



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			03 July 2026	Week 11	Term 2
Calendar of Events			<p>Alan's quote of the week:</p> <p>“Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others.”</p> <p>Marcus Tullius Cicero <i>Roman Philosopher</i> 106 BC - 43 BC</p>		
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			
Monday	3 August	Teacher Only Day NO SCHOOL			
Tuesday	11 August	Board Meeting 5:15pm			
Monday	17 August	Tūi School Karakia			
Monday	24 August	Pīwakawaka School Karakia			
Tuesday	25 August	School Cross Country			
Friday	28 August	Teacher Only Day NO SCHOOL			
Monday	31 August	Moa School Karakia			
Sunday	30 August	Confirmation			
Monday	7 September	Social Justice Week			
Monday	7 September	Takahē School Karakia			
Monday	14 September	Te Wiki o te Reo Māori			
Monday	14 September	Hoiho School Karakia			
Monday	21 September	Ruru School Karakia			
Friday	25 September	Last Day of Term 3			
Monday	12 October	First Day of Term 4			
Thursday	17 December	Last Day of Term 4			

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 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 o te Matariki ki a koutou! A week early, but warm Matariki greetings to you all!

Thank you to those parents and caregivers who came along to our “Sharing our Learning” afternoon on Tuesday this week. Our children love sharing their learning with you, proudly showing you what they’ve been working on and talking with you about what they’ve been learning. There was a great buzz about the school on Tuesday - it was great to hear such animated conversations between children and parents, all about learning! Ngā mihi nunui!

At our staff meeting this week our teachers shared reflections on a variety of matters related to teaching and learning. We are lucky to have such a dedicated team of professionals who care so deeply about our tamariki and about creating an environment where our children can flourish, growing to become the best versions of themselves!

Blessings to you all over the next few weeks. Safe journey to those who are traveling. Wishing you joy and peace. See you in the new term - Art Exhibition term!

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

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.

Our Positive Behaviour for Learning focus for the first 2 weeks of Term 3 will be:

‘Stay focused and on task when working’

We expect that students will:

- use sensible classroom voices for on-task, learning-focused talking.
- choose a sensible work space where they will not be distracted by others.
- concentrate on the activity or task which is being completed.
- ignore distractions.
- be fully present (attentive and engaged).
- when using devices only use the websites or apps they have been instructed to use.
- think about how their choices impact others.
- using their time well to complete tasks in the given time.
- display active listening skills and only talk when it is their turn.

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



FROM OUR MEDIA LEADER ... SIENNA CHILDS

On Wednesday this week the Year 7s and 8s had their last Hard Tech and Science with Mr Dubnick (Hard tech teacher), and Ms Little (Science teacher). They were very grateful that they got this opportunity and had a lot of fun throughout the term.

Thank you to everyone who supported Moa Market day on Tuesday. We raised \$533 towards the Year 8 Leavers' Hoodies.

Today is YCC day, which means students got to choose what they wore to school instead of wearing their school uniform. All gold coin donations go towards the Catholic charity, Caritas, helping students in Tonga for school resources.

Today our school was also invited to watch a performance by QPN all about Matariki at the Memorial Centre. To show their appreciation, the school sang Wairua Tapu and the Kapa Haka group did their own performance. Everyone did a really good job.

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.

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 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. 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 Lara Bartlett for receiving The Player of the Day Award for the Pythons Netball team.



The Rattles Netball Team.



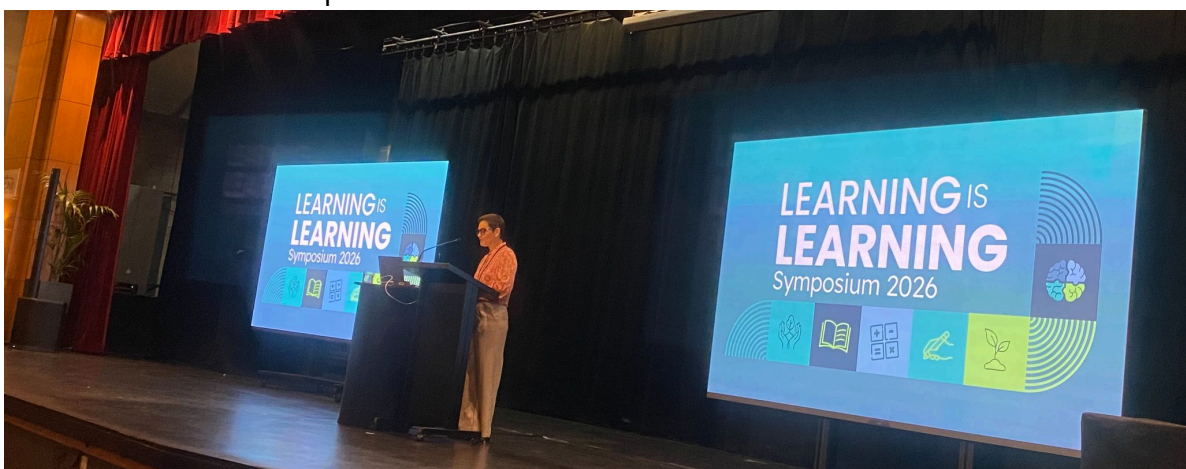
Congratulations to Ailbe who got tackler of the day and Ted got player of the day from the opposition team on Saturday for rugby.

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

On Thursday this week Lisa, Jen, Emma and Alice attended the Learning is Learning Symposium in Auckland. This was run by Learning Matters, who own the iDeal platform that we use at school for our literacy programmes. We are very grateful to the Board for supporting us to attend this fantastic professional learning with teachers from all over the country. We were really affirmed listening to the international speakers, we are doing amazing things in our kura!

Key learnings and reminders for us were:

- We are champions of change. We teach to change the knowledge and skills students have, while also adopting new curriculums and adapting our teaching practice as we learn more about the science of learning. At times we feel like we are 'born again teachers'.
- The life of a teacher is intense, at school we make between 1200-1500 decisions every day as well as ad hoc decisions every 2-3 minutes throughout lessons, phew!
- Teaching takes more consideration, skill and knowledge than ever before. Pressures from the media and changes from the Ministry have been frustrating, but we are doing an amazing job at meeting the needs of our learners and causing learning to happen. How we teach matters deeply.
- We care deeply and want to make a meaningful change in the lives of the students we teach. We are willing to learn, challenge assumptions and strive for the best outcomes for our students.
- Learning is not easy. It requires knowledge as well as curiosity, challenge, courage and hope. As teachers we are supporting students learning through modelling and guided practice to become independent and fluent. We adapt our teaching to offer different supports so all students can experience success.



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
31st August – 18th September 2026.

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.

THE HOLY ART OF SLOWING DOWN

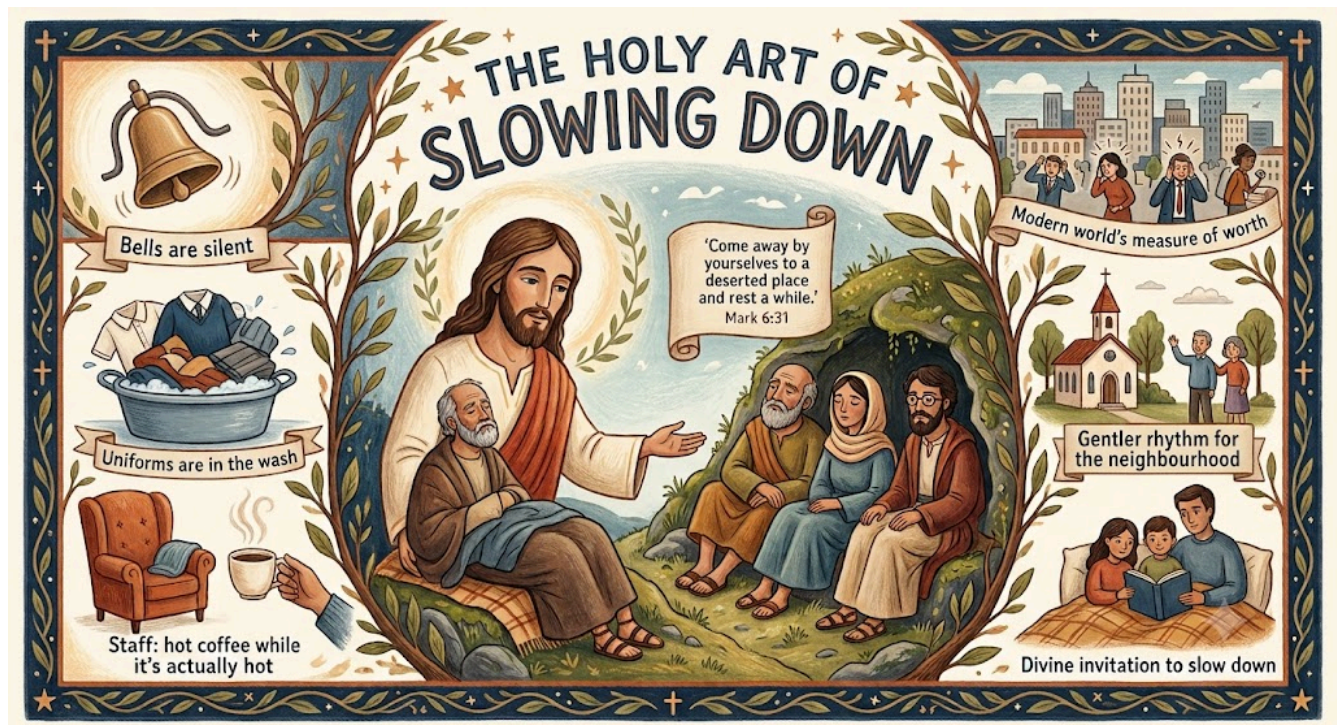
The school bells are silent, the uniforms are in the wash, and the mid-winter school holidays are officially underway. For our families, it means a break from the frantic 7:00am rush. For our staff, it's a chance to sit down and enjoy a hot coffee while it's actually hot. And for our wider parish community, it brings a different, gentler rhythm to the neighbourhood.

In our modern world, we tend to measure our worth by how busy we are. We wear our packed schedules like a badge of honour. But in the Gospels, Jesus modeled a completely different way of living. After long periods of teaching and helping people, He would routinely look at his tired friends and say:

“Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.” (Mark 6:31)

Notice that Jesus didn't view resting as a luxury or a reward for finishing every single piece of work. He viewed rest as a **necessity**. He knew that to love well, to serve well, and to be good neighbours, we have to regularly refill our own emotional and spiritual tanks.

Whether you have children at home to entertain over the next fortnight, or you are a parishioner enjoying a quieter town, these holidays are a divine invitation to slow down, breathe out, and appreciate the gift of unstructured time.



PARISH INFORMATION



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

Check out the latest Parish news on-line:
www.stjosephsqueenstown.co.nz

BOARD CORNER

Tēnā koutou.

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

We have written the following position statement regarding the planned relocation of the school:

St Joseph's School, Queenstown is committed to working with the St Joseph's Queenstown Parish and the Catholic Diocese of Dunedin to ensure that moving St Joseph's School to Ladies Mile results in the ongoing provision of authentic and high quality Catholic schooling for ākonga in Years 0-8, on a campus which reflects our awe inspiring kainga. This relies on championing our school values whereby our identity as "The small school with a big heart" is protected and the Dominican pillars of study, prayer, community and service are enhanced. Our expectation is that the site, housing both school and church, is accessible to students and whānau throughout the Whakatipu basin.

These priorities rely on active, visible and collegial partnership with the Parish and Diocese and give life to the "Being Church" philosophy.

Such a move depends on assurances that the construction of a new school is financially independent of the school and does not rely on funding from the school community.

Our committee continues to work on the recruitment of a new principal. We will keep the community updated as this work progresses. Thank you to everyone who responded to our survey which closes at 3pm today, Friday, July 3.

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) or to the Board Secretary (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) 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.

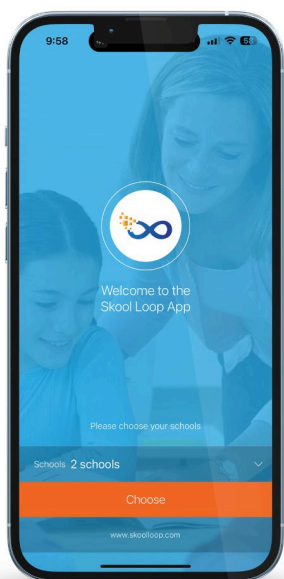
We are still working through the final numbers and look forward to sharing the fundraising total with you soon. In the meantime, thank you for helping us continue to support the school's requests for camps and classroom support, ensuring our tamariki benefit from these valuable opportunities.

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



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:

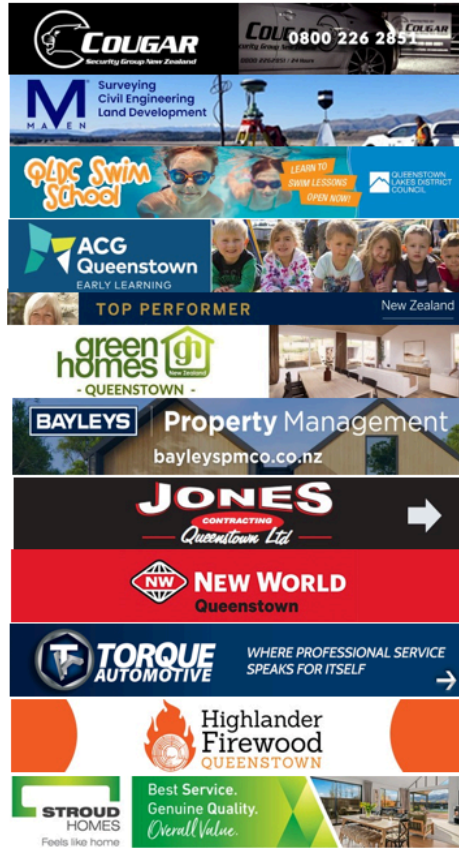
1. Go to the 'Settings' tile in the bottom right hand corner of the Home Screen
2. Go to 'Subscribe to groups'
3. Tap to select the group/s you would like to receive notifications from
4. You're good to go - you will now receive all notices sent to the groups you have subscribed to

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



St Joseph's School Queenstown

Thanks to the businesses below for sponsoring our school app:



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