



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 1 May 2026 Week 2 Term 2

Calendar of Events			Karen's quote of the week: They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember them.
Monday	4 May	Tūt School Karakia	
Sunday	10 May	St Joseph's School Book Fair	
Monday	11 May	Hoiho School Karakia	
Tuesday	12 May	Board Meeting 5:15pm	
Thursday	14 May	Pink Shirt Day	
Monday	18 May	Takahē School Karakia	
Thursday	21 May	School Photos	
Monday	25 May	Moa School Karakia	
Monday	1 June	King's Birthday NO SCHOOL	
Tuesday	2 June	Pīwakawaka School Karakia	
Tuesday	16 June	Reconciliation 3:30pm - 4:30pm	
Tuesday	23 June	Board Meeting 5:15pm	
Tuesday	30 June	Moa Market Day	
Friday	3 July	Last Day of Term 2	
Monday	20 July	First Day of Term 3	

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.

BOOK FAIR INFORMATION

ANNUAL SCHOOL BOOK FAIR - SUNDAY 10 MAY 2026

Please spread the word! Our annual School Book Fair (a huge community event and our major school fundraiser each year) is on Sunday 10 May.

Thanks to those who are already preparing - we will need lots of helpers. Please consider helping out in one of the following ways in particular - sorting books on Thursday 7 and/or Friday 8 May, setting up on Saturday 9 May, and staffing stalls on Sunday 10 May. We will require around 50 or 60 helpers in total in addition to the members of our school PTA, our staff and our Years 7 and 8 students! **Please return the parent helper notice that was sent home last week to indicate when you can help.**



St. Joseph's School Iconic

BOOK FAIR

SUNDAY 10 MAY 10-2PM

BAKING STALL

*St. Joseph's P.T.A. are asking **all families** to bake something for us to sell at the Baking Stall on the day of the Book Fair. Cookies, Cakes, Biscuits, Bread ... all treats welcome!*

*Please drop your baking off to the school library on **Saturday, May 9, before midday** to allow us to set up. (We will still accept before 8.30am on Sunday morning).*

Please include an ingredients list with your baking - make a special note if it is egg, dairy or gluten-free.

Any questions please contact Bing on 021 1357621

Thank you in advance for your help.

The success of the Book Fair relies on everyone contributing.

PTA BOOK FAIR RAFFLE TICKETS

Hopefully the raffle ticket sales are going well, you have the weekend left for sales. **All raffle tickets are due back by Monday 4th May.** Please bring your money and the tickets to the office. If your raffle card has not been completely sold please return it and they will be sold at the Book Fair. If your card has been lost then you need to contact Karen in the office. The prize draw will take place on Monday 11th May so we need all tickets back in well before then.

PTA PULSE

Book Fair – Sunday 10 May | Let's Make It Special

Our much-loved **Book Fair** is fast approaching on **Sunday 10 May**, and we're excited to once again bring our community together for what promises to be a fantastic Mother's Day outing.

To make this event a success, we need **lots of helping hands**. There are so many ways to get involved - whether it's sorting books, helping on the day, baking for the stall, or assisting behind the scenes. Every contribution, big or small, makes a real difference and helps make this event so special.

We are also seeking **silent auction prizes**, so if you have connections with local businesses or can help source items over the holidays, we would greatly appreciate your support. Our Book Fair raffle tickets will be coming home next week - perfect timing to sell to friends and family over the break.

This year, our fundraising efforts are especially important as we work towards a **\$38,500 funding request from the school**. These funds will go directly towards **learning support (teacher aides)** and **contributions to school camps**, ensuring all our tamariki have access to the support and opportunities they deserve.

If you'd like to get involved or have ideas to share, please reach out to the PTA at **stjosephsqt.pta@gmail.com** or speak with **Emma Sullivan**.

Thank you in advance for your support, we truly couldn't do this without our amazing community.

Ngā mihi,
Rebeca & Juliana, PTA Co-chairs

PB4L FOCUS

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

'Do Your Best and Be Prepared'

We expect that students will:

- Put in their best effort even if it is an activity they do not necessarily enjoy
- Be brave to participate and accept challenges
- Feel proud of their effort and the way they participate
- Be their best self by taking responsibility for their attitude and actions

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.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

Phew! So much going on and so many different things to highlight!

Look out for these things, some of which are featured later in today's newsletter, and read on to find out more:

1. Anzac Day. On Tuesday at school karakia Ruru class shared some moving writing about Anzac Day and a very powerful song called "Beautiful Soldier". It's so important to remember our past and to learn from it as we build a brighter, better future together. You'll see some of that writing later in this newsletter.
2. Book Fair Book Character Day - WOW! It was so good to see almost every student (and whānau) getting right behind this day; the costumes were AMAZING! Thank you to everyone who got involved and for all the generous donations to support our Book Fair! **If you forgot to send in a grocery item or scratchie ticket we will still gratefully accept these next week.**
3. Book Fair. Raffle tickets, prizes, sponsorship, baking, helpers - please get involved! Many hands make light work! Not sure that's entirely true in this case but the work is certainly more manageable with more people helping!
4. Life Education Trust. Next week we welcome Harold the giraffe and Roshell our local Educator. You'll see their mobile classroom parked on the convent lawn. Each class has lessons timetabled in the mobile classroom next week. The Life Education Trust is a health education resource for schools and teachers have selected relevant topics for each class.
5. EPro8. We're sending 4 teams next week over to Cromwell for the local EPro8 Challenge. EPro8 is a popular New Zealand-based inter-school science and engineering competition for students in Years 5-13, focusing on problem-solving, innovation, and teamwork. Good luck to our teams, and thanks to the parents who are taking our students to Cromwell.
6. Pink Shirt Day, Thursday 14 May. Pink Shirt Day is about kindness, about standing up against bullying, about treating others with kindness and love. We're looking forward to seeing our students dressed in pink for Pink Shirt Day.
7. Ice Skating. Our Junior School students start their ice skating lessons on Friday 15 May. Look out for information from your child's classroom teacher. Check that you know what's happening and reach out to your child's classroom teacher if you're not sure.
8. Small Schools Swimming Sports, Friday 15 May. All Years 5-8 students are expected to take part in either width or length races. A notice has been emailed to whānau with more details.
9. Snowsports, Term 3. Our Year 4 to Year 8 students will take part in the local schools snowsports 'camps' next term. Online bookings typically close at the end of May and booking becomes much more difficult after that. Make sure you've booked **both** a season pass and a 'camp' - see the details below for specific dates for each Year group.

We have a number of whānau in need of prayer who are doing the hard yards at the moment in a variety of different ways. Please continue to pray for them. Thank you for being Christ's light in our community in the generous ways you respond to those in need too.

Please feel very welcome to reach out and make contact with me at any time - in person or by phone or email.

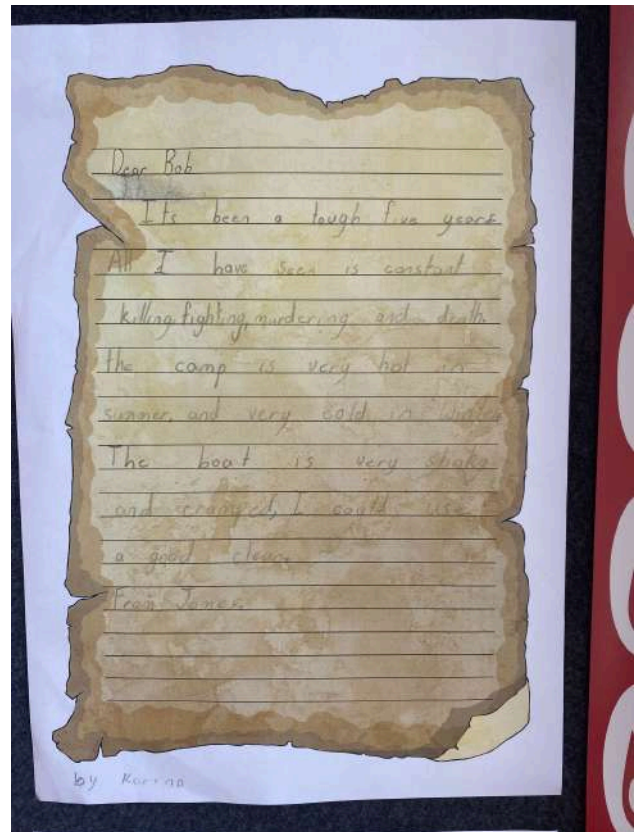
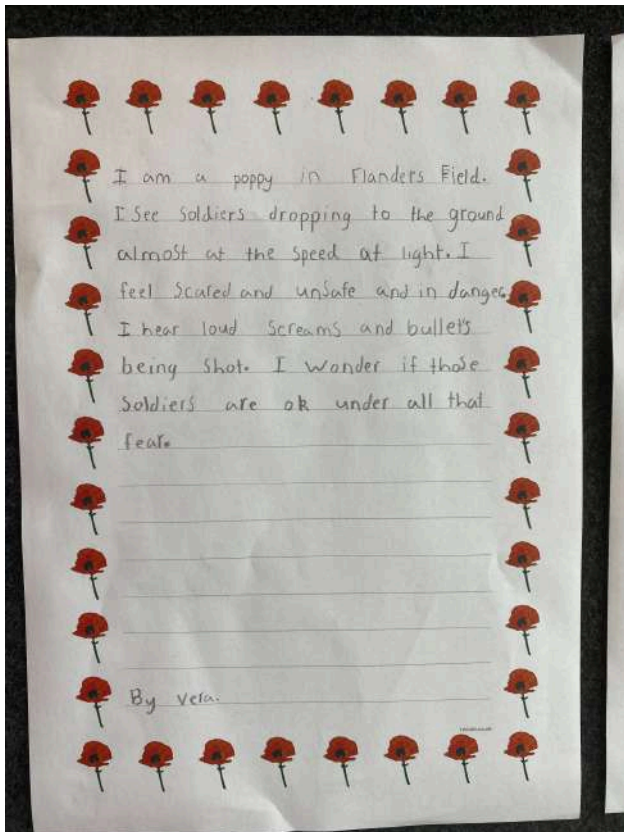
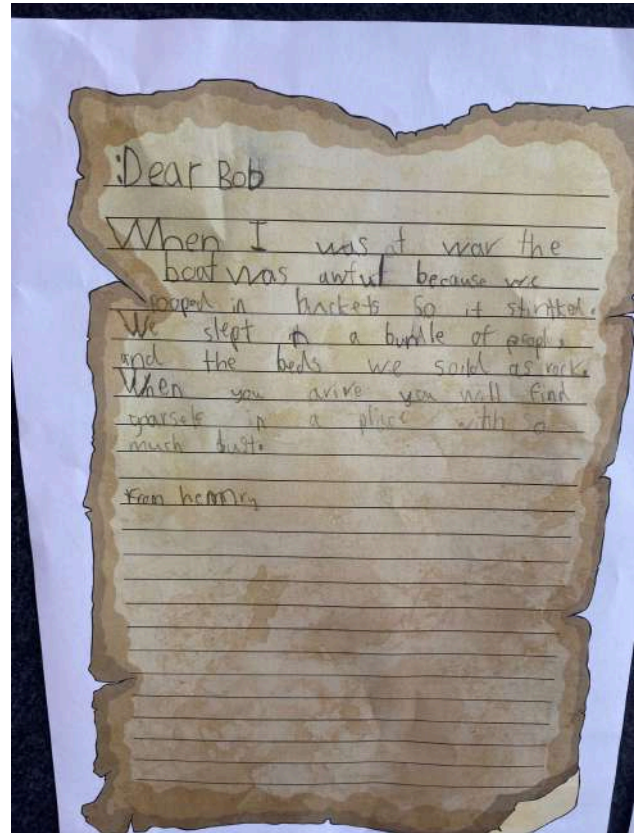
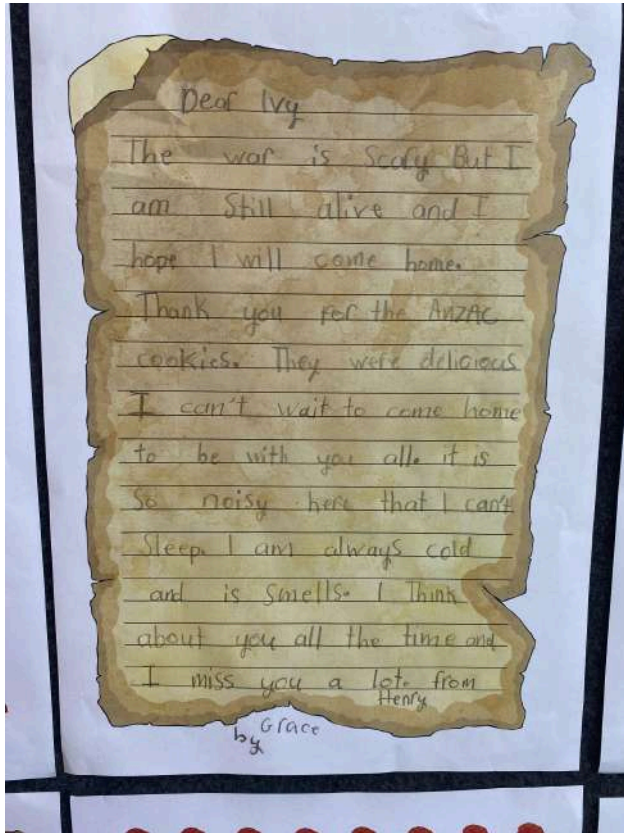
Kia tau te rangimārie o te Atua ki a tātou katoa. May God's peace be with us all.

Alan Grant
Tumuaki | Principal
principal@stjosephsqt.school.nz

WELCOME

This week we welcomed Eva Harrison and Amara Morales. They have both joined Piwakawaka Class.

WORK FROM ... RURU CLASS



SchoolDocs is an online policy platform for schools in Aotearoa. Our school works with SchoolDocs to provide a website for maintaining, updating, and reviewing our school policies. Our SchoolDocs site contains policies that are specific to our school and can be accessed by the whole school community. SchoolDocs updates policies in response to changes in legislation and Ministry guidelines, reviews/requests from schools, and regular research from the SchoolDocs team. Our school board has the opportunity to view changes/additions and comment on them before they are implemented. We will advise you when policies are up for review and how you can take part in the review.

We invite you to visit the site at <https://stjosephsqt.schooldocs.co.nz> (note that there's no "www.").

Our **username** is **stjosephsqt** and **password** is **veritas**.

Related policies are grouped together on SchoolDocs, with links to supporting information and resources.

- To find a policy, type a keyword into the search bar, or browse the site using the table of contents. Click the black arrows to open each section.
- Search for Quick links for staff and Quick links for parents and whānau, which provide links to useful policy information.
- For more information about using SchoolDocs, see the Help tab at the top of your SchoolDocs site.

Reviews and feedback

Start your review

All SchoolDocs schools follow a 3-year review cycle to keep policies up to date. For review information each term, see **Current Review** at the top of the site.

- You can provide **content feedback** to suggest changes to improve the content of a policy.
- You can provide **implementation feedback** about how the policy is implemented at your school.



If you find information that's incorrect during a review (e.g. location of first aid supplies), **do not** submit this through the review tool. Let the principal or board know that it needs to be updated.



If you'd like to comment on a policy that's not under review, you can use the **feedback button** to send an email to your school. This feedback is not sent to the SchoolDocs team.

2026 SNOWSPORTS PROGRAMME (YEARS 4-8)

It's time to make your bookings!

Students need to have BOTH a season pass AND a Year Group Camp booking in order to attend. The total cost is \$380 per child.

St Joseph's Snowsport dates are as follows:

- Year 4: 26-28 August 2026
- Years 5 & 6: 12-14 August 2026
- Years 7 & 8: 5-7 August 2026

It is important that you select the correct camp date when making a booking for your child. The Local Schools' Camps and Passes can be purchased at <https://shop.coronetpeak.co.nz/shop/product/249>.

Please refer to the letter emailed to parents of Yr 4-8 regarding the NZSki Local School's Passes and Camps for further information. We hope that every student will take part in the snowsports programme. If you need financial assistance with paying this cost please talk with Alan Grant.

Please note: any child who attends our school is eligible for the reduced price of a Local Schools' Season Pass regardless of whether or not they are attending a school 'camp'.

CLUED UP KIDS

Year 6 students attended Clued Up Kids at the Events Centre on Thursday.
Students engaged and participated in activities such as learning CPR and understanding what to do in emergency situations.
We value this learning experience and are grateful to experience a range of important life skills!



CAR REGISTRATION

A current car registration label has been found in the Church car park. If you have a Honda fit and notice that yours is missing, it is in the School Office.

STRUCTURED LITERACY

On Friday our staff were privileged to spend a day of professional learning with Dr. Helen Walls focussed on writing. One of the main takeaways we had was the importance of handwriting.

Why does handwriting matter?

- Did you know that teaching students to write letters fluently improves the quality of their writing?
- When kids can form letters automatically, their brains are freed up to express interesting ideas and use more sophisticated language.
- Handwriting doesn't just support writing, it builds the brain pathways needed for reading, helping students recognise patterns and remember words.
- Most importantly, handwriting builds confidence and motivation. When it becomes easy, students feel better about their writing, and are more eager to do it.



How can you help at home?

Encourage your child to write, it could be the shopping list or a letter for a family or friend. Watch them form their letters, are they doing it correctly? Are their letters the right size and positioned correctly on the line? Are they using lower case and capital letters accurately?

Alice Dunstan
Deputy Principal

TEACHER ONLY DAYS IN 2026 - DATES CONFIRMED

In Term 3, there will be two Teacher Only Days. On **Monday 3 August**, school will be closed while our teachers take part in a Mathematics and Statistics workshop unpacking the new Maths curriculum. This will be the second of four Ministry of Education Maths Teacher Only Days. On **Friday 28 August**, our teaching staff will head to Dunedin for "The Gathering", a unique celebration of Catholic schools in the Dunedin diocese, bringing together staff from all over the diocese for formation and fellowship. This year's keynote speaker is Manuel Beazley from Auckland. Manuel will speak on Māori Spirituality - very topical in the current education climate and with the New Zealand Catholic Bishops' strong commitment to tangata whenuatanga and to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. In Term 4, there will be one Teacher Only Day. On **Tuesday 27 October**, school will be closed while our teachers complete the last of our four Ministry of Education Maths Teacher Only Days (day three will be completed as a Teacher Call-Back Day during the school holidays before the beginning of Term 4).

Upcoming 2026 Teacher Only Days

- **Monday 3 August**
- **Friday 28 August**
- **Tuesday 27 October**

The school understands very well that Teacher Only Days are impactful and can be quite inconvenient for whānau. Be assured that these days are only a small part of our whole school commitment to staff professional learning and development towards maintaining excellent standards in education at St Joseph's School Queenstown. We are very grateful for your ongoing support!

FROM OUR MEDIA LEADER ... SIENNA CHILDS

Monday was a public holiday for ANZAC day so it was another four day week this week.

Today is Book Character Day in support of the upcoming Book Fair. Students were invited to dress up as their favourite book characters.





CONGRATULATIONS



Well done to Kobe who received the player of the day award after his game in Alexandra over the weekend.



Order lunch Be in to win

5 x \$50 Kindo Credits to be won,
every week for 4 weeks!

Terms and Conditions apply.

ezlunch.



ENJOY A MASSAGE

AND HELP OUR YEAR 7 & 8 STUDENTS
GET TO WELLINGTON CAMP

Book to receive a **60 or 90 minute massage** at
Body Sanctum in Queenstown or the **Beauty Lounge** in Frankton
during the month of May and a \$50 donation from each booking
will go towards fundraising for the Wellington Camp.

*NOTE: This offer is for Staff and Parents of St. Joseph's School ONLY.
Please mention that you are a member of our school community when booking.*



BODY SANCTUM
DAY SPA



**BEAUTY
LOUNGE**

Body Sanctum, Level 1, 10 Athol Street, Queenstown 03 442 4336
Beauty Lounge, Level 1, 1092 Frankton Road, Frankton 03 442 2261

ANZAC Day

This week, as a nation, we stopped to remember ANZAC Day. Ruru Class shared some prayers with us on Monday and some of the ideas they shared are below.

We remember the brave men and women who left the shores of Aotearoa New Zealand to serve in wars far away. When we see the red poppy, we think of the battlefields where they grew. But Jesus tells us that the greatest thing a person can do is to be 'selfless'—to put others before themselves. The soldiers we remember on ANZAC were ordinary people from towns just like ours. They were brave, but they also valued 'Comradeship' (looking after your mates).

Being an 'ANZAC person' in our school today doesn't mean fighting. It means:

- **Standing up** for someone (Sacrifice).
- **Sharing** what we have with others (Service).
- **Making peace** when we have an argument (Peace-making).

We honor the past by building a peaceful future in our own homes.



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.

Poipoia te kakano kia puawai. Nurture the seed and it will blossom.

The role of the School Board is to ensure that all students achieve their highest possible educational outcomes. In our school, a state-integrated school, the Board (which includes Proprietor's Appointees) must also safeguard and maintain the Special Catholic Character of the school. The Board's role is one of strategic oversight, leadership, direction, and policy setting.

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.

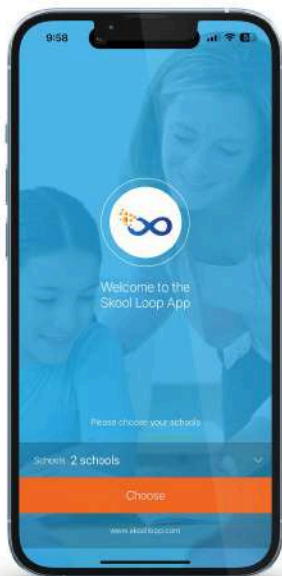
The next Board meeting will be held in Takahē classroom on Tuesday 12 May, starting at 5:15pm.

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

Alan Grant
Tumuaki | Principal

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:

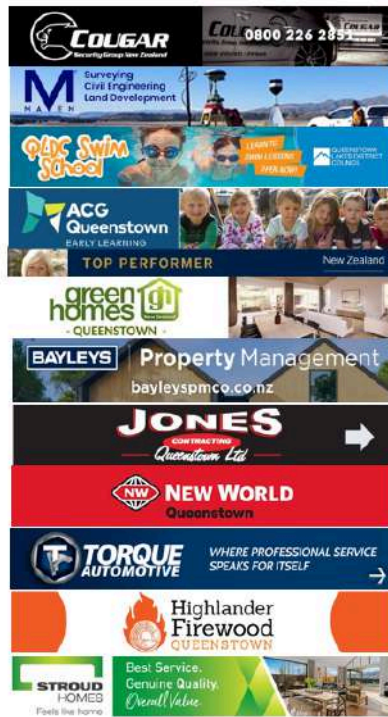
1. Go to the 'Settings' tile in the bottom right hand corner of the Home Screen
2. Go to 'Subscribe to groups'
3. Tap to select the group/s you would like to receive notifications from
4. You're good to go - you will now receive all notices sent to the groups you have subscribed to

**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:



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