



# NEWSLETTER

St John's Girls' School

11 April 2025



Greetings from the  
Acting Principal

Kia Ora, Tafola  
Lava, Kia Orana

**Whakatauki -  
Māori Proverb**

**Poipoia te  
kākano kia  
puawai**

*Nurture the seed, and it  
will blossom.*

As we reach the end of Term 1, I find myself reflecting on what has been an incredibly busy and rewarding term for our kura. Our girls and staff have worked tirelessly, and I am so proud of the achievements and milestones we have celebrated together.

As we approach the Easter break, it's a wonderful opportunity to pause and give thanks. Easter is a time of renewal and hope, and I encourage everyone to take this time to recharge and spend quality moments with whānau and friends.

I am truly grateful for the strong sense of community we have here at our kura. Your continued support and involvement make all the difference for our girls. Thank you for your support of the important work we do.

Term 2 is shaping up to be just as action-packed here at our school, with our calendar already brimming with exciting events. I am confident that after a well-deserved holiday break, both our girls and staff will be eager and ready to dive back in.

## Camps

I had the absolute privilege of joining Room 8 at Deep Cove camp last week. Spending time with the Year 8 class truly reinforced the value of education outside the classroom. It was amazing to see the girls shine in different ways, showcasing perseverance, resilience, and teamwork throughout the camp experience.

Rooms 4 and 6 also enjoyed fantastic weather and exciting adventures at Omaui last week. We are incredibly fortunate to have such amazing camp destinations right on our doorstep, offering our girls unique opportunities to learn and grow.

## Kids Lit Quiz

Aida Chamberlain, Willow Harper, Zoe McMillian, and Maya Preininger represented St John's with great pride at the recent Kids Lit Quiz held in Gore. Although the team did not place in the top rankings, they successfully secured several spot prizes. Thank you to Mrs Smith for accompanying the girls and providing her invaluable support at the event.

## Easter Service

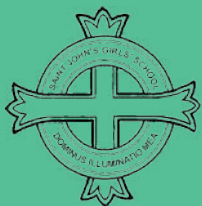
I would like to extend my appreciation to Mrs Taylor for the incredible amount of work she invests in preparing our girls for the Easter service. The weeks of preparation and the standout performances by our students are a testament to Mrs Taylor's dedication and hard work. Thank you Mrs Taylor!

## Attendance

At St John's, we place a strong emphasis on high attendance. Being at school every day supports academic success, builds social connections, and develops essential life skills. Regular attendance ensures our girls don't miss valuable learning experiences and fosters a sense of belonging and community, crucial for their well-being.

We understand absences can be unavoidable due to illness or other reasons. However, we encourage prioritising attendance whenever possible and ask you to communicate with us about any challenges. Please inform the school office of any planned absences, such as holidays, well in advance.





## Values Cup Recipients



**Amaia van Westrenen  
Room 2**

## Speech Exams

Speech exams are scheduled for next term from Monday 16 June to Thursday 19 June for Year 3 - 8 girls. Your daughter's speech teacher will have already shared the exam guidelines with you, and this information is also available on Skool Loop. Please support your daughter in staying organised, meeting deadlines, and encouraging her to ask questions if she's unsure about any requirements. The upcoming holidays offer a great opportunity to work on speech exam preparations.

## Winter Uniforms

Winter uniforms are required for Term 2 and 3. All Year 5 girls will need the new winter skirts since the kilts are being phased out due to the unavailability of the tartan. If your daughter's skirt hasn't arrived yet, she can wear her junior pinafore or summer uniform in the meantime. The smaller size skirts are expected to arrive during the first week of next term.

## Production - Potential Sponsorship

Planning is underway for our whole school production, which is scheduled for the last week of Term 3. Staging a production is a wonderful opportunity for our girls to have an authentic theatre experience, but it does come at a significant cost. To help manage these expenses and ensure ticket prices remain affordable, we are seeking sponsorship from businesses. If you have any contacts who may be interested in supporting our production, please feel free to contact the school. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Have a safe and relaxing holiday break. Take this time to relax, recharge, and spend quality time with whānau and friends. We look forward to welcoming the girls back refreshed and ready for an exciting new term in a couple of weeks.

Ngā manaakitanga

Holly Bradshaw

**Tumuaki Whakakapi | Acting Principal**

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS







# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## APRIL

- 28 First Day of Term 2

## MAY

- 6 Parents' Association Mtg [7pm]
- 8 Mother's Day Market [lunchtime]  
BoT Meeting - Staffroom [5.30pm]
- 9 Mother's Day Market [lunchtime]
- 12 Jumping Day
- 15 Playhouse Theatre  
Southern Steel Visit
- 19 Swimming Sports [Splash Palace]
- 28 School Cross Country

## JUNE

- 2 King's Birthday **[School Closed]**
- 4 All Saints Cross Country 12.30 pm
- 6 All Saints Cross Country -  
postponement day
- 16-19 Speech Exams
- 18 BoP Meeting - Staffroom [5.30pm]
- 20 Matariki **[School Closed]**
- 24-25 Dance Exams
- 24-27 Life Education Bus
- 27 Last Day of Term 2

## JULY

- 14 First Day of Term 3
- 22 Parents ' Association Mtg [7pm]
- 23 Parent/Teacher Interviews **[2.15pm -  
School finishes at 2pm]**
- 24 Parent/Teacher Interviews **[3.15pm -  
School finishes at 3pm]**



# WEEKLY AWARDS

## CONGRATULATIONS

### ROOM 1

Gussie Affleck, Mackenna North, Alora Bosma, Abby Moore

### ROOM 2

Indy Frost, Oriana Smith, Georgia Cochrane, Kate McEwan

### ROOM 3

Lorelai Stirling, Nina Russell, Beau McRae-Bothamley, Amelia Maxwell

### ROOM 4

Briar Brady, Charlee Miles

### ROOM 6

Avery Botting, Amelia Kemna

### ROOM 7

Willow Murray, Morrigan Parsons, Briar Nicholl, Emily Laughton

### ROOM 8

Mia Reilly, Martina Bosma

### VALUES CUP

Amaia van Westrenen

Room 2

### PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Navy Sloane  
Lilly Stalker  
Lara Preininger

Room 2  
Room 3  
Room 4



# Dress To Impress

## Make A Wish Foundation



These are our top 6 best dressed for our Make a Wish KIPRRR day.



**Adorable Olive**

*We love the touch of nature and sparkles!*



**Emily L & Briar Mc**

*So matchy, matchy!*



**Rosie, Aaliyah, Sophia, Danielle & Lexie**

*These girls looked PJtastic in their identical pajamas and headbands.*



**Alora**

*Lovely colourful wings Alora!*



**Navy**

*Navy's dress looked gorgeous.*



**Eden**

*Eden rocked her fairy wand!*

**All the girls looked fabulous in their outfits and they said that the sausages and iceblocks were delicious!**

**From your Kaiarahi**  
*Bailey, Evie, Briar N, Greer P*



# THANK YOU YEAR 7!

Our Year 7 girls stepped up with enthusiasm while the Year 8 girls were away at camp, taking on their responsibilities with pride. They managed bell ringing, lunchtime heat-ups, assembly notices and readings, and even organised an engaging and fun house meeting for their fellow students. It was wonderful to see them embrace the opportunity and lead with confidence.

## House meetings

### ALABASTER



Alabaster House did *Needle in a Haystack*. They had to find plastic needles to get points to win prizes.

### ENDERBY



Enderby House did *Minute To Win It*, *Keepy Uppy*, *Find the Cube* and *Tower Stack*. They had one minute to complete each task.

### LESTER



Lester House did a *Touch and Feel* box. They had to guess what the different objects were.

### MARCHANT



Marchant House did *Guess the Disney Princess*. They had to guess 12 different princesses.



# ROOM 4



We had an absolute blast at Camp Omaui last week. We enjoyed abseiling down a huge pine tree, soaring down the flying fox, building bivvys and of course, body boarding!

"Abseiling was the most challenging part because we had to pull ourselves up a big tree with only a rusty step to hold you."

"I felt brave. If I had to do camp again, I definitely would go."

"It turns out I'm not as afraid of heights as I thought I was."

"The best part was probably sleeping next to my BFFs for half a week."

"The most challenging part was playing spotlight because we were one of the first found."

## Camp Omaui Reflections

Lara  
Preininger

Kyla  
Howden

Briar  
Brady

Amelia  
Goodwright

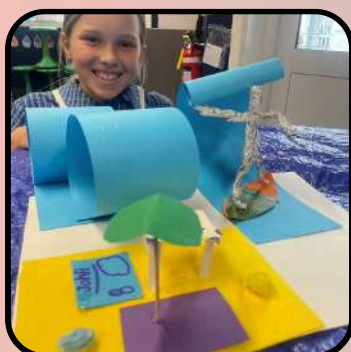
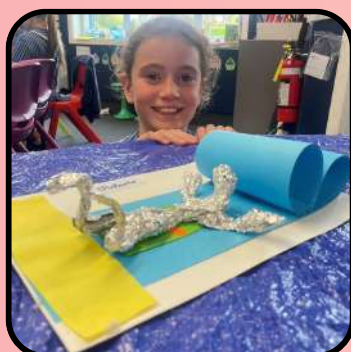
Eloise  
Smith





We were big time surfers [body boarders] on camp and wanted to express our love of the waves through 3D art. These are our silver surfers using tin foil and other mixed media. HANG TEN!

## Post Camp Art





# ROOM 6

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We did all sorts of things on camp like; abseiling, bungee, archery, toasting marshmallows, walking 3 and a half hours, bodyboarding, nature art, bivvy building, camp cooking and setting up tents.

Lydia  
O'Brien

---



The most enjoyable part of camp was the abseiling because as soon as I did it I wanted to do it over and over again.

Amelia  
Kemna

---



The most challenging part of camp was setting up the tents because the instructions were confusing and the outside of the tent was really hard to put on the actual tent.

Agnes  
Russell

---

Something I have learned about myself at camp is that I can cook damper. I can go home and do it and it's an easy thing to make. I never was a good cook.

Avery  
Botting

---

Something I learned at camp was that some things can look quite scary but once you do it they are actually really fun and cool.

Lexie  
Nicholl

---





I feel great now the camp is over. I tried everything and I did my best and I feel awesome!

Ashlyn  
Shepherd

Camp would be better if we got to stay one more night because camp is so much fun.

Courtney  
Mackie



# MOTHER'S DAY MARKET

## Financial Literacy

Room 6 are doing a unit on financial literacy. As part of this we are going to run a Mother's Day Market Thursday and Friday of week 2 next term. Girls can buy a gift for their mum's that Room 6 will be making. Profits will be going to the Care Committee.

More details to come!







# ROOM 7

Room 7 buried their time capsule this week. Inside our time capsule are letters to ourselves, aspirations for our next two years at St John's and memories we cherish. We will dig them up before we leave at the end of year 8.

## Time Capsule Burial



We had lots of bananas leftover from camp and didn't want them to go to waste so we decided to bake banana muffins to share at our House Bonding Day. They were gobbled up quickly with some great reviews.

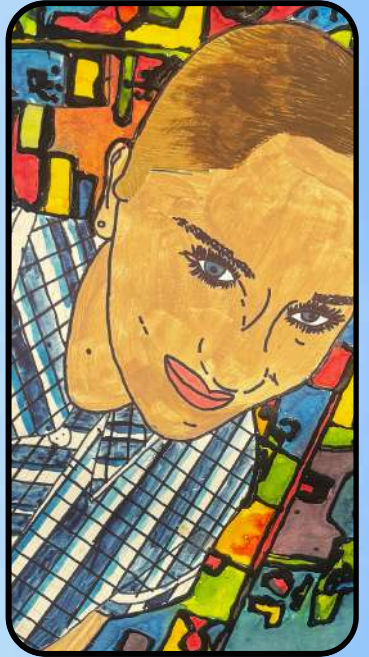
## When Life Gives You Bananas Make Banana Muffins!



This term we have been working on self-portraits for art. They are proudly hanging on our classroom wall. We used digital tools to help us stylise our photos to help us draw outlines. The background is inspired by artist Leah Nadeau, who uses aerial views from airplanes to create energetic lines. We did not have the budget to get these aerial views, so we used Google Maps to help us find a place that we connected with.

## Self Portrait Art









# ROOM 8

The sandflies are lethal,  
but the birds are bright  
and lively.

The water is dark, but our  
moods are bright.

Like the rain we  
constantly fall, but we  
always get back up.  
The longest camp, but it  
seems to go so fast.

Mia  
Reilly



I could smell the fishy  
bait, out on the wharf.  
I could hear the birds,  
hungry for a meal.

Mia  
Padgett

I can feel the plastic reel,  
smooth as silk.

I could see the small fish darting around under  
the cool jet black water.  
I could see Barry, shimmering like a large  
diamond.



I felt a large tug on my hook as I yanked up my  
rod only to find a small fish, flapping its small  
torso. And the edges of my mouth curved  
upwards.

I can smell the salty seaweed, burning my  
nostrils.

I feel the mist gently falling on my face.  
I see the large mountains watching over me.  
I hear the seals, having a conversation with each  
other.

I feel in awe when the boat rises over the waves  
but feel nauseous as I leave my stomach behind.

[By the way we named the shark swimming by  
the quay Barry.]





Deep Cove was  
delightful.  
We stumbled and  
mumbled and sometimes  
even grumbled.  
We were walking while we  
were stalking all types of  
creatures that were  
talking.  
We fished and splashed  
and caught all types of  
fish.  
We tripped and fell into  
water so deep.  
We giggled and gossiped  
and laughed so hard.

Charlotte  
Beer



I was really sad to leave. I  
wanted to stay so badly!  
It was so much fun at  
Deep Cove, and every  
day was like a new  
adventure, full of  
surprises and jaw  
dropping experiences.  
But I had to go. If I had  
stayed It would have  
been just me and all the  
fun would have  
disappeared with the  
people.

Gwynedd  
Ryder



There were so many new  
experiences like seeing  
dolphins, catching sharks,  
and seeing glow worms.  
Seeing glow worms was  
like standing on stars! I  
could go on and on about  
all the things that made  
Deep Cove camp great  
and I'm not even sure I  
can remember it all. But  
the best thing was all the  
people: talking, playing  
games and having fun,  
that was what made  
camp an unforgettable  
memory.





The cabins were set up nicely and my cabin group got a big cabin and that made us all happy. The marine biology boat, most people found it boring but not me! There was great knowledge shared about the sound and some people even got lollies (I got one, it was yum ). We hooked a lot of sharks that kept taking our hooks and one even tried to break my fingers (at least that's what I thought ). And the 3 hour cruise on Thursday had stunning views and when we got out to the sea, we got to take photos of seals! And on the way back out of nowhere there was a pod of bottlenose dolphins!!!! Camp this year was awesome and I'm so grateful for this opportunity.

Maisie  
Korteweg



Deep Cove, a place where it will always take away your breath even if you've been there many times before. Memories will hold onto us forever. Like Luna falling into the water, Emma dropping me in a puddle, and the rock slide where even the parents slid down. I dream we could all stay there for one more week, but dreams barely come true.

Aida  
Chamberlain





Coming home from camp felt different this year. I was happy I was going home but I was also sad because it went so fast. Plenty of people had told me that Deep Cove was the best camp they had ever been on and that just made me more excited to go. When we got there it felt like a blink of an eye and then we were going home. The reason camp felt so different this year is because it's the last camp with the class all together because next year we will all be off on our own journey with new friends and new people. I loved every moment of our last camp together.

Tayla  
Nel



Wow, I was not expecting for someone to catch a big shark or even an OCTOPUS that was a surprise!

I loved the cruise. I saw some super cool things. Good one to the parents for those annoying pranks.

Did we see some cool wildlife or what? Some of those walks I did not like, but there were some cool views. So very worth it. It was so worth the experience to walk through mud, over rivers climbing/sliding down rocks.

Nakaysha  
Fraser







Deep Cove was really really fun.

Helena Falls was probably my favourite walk of all and not because it was a short walk.

It was my favourite because I fell in a massive puddle with Aida and I got to drink the Helena Falls water, all thanks to Grant.

Mrs Bradshaw tricked me saying a little girl fell off the bridge and that was why the bridge was named after her. So Drew and I started making up new names that if I accidentally broke the bridge we would name it Emma Breaks or Drew Breaks. But on the last day I finally got told the truth!

Emma  
Visser



Fishing on the boat was so fun, I would always feel tugs and think it was a shark but it never was. I got scared when Emma said she felt a huge strong tug, a couple seconds later she pulled up a huge seven gill shark. It was so scary. A few minutes after Emma felt another tug. Then she pulled up a big octopus and brought it on the boat. It was so cool. I loved fishing and every activity we did at Deep Cove, especially the marshmallow game we played.

Drew  
Peddie







The waves lapped at the shore and we were off! The Patea Explorer bobbed on the water and the wind whipped the tendrils of hair that escaped my ponytail. I took a deep breath of the salty mist that made the air moist. My lungs exhaled at the breathtaking site, monstrous mountains loomed above me tall and daunting. I sighed and thought that tomorrow I would be going home.

Martina



Deep Cove was a place where we made a lot of memories. Such as Luna falling into the water when Barry the shark was swimming near her, or when we were kiwi spotting at night and someone farted!!! I wish I could go back to Deep Cove with my class to make more memories. I just wouldn't take my Dad again.

Abby  
Unahi





**SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUTSAL CLINIC**  
MON 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL



Contact info:  
leigh@southlandfootball.org.nz

BOYS 13-17 - 9AM TO 10AM | GIRLS 13-17 - 10:30AM TO 11:30AM - \$25PP

YMCA INVERCARGILL - 77 TAY STREET, INVERCARGILL 9810

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER TODAY!



**SOUTHLAND FOOTBALL**  
**SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUTSAL CLINIC**  
UNDER 9 TO 14 GIRLS

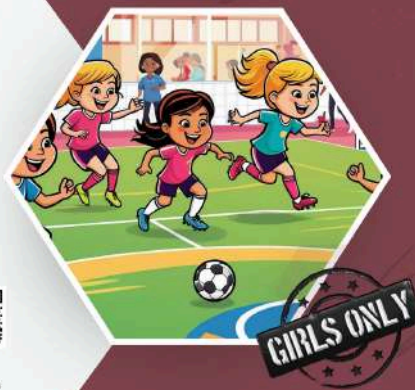
ILT STADIUM:  
SURREY PARK ROAD, GLENGARRY,  
INVERCARGILL

12:30PM - 3PM  
MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

SCAN IN THE QR CODE  
TO REGISTER - \$20pp



Please contact Leigh on 021 507 077 for further information



**SOUTHLAND FOOTBALL**  
**SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP**

- ILT Football Turf, Invercargill
- Tuesday 15th of April
- \$25 per player
- Great way to start the season
- Work with academy coaches
- High performance environment



Scan QR code to register!



Juniors (8-12 year olds): 9am-12am | Youth (13-17 year olds): 1pm-4pm  
Enquiries to Leigh | leigh@southlandfootball.org.nz | 021 507 077

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINIC



Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April  
9:00am - 12:00pm  
Winton Football Club  
Moore's Reserve  
Price Road, Winton



Scan the QR code  
to register today

JUNIOR GIRLS WANTED!  
LOOKING TO TRY A NEW SPORT?  
COME OUT AND MAKE SOME NEW  
FRIENDS AND LEARN SOME  
AWESOME SKILLS!

### Junior Girls and Boys

Under 7 to 12 - 9:00am - 10:30am  
Under 13 to 17 - 10:30am - 12:00pm





Waihōpai Rūnaka welcomes you to



# MURIHIKU MARAE COMMUNITY DAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH

12pm-4pm

**KAPA HAKA  
BOUNCY CASTLES  
WEAVING  
POI MAKING**

**PERFORMANCES  
KAI & MARKETS  
TAONGA MĀORI  
AND MORE...**

RSVP is not necessary, this event is free and open to all. Money required for food trucks and market.



**WAIHŌPAI**  
RŪNAKA

**NAU MAI, HAERE MAI**

408 Tramway Road, Invercargill

Weather Dependent: Postponement date May 4