an enthusiastic team on the committee this year. We are grateful to the families who provide food and greenery to supplement our seed. If you haven't already done so, please mark on your calendars the week that you are on duty this term.

Rosters are in all the classrooms.

Thank you to the girls who helped feed in the holidays. This extra commitment is very much appreciated.

The garden outside the aviary has recently been given a makeover by Holly and Millie and thank you to Mr Hamilton for providing the gardening equipment and the compost. The silver beet and pansies look very colourful.

**Our next sausage sizzle is planned for June 15th.** A notice will be coming home soon. Mrs Corson is our wonderful coordinator. She is always looking for extra helpers to share the workload. Please let Mrs Dawkins know if you would like to lend a hand on that day. The muffins are very popular too and if you are able to help in that regard we would be grateful.



Kobi Harpur and Mrs Dawkins

## ROOM 1—Year 1—Mrs Jagoutz

Room 1 have had a busy and exciting start to Term 2. We have been practising with our scripts ready for the Drama Festival at the end of term.



In art, we have been learning all about printing and have made pictures from our fingerprints and printing some autumn trees.



Here are some highlights from our Mother's Day writing.....

"Mum, you are special because you give me treats." By Gracie

"Mum, I want you to know that you give the greatest hugs in the whole world." By Mia P.

"Mum, I thank you for food and taking care of me and helping me with my homework." By Gwynedd.

We looked very bright in our mufti day clothes and were part of a very brightly coloured audience for the Playhouse Theatre who performed 'Little Red Riding Robin Hood', a fantastic production with plenty of audience participation.



## ROOM 2—Years 1 & 2—Mrs Kelly & Mrs Brand

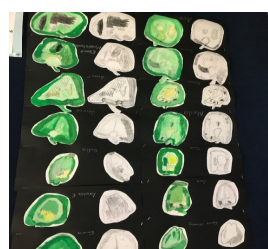
Term 2 has started at a busy pace. We enjoyed our time with Constable Marty and Larry the Lion learning about road safety. The next part of our 'Keeping Ourselves Safe' programme, which is starting on Monday, is learning to be fire wise.

We have been lucky enough to have been to two drama events in the past couple of weeks: a story tellers performance at New River Primary and a play performed in our hall by the Playhouse Theatre.

The girls have been developing their art skills and are producing some lovely work. The skills we have focused on in art are: creating texture and tone using pencil and paint. Using these skills we drew still life subjects - capsicums and then photocopied our work so we could add paint. Anzac day prompted us to draw poppies on foil paper and then paint them using different brush strokes to create texture. We had to do this over three sessions so our first layer of paint could dry and we could add more layers as part of a process in art.

Preparations for our class play for the school Drama Festival are well underway. Mrs Purdon and Ms Jack have volunteered to oversee the costumes which is a fantastic help. We will keep you up to date with anything that may be needed as things come up.

Cross country is scheduled for next Thursday so fingers crossed the weather is a little kinder.



## ROOM 3—Years 3 & 4—Ms Wilcox-Clarke & Mrs Dawkins

It's hard to believe it's still autumn as we experience all these wintry days!

We love the colours of autumn and we have created some beautiful leafy paintings and rubbings. There have been many opportunities to read poems about autumn and use our senses to write our own descriptive poetry. You are welcome to read these in our classroom.

The Year 4s have been learning about 'Bike Safety'. We have enjoyed finding out about the importance of a properly fitted helmet and the safest ways to ride a bike.

The Year 3s have been learning about 'Dog Safety' and the importance of following safety tips when dealing with our furry friends. For example, 'quiet and slow is the way to go' and 'keep your face out of their space'. We have been lucky to have some visiting pets to demonstrate our safety techniques.

There have been some wonderful presentations in Current Events. Your research and presentations have encouraged some great report writing! Thank you for the support and effort in preparing this.

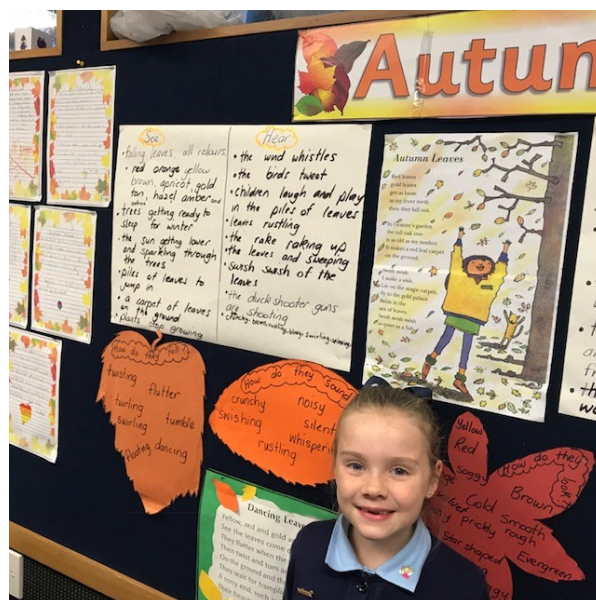
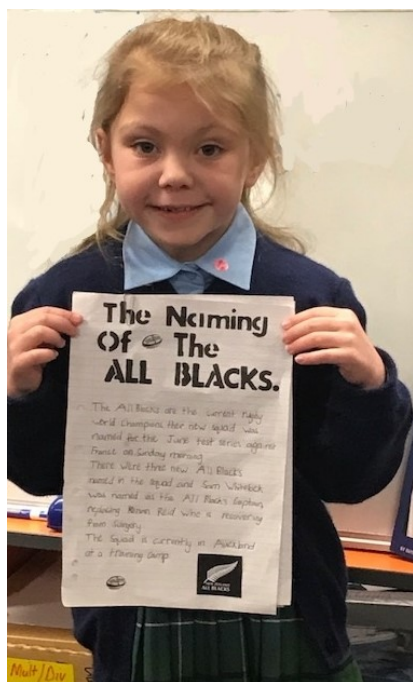
This term we are working toward our Drama Festival. Room 3 is enjoying finding ways to develop our drama skills in the play 'Cinderella'.

We have been inspired by two recent performances. This week we were entertained by the Playhouse Theatre as they performed the Red Riding Robin Hood play. We learned that a play can share humour and different characterisations to bring a meaningful message to the audience. We can't wait to show these things in our class drama.

In maths we are working on multiplication and division. We began by looking at how repeated addition makes up a times table. Division shows equal sharing and we are making many opportunities to show this. Any practice at home will be useful.

Well done to those who are working hard on their basic facts. It is great to see this knowledge being transferred into our class work.

Fingers crossed for a fine day next Thursday so we can give our all in the Cross Country!





# SPORTS NEWS

## CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country has now been postponed until Thursday, 31st May.

Times remain the same.



## ALL SAINTS ZONE CROSS COUNTRY

This will be held on Wednesday 6th June at Elizabeth Park, Invercargill. Racing starts at 1.30pm. This event is for children aged 10-11 years only. The postponement date is Monday 11th June. A parent letter will be sent home with the children who have been selected to go to the zones. The fastest six at zones will qualify for the Southland Cross Country.

## SOUTHLAND CROSS COUNTRY

A parent letter will be sent home with the girls who have qualified to go to the Southland Cross Country. The Southland Cross Country will be held on Friday 22nd June. This event will be held at the Southern Fields Days site, 575 Waimumu Road, Waimumu.

## JUNIOR HIGH BASKETBALL

On Tuesday afternoon our two Y 7/8 teams played in the finals. The results were:

Girls B Pool 1:	St Johns's Breakers	2nd
Girls B Pool 2:	St John's Lakers	3rd



Well done girls! We are very grateful to Miss Kathy White and Mrs Suz Middlemass for coaching the girls this season.

## INDOOR BOWLS (Years 7-13)

Registrations close on Tuesday 29th May 2018. We still have one student who required a partner. If you are interested please register via our SPORTY app or school website 'After School Sport' . 'Term3 Sport'.



## RUGBY SOUTHLAND INDOOR RIPPA RUGBY SERIES 2018

Registrations close on Tuesday 29th May 2018. Please go to our website 'After School Sport' - 'Term 3' and click on the link to register. Registrations are also available via the SPORTY app.



# VOLLEYBALL

## **Volleyball Southland U15 Boys' and Girls 'Trials 2018**

It is that time of year again where we head back into Southland Representative Programmes. Volleyball Southland are inviting registrations from those who are interested in trialling for the Southland U15 Boys' and Girls' teams. These teams will be attending the Christchurch tournaments in October, this year.

**Dates:** Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
**Time:** Sunday 10.30am – 12.30pm  
**Venue:** ILT Stadium Southland  
**Age criteria:** Players must be born in or before **2003 & 2004**



*Please ensure you are there 15 minutes before trials start to fill in contact information.*

**If you cannot make the trial date please register your interest** and Volleyball Southland will be in contact with you. If you have any questions please contact Alissa via email [alissa@volleysouth.org.nz](mailto:alissa@volleysouth.org.nz) or phone the Volleyball Southland office on 03 211 2259.

## PHOTOS

If anyone has taken any photos of our after school sports teams in action, please feel free to email them through to me as it would be nice to put some in the sports section of the newsletter when space is available.  
[sports@stjohnsgirls.school.nz](mailto:sports@stjohnsgirls.school.nz)

## REPRESENTATIVE NEWS

Congratulations to Grace Watson who will be representing Southland at the South Island Invitational Teams Event in Timaru at Queens Birthday weekend.

*If your daughter has **made a representative team or has excelled in her sport**, please remember to inform either myself or Mrs McEntyre in the school office so we can acknowledge it in the newsletter. If they participated in a St John's Girls' School sports team we will note this for end of year achievement certificates and for Y7/8 stripes. Thank you. My email is [sports@stjohnsgirls.school.nz](mailto:sports@stjohnsgirls.school.nz)*

### **SOUTHLAND SKI CLUB CAMPS 2018**

The Southland Ski Club run ski week camps in the July school holidays, staying at their lodge at Coronet Peak, Queenstown.

Camp packages include a 5 day lift pass, lessons twice a day (Mon—Fri), accommodation and meals. Camps are suitable for ages 10—18 years.

Choose to ski or snow board. This is an awesome opportunity to learn or upskill.

Week 1: Sunday 8th—Saturday 14th July

Week 2: Sunday 15th—Friday 20th July

Applications are taken on a first in first served basis so apply now to avoid disappointment—applications close 31 May. Please go to our website to submit your application—[www.southlandskiclub.org.nz](http://www.southlandskiclub.org.nz) if you have any further queries please contact 027 275 0665