



# ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL QUEENSTOWN



### Our Vision Statement

Creating confident learners, who, like Jesus, make a positive difference.

### Our Values

Walk in Truth  
and with Respect.

### Term Dates 2026

**Term 1** ~ Tuesday 3 February to Thursday 2 April  
**Term 2** ~ Monday 20 April to Friday 3 July

**Term 3** ~ Monday 20 July to Friday 25 September  
**Term 4** ~ Monday 12 October to Thursday 17 December

Click here for - [Website](#) - [Facebook Page](#) - [Calendar of Events](#) - [School Uniform Order](#)

Newsletter

26 June 2026

Week 10

Term 2

### Calendar of Events

Monday	29 June	Tūi School Karakia
Tuesday	30 June	Moa Market Day
Tuesday	30 June	Sharing of Learning Afternoon (Details below)
Friday	3 July	Caritas YCC Non Uniform Day
Friday	3 July	Last Day of Term 2
Monday	20 July	First Day of Term 3
Monday	20 July	Moa School Karakia
Monday	27 July	Pīwakawaka School Karakia
Thursday	23 July	No Sushi until Week Beginning 10 August
Friday	31 July	Non Uniform Day for Kiwi Harvest
Monday	3 August	Teacher Only Day <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
Friday	28 August	Teacher Only Day <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
Sunday	30 August	Confirmation
Friday	25 September	Last Day of Term 3
Monday	12 October	First Day of Term 4
Thursday	17 December	Last Day of Term 4

### Karen's quote of the week:

Life is like a camera:  
Just focus on what's important, capture the good times, develop from the negatives, and if things don't work out, take another shot.

### ADDITIONAL DATES - SCHOOL CALENDAR

The above dates are just a snapshot of what we have happening at school. If you wish to view all activities planned for all of our students, [please click on this link](#) - this will take you to the school calendar on our school website.

### REMINDER

If your child is going to be absent or late to school, can you please let the Office know. You can contact us by calling 03 4428224, email [office@stjosephsqt.school.nz](mailto:office@stjosephsqt.school.nz) or go to the SkoolLoop app. Also if any of your contact details have changed, please give your new information to Karen as soon as possible. Thank you.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou! Warm greetings to you all!

We're on the countdown to Christmas now - less than 6 months to go! Ho! Ho! Ho!

Today, teachers will be emailing the mid-year progress and achievement reports for all students in Years 3-8. A guide for whānau has been emailed to all parents and caregivers to help you to make sense of the new reports, noting in particular that we are now using new language from the Ministry of Education for reporting and we are reporting against the refreshed English and Mathematics & Statistics curricula. If there's anything you're not sure of, please make an appointment to see your child's classroom teacher. If you've got feedback you'd like to share, please email me.

Our Board is in the process of recruiting a new Principal having received my resignation earlier in the year. Applications close on Monday. The Board is seeking community voice to help with that recruitment process and has prepared a survey for the school community. See the message below for a link to the survey, which has also been sent by email today. The Board will keep the survey open for 1 week, and will use survey responses to help to prepare interview questions for candidates selected for interview. The Board appreciates your prayerful support throughout the recruitment and appointment process.

Friday 3 July is the last day of Term 2, and it's a big day at our kura. We're celebrating the Caritas YCC Day with other Catholic schools around the country - raising money for Takuilau College in Tonga. Students are asked to wear their own choice of clothes (not school uniform) and to donate a gold coin. YCC doesn't have just one definition - it can stand for Young Catholics Care, or You + Caritas Combined, or Youth Creating Change, or even Your Choice of Clothes. Let's get behind it and see if we can raise \$200 for the students and community of Takuilau College in Tonga!

Also on Friday 3 July, we will be guests at a special performance of the QPN Matariki show! We will walk down to the Queenstown Memorial Centre to watch the show, and will tautoko the QPN children by singing and signing "Wairua Tapu" before our school Kapa Haka group puts on a special performance of their own.

We're looking forward to seeing lots of you at school on Tuesday afternoon for our "Sharing our Learning" afternoon. This is a great chance for you to come in and see what your children have been learning about this term and for them to proudly share their work with you. These sharing opportunities are a real highlight of our reporting calendar and our students get very excited about sharing their learning. Please do come along. There's a little more information about the "Sharing our Learning" afternoon later in this newsletter.

Kia pai te rā whakatā whānau. Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Kia tau te rangimārie o te Atua ki a tātou katoa. May God's peace be with us all.

Alan Grant  
Tumuaki | Principal  
[principal@stjosephsqt.school.nz](mailto:principal@stjosephsqt.school.nz)

## SCHOOL COMMUNITY SURVEY - PRINCIPAL RECRUITMENT

St Joseph's School Board is eager to hear from our community (staff and parents/caregivers) as we make progress with recruiting a new Principal. We would appreciate your help by completing [this short anonymous survey](#) of four questions. Please note, the Board is engaging with students, via their class teachers, in an age appropriate way. The survey is open now and will remain open until 3pm on Friday 3 July.

## CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS

While we strive to always be our best, sometimes things don't go to plan and you, our parents and caregivers, may wish to talk with someone at school to share your concerns in relation to a particular aspect of life here at St Joseph's. In the first instance, where you are concerned about something relating to a classroom matter or a specific member of staff, you should arrange a suitable time to meet with the classroom teacher or that staff member to share your concern and allow the staff member to respond.

For more information and to see the Board's full concerns and complaints process, please head to our school website. The concerns and complaints process is included under the "[Communication](#)" heading as an attachment.

Our work in partnership (home and school) should always be oriented towards excellent outcomes for our tamariki, particularly in learning and wellbeing.

## PB4L FOCUS

Our Positive Behaviour for Learning focus again next week will be:

### **'Have reasons for the things you say and do'**

We expect that students will:

- think before they speak or act.
- make strong decisions.
- know why they are saying what they're saying and doing what they're doing.
- have reasons for the things they say and do.
- give the reasons for the things they say and do when asked.
- choose to use kind hands, kind feet and kind words.

At St Joseph's we do our best and do our bit.

We act honestly and with integrity, we do the right thing even when no one else is watching.

At St Joseph's we walk in Truth and with respect.

## GOTCHA WINNERS



## SHARING OUR LEARNING AFTERNOON - TUESDAY 30 JUNE

You are warmly invited to visit your children in their classrooms on Tuesday 30 June any time between 2pm and 3pm so that they can share with you their learning journey from this term. You are very welcome to take your children home with you once they have finished their sharing if that works for you. The Sharing our Learning afternoons are part of our reporting programme where children have opportunities to celebrate their learning with their families.

We're really looking forward to seeing lots of whānau at the Sharing our Learning afternoon on Tuesday 30 June! If you cannot come at this time, you are welcome to arrange a suitable time with your child's classroom teacher.

## MOA MARKET DAY - TUESDAY 30 JUNE

OUR YEAR 7 AND 8 STUDENTS PRESENT:

# Moa Market Day

FUNDRAISING FOR YEAR 8 LEAVERS' HOODIES

**PLEASE BRING COINS ONLY**

**TUESDAY 30 JUNE**

OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY, JUNIOR CLASSES 10:50AM, SENIOR CLASSES 11AM

PARENTS, BRING COINS TO THE SHARING OF LEARNING AFTERNOON AS WE MAY STILL HAVE  
GOODS FOR SALE FOR YOU!



## FROM OUR MEDIA LEADER ... SIENNA CHILDS

This week was a very busy week for the senior school as all the classes had Water Skills for life. Every day each class from Hoiho to Moa and have been traveling by bus to the Event Centre pool. Students have been learning how to be safe in the water and skills that will help them in the water. Hard Tech and Science for the Year 7s and 8s was not happening this week due to Water Skills as well. Next week will be their last week of doing it.

The netball teams have still been working hard, practicing on Thursdays and playing on Saturdays. They have been doing really well and everyone's had a lot of fun.

## HOIHO CLASS

Hoiho Class have been learning with Mrs Franklin about what a Māori pā is and why they were built. They had lots of fun working together to create their own model whare.



## HOIHO AT WATER SKILLS FOR LIFE



Next Friday the 3rd of July. YCC Day is the day when Caritas combines with Catholic schools across New Zealand as together we stand in solidarity for a good cause and raise funds and awareness for a selected focus school.

**YCC Day 2026 Focus School**

Supporting Takuilau College in Tonga

Helping to provide much needed resources and facility improvements to their music room.

We will help by providing musical equipment, chairs, printers and other resources. This room will provide students with the space to practise and bring music to life. By joining schools across Aotearoa and donating a gold coin, you'll be standing in solidarity with those in need.

Join us in making a difference through faith, action, and love. What feels like a small gesture here in Aotearoa can create lasting change for a community far away — because every coin truly counts.

*"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." — Matthew 25:40*

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE**

If your child would like a sausage on a Friday but you don't have any change, you can deposit the money into our bank account.

**The deposit would need to be made on Thursday night with the students name and sausage as the reference.**

I will check the bank account on Friday morning before organising how many sausages to cook.

If you could please refrain from sending large notes to purchase one sausage, as I do not always have any change to return to you.

Thank you.

## CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations Panda.  
Player of the day for the Pythons Netball Team



Congratulations AJ. Player of the day for his  
Rugby team in Alex on the weekend.

## PYJAMA DAY IN PIWAKAWAKA CLASS



## SUSHI ON HOLIDAY

There will be no sushi available in Term 3 until the week beginning 10 August. Ezlunch will remove the option for sushi during this time.

Subway will still be available on a Friday, along with our sausage sizzle.

# 2026 Kiwi Spelling Bee



Online competition for  
Primary and Intermediate  
students (Years 5-8)



**Includes:**

**Spelling**

**Vocabulary**

**Grammar**

Designed by NZ teachers for students  
based on NZ curriculum.

The competition will run from  
31<sup>st</sup> August – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

[www.canterbury.ac.nz/cam](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/cam)



Classification: In-Confidence

**Entries due by 4 August. Please see your child's classroom teacher or Karen in the office for an entry form. Cash only for the entry fee please.**

## A THREE-MINUTE REFLECTION

Living in the Wakatipu Basin in late June means adjusting to a specific winter rhythm. The sun dips behind the mountains early, the frost settles thick on the grass, and our daily world naturally shrinks a little as we spend more time indoors. In the busyness of modern life, winter can sometimes feel like an isolating season. But in the Christian tradition, winter is viewed quite differently. It is a season designed for **hospitality, connection, and keeping the fire burning for one another.**

There is a beautiful verse in the Book of Hebrews that challenges us: *“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”*

Community isn't just a collection of people living in the same postcode; it is a living network of care. When the weather gets cold, our call to look out for one another - whether that's checking on an elderly neighbour, volunteering, or simply offering a warm smile at the school gates - becomes even more vital.

### A Simple Community Challenge: The "Warm Connection"

This week, we invite every member of our St. Joseph's community to try one simple thing to break the winter chill:

**The Intentional Hello:** Next time you are picking up children, walking the dog, or buying groceries, make an effort to offer a warm greeting to someone who might be spending a lot of time alone this season. A small moment of human connection can completely change someone's day.



### 🙏 A Community Prayer for Winter

God of all seasons, bless our wider community during these cold winter months.

Wrap Your protection around the vulnerable, the elderly, and those who are finding the season difficult or lonely. Warm our hearts with Your grace, so that our parish, our homes, and our school may always be places of safety, welcome, and genuine care for everyone who crosses our path.

Amen.

## PARISH INFORMATION



Queenstown	Saturday Vigil 6.30 pm, Sunday 9 am. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday ~ 7 pm, Filipino Mass. 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday ~ 7 pm, Portuguese Mass
Arrowtown	1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Sundays: 11 am Mass 2 <sup>nd</sup> 11 am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Check out the latest Parish news on-line:

[www.stjosephsqueenstown.co.nz](http://www.stjosephsqueenstown.co.nz)

## BOARD CORNER

Tēnā koutou.

Our School Board held our fourth meeting of this year on Tuesday, June 23.

We began our meeting by welcoming Phil De La Mare from the Parish Pastoral Council who joined us to offer a parish perspective as we work towards strengthening the relationship between the Parish and school community, and a joint vision for the planned relocation of the school.

Our committee continues to work on the recruitment of a new principal. Please refer to the survey details earlier in this newsletter. We would love to hear your thoughts. Applications for the role close on Monday, June 29. We will keep the community updated as this work progresses.

The Board wants to hear from you, our parents and whānau, the community whom we serve.

There are 2 ways for you to 'speak' to the board.

1. You can send an email directly to the School Board ([board@stjosephsqt.school.nz](mailto:board@stjosephsqt.school.nz)) or to the Board Secretary ([office@stjosephsqt.school.nz](mailto:office@stjosephsqt.school.nz)). You can expect a response to your correspondence within five school days.
2. You can email the Board ([board@stjosephsqt.school.nz](mailto:board@stjosephsqt.school.nz)) and request an opportunity to speak at a Board meeting.

The next Board meeting will be held in Takahē classroom on Tuesday, August 11 at 5:15pm.

A huge thank you from the PTA to everyone who helped make this year's **Book Fair** such a huge success. From selling raffle tickets and donating prizes, to baking, setting up, packing down, helping on stalls, and supporting in countless other ways - we are incredibly grateful for the generosity and energy of our amazing school community.

We were chuffed to see so many families there on Mother's Day, enjoying the atmosphere and supporting the event. It truly was a special day and a wonderful reflection of our school community spirit.

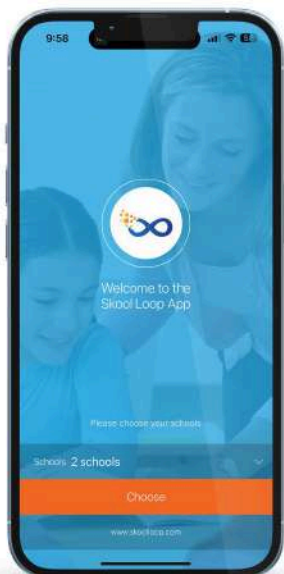
We are still working through the final numbers and look forward to sharing the fundraising total with you soon. In the meantime, thank you for helping us continue to support the school's requests for camps and classroom support, ensuring our tamariki benefit from these valuable opportunities.

A special shout out and big aroha to our fellow PTA members - you deserve a huge pat on the back. So much work goes on behind the scenes to make events like this happen, and we are incredibly proud of what we achieve together.

Ngā mihi,  
**Rebeca & Juliana**  
Co-Chairs, St Joseph's PTA

## KEEP UP TO DATE WITH SKOOL LOOP

### Downloading the Skool Loop app a step by step guide



**NEED MORE HELP OR INFORMATION?  
Call Skool Loop on 0800 238 379**



Once you have downloaded the Skool Loop App, via either your Google Play or App store, please follow the below instructions to select your school

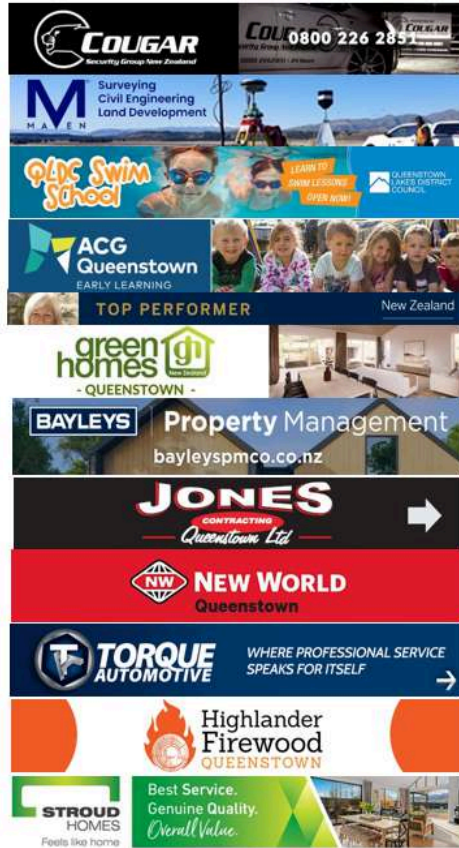
1. Open the Skool Loop App - you will land on a welcome page.
2. Click the 'Select your schools' this will bring you to a menu you can either search your school or follow the country/region prompts.
3. Once you reach your school, select it with the tick on the righthand side. You can select as many schools as required.
4. Tap the 'select schools' button in the top right corner.
5. Tap the big orange choose button. This will load your school and bring you to the settings page.
6. Subscribe to the groups that are relevant to you, then click the 'go back' button on your phone, which will bring you to the main screen of your schools app.
7. Use the circular arrow button at the top of the main screen to toggle between your chosen schools.

**To subscribe to groups as an existing user:**

1. Go to the 'Settings' tile in the bottom right hand corner of the Home Screen
2. Go to 'Subscribe to groups'
3. Tap to select the group/s you would like to receive notifications from
4. You're good to go - you will now receive all notices sent to the groups you have subscribed to

## St Joseph's School Queenstown

Thanks to the businesses below for sponsoring our school app:



If you would like to advertise on the Skool Loop App please email [Content@skoolloop.com](mailto:Content@skoolloop.com) To download our app: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose School once