

St John's Girls' School

Newsletter

9 March 2018

Principal's Comments

Tena koutou katoa – Greetings to you all.

Welcome to Pippa Jamieson and her family. Pippa started at St John's on Monday. She is in Year 2.

House Picnic

The house captains and deputies organised a fantastic house picnic last week. They learnt many leadership skills which they will be able to fine tune during the year. Several were heard to say that they are 'never' becoming teachers! Everyone had a wonderful day and as per usual, we were lucky with the weather. The teachers were impressed by the house captains and deputies but equally impressed by the other Year 7 and 8 girls who stepped up to help the house leaders. The favourite activity seemed to be building huts.

Thank you

A huge thank you to the Parents' Association for organising the Family Fun Night. It was a wonderful night, despite the inclement weather. The bouncy castle, races, lolly scramble and ice cream were enjoyed by all. Thank you to existing families for making our new families feel so welcome. It was lovely to see so many ex-students.

Cyber Safety

Years 3 – 8 will have cyber safety sessions on 22nd/23rd May with Constable Marty. This is later than usual because Constable Marty was unavailable.

Vacancies on the Board of Trustees and Board of Proprietors

Please consider putting your name forward. See the information later in this newsletter. BOP nominations close Friday 16th March at 3pm! BOT close on 23rd March 12pm!

Things that are coming up:

Three way interviews, teacher, daughter and parents – next Wednesday/Thursday. School closes at 2pm on Wednesday 14th but normal time on Thursday 15th.

Nga mihi nui (Warm wishes)

Brenda Mackay

WINTER KILTS Years 5—8

You need to order now for your daughter's winter kilt to be delivered before the start of Term 2. They take at least 8 weeks to make and deliver.

Order forms are available at the office or online www.heleankilts.co.nz.

New Entrants to Year 4 girls wear winter pinafores which are available from the uniform shop. Please phone Mrs Lang to make an appointment to have your daughter fitted. It can take several weeks if we have to order one. Get in early.

Board of Trustees and Board of Proprietors

There is a vacancy on the BOT and two vacancies on the BOP. Both boards work closely together for the benefit of your daughter, the BOT making governance decisions around education and the BOP around buildings, Gilmour House and the Special Character of the school. If you are interested in putting your name forward for either board, please take the time to read the information in the Chairperson of the BOT's article later in this newsletter and in the Chairperson's of the BOP's flyer that was sent home earlier this week. We need a mix of skills and people who care about all students.

TERM DATES:

Term 1

14th	Interviews start 2.15pm School closes 2pm.
15th	Interviews start 3.15pm
	Mufti Day
19th	Swimming Sport 1pm—2.30pm Yrs 5-8 BOT 5.30pm
21st - 23rd	Year 6 Camp Columba
22nd	Health Nurse Visit
26th	Zone Athletics postponement day
27th	Parents' Assn AGM 7pm BOP AGM
28th	Easter Service Practice
29th	Easter Service 1.30pm St John's Church
30th	Easter Friday

April

4th	First day back after Easter break
4th - 6th	Year 7 Camp Dunedin
9th - 13th	Year 8 Camp Deep Cove
13th	Last Day Term 1
30th	First Day Term 2

Congratulations to the following girls who received awards recently—

Room 1	Willow Harper, Summer Behl, Kadi Cantley, Nevaeh Roughan
Room 2	Jessica Hay, Amelia Frew, Esme Middlebrook, Greer Macpherson
Room 3	Shanna-Beth Smith, Jhordaya Shaw, Olivia Gibson, Zoe Stockman
Room 4	Lucy Muir, Nicola Schol
Room 5	Maddison Booth, Abbie Middlemass, Indya Hillman, Rebecca Laverock, Katie Dennis
Room 6	Eva Sexton, Asha Dickson, Claire Mercep, Natalia Longman
Room 7	Brooke Acker, Anna Williams

Values Cup:

2nd Mar	Emma Corson	Rm 2
9th Mar	Liliana Clinckett	Rm 2

News from the chair

Welcome back to a brand new school year, I hope you all had a great summer. The staff and girls are back in full work mode. For us as trustees, we say goodbye and thank you to Aaron McKenzie, a long-term board member whose daughters' have moved on to high school. This leaves us with a vacancy on the Board of Trustees. We will be holding an election to fill this vacancy with requests for nominations going out on 7th March. Successful boards are made up of a variety of people with a variety of skills. It is this variety that gives us robust discussion and many viewpoints to consider. This is really important in our task of ensuring each girl has the opportunity to achieve her full potential. If you would like to know more, click the link below. This is a short video from NZSTA (Trustee Association) explaining our role a little more.

<https://vimeo.com/120984849>

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Mackay, myself, or any of our trustees—Mr Mark Billcliff, Mrs Jo Keary, Mrs Mary Kelly, Mrs Nic Macpherson, and Mr Phil Muir. We'd love to hear from you.

Keri Bryan
BOT Chair
(021441085)

SIBLING ENROLMENTS

Please remember to fill in an Application for Admission for your younger daughter/s if you want her/them to attend St John's. Application for Admission forms are on our website or you can pick one up at the school office. Ensure you do this well in advance as planning for 2019 has already started.

RE M I N D E R S

ABSENCES:

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

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.

SCHOOL CAR PARKS—these are only to be used by boarder parents on a Monday before school and Friday after school. If you are picking your daughter up from after school care you may use the car parks but only after 3.30pm. Please inform grandparents, carers and anyone else who picks up and drops off your daughter/s.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ever wondered what a Trustee does, what governance really is, or how you could help ensure the ongoing success of our fabulous school?

The Board of Trustees at St John's consists of;

- The principal
- A staff trustee
- 5 parent elected trustees
- A member of the BOP

The Board's primary focus is the ongoing improvement of student progress and achievement – making sure that each student reaches their potential.

If you like, an easy way of thinking about it is

Governance	(The Board)	= What do we want to achieve? The ends.
Management	(The Principal)	= How do we get there, or the means.

As a Board we have a number of policies to guide our governance. These give clear delegations to the Principal and ensures roles are clear within the team. The principal also reports to the Board.

The Board is accountable for setting student performance, strategic leadership, setting the vision for students and ensuring compliance with legal and policy requirements.

As a Board we are proactive, rather than reactive. We are not, and should not be, involved in the administrative details of the day to day running of the school.

Meetings are held once a month during term time. These are currently on a Monday at 5.30pm in the staff room at school. We have a code of conduct, which we follow to ensure we behave in an ethical manner in all areas, and this is discussed annually.

Over the last few years some of the Board's achievements have included; the introduction of BYOD; enabling extra support for students at both ends of the spectrum to enhance their learning; continual oversight of high performance in all areas of academia; improved communication with our community (shown in survey results); strengthening of our role in governance by reviewing and updating all our processes, promoting and valuing our cultural differences.

Governance, however, relies on a good effective team, a team that possess a variety of skills. These skills may include:

- an inquiring mind,
- someone who is learner focused,
- being a good communicator,
- practical people,
- creativity,
- financial knowledge
- a business focus.

Any and all of these skills are valuable on a Board of Trustees. Above all, you need to be a team player who can commit to the role, be honest, curious and have good integrity.

Our mission is:

'to educate each girl in a safe, supportive Christian environment, to be a lifelong learner.'

If you are interested in joining the Board to guide us into the future at our upcoming election, we would love to hear from you. Equally if you would like to know more you can contact myself or Mrs Mackay. We'd love to welcome you to our team.

Keri Bryan
021 441 085

ROOM 1—Year 1—Mrs Jagoutz

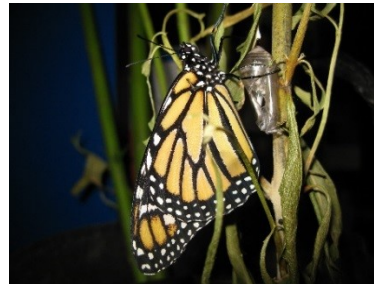
Room 1 have been very busy and we can't believe that we are half way through Term 1 already!



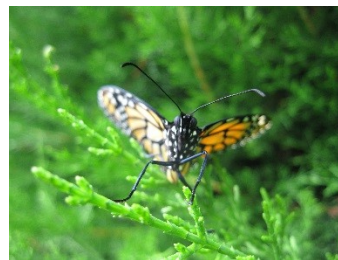
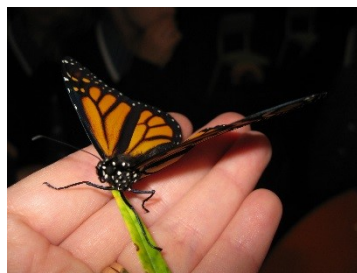
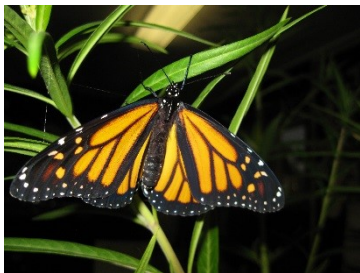
The weather was very kind to us for the House Picnic and everyone had great fun. There was an obstacle course, games, tug-of-war, building bush huts and a lolly scramble. Thank you to the Year 8 girls for looking after us so well.



This week our letter focus has been the letter Q. We had 3 quilts in Room 1 as guessing items and we have also been making crowns so that we can be queens for a day.



We have been monitoring our cocoons very carefully and there was much excitement this week as our first butterfly hatched.



We carefully took the butterfly out into the sunshine and set it free. Seeing the life cycle from egg of butterfly has been very engaging for the girls.

ROOM 2—Year 2—Mrs Kelly & Mrs Brand

Welcome to Pippa who has joined our Room 2 family this week. We hope you settle quickly and enjoy your time at St John's.

It was lovely to see so many of you at Family Fun Night and it was a good chance to get to know each other.



We have been doing some wonderful writing about our favourite colours in Room 2.

Pink

My favourite colour is pink
Pink sounds like a ballerina that twirls in the
wind, that is as light as a leaf,
that has a pretty pink dress on.
Pink smells like a pretty pink princess that likes
flowers

By Ingrid

Red

My favourite colour is red.
Red sounds like hot lava.
Red smells like juicy cherries.
Red looks like lovely love hearts
Red feels like bad danger.
Red tastes like yummy strawberries.

By Kiran

Black

My favourite colour is black.
It sounds like a stormy night.
It looks like a dark drawing.
Black smells like petrol.
Black tastes like burnt sausages.

By Sofia

Blue

My favourite colour is blue
Blue sounds like a rough lake
Blue looks like a windy day
Blue feels of a stormy night

By Jessica

Our science table has been an amazing source of wonder and observation. We have released two butterflies and have two more chrysalis left to hatch. We have had one caterpillar make an amazing journey across the classroom to find a safe place to become a chrysalis and this has been a great inspiration for creative writing. Our tadpoles and frogs have also given us a lot to talk and write about. We will miss them when they go.

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

Who can believe we are half way through the term?

We have learned so much about each other in the last few weeks. It is great to see everyone settling into good work routines. We have been learning about ‘what makes a good friend and how we can be a good friend’.

There has been great excitement in Room 3 as our monarch butterflies have emerged from their chrysalis. Some of us even witnessed this happening! It has been a great learning experience seeing the stages of transformation.

Our class waka is complete and this shows us all working together to make the best of our time in Room 3.
Teamwork (Kapa)

T E A M - Together Everyone Achieves More!

Teamwork was also evident during our house picnic. Everyone had a wonderful time at Sandy Point. Well done to the Year 8 girls for their superb organisation. Room 3 girls have written some exciting recounts of this event!

In swimming there has been some great progress with increased confidence in many water skills. Ms Wilcox-Clarke suggests that the holidays are a good time to build upon these skills with lessons available at Splash Palace.

In dance we are learning a dance called ‘Everything is Awesome’ which we will share with families at our Aerobics Festival.

Our current maths unit is addition and subtraction. We are working on strategies to strengthen our problem solving. It is very obvious how important it is to have quick recall of basic facts. Well done to those who are working hard on these at home.

Interviews take place on Wednesday March 12th and Thursday March 22nd. (Due to personal reasons we are not available on Thursday 15th March.) We look forward to meeting with you all and setting goals for the year ahead. The girls have completed their beautiful self-portraits. Please feel free to come and see them.

Family Fun Night was just that, so much fun! It was great to see all our school families enjoying the sunshine and all the activities that our Parents’ Association had organised. The girls loved dressing up as their favourite book characters. Thank you for all you do for our school.



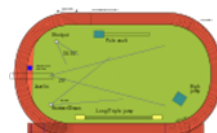
SPORTS NEWS

ZONE ATHLETICS

The Zone Athletics for 8 – 10 year olds, were held today at Surrey Park. Many thanks to Mr Middlemass, Mr Somerville and Mrs King for helping out in the long jump pits.

SOUTHLAND PRIMARY SCHOOLS ATHLETICS SPORTS

This event will be held on Saturday 7th April 2018. Only girls who have met the Southland Standards and achieved a 1st or 2nd placing have an opportunity to take part in the Southland Athletics. *****All girls attending will receive a parent confirmation notice outlining details of the day as well as a programme of events and timetable*****



SUMMER FOOTBALL

Summer football has only **two** weeks left! The season ends on Monday **19th March**. I hope the girls have enjoyed the season and a huge thank you to the parents who have coached and taken lunch time practices. We really appreciate the time and effort you have put into our teams.



NETBALL

Please see below the proposed dates for the 2018 Saturday Netball competition. These dates could be subject to change.

Year 7/8 competition:

5 th May	Grading (2 games of 2 x 10 minute halves)
12 th May	No netball
19 th May	Round 1 (game 1). Will be late games as INC are on reduced courts
26 th May	Round 1 (games 2 & 3) <u>double round</u>
2nd June	No netball (Queens Birthday weekend)
9 th June - 16 th June:	Round 1 continues (games 4 & 5). (9 th June has reduced courts also)
23 rd June - 30 th June	Round 2 (games 1 & 2)
7 th July - 21 st July	No netball (due to court unavailability)
28 th July - 11 th August	Round 2 continues (games 3, 4 & 5)
18 th August	Semi finals
25 th August	Final

You will also need to register your daughter with INC for the season. You can register by going to our website, click on 'Term 2 Sports' > 'Saturday Netball' and click the link to register. You can also register on the free SPORTY app via your device.



SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS

Our swimming sports will be held on **Monday 19th March** from 1:00pm—2:30pm at Splash Palace. The event is for all Year 5-8 girls who have passed their 200m. Please feel free to come along and support your daughter. There will be spectator seats available near the shallow end of the pool. Please ensure your daughter is not wearing any jewellery.

HOCKEY

Registrations are now open via the Sporty app and our school website. Registrations close on Wednesday 21st March.



2018 SOUTHLAND PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Online registrations are now open for the championships to be held on Sunday 8th April 2018. Registrations close on Friday 16th March and no late entries will be accepted. To register download the free SPORTY app or go to our school website and click on 'After School Sports' > 'Term 1 Events'.



SOUTHLAND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TRIATHLON

Congratulations to the following girls who competed at the triathlon on Friday 23rd February. The girls came away with some great results and should be very proud of their efforts. Well done girls!

Individual Year 8 Girls:	5 th	Abbie Middlemass
Year 8 Girls team:	3 rd	Meg Pope (swim/bike), Angeline Crowe (run)
Year 8 Girls team:	4 th	Cate Reynolds (swim), Katie Dennis (bike), Jorja Mackie (run)
Year 7 Girls team:	1 st	Ella Erskine (swim), Elise Hampton (run), Claire Mercep (bike)

Unfortunately, Grace Watson and Sarah Slee had to withdraw from the triathlon the night before. Thank you to Angeline and Jorja for taking up their positions in the teams.

Thank you to the parents for managing the teams, and to the parents who assisted in transporting the girls out to Winton and for all your support during the afternoon.



PHOTOS

If anyone has taken 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

REPRESENTATIVE NEWS

*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 merit certificates and for Yr 7/8 stripes.*

Thank you. My email

sports@stjohnsgirls.school.nz

GO HOCKEY

Your Hockey Specialist .CO.NZ

SOUTH ISLAND EXPO

COMING IN APRIL

7th: INVERCARGILL - CLUBROOMS

8th: CROMWELL - CLUBROOMS

9th: OAMARU - CLUBROOMS

11th: CHRISTCHURCH - VENUE TBC

12th: WESTPORT - WESTPORT MOTOR HOTEL

14th: BLenheim - REDWOODTOWN COMMUNITY HALL

MASSIVE SAVINGS

STICKS, BAGS, SHOES

GK GEAR & A HUGE RANGE OF ACCESSORIES

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