

St John's Girls' School

Te Kura Kōtiro ō Hato Hoani

Newsletter

9 November 2018

Principal's Comments

Tena koutou katoa – Greetings to you all.

School is closed due to strike action on Thursday 15th November. We apologise for the inconvenience this poses but it is important for your daughter's future education. We are delighted that the Ministry of Education have said they will create 600 Learning Support positions throughout the country for 2020. This will help but due to the teacher shortage, I'm not sure where they are going to come from but it is a move in the right direction.

It's been a big week!

Familiarisation Day

The existing girls made our new girls for 2019 feel very welcome. I was incredibly proud of the way they looked after them and made sure they felt comfortable. Well done girls. The Year 8 girls did an excellent job of telling the new parents about the school.

Greats and Grans

Ninety grandparents (and some great grandparents) descended on the school yesterday. They had a lovely one on one time in the their grand daughter's classroom and were then entertained by some very talented young ladies – Morgan Lau playing the violin and the piano, Kadi Cantley, Matilda Stevens and Sophie Purdon sharing their individual dance talents, Shanna- Beth Smith singing and Andreeva Stephen and Olivia Gibson sharing their individual skills on the recorder. There were also some lovely class items. Well done girls! The Year 8 girls made delicious sweet and savoury scones for this morning which went down a treat!

BOT Parent Survey

A hard copy of a summary of the results from the BOT Parent Survey should be in your daughter's bag. Thank you for your responses.

What's happening:

- In response to parental feedback, I have investigated School Stream. We have registered and are in the process of learning how it works.
- We are still waiting for building consent for the hall.
- We are excited to announce that we have inherited a whare nui from Watson and Wyatt event designers in Queenstown. It came from the KMart store manager's conference. The carving is based on South Island icons. Mr Hamilton will waterproof it next week.
- More exciting news. Russell Peters is due to start construction on a large sandpit outside Room 2.

Have a relaxing weekend.

Nga mihi nui (Kind regards)
Brenda Mackay

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION Update

We are fortunate to be able to offer you recently released 2019 Guinness Book of Records for an amazing \$5.00 per book. They usually sell for \$40—\$49 each. These will make ideal presents and stocking fillers so please tell your family and friends. Funds raised from the sales of books will go towards the Care Committee and purchasing items from the school Wishlist in 2019.

Books can be purchased from Room 5 next week between 8.20am—8.45am and 10.30am—10.50am.

You may also send an envelope with your daughters name, class number and number of books required written on it and enclose the correct amount of money. The books will be sent home with your daughter. You may order as many as you wish. Please send a suitable bag to carry the books home in so they don't get damaged. We take no responsibility for damage done after collection.



Term 4

November

15th **School Closed—Strike Day**
16th Secondary schools familiarisation day
19th BOT meeting 5.30pm
20th BOP Meeting 7pm Moved from 13th Dec
21st Yrs 3/4 Speech exams
30th Stripes awarded
Dance Sharing 2pm Moved from 4th Dec
Everyone welcome

December

3rd Tabloids—afternoon
BOT Meeting—5.30pm
6th Christmas Service practice—morning
7th Christmas Service 1.30pm
First Presbyterian Church, Tay Street
Reports out
11th Prizegiving practice—morning
12th Prizegiving 1.30pm
First Presbyterian Church, Tay Street
Yr 8 Leavers afternoon tea 3.15pm
(Year 8s, parents and grandparents only).
Last day of school.

2019

January

28th Boarders arrive

Congratulations to the following girls who received awards recently—

Room 1	Willow Harper, Kadi Cantley, Gracie Dennis, Saige Geary
Room 2	Leah McEwan, Pippa Jamieson, Amber Behl, Esmé McCleery
Room 3	Isabella McNamara, Camryn Shepherd, Morgan Lau, Jhordaya Shaw
Room 4	Alicia Purdon, Niamh Doherty, Sophie Hall, Sarah Hartstonge
Room 5	Jorja Mackie, Taleeha Stewart, Cate Reynolds, Abbie Middlelmass
Room 6	Samantha Schol, Kobi Harpur, Lilyana Ultee, Anita White
Room 7	Kaitlin Swain, Brooke Acker, Laura McDowall, Anna Williams

Values Cup:

2 Nov	Ella Erskine	Rm 6
9 Nov	Sienna Hunter	Rm 4

WE NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE

If you have a form to be returned to school, please ensure you use the original form and get your daughter to drop it into the school office.

We ask that forms are not emailed to the school as they can easily be overlooked in the vast volume of emails dealt with each day.

PHOTO ORDERS

If you pay online you must also return the order form to the office please. Late orders must be at the school office no later than 9am on Monday (12th November).

FAMILY WORK - Room for one more

There are children and young people in your community who need the support of foster families. Family Works are seeking people (couples or singles) to welcome children and young people into their homes. Care may be needed for regular respite, temporary short term or long term. Family Works will support you with training, ongoing guidance and foster reimbursement. Please contact nbode@familyworkssld.nz or phone 03 2118226 to register your interest.



ILT Stadium Southland 10th November

Time 11am to 9pm

Everyone welcome. Food, dance, music, Bollywood DJ and entertainment.

SIGNING IN AND OUT

Everyone coming into the school must sign in at the office please.

If you're dropping something off for your daughter please do not take it to the classroom or cloakbay. Leave it at the office for your daughter to collect.

If your daughter is leaving the school for an appointment she must report out and back in at the office also.

This is a health and safety matter as we must know where your daughter is at all times, and who is on the school grounds.

ROOM 1—NE Year 1—Mrs Jagoutz

What a busy term we have had already. We welcomed Isla into Room 1 and have enjoyed many events and activities in just 4 weeks.



Yesterday was the junior school Greats and Grands Day. Room 1 had fun showing their Grandparents our classroom and sharing their reading, writing and games.



On our trip to the Southland Community Nursery we learnt all about the plants that we can find and eat, so we went 'foraging'. We learnt that there are leaves and plants that grow everywhere that we can eat, but "if in doubt, leave it out". We planted some beans and saw all of the native plants that they grow at the nursery.

Familiarisation Day was very exciting and the girls enjoyed spending time with their 2019 teacher.

ROOM 2—Year 2—Mrs Kelly & Mrs Brand

We have had a fantastic last few weeks in Room 2, starting with our trip to Rance's Nursery in Otatara where the girls enjoyed a native bush walk, foraging for edible plants and planting their own seeds and seedlings. The volunteers were very informative and really kept the girls interested. We have a potato growing competition on the go in Room 2 at the moment and the growth this week has been phenomenal. We hope they are as good underneath the soil as they are on top!

We had mufti day on Monday and the range of costumes was fantastic. Familiarisation Day on Wednesday was a good opportunity to meet our class for next year and really helped our girls feel more confident going into the new school year.

Greats and Grands on Thursday was a great success despite the atrocious weather. We spent a great deal of time writing to our various grandparents and special older people and decorating teapots as gifts. We loved spending this time with our grandparents and showing off all the things we do. We also had a wonderful Diwali celebration on Thursday afternoon. A big thank you to Amy Behl and Sandy Gilmete for coming in and sharing their food and customs with us. They both looked stunning in their saris and the girls enjoyed decorating their diva lamps. We have started our latest art project using clay. We have done some modelling and now we are experimenting with different leaf patterns and look forward to drying and painting these. We are very busy testing at the moment and it is lovely to see the progress the girls have made.

We are looking forward to an exciting program for the last half of the term.



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

It has been a wonderful start to Term 4 with so many exciting things happenings in Room 3! We have all been working hard toward our Greats and Grands sharing day and what a special time it was for all! Thank you to the many parents who helped prepare their girls for this day.

We are very grateful to our Parents' Association for coordinating and providing the morning tea. Big thanks must also go to the Year 8 girls who baked the delicious scones and wow, they were certainly a winner with our visitors! Thank you Mr Hughes for overseeing this occasion. It was a memorable day.

On Wednesday we all took part in Familiarisation Day. For many, this meant spending time in their class for 2019. We are all excited about the many opportunities which lie ahead. We warmly welcome those who will be starting at St John's in the New Year.

As part of our unit about Spring and plants we visited Rance's nursery. There, we learned about the structure of plants and the conditions that are necessary to grow strong healthy plants. We even foraged for edible native plants and flowers.

Room 3 have been fortunate to have iPad training with Vanessa. She has helped us become more familiar with useable apps which can be applied in our everyday work. We are grateful for her expertise and inspiration.

In maths we continue to consolidate our understanding of multiplication and division. Recent testing has shown good progress in this area. Division is an area that requires regular practice. We know how important our basic facts are in achieving success.

In art we have enjoyed creating with clay as a medium. The elephant bowls required lots of perseverance and for many they are a work in progress! The leaf impressions were more successful and will make a lovely centrepiece when fired and painted.

On Monday afternoons we are taking part in some PMP activities to help develop our sensory awareness. Jump jam has also been lots of fun and a great form of exercise.

Who can believe we are almost half way through the term! The girls have been busy with many assessments in readiness for reports.

Thank you everyone for all your support this year. We have so much to be proud of.



Greats & Grans enjoying the Birdie dance with their grand daughter.



Room 3 leaf creations from clay.



Lily with grandmother (Nanny) and her great grandmother (Grandma)

SPORTS NEWS

TERM 1 SPORT INFORMATION

The following sports will be available during Term 1, 2019

Monday - Summer Futsal (continuation of T4, 2018)
Monday - Girls Smash Cricket (day to be confirmed)
Tuesday - Badminton
Tuesday - Basketball (Year 7/8 only)
Wednesday - Volleyball (Year 7/8 only)
Wednesday - Touch Rugby (Primary School)
Thursday - Touch Rugby (Year 7/8)
Thursday - Volleyball (Year 4-6)
Friday - Water Polo (all grades)



****REGISTRATIONS WILL BE TAKEN ONLINE THROUGH OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE AND VIA THE SPORTY APP.****

MINIBALL

There are only two rounds left to play. The dates are Tuesday 13th November (round 9) and **finals night on Tuesday 20th November** (round 10). I hope the girls are enjoying the competition and wish them well for the last two rounds.



WATERPOLO

The far end of the Splash Palace carpark has been fenced off and cars will be unable to park on the grass. This is due to the carpark extension which should be finished by Christmas and will mean a number of new carparks that will be available for events, such as Friday water polo.

As the carpark will be very busy today, Splash Palace ask parents/caregivers to be very mindful of this and you may have to find alternative parking.



VOLLEYBALL

Congratulations to the St Johns Slammers who won the Year 7/8 soft volleyball competition.

Well done girls!

A huge thank you to Ms Rachael Poole who coached the girls each week and took weekly practices. Many thanks for all your time and commitment to the team.



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.

REPRESENTATIVE NEWS

Congratulations to Grace Watson who came first in the constellation draw yesterday. Grace will compete at the South Island tennis tournament that will be held in Timaru on 26th and 27th November.

*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*



Congratulations to Abbie Middlemass who, through her performance at the U13 Regional Basketball Tournament, has been identified and selected to attend the 2019 U14 National Talent Camp.

The U14 Camp is the starting point to the National Talent Programme and is set up to assist in the building of the depth and quality of athletes coming through the pathway and feeding into our National teams programme, which begins at the under 16 level.

Well done Abbie! We wish you well.

COMMUNITY SPORTS NOTICES



Badminton SOUTHLAND BADMINTON CAMP

When: 17th, 18th & 19th December 2018
Time: 1.00pm - 4.00pm
Where: Badminton Southland, Surrey Park
Cost: \$10.00 per day
ANYONE IS WELCOME
NO SPEED LIMITS

For More Information
Please Contact:
Rata Hopa
P: 217 9460 or
E: badmintonouthland@xtra.co.nz
Registrations close Thursday 13th December 2018

Strike a 6' Holiday Programmes

Teachers are striking on 15th November.
Why don't you come and play some cricket?

- Thursday 15th November.
- 9am-3pm
- Ages 5-13
- \$30 for the day

Come along to Invercargill (Queens Park Cricket Ground),
Winton (Moore's Estate) or Gore (Hamilton Park)



To book or for more info on Invercargill or Winton contact James Bell at:
invercargill@southlandcricket.co.nz or 021 301 508
for Gore

Jack Hilton at: eastern@southlandcricket.co.nz or 021 648 127