

Dear Parents/Caregivers/Whanau,
Kia Ora Koutou

With the need to minimise the impact of the COVID-19 virus these are uncertain times across NZ and the world. I want to thank you as parents and guardians for your understanding as we work through information coming to us regularly from the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health. New Zealand remains to be a low risk country. For children we need to continue to be positive and resilient role models by handling our fear or anxiety positively in front of children. This will assist our children to manage any change which may occur in the future. A great site which shares how to talk with your child to alleviate fear and anxiety is <https://education.govt.nz/school/health-safety-and-wellbeing/pastoral-care-and-wellbeing/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-coronavirus/>

The term continues to progress well. Great teaching, learning, experiences and opportunities continue to be provided. Thank you for your help and support with these.

Nga mihi Michael

COVID-19

New Zealand continues to have a low rate of COVID-19 however should the situation change, then schools will be informed and act quickly in the interest of their students, staff and community. Our Government has moved quickly to set up stringent measures to stop the virus spreading.

Our school is open and we expect all students who are fit and well and do not have any predetermined conditions which put them at risk to attend school. The Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health have done an excellent job in keeping us well informed. They have provided advice and guidance regarding school camps, school assemblies and leave.

In the case of COVID-19 appearing in a school, the Ministry of Education in partnership with Ministry of Health, will track, trace and manage the contacts of the individual with the help of the school community. A school may be closed for several days whilst this happens. Such cases at this stage will be dealt with on a school by school basis. This approach is designed to quickly manage the virus. Should the virus move to widespread "person to person" transmission then this approach would most likely change. We would take immediate advice in such a situation. As a school we are building our capacity for the need to stay closed and how we could provide some teaching and learning from a distance.

Next week we will be sending home a survey to all families to complete, which will assist us to be prepared should there be future possible school closure. Please ensure this is completed and returned to your child's teacher.

In the meantime, if you are not already connected with our School App please go to the App store on your Apple or Android device and search "SchoolAppsNZ" to download the app onto your device, then search "St Johns Hill School" to find our school app or follow us on Facebook as we will be posting updates to both the School App and Facebook.

If you have not yet viewed the You tube clip I recommend you do. This is a simple child friendly explanation regarding the virus [YouTube clip - Nanogirl](#). There are also some good fact sheets on the Ministry of Health website: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-resources/covid-19-information-sheets-general-public>.

We are thankful for the excellent advice, communication and guidance being provided. We will continue checking the advice and communicate this with our community.

Welcome to School

A warm welcome to Nicolina Cotter, Aghasiya Libin and Alex Michau who recently joined our school family. We wish you all the best with your learning at our school. Absent from photo: Francesca Cotter, Michael Michau and Harrison Cotter.



Virtues Awards

Well done to the following students who were recently recognised for displaying their virtues and celebrated with morning tea with Mr Fitzgerald. Well done!



Whanaungatanga (a sense of belonging) - Cooperation: Steven Forsyth, Ariana Taituma, Riley Loader, Lily Andrews, Te Awatea Mason, Jaidyn-Marie Veikoso. **Enthusiasm:** Ryder Grant. **Ako - Enjoys challenges and demonstrates a growth mindset in his learning:** Connor McDonald. **Ako - a cooperative and considerate learner:** Serena Chernoff. **Kotahitanaga (Friendliness):** Aaron Misra, George Joy Jiju, Joanna Jijo. **Courage:** Sophie Puklowski, Adelaide McKechnie, Dallas Drummond, Rocco Pepe.

School Closed for Professional Development Monday 6th April

This continues with our earlier professional development "The Science of Reading". Thank you for ensuring arrangements are made for the care of your child/ren this day.



School Pool Keys

Please remember to return school pool keys. Due to the cooler weather the pool will be closed from Monday 23rd March. A \$5 refund will be given if keys are returned before the end of Term 1. For any lost keys there will be a charge of \$30.

Impetigo - School Sores

We have been notified that there are cases of Impetigo currently at school. Impetigo is when a child has a cut or sore, the bacteria can get down into the deeper layers of skin and cause an infection. Impetigo causes blisters on exposed body parts such as hands, legs and the face. The blisters burst and turn into a sore with a yellow crust. The sores can be itchy and are easy to spread to other parts of the body. Impetigo is highly contagious. Please cover sores and exclude your child from school until sores have dried up or 24hrs after treatment has started to avoid spreading.



Academic Achievement and/or Progress:

Congratulations to the following students:



Xander Laird: Is an outstanding speller. Xander knows many sounds, consonant and vowel patterns, Ka Pai!
Owen Murphy: Is an outstanding speller. Owen knows many sounds, consonant and vowel patterns. Ka rawe Owen!
Ashton Baxter: For a positive mindset and being cheerful on a daily basis.
Charlie Devane: Outstanding number knowledge and basic facts.
Jake Davy: A deep thinker in maths - diligently taking time to show his true understanding.
Hunter Lewis: Sound understanding and creative thinking shown in his Music and Algebra investigation.
Harrison Ward: Setting high standards and a growth mindset in his work. Ka Rawe Harrison!
Benjamin Law: Fantastic effort when working on his own, and with others, to research facts about our oceans.
Emma Ding: Listening carefully to display labels and data correctly on various types of graphs. Ka Pai!
Henry Jacques: Having a positive attitude and growth mindset in reading, writing and maths.
Olli Spooner: For having a positive mindset in all his learning. Ka pai!
Lara Davis: A super start to the school year with her learning and talking about her ideas. Tino rawe!
Lorenzo Manuel: A great effort to notice the sounds in words that he is writing and reading. Excellent work!
Azlan Mohammed: For using his creative thinking in his writing.
Ursula Kraft: Great work using her phoneme fingers to help hear the sounds in words.

Year 6 Leaders

Earth Kids:

Tyler Bisset, Eden Matthews, Jake Banks, Charlee Joseph.



Halo Team:

Tyson McKee, Mason Hunt, Connor Hovey, Jacob Hagan, Vicky Ye.



New Library Stools

Six new library stools were purchased with the money raised from book fair sales last year.



Parent/Caregiver & Emergency Contact Details

Enclosed is a blue slip which we ask all families to complete and return to their child's classroom teacher by Friday 27th March. In these uncertain times we need to be vigilant in ensuring contact information is updated and correct. Thank you for understanding and taking the time to complete and return asap.



Triathlon Results

Our senior school triathlon was held last Friday 13th March. Well done to all students who took part in this event.

Year 4 Girls 1st: Ryleigh Dorricott, 2nd: Asta Norman, 3rd: Indie Benton.
Boys 1st: Vinnie Grant, 2nd: Cian Murphy, 3rd: Thomas Bowen.
Year 5 Girls 1st: Ella Papworth, 2nd: Olivia Loader, 3rd: Sophie Booth, Sophia Su'a.
Boys 1st: Guy Fitzgerald, 2nd: Finlay Cairncross, 3rd: Ashton Baxter.
Year 6 Girls 1st: Libby Hobbs, 2nd: Florence Macbeth, 3rd: Amelia Allardice.
Boys 1st: Ethan Toy, 2nd: Ashton Eiseman, 3rd: Liam Cox.



Life Education Trust

Harold is Coming!

During the last three weeks of term Life Education Trust will be on site. Life Education is a charity that provides children with the knowledge to make informed choices about their health, respect for others and learn to appreciate their uniqueness. It supports students to develop life skills. It encourages students to make healthy choices. Students gain knowledge about health and their bodies. Students develop self-esteem and a positive understanding of themselves. Students develop strategies for relating to others. A focus will be how we can foster emotional and physical wellbeing and develop resilience in these changing times. All our students will be taking part in this well regarded programme. A \$5.50 charge goes to the Trust and we appreciate this being sent to the office or classroom teacher. If you would prefer to pay online please make payment to: SJHS 03-0791-0552038-00 using your child's name as reference.



Thank You PTA

- A great disco was run for our students last Friday night. Everyone loved the fluorescent lighting!
- Great support for our Hot Cross Bun fundraiser. Buns will be delivered to school on Wednesday 1st April for collection from the school hall between 3-3.30pm.