



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 29 May 2026 Week 6 Term 2

| Calendar of Events | | | <p>Karen's quote of the week:</p> <p>Ko te manu e kai ana i te miro, nōnā te ngāhere. Ko te manu e kai ana i te mātauranga, nōnā te ao.</p> <p>The bird that consumes the miro berry, owns the forest. The bird that consumes knowledge, owns the world.</p> |
|--------------------|--------------|--|---|
| Monday | 1 June | King's Birthday NO SCHOOL | |
| Tuesday | 2 June | Takahē School Karakia | |
| Monday | 8 June | Pīwakawaka School Karakia | |
| Monday | 15 June | Ruru School Karakia | |
| Tuesday | 16 June | Reconciliation 3:30pm - 4:30pm | |
| Monday | 22 June | Hoiho School Karakia | |
| Tuesday | 23 June | Board Meeting 5:15pm | |
| Tuesday | 30 June | Moa Market Day | |
| Tuesday | 30 June | Sharing of Learning Afternoon (Details to come) | |
| 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 | |
| Friday | 31 July | Non Uniform Day for Kiwi Harvest (Details to come) | |
| Monday | 3 August | Teacher Only Day NO SCHOOL | |
| Monday | 10 August | Tūt School Karakia | |
| Monday | 17 August | Hoiho School Karakia | |
| Monday | 24 August | Takahē School Karakia | |
| Friday | 28 August | Teacher Only Day NO SCHOOL | |
| 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 | |

Ngā mihi o te Hōtoke ki a koutou! Winter is here!

This Sunday, the Catholic Church celebrates the feast of the Most Holy Trinity, the third feast day in a run of 4 very special feasts in the life of the Church. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. The Trinity is a foundational teaching of the Catholic Church and one of the church's greatest mysteries too - three persons in one God, each quite separate from the others and yet totally inseparable too. We remember the Trinity each time we make the sign of the cross, and we celebrate the Trinity in the different ways we experience and encounter God. May we be blessed with God's grace as we celebrate the feast of the Most Holy Trinity this weekend.

Our Board is currently reading and reflecting on a reasonably new document from our bishops through the New Zealand Catholic Education Office and the National Centre for Religious Studies, "Being Church in Aotearoa New Zealand Catholic Schools", published in May 2025. The key purpose of the document is to "To reemphasise the place of Catholic schools today in fulfilling the mission of Jesus, which is the mission of the Church". With chapters on the nature and purpose of Catholic schools, being church, faith and culture, Sacramental living, Catholic social teaching, and Christian hope, it's a very good read. In providing context through whakapapa for this document, the authors write:

We recognise Te Tiriti o Waitangi as our nation's founding document and the mana of Māori as tangata whenua, the first people, and te reo Māori, the first language of this land. This is an active commitment to honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its principles of protection, partnership, and participation, which reflect the commitment of the New Zealand Catholic Church. This is an active expression of our Catholic special character.

Our school's Strategic Plan 2026-2028 aligns very well with the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference and the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand.

I heard a headline today that education "won" in the 2026 budget with an additional \$2 billion. Education has not won. The New Zealand Principals Federation today responded to the 2026 Budget and their response includes the following information:

New evidence, published this week in "Still Beyond Capacity: Learning Support in Aotearoa after the 2025 Budget", asks principals, learning support coordinators, teachers, and specialists a simple question: one year on, has anything changed?

The answer is consistent: no.

Schools are absorbing the shortfall. One Auckland school receives \$68,000 in Learning Support funding but spends \$238,000. Another spends \$430,000 on teacher aides and still cannot meet demand. A Wellington principal reports topping up ORS-funded students by more than \$60,000, over 10 percent of their operational grant.

These are not outliers. This is now the baseline.

Core roles are increasingly sustained through fundraising, grants, and internal trade-offs.

Principals and senior leaders are stepping into frontline positions – supervising, de-escalating, and managing risk – because the system cannot provide the staffing required. In some cases, this is not only unsustainable but also unsafe. The conclusion is clear: the current model does not reliably provide that level of support.

This is not simply pressure on a system. It is a deliberate transfer of responsibility to schools.

No matter how it is presented or framed, the Education system is not working. Schools and educators are continuing to compensate for a system that does not meet its obligations. I encourage you to listen with a critical ear to what the Minister of Education is telling you.

Have a lovely long weekend everyone! We're looking forward to seeing the children back at school on Tuesday after King's Birthday Holiday.

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

PB4L FOCUS

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

'Be reliable by doing the things you are asked to do'

We expect that students will:

- do what they are asked to do.
- complete tasks and duties they are given.
- show commitment by doing what they say they will do.
- do what is expected of them without needing to be told.
- meet expectations and follow rules and routines carefully.
- follow the St Joseph's Way.

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



SCHOOLDocs - OUR ONLINE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES SPACE

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.

ADDITIONAL DATES - SCHOOL CALENDAR

The dates provided each week 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 OUR MEDIA LEADER ... SIENNA CHILDS

On Monday the school had some visitors. Playhouse Theatre came and performed a play called Puss in Gumboots.

The Year 7s and 8s have still been doing hard tech and science every Wednesday. They are getting extremely close to finishing their container that they've been working on in hard tech. In science they have continued their studies about blood and the working of hearts.

Two different things happened on Wednesday as some students also went to a Rippa Rugby tournament. It was a very fun and interesting experience for all those who went.

The School Choir and Kapa Haka group have continued to meet on Tuesday afternoons, practising different pieces that they will hopefully perform sometime soon.

All of the Netball teams have been doing well this netball season. Most teams meet on Thursday afternoon to prepare for their upcoming game and practise together as a group.



COMPOSTING

On 18 May 2026, last Monday, St Joseph's school learnt about worms and how to take care of worms. Miss Vinson, the Teacher of Takahē class, brought 9 compost bins, 1 for each classroom! Isn't that nice.

Nicky from Enviroschools came and taught every class about composting. And now the whole school gets to participate and support worms and composting with the help of the Takahē class Compost Leaders, Lara Ramos, Maia Castillano, Cassie Leatherbarrow - thanks for your wonderful help!

This term we will continue to take care of the cute worms and learn more about composting our fruits and vegetables to waste.

Thank you Nicky!!

Written by Lara Da Costa Ramos



JUNIOR ASSEMBLY



Congratulations to our award winners last week.

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Bentley who has made the U14 Junior Stampede Rep Team. Well done to Harley who was named player of the day at rugby last weekend.

2026 SNOWSPORTS PROGRAMME (YEARS 4-8)

This Sunday, 31 May, is the last day for online bookings. After Sunday all purchases will need to be made in person at the Snowcentre in Queenstown. Note that all online purchases incur a surcharge whereas in person you can pay by EFT-POS and avoid surcharges.

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'.

ORDERS CLOSE ON SUNDAY YEAR 7 AND 8 WELLINGTON CAMP FUNDRAISING

Year 7 and 8 students and their whānau continue to work hard to fundraise for their Wellington Camp in Term 4. Over the next few weeks they are selling frozen cookie dough through the Go Raise It website. Please chat with a Year 7 and 8 student to make a purchase through their account, or use the QR code below or [this link](#) to make a purchase through the school account. **Orders close this Sunday, 31 May** and frozen cookie dough pick up day is 18 June. Thank you for your support!



CHOCOLATE CHIP



WHITE CHOC
CRANBERRY



TRIPLE CHOC



GINGERDOODLE

PAINT + SIP



JOIN US FOR A FUN EVENING OF PORTRAIT PAINTING
TO RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR YEAR 7/8 WELLINGTON CAMP

WHEN: FRIDAY, JUNE 19 AT 6.30PM

WHERE: YONDER, CHURCH ST

PRICE: \$60 (INCLUDES PAINT SUPPLIES AND A DRINK)

TO BOOK YOUR TICKET EMAIL GEMMA MURRY AT gem_miller1983@hotmail.com

☘ Trinity Sunday

This Sunday, the Church celebrates **Trinity Sunday**. We are wrapping our minds around a big mystery: how God is three distinct persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), but still entirely *one* God.

St. Patrick famously used a three-leaf clover to explain it, but for our school families, there is an even better example right at home. Think of a family: you might have a mum, a dad, and a child. They are completely separate people with different personalities, but together, they form **one single family unit**. They are bound together by love. That is what the Trinity is—a community of perfect love.

THIS WEEK'S FAMILY CHALLENGE!

THE GREAT TRINITY HUNT

STEP 1: NATURE'S TRIO



STEP 1: NATURE'S TRIO
Find something in the garden that shows **three-in-one!** (e.g., a clover, a 3-pointed leaf)

STEP 2: KITCHEN FLAVORS



STEP 2: KITCHEN FLAVORS
Find something in the kitchen with **three distinct layers or flavors** that is still **ONE** food!

STEP 3: WATER WONDERS



STEP 3: WATER WONDERS
Find how water exists in **three forms**—solid (ice), liquid (water), and gas (steam)!

FINDING GOD IN EVERYDAY TRIOS!
A PROJECT FOR ST. JOSEPH'S FAMILIES

🙏 A Family Prayer for Trinity Sunday

"God our Father, thank You for creating our beautiful world. Jesus, thank You for being our friend and showing us how to love. Holy Spirit, thank You for giving us courage when we are afraid. Bless our family this week. Help us to live like You do—in perfect teamwork, sharing, and love. Amen."

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 third meeting of this year on Tuesday, May 12.

We were delighted to begin our meeting with presentations from two of our staff. Alice Dunstan spoke about our Structured Literacy programme and Emma Sullivan spoke about *Tō Tātou Whakapono – Our Faith*, our new Religious Education curriculum.

We voted to begin publishing the minutes of our board meetings, once ratified, on our school website. These are currently available on request but this decision will make them more accessible. They will be available under the 'our school' tab on stjosephsqt.school.nz. This will commence after our next meeting.

We have appointed a committee to focus on the work of recruiting a new principal for our school. We will keep the community updated as this work progresses.

You will find information earlier in this newsletter regarding SchoolDocs. Our school works with SchoolDocs to maintain, update and review our school policies. We encourage you to visit and familiarise yourself with this site and to offer feedback.

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, June 23 at 5:15pm.

PTA PULSE

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



We would like to thank the following for their generosity

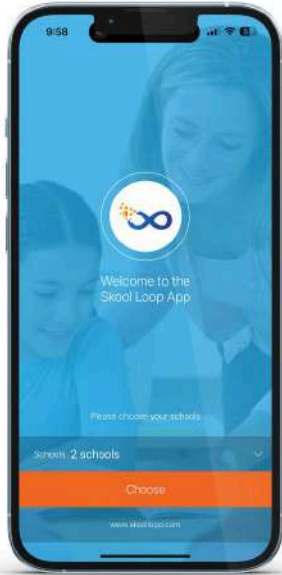
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DONORS ★ AJ Hackett Bungy ★ Align Studios ★ Altitude Tours ★ Appellation Wine Tours ★

★ Around the Basin ★ ASB ★ Ayrburn ★ Balls and Bangles ★ Base Camp Adventures ★
★ Bayleys ★ Bella Cucina ★ Bivouac/Outdoor ★ Blanket Bay ★ Body Mind Shock ★ Bombay Palace ★
★ Brennan Wines ★ Butterfly Creek ★ Caci Clinic ★ Carters ★ Cherry Blossom Cakes ★ Classic Builders ★
★ Crew Hair Stylist ★ Crowne Plaza ★ Cruzza Leisure ★ Cutting Edge ★ Deer Park Heights ★
★ Divine Property ★ Eforea Spa ★ Ferg ★ Ferg Bakery ★ Findex ★ Finz ★ Flame ★ Francis Patterson ★
★ Frankton Pizzeria ★ Fresh Choice ★ Game Over ★ Gems ★ General Kitchen and Bar ★ Giovi ★
★ Golf Federation ★ Hair on Five Mile ★ Harvey Normans ★ Helicopter Line ★ Heliworks ★ Hellers ★
★ Hello Play Queenstown ★ Heritage Queenstown ★ Highlands ★ Hirepool ★ Hunting and Fishing ★
★ Hydro Attack ★ iFLY ★ ITM ★ Jacob's Creek ★ Kennards ★ KFC ★ Kingpin ★ Kiwi Birdlife Park ★ KJet ★
★ Kottu Kart ★ Lokal ★ Lullaby Grace ★ McKibbons ★ Millbrook ★ Million Dollar Cruise ★
★ Minus 5 Ice Bar ★ Mr Chimney ★ Mrs Woolly's General Store ★ New World ★ Nomad ★
★ Nomad Safari's ★ NZ Uniforms ★ Orokonui Ecosanctuary ★ Outerbox ★ PAK'nSAVE ★
★ Pog Mahones ★ Public Italian Kitchen ★ Pure Millford ★ QLDC Sports & Recreation ★ QMC ★
★ Queenstown Lions Club ★ RealNZ ★ The Rees ★ Remarkables Tools ★ Resene ★ Ride to the Skies ★
★ Rugby Planet ★ Ryder Coffee ★ Scenic Circle Hotel Group ★ Seqway on Q ★ Shotover Jet ★
★ Silks & Circus ★ Silky Otter ★ SITE ★ Skin Glow ★ Skyline ★ Southern Discoveries ★
★ Southern Lakes Laundry ★ Spotlight ★ Steve Hanrahan-Ray White ★ Stewart Motors ★ Studio Five ★
★ Sudima ★ Sundays ★ Swannndri ★ The Bathhouse Spa ★ The Beauty Garden ★ The Dreamery ★
★ The Gut Clinic ★ The Outpost ★ The Remarkable Cookie ★ The Tan Lab ★ The Warehouse ★
★ Thrill Zone ★ Time Tripper ★ Unichem Remarkables ★ Violet Hair ★ Walk in Wardrobe ★
★ Waxing by Reef ★ Willowbank ★ Wolf Hospitality ★ World Bar ★ Yonder ★ Ziptrek Ecotours ★
★ Our Teachers ★ Our Families ★ Our PTA ★

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

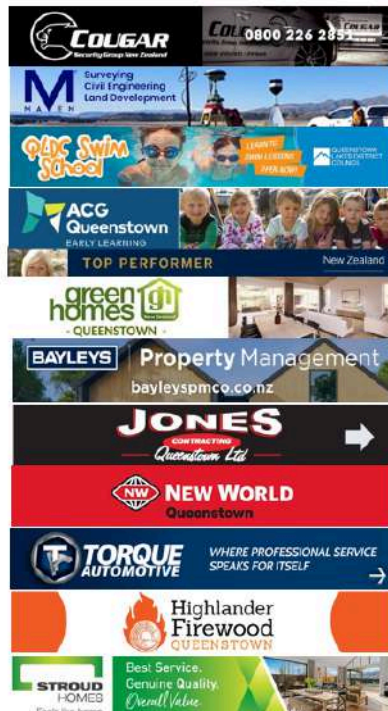
1. Open the Skool Loop App - you will land on a welcome page.
2. Click the 'Select your schools' this will bring you to a menu you can either search your school or follow the country/region prompts.
3. Once you reach your school, select it with the tick on the righthand side. You can select as many schools 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

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