

St John's Girls' School

Te Kura Kōtiro ō Hato Hoani

Newsletter

6 March 2020

Principal's Comments

Tena koutou katoa—Greetings to you all.

This week, we welcomed Portia and Eloise Smith and their family to the school. The girls had a pre-visit on Monday and will start in Room 1 later this month

Values

After talking to the Year 8 girls, the staff and the BOT, we have revised the school values. We have removed nga kupu (some words) and replaced them with nga kupu that the girls use everyday, eg replaced compassion with kindness and working hard with perseverance.

Our core values are now going to be known as **KIP and the 3Rs**;

Kindness (atawhai),
Integrity (ngakau pono – true heart),
Perseverance (manawanui)

Respect (whakaute),
Resilience (manawaroa – to be dogged),
Responsibility (haepapa)

The girls have been invited to create a values character, freehand or digitally by 9.30am on Monday 16th March. You are welcome to help your daughter. We may tweak the winning concept to fine tune it. This character will be visible around the school and everywhere that we have values information, eg perhaps a metal character in the garden or a polystyrene one in the hall. I look forward to seeing their characters.

2019 Charter Goals – How did we go?

Aim 1: To increase the correct use of surface features in writing and to extend written vocabulary throughout the school.

- We made excellent progress with this goal, so much so, that we discontinued the goal for 2020.
- We had a target group of 27 girls who were achieving below expectations in their use of interesting vocabulary in their writing at the beginning of 2019. 74% of these 23 girls were achieving at expectation by the end of 2019.
- The target group for improving the use of surface features was made up of 23 girls. 61% of this group were meeting expectations by the end of the year.
- The standard of proof reading across the school has improved significantly as has the use of descriptive vocabulary.
- At the end of the year:
 - 95% of all girls (96% of Maori students) were achieving at or above for using interesting vocabulary in independent written work.
 - 90% of all girls, (93% Maori) were using surface features at expectations or better.
- Raising the awareness of surface features has raised achievement. We need to keep working on it to ensure quality writing that is easy for the reader to understand.

Aim 2: All girls will experience a sense of belonging and be proud of their culture, giving them the opportunity to succeed and to achieve in relation to expectations.

- 96% of the senior girls tell us they experience a sense of belonging to St John's.
- 95% of all girls (100% Maori) told us they are proud of their culture/background/heritage.

	At or above	
	Maori	Non Maori
Reading	89%	94%
Writing	89%	88%
Mathematics	88%	86%

Achievement - 2019 Whole School EOY data comparing Maori achievement with non- Maori achievement.

The Maori presence in the school has continued to increase.

- Bilingual signage has been put in place and Te reo is much more obvious, woven into everyday conversations. We are still in the early stages of our journey.
- Kapahaka had another successful year. Their success has flowed into 2020 with over 33% of the school choosing to join the group.
- When asked, the girls who identify as Maori, said they felt their culture was valued at school and that they were proud of their identity and heritage. Sharing their culture gave them a sense of belonging and non- Maori students enjoyed celebrating and learning about it.
- We have tried to make the most of opportunities to lift the presence of other cultures in the school as well so that all feel that sense of belonging. 2019 is the second year that we have celebrated Diwali but generally, we need to do more to celebrate all cultures.

Aim 3: To prepare for the implementation of the Digital Curriculum

- We have been working through the Digital Readiness Pikau (MOE online workshops) and finding them very useful.
- We feel relatively confident about implementing the digital curriculum, having realised that we are doing a lot of it already. We will continue to work through the Pikau and to discuss what is happening in classrooms, building on what we are already doing.

With your support we have achieved great results. We aim to do the same in 2020.

2020 Charter Aims (The 2020 Charter is on our website).

In 2020, we are focusing on the whole person rather than curriculum specific goals as our academic achievement data is high.

Aim 1: To increase the profile of science within the school – a new aim.

Aim 2: Ensure that every ākonga (learner) feels appreciated and included for who she is, in particular her identity, ancestry, language and culture. (2nd year of aim).

Aim 3: To implement the Digital Curriculum (2nd year of aim).

Aim 4: To meet the needs of staff and students around well being – a new aim.

Board of Proprietors

There are vacancies on the Board of Proprietors. The Board of Proprietors deal with school property and the special character of the school. They meet once a term. If you are interested and would like more information, call into the office to talk to Mrs McEntyre or me. Nomination papers were given to the girls today.

Have a relaxing weekend.

Nga mihi nui (Warm regards)
Brenda Mackay
Principal

Sports News

Sports news will be sent out as it comes to hand and an email will be sent to all subscribers of the 'SPORTY NZ' app fortnightly.

To subscribe to emails and notifications you will need to opt-in for emails on the home page of the 'After School Sport' page on our website.

Opting into emails means you will receive notifications on your phone when there are cancellations and you will also receive a notification when sports registrations open.

By downloading the 'Sporty NZ' app you can easily register for sports by hitting the 'Register' button. You can also easily access our 'After School Sport' website where you will find draws and 'Sports by Term'. There is a 'News' button with our latest sports news and if your daughter plays a sport (ie. Touch Rugby, Netball, Volleyball) who also use Sporty NZ you can hit the tab on the top left of your screen and add their organisation to the app. If they send out a notification or you need to register (eg. Netball Star Helper) you can do so easily by hitting the 'Register' button on their site.

If you have any queries or would like help downloading the app, feel free to contact Mrs Fiona Smith
sports@stjohnsgirls.school.nz



Term 1

February

March

- 11th Cyber Safety—John Parsons
Interviews start from 2pm
School closes 2pm—Afterschool care will operate from 2.15pm to 5.15pm on this day.
- 12th **Interviews start from 3pm**
- 13th Weather permitting whole school to visit
Pipe Bands, 1pm, Queens Park Cricket Grounds
- 18-20th Year 6 Camp
- 23rd—27th Year 8 Camp
- 24th BOP—Parents Assn Annual Meetings 7pm
- 25-27th Year 7 Camp

April

- 8th Easter Service practice am
Aerobics Festival pm—everyone welcome
- 9th Easter Service 1.30pm First Church, Tay St
Everyone welcome to attend
Health Nurse Visit
Last Day Term 1

Congratulations to the following girls who received awards recently—

- Room 1 Ava Amar, Sophia Lillo-Dockerty
Room 2 Nevaeh Roughan, Meila Greiving, Bailey Cooper, Isla Ward
- Room 3 Avé Valoa Jack, Zoe Laughton, Greer Macpherson, Amelia Reijnen
- Room 4 Zoe Stockman, Ana Packham, Kiahli Brown, Christabel Billcliff
- Room 5 Anna Williams, Meila Winsloe-Viel, McKenzie Bennett, Millie Cottam
- Room 6 Sacha McKenzie, Sophie Campbell-Wall, Jessica Huang, Ella Pope
- Room 7 Meg Scott, Olivia Sorenson, Holly Scarlett, Lucy Watt

Values Cup

- | | | |
|--------|----------------|------|
| 28 Feb | Millie Cottam | Rm 5 |
| 6 Mar | Meila Greiving | Rm 2 |

AFTERSCHOOL CARE PROGRAMME

This programme operates every day after school from 3.15 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.

KILT ORDERS should have been sent by now as they can take up to 8 weeks to make. There are no second hand kilts available.

Order forms are available at the school office or you can order online at Tudor Clothing Schoolwear.

SIGNING IN AND OUT

Any child leaving school during the day **MUST** be signed out, and back in, at the office.

Please email the office before 8.45am if your daughter is going to leave during the day (and the reason why).

Also any parent coming into the school to help in class, drop anything in for your daughter, coach sport etc must also sign in and out.

At all times we must be aware of who is on the premises.