

St John's Girls' School

Te Kura Kōtiro ō Hato Hoani

Newsletter

26 March 2021

Principal's Comments

Tena koutou katoa – Greetings to you all

It has been an incredibly busy term – camps, swimming sports, preparation for the Easter Service and the Aerobics Festival, John Parson – cyber safety, Stu Duval – visiting author, zone athletics and Beach Education Day for Year 7/8. The Swimming Sports went well due Mrs Smith's careful planning.

I am delighted and relieved, that the Years 6, 7 and 8 girls got away to their camps. Thank you, teachers, for all of the extra work that you do to make these camps happen and to ensure they are successful.

Good luck to the girls who have qualified to represent the All Saint's Zone at the **Southland Athletics Sports** tomorrow. It's supposed to be 21 degrees!

3 Way Interviews

Thank you for making the time to attend your daughter's interview. It's a great time to celebrate your daughter's achievements and to help her, grow her learning. It's also a great time to build relationships with your daughter's teacher so you can work together for your daughter's benefit. The next lot of interviews are at the end of term 2 but you are welcome to contact your daughter's teacher if you have a concern, more than the run of the mill, child development issues.

School Aerobics Festival – 2pm Tuesday 14th April - an absolute highlight! Thank you, Miss Gina.

All girls are involved in the school aerobics festival. Rooms 1 – 3 present a class routine and the senior girls make up their own routines, or part of it, and compete for house points in house groups at each year level. Parents and grandparents are welcome. The girls have been working hard and are proud of their routines. If your daughter is interested in taking her aerobics further there are two Southland competitions later in the year. You can go online and search, Southland Aerobics.

We are aware that preparing for the Aerobics Festival always poses a few challenges to relationships for the girls but it is an opportunity for them to practise being a group member. The girls who are skilled, have to show tolerance and to think about how they can help those who are new to aerobics or who are less able, get up to speed so that the group can perform to a reasonable level. They have to think about how they can do this without putting the other girls down or being bossy.

Those who are less able need to be tolerant of the high achievers who are frustrated by their lack of ability/knowledge. They need to listen to advice (when given nicely) and to turn up to practices and to persevere. Generally, the routines are kept relatively simple so that all can have success. By working together and respecting each other, the results are worth the angst. With your help and that of the staff, the girls will learn valuable collaborative skills from being part of the group.

Parents are welcome to collect their daughter early, from the classroom after the festival.

Easter Service - 1.30pm on Thursday 1st April at First Church on Tay Street

The staff, Mrs Taylor in particular, and the girls have been working very hard in preparation for the Easter Service. This is a special event in our calendar.

You are invited, along with your extended family, to join us to share the story of Easter through readings, song and prayer. The girls will arrive by bus and will depart by bus, immediately after the service, which will take approximately 40 minutes. Parents are welcome to collect their daughter early, from the classroom after the service.

Enjoy your weekend.

Nga mihi nui (Warm regards)

Brenda Mackay
Principal

TERM 1

March

27th Southland Athletics
31st Easter Service practice am
Parents' Assn AGM 7pm staffroom
BOP Meeting AGM & meeting 7.10pm

April

1st Easter Service 1.30pm First Church, Tay St
2nd Easter Friday—no school
5th & 6th Easter Break—no school
14th Aerobics Festival 2pm - all welcome
15th BOT meeting 5.30pm
16th Bonus Points trophies awarded
Last day of Term 1

TERM 2

May

3rd First day of Term 2

UNIFORM PURCHASES

If Mrs Lang gives you pieces of uniform to try on at home, please return any unwanted items the following day, in the condition you received it.

Invoices are sent out within a week of purchase and it's time consuming having to adjust invoices when items are returned after the invoice is emailed.

The Winter uniform is to be worn from the **start** of Term 2 (3 May).

REMEMBER to place your kilt order. Kilts take 6-8 weeks to make.

Congratulations to the following girls who received awards recently—

Room 1	Eloise Smith, Lara Preininger Harper Peters, Kyla-Rose Jarvis-Patterson
Room 2	Peyton Cornish, Sophia Lillo-Dockerty Lily Malcolm, Emily Bulling
Room 3	Willow Harper, Gwynedd Ryder Alyssa Hamilton, Kadi Cantly
Room 4	Greer Macpherson, Avé Valoa Jack Sofia Warbrick-Smith, Sofia Peters
Room 5	Riley Morrison, Sofia Campbell-Wall Jessica Huang, Georgia Buchanan
Room 6	Ella Harvey, Charlee O'Connor Meg Scott, Molly Stockman
Room 7	Olivia Gibson, Jhordaya Shaw Christabel Billcliff, Stella Lal

Values Cup Recipient

12 Mar	Elise Davison	Rm 2
19 Mar	Isabella McNamara	Rm 7

AFTERSCHOOL CARE PROGRAMME

This programme operates every day after school from 3.15pm to 5.15pm. Girls can attend on a daily or permanent basis.

If your daughter attends on a casual basis it is expected you will pay on the day. If your daughter attends on a regular basis, payment is expected weekly.

This is an excellent service offered to the school by Mrs Wilson so please use it.

One Busy Friday!

This past Friday, John Parsons and Stu Duval came to our school to teach us about cyber safety and illustrating. The Years Seven and Eight had John Parsons up first. He explained how the Internet is like a herd of elephants. The older or adult elephants surround the baby or younger elephant to protect them. When a tiger or another predator spots the elephants, the tiger waits for a gap to form between the mother and baby so he/she can pounce and eat the baby. When the parents spot the gap, they slow down for the baby to catch up and then stare down the predator. The older or adult elephants represent your family. You are the baby or younger elephant and the tiger is an online predator looking to lure you in. Your parents protect you.

Straight after that we went to Stu Duval, an author and illustrator. He shared how he is turning his newest book into a movie but he didn't want to do anything like just sitting in a cinema and watch it. He wanted to do something different, so he and his team came up with the idea of hiring a gymnasium so they could project onto every surface. When you are there, you are in the movie that surrounds you. Then he drew Mr Hughes. It was really good and only took him about one minute or even less. I enjoyed the part where he showed us he could turn any number or letter into a picture. He turned a number, I can't remember what it was, but he turned it into people waiting for a bus.



Lucia Hughes

REMINDERS

Late arrivals:

All girls arriving at school after 8.40am must report to the office before going to assembly, so please remind your daughter when you drop her off. Bus girls are the only exception.

Reporting absences:

All absences must be reported to the office before 8.45am with a reason for the absence. Please use the Skool Loop app but if you email an absence/appointment time to the class teacher please ensure you include—office@stjohnsgirls.school.nz.

Picking up girls for appointments:

Please notify the office if you are taking your daughter out during class time. Ask your daughter to wait for you at the office. You can drive in the main entrance off Dee Street and when your daughter sees your car she can go to meet you. Mrs Loader will sign your daughter out and sign her back in when she arrives back at school. Please also inform the office if your daughter is going to be late due to an early appointment.

Dropping gear off for girls:

Anything you need to drop off for your daughter is to be left at the office. Mrs Loader will contact your daughter and let her know it's there.

Arrival time at School should not be before 8.15am please.

This is for the safety of your daughter as she may be unsupervised.