

St Joseph's School Balclutha

Newsletter

Kamusta - Hello from the Philippines

Next week we will fly the flag of the Philippines



Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends

In the hearts and minds of the Jewish people, the Temple occupied a central place for the community. It was a source of immense joy and comfort that there was in the heart of Israel, in the city of Jerusalem, a place where they could draw close to God.

A big thank you to all the parents who came to help at the Athletics last Wednesday. The children all participated and had lots of fun on the day. Congratulations to the following students who are taking part in the South Otago Athletics on Monday:

Lucas Ewald, Alice Irwin, Maggie Cameron, Ashaz Navarosa,

Pippa Irwin, Kase Twaddle and Gabriella Wainohu

VIGIL MASS

Saturday 2 March

Altar Servers

Wendy Agajona

Projector

Astrid Murray



VALUE AWARDS

Make Room For all

Ester Chinnu

Ellie Navarosa

Ashaz Navarosa

Prayer

Loving Father, Help us to choose right instead of wrong, to say yes to you instead of no, so that we may know and love you more. Amen



Calendar of Events

Thursday 7 March

School Photos

Tuesday 12 March

South West Triathlon
Yr 5 - Yr8

Swimming Week

Mon 18 - Fri 22

Tuesday 19 March

St Joseph's Day
Mass 10am

Sun 24 - Sunday 31

Holy Week

Monday 25 March

Otago Anniversary

Learning Together For Life
Ako Tahi Mo Te Oranga Tonutanga



Friends Of The School AGM Thursday 11 April

Please keep this date free.
Thank you to all the parents who came to our meeting last Thursday. It was great to have you there and to hear your ideas.

Swimming

Swimming will take place on Monday 18 March and finish on Friday 22 March. A big thank you to the parents who have put their names down to help. Without this help we would not be able to go swimming.



School Hours

School learning hours are from 8:55am to 2:55pm - Monday to Friday.

We ask that children arrive in time for school so they are able to participate in prayer time. This is a very important part of our daily programme.

Children are not allowed to arrive before 8:30am as this is a time for the teachers to get ready for their day.

From 8:30am onwards children are allowed into the classrooms.

By keeping to these times you are helping us at school as we are unable to supervise the children at this time.

What is happening at school

Children have settled back into school and all classes are busy learning. Teachers have planned exciting lessons and there is a lovely buzz around the school.

This term students are learning:

About God, Jesus and The Holy Spirit in RE
Easter and Holy Week

Addition and Subtraction and Times Tables in Maths
On going Reading with a focus on comprehension
They are writing about Recounts, Letters and Reports

Our focus in PE is Athletics and
Swimming

Crayon, Dye and Paint to create art works
Room Awhero are busy working on their science badges.

Room Aroha will start their science projects in Week 6 on Fridays

Room Pono are investigating during I-time.

We will come together on a Friday for Singing
The children will work with Skip the Sports Activator on a Friday for three sessions each term.

A big thank you to all the children who participated at our School Parish Mass. The children did a wonderful job with their readings and singing. Thank you to the Youth Group and Samoan Community for your help during this Mass. It made it very special for us. It was lovely to have the parish join us in a picnic and games after Church. I would also like to thank all the parents who joined us for this very special occasion.



News From The Board

On behalf of the School Board, we wish to welcome staff and families back to school for another fun year of learning. It is week 5 already!!

We had our first meeting last week where we finalised the School's Strategic Plan. We welcome Iosefa Setu back to the Board as a Bishop's Representative and James Bensley as a Parent Representative.

On behalf of the school community we wish to welcome Brenda Walls as our new 0.7 permanent teacher in Room Aroha with Annette. Also a big welcome to Jane Plant who is teaching at our school 1 day a week covering all three rooms.

We would also like to congratulate our Principal Mrs Annette O'Mahony who has been awarded time off school to undertake a sabbatical in Term 3. She will be studying dyslexia and all aspects of children's learning relating to it. We look forward to hearing back from her research and how we can better identify signs and develop systems to aid students with dyslexia.

The Term 1 Mass was well attended and children who stayed for the picnic afterwards were treated to some fun games.

It was great to see all the children competing at the small schools athletics day last week with plenty of support from friends and whanau.

If you have anything you wish to discuss with the Board of Trustees, please don't hesitate to contact any of us. Our next meeting is pencilled in for March 26 and is open to the public.

Nga mihi nui

Ben Cameron Presiding Member

