



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 2024

Term 1 ~ Wednesday 31st January to Friday 12 April
Term 2 ~ Monday 29 April to Friday 5 July

Term 3 ~ Monday 22 July to Friday 27 September
Term 4 ~ Monday 14 October to Tuesday 18 December

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

Newsletter 8 November 2024 Week 4 Term 4

Calendar of Events			<p style="text-align: center;">Alan's quote of the week:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The world is changed by your example, not by your opinion.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Paul Coelho</p>
Monday	11 November	Takahe Class Prayers	
Monday	18 November	Piwakawaka Class Prayers	
Sunday	24 November	First Eucharist (First Holy Communion)	
Monday	25 November	Moa Class Prayers	
Tuesday	26 November	Moa Market Day	
Monday	2 December	Hoiho Prayers	
Tuesday	3 December	Board Meeting	
Monday	9 December	Ruru Class Prayers	
Tuesday	10 December	Whole School Fun Day	
Monday	16 December	Year 8 Graduation	
Wednesday	18 December	Last day of School for 2024 12pm Finish	
Friday	7 February	First Day of Term 1 2025	

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.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kia ora whānau. Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou.

We're fast approaching the halfway mark in Term 4 and there's lots that we're feeling excited about here at school.

We're busily planning our end of year celebrations - our whole school fun day, our end of year Mass, our Year 8 Speeches and Leavers' Dinner, our Prize Giving and Graduation, our whānau picnic and BBQ, our Years 7 and 8 Camp in Wellington and our Years 5 and 6 Camp in Dunedin, our Junior Nativity Play, so many exciting things! As well as all of these wonderful celebrations, our fantastic teachers are doing a great job planning interesting and engaging rich learning activities for our students, ensuring that our classrooms continue to be stimulating learning environments.

In all of the busy-ness of celebrating the end of a year and planning ahead towards a new year, it's really important to remember to centre ourselves in who we are: the small school with a big heart, Te Kura o Hato Hōhepa ki a Tāhuna, where we "Walk in Truth, and with respect." Please continue to remind your children at home as we do at school about the importance of using kind words, kind hands and kind feet, of serving others, of working and playing together peacefully and respectfully, of doing our best and doing our bit.

It was great to celebrate students in the last week or so doing their best, with the Moa class students challenging themselves in the most extreme way at AJ Hacket Bungy, the Years 5-8 students taking part in the small school triathlon, and celebrating academic success with more CAM certificates and awards. Ka rawe tō mahi tamariki mā! Tumeke!

Have a lovely weekend everyone. Kia pai tō rā whakatā.

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

WEAR BLUE FOR DIABETES

Next Thursday 14 November our school is taking part in the world 'wear blue for diabetes day'. All students can choose to wear blue clothes to school to raise awareness of and support world diabetes day and people living with diabetes. Families are welcome to send along a donation for this cause, however it is not an expectation.



ENROLMENTS FOR 2025

Planning for 2025 is well underway now, particularly in relation to school organisation and classes. In order to assist with this work, I ask the following:

1. Please complete a new enrolment form if you are intending to enrol a younger sibling at St Joseph's School (Karen can help with that);
2. Please encourage friends who are considering enrolling at St Joseph's School in 2025 to make contact with either myself or Karen to arrange a visit or to receive an enrolment pack;
3. Please let us know at the earliest opportunity if you are planning to withdraw your child(ren) from St Joseph's School (for example if you are moving overseas).

The numbers at this stage show that we will start 2025 with more students enrolled than we had at the beginning of this year. We do have a number of spaces for preference enrolments but we are under increasing pressure with regards to non-preference enrolments. You can view our [enrolment policy](#) from our school website. Thanks for your support as we plan for 2025!

Our Positive Behaviour for Learning focus for the next two weeks will be:

**Being responsible for the rubbish that you create.
Clean up after yourself - Recycle**

We expect that students to:

- Put their waste paper into the recycle bins in their classroom
- Put their lunch rubbish into their school lunchboxes to take home (including sushi packaging and gotcha ice block wrappers)
- Pick up rubbish they see laying around (whether it is theirs or someone else's) and put it into the classroom rubbish bin or recycle bin (Kaitiakitanga - Stewardship)
- Clean up areas where they may have been eating or cutting up paper by putting the rubbish in the appropriate place

Kaitiakitanga - act as a guardian

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.

GOTCHA WINNERS



UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY CAM KIWI SPELLING BEE COMPETITION RESULTS



A huge congratulations to this group of students who received their certificates on Monday from the UC CAM Kiwi Spelling Bee Competition. The University of Canterbury Centre for Assessment and Monitoring (CAM) Kiwi Competitions are an optional extra and these students chose to give it a go! Special mentions to Lucas Beer who earned a Merit certificate (scores of 75-89%) and to Elton Leatherbarrow who earned a very impressive Excellence certificate (scores of 90-99.5%). Some fantastic achievements from these courageous learners! Well done! Ka rawe tō mahi!

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING

Special Catholic Character Acts of Service

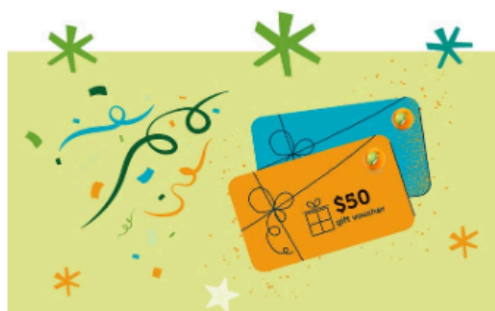
A big part of our special Catholic character is giving to others, just as Jesus did. This term we have chosen three different organisations to support which are close to our hearts. Some of these days are just to raise awareness and one is a focussed fundraiser for us. Here is some more information below:

Week 5: Thursday 14 November- World Diabetes Day

Dress in Blue and raise awareness of all the amazing people living with diabetes in New Zealand! You are welcome to bring along a donation but it is certainly not expected.

Week 8: Wednesday 4 December- Nano Nagle Trust non-uniform day

The Nano Nagle trust supports students in Catholic Schools across New Zealand. On this non-uniform day please bring along a donation to support this organisation so they can continue to support others!



Term 4 ezlunch Promotion

Every week for the first **five weeks** of term 4, customers who order ezlunch will be in the draw to win one of two \$50 ezlunch vouchers! Staff can order too! All ezlunch orders placed for delivery between **Monday 14th October and 15th November** will automatically be entered.

Look out for our important **end of year questionnaire** early November.

GUMBOOT FRIDAY PICS



CONGRATULATIONS



Well done to everyone who performed in the Talent Quest this week. I am so glad that I was not a judge as it would have been a very difficult decision, as they were all such awesome acts. Congratulations to our winners.

SCHOOL ORGANISATION 2025

I want to take this opportunity to let you know about our staffing and class organisation for next year. There are some changes from what's currently in place.

Please note the following 2025 classes, teams and staffing:

Junior Team; Leader - Mrs Lisa Dickson

Piwakawaka, Years 0 and 1; Teacher - Mrs Lisa Dickson

Tui, Year 2; Teacher - Mrs Jen Johnston

Ruru, Year 3; Teacher - Mr Tom Morgan (Terms 1 and 2) / Mrs Emma Sullivan (Terms 3 and 4)

Senior Team; Leader - Mrs Alice Dunstan (Deputy Principal)

Hoiho, Years 4 and 5; Teacher - Mrs Belinda Davidson (SENCo)

Takahē, Years 5 and 6; Teacher - Mr Nic Carter

Kārearea, Year 7; Teacher - Miss Shanni Robinson

Moa, Year 8; Teacher - Mrs Alice Dunstan

Release Teachers

Mrs Ros Gale, Mrs Debbie Healy, Mrs Di Ramsey

Support Staff

Karen Osborne (Office Manager), Sonya Matheson, Carla Bloomfield

Leadership Team

Alan Grant, Principal

Alice Dunstan, Deputy Principal and Senior Team Leader

Emma Sullivan, Director of Religious Studies

Lisa Dickson, Junior Team Leader

We welcome 2 new staff to our teaching team next year - Miss Shanni Robinson will join our senior team teaching in Kārearea class, and Mr Tom Morgan will join our junior team for Term 1 and Term 2, teaching in Ruru class. Mrs Emma Sullivan has been granted parental leave for Terms 1 and 2 2025 - Emma, Chris and Corbin are expecting to grow their family very soon with a new baby due to arrive in December. A very warm welcome to Shanni and Tom, and our very best wishes to Emma and Chris and Corbin! Closer to the end of the year I will ask Shanni and Tom to write a brief introduction which I can share with you all - Shanni currently lives here in Queenstown and Tom is moving down from Auckland before the beginning of the 2025 school year.

Miss Elli MacColl has been on leave this year teaching in Australia. Unfortunately for us, Elli has resigned from her permanent position and will not be returning in 2025. She's planning to do some more traveling and we wish Elli all the very best. Mrs Ros Gale joined us this year in a fixed term position as classroom teacher for Takahē class for 2024. Ros is looking forward to spending more time grandparenting next year and will work with us in a part-time capacity providing release throughout the school in 2025. Rachel Bushell joined our learning support team late last year and was employed fixed term until the end of the 2024 school year. We will miss Rachel next year and have loved her very positive contribution to our community. We wish her all the very best.

We will start 2025 with 7 classrooms, an increase from our current 6 classrooms. To accommodate the extra classroom there will be some movement of classes. We will advise those changes in due course, but in the meantime please be aware that some classes may operate from different locations in 2025 to their current locations.

We will have 2 transition visits later in the term where the children will spend 30 minutes in their 2025 class with their 2025 teacher (where possible). Shortly before the first transition visit, teachers will tell students which class they will be in for 2025. Please note that in some cases, given the size of our school and of particular cohorts, class placement is not a simple matter of course. Where there is an opportunity to choose which class a student is placed in, teachers and leaders work together to make the best choice to give students the best opportunity to flourish, taking into account a wide range of factors including learning and social needs. Be assured that our children are at the heart of our thinking and our decision making. Our teachers do a wonderful job of meeting the needs of our children, identifying where they are at and teaching to their next steps (holistically). If you would like to discuss your child's learning (and other) needs, please make arrangements to meet with the classroom teacher or Team Leader (Lisa or Alice).

WE ARE A WATER-ONLY SCHOOL

Since 2016 the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health have encouraged school communities to be “Water-Only Schools”. This initiative is supported by Te Whatu Ora and Public Health South, along with other partners. Being a water-only school means that our students are only allowed to drink plain tap water and plain, fat reduced milk at school. Whilst this has been our commitment for some time now at our school, we haven’t put a lot of energy into communicating or upholding this expectation. We’d like to improve our work in this area now and value your support. Here’s 3 of the most important reasons why we believe this is an important focus:

1. New Zealand tap water is safe to drink straight from the tap, plus it’s FREE
2. Unlike sugary drinks, water doesn’t cause tooth decay, obesity, or diabetes
3. When we’re thirsty, water is perfect (very effective for hydration)

Please help us in the following ways in particular:

1. Give your child a drink bottle they can take to school
2. Encourage your child to fill the drink bottle with plain tap water at home and at school
3. At home, keep sugary drinks for extra special occasions only.

Please do not send your child to school with acidic and sugary drinks, especially sport or energy drinks (including Powerade), fizzy drinks, juice, and ‘breakfast’ drinks (such as ‘Up&Go’).

We’ll be looking to increase the focus in 2025 on healthy habits in eating and drinking in our school. We look forward to your support on this journey for the wellbeing of our children.

CATHOLIC CHARACTER

2025- Jubilee Year

On 9 May 2024, Pope Francis published his Papal Bull for Jubilee 2025, *Spes non confundit; Hope does not disappoint.*

What is the Jubilee Year?

Pope Francis has declared 2025 as a year of Jubilee with the theme ‘Pilgrims of Hope’, giving voice to his desire for the year to foster a greater sense of global sisterhood and brotherhood, solidarity with the poor, and caring for the environment.

A Jubilee Year is traditionally proclaimed by the Universal Church every 25 years. It is a particular year set aside to encourage the faithful to embark on pilgrimages, to repent of their sins and forgive the sins of others, and to renew a focus on the spiritual life.



[Jubilee Prayer in different languages](#)

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 usually meets twice each school term and the Board warmly invites parents and caregivers to attend. We meet in Takahe classroom on Tuesday evenings from 5:15pm. The date for the next meeting is published each week in the newsletter.

All correspondence to the Board is to be sent either 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.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Catkin Bartlett
Board Presiding Member
catkinb@stjosephsqt.school.nz

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