



# 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 29 November 2024    Week 7    Term 4

Calendar of Events			Karen's quote of the week: When nothing goes right.... go left.
Sunday	1 December	First Sunday of Advent	
Monday	2 December	Hoiho Prayers	
Tuesday	3 December	Board Meeting	
Wednesday	4 December	Non Uniform Day (Details Below)	
Monday	9 December	Ruru Class Prayers	
Tuesday	10 December	Whole School Fun Day	
Friday	13 December	Junior Nativity	
Monday	16 December	End of Year Mass	
Monday	16 December	Year 8 Graduation	
Wednesday	18 December	Last day of School for 2024 <b>12pm Finish</b>	
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.

### SLEEPS 'TIL SANTA



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kia ora whānau. Ngā mihi o te wā ki a koutou.

A major focus at this time of year is remembering that our school is a place of learning. We're very grateful for your support towards this focus - please remind your children that it is really important that they attend school as normal and take a full part in the classroom learning programme as expected, including remembering to follow instructions given by staff.

We're planning for 3 significant school celebrations in the next few weeks where our community will gather to look back and to look forward.

**You are all warmly invited** to join us for the following celebrations:

- we will gather to celebrate our **End of Year Mass** together on Monday 16 December starting at 9:30am in the church, and during this Mass we will announce our Ākonga Ranagtira for 2025;
- we will gather as a school community for the **Graduation and Prize Giving** for our Year 8 students on the evening of Monday 16 December at 5pm in the church, a whole school celebration focused on our graduating students for 2024, **followed by a whānau picnic and BBQ** in the school grounds;
- we will gather to celebrate the **Nativity** story, our Christmas story, on Friday 13 December starting at 2pm in the church.

Of course you are also all welcome to join us for the Year 8 Speeches on Monday 12 December at 5pm if you wish. All of these are really special opportunities to come together as a community and celebrate another fabulous year at St Joseph's School. Please check in with your child's classroom teacher if you have any questions.

Remember too that school finishes at 12pm on Wednesday 18 December. Please make sure that you have made arrangements for your child to return home from school early on that day.

Thanks whānau. Kia pai tō rā whakatā! Only 13 school days left after today! It's all happening so quickly!

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)

## MOVING DAY - FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER

In preparation for some changes for the 2025 school year, most of our classrooms are relocating. We've declared Friday 6 December "Moving Day", the day we're going to move furniture and resources around the school to our 2025 locations. We will spend the remainder of the year in those spaces. We'd be very grateful for some adult helpers who could spend an hour or 2 with us on Friday 6 December from 9am, lifting some of the heavier and bigger classroom furniture from one part of the school to another. Students will have opportunities to help too but in order to keep them (and our furniture) safe we'd love to have some adults for the big stuff. Please let Karen know ([office@stjosephsqt.school.nz](mailto:office@stjosephsqt.school.nz)) if you are available to help. Thanks whānau!

## ENROLMENTS FOR 2025 - STARTING OR LEAVING OUR KURA?

Planning for 2025 is now well advanced, 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).**

## SCHOOL LIBRARY BOOKS AND SCHOOL READERS - AMNESTY!

We're going to complete a stocktake of school library books in Week 9 this year. The school library will be closed for issuing from the end of today for the rest of the year and we are asking that all school library books are returned to school next week. Please have a look around at home and return any school library books you find.

Our wonderful PTA gave the school a significant amount of money this year to update readers in the school. A sizeable portion of that funding was spent replacing books that have been sent home and have never made it back to school. Please also look at home for any school reading books and resources that have made it onto shelves or under beds at home and return them too.

Next week, Week 8, is our amnesty week - please return all school reading books and resources to school in the next week.

## PB4L FOCUS

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

### **“Showing Appropriate Behaviour in Church”**

We expect that students will:

- Wait patiently in line without touching or talking to others (inside and outside).
- Walk up the stairs into the Church quietly.
- Genuflect before sitting quietly (without touching or talking to others).
- Participate in prayer and singing.
- Use appropriate applause at the right time.
- Genuflect before leaving the Church.
- Walk down the stairs without swinging under the rail.

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



*Lighting The Way  
for the Nano Nagle  
Charitable Trust*



NON UNIFORM DAY

- All donations raised support children to attend Catholic Schools in New Zealand. Children can be assisted with attendance dues, stationery and uniform costs.

**Wednesday 4 December**  
Please bring a gold coin donation



## REMINDER - HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Remember that if your child is unwell, please keep them at home. A number of children in the last couple of weeks have been sent to school when they are clearly not well enough to be at school - if a child is not well enough to take a full and active part in the classroom learning programme, they should not be sent to school.

## MOA CLASS

Last Friday Moa class enjoyed a visit from the amazing Jo Bell from Young Vinnies in Dunedin. She taught the students about the miracle of Christmas and the reality of the Christmas story, how it relates to our lives and how it invites us to act. They loved making a Christmas star to remind them of the reason for the season.



## COPSSA TRIATHLON

Congratulations to our Year 6 girls triathlon team who qualified to represent our school and our zone at the Central Otago Primary School Sports Association Triathlon yesterday at the Queenstown Events Centre. The team (Poppy, Tatum and Emelia) did a great job a couple of weeks ago to qualify and faced adversity when a team member became suddenly unavailable for yesterday's event. However, showing great determination and resilience, the team stepped up and finished a very respectable 10th place in the Year 6 girls teams event! Ka rawe tō mahi kōtira!

## MATHS CHALLENGE IN RURU CLASS

Maths Challenge last week in Ruru ... who can make the longest strip from a single A4 sheet with only a pair of scissors. No joins allowed and working in small groups . Results are hanging in the classroom.



## CONGRATULATIONS

Lucas attended a swim meet in Winton last Saturday where he won two gold medals! Both of Lucas's golds were in breaststroke; one for 50m and one for 100m breaststroke. He also won a bronze medal for 50m backstroke in his 10 year old age group. Well done Lucas.





## CHRISTMAS SHOWS!

A number of our students are working really hard outside of school at the moment preparing for Christmas Shows. Come along and support our students and indulge in some Christmas fun!



## CATHOLIC CHARACTER

### First week of Advent

Advent is the period before the Christmas season. It begins on the Sunday nearest November 30, the feast day of St. Andrew the Apostle, and covers four Sundays. Because the day it begins changes from year to year, so does the length of each Advent season. Advent begins on the 1st of December. The word advent, from Latin, means “the coming.”



Perhaps in the coming Advent weeks you could pray this prayer each day in your home.

### Light up our lives

Christ, come into our world of darkness  
Light up our lives with your coming.  
Fulfil all our longings with the joy of your birth  
Strengthen our resolve to work for change in our world  
And to share the hope of your birth that each Advent brings.  
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 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](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.

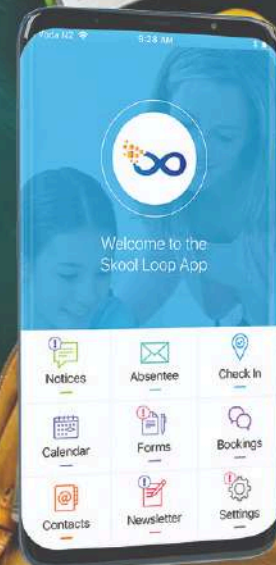
Ngā manaakitanga,

Catkin Bartlett  
Board Presiding Member  
[catkinb@stjosephsqt.school.nz](mailto:catkinb@stjosephsqt.school.nz)

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