



# 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 13 December 2024 Week 9 Term 4

Calendar of Events			<b>Santa's quote of the week:</b>  "I know who has been naughty and who has been nice"
Monday	16 December	End of Year Mass <b>9:30 am</b>	
Monday	16 December	Graduation, Prize Giving and Whānau Picnic <b>5pm</b>	
Wednesday	18 December	Last day of School for 2024 <b>12pm Finish</b>	
Friday	7 February	First Day of Term 1 2025	
Friday	11 April	Last Day of Term 1 2025	
Monday	28 April	First Day Term 2 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

Ngā mihi o te Aweneti ki a koutou. Advent greetings to you all.

Last night the school held a special celebration for our graduating students of 2024. Whānau gathered in the church and listened to our wonderful Year 8 students present their leavers' speeches, sharing memories of their time at St Joseph's School. It was a great privilege to listen to the special memories and experiences that were recounted for us. Thank you to the Year 8 students and to the whānau and staff who attended. Thanks to the PTA for their generous contribution to the leavers dinner.

We know that children flourish in their school years when the partnership between child, home and school is strong. The celebrations at the end of each year are a wonderful experience of just that. Our graduating students have absolutely flourished, in particular in their last year at St Joseph's School, and leave our school well-equipped to face whatever excitement lies ahead. Some of the families gathered last night are coming to the end of a very long association with the St Joseph's School community - in some cases a partnership which has lasted more than 10 years. We are very thankful for the significant contributions these families have made over their time here, and we wish them every blessing and every success as they move forward, forging new partnerships in new schools. Your weaving in the tapestry of St Joseph's School will last forever.

Earlier in the week we headed over to Kelvin Heights and had a fantastic Whole School Fun Day at Lakeland Park Christian Camp. Our older students, our tuakana, were excellent and showed great care for our teina, our younger students. We all had a great time playing games and completing activities. The archery, water slide and flying fox were definitely among the most popular!

Today we will gather to celebrate the Nativity story, our Christmas story, starting at 2pm in the church. Parents and whānau are warmly invited to join us. If you are parking in the church car park please park as close to the church as you are able - you are welcome to park on the grass.

Next week is our last week of school in 2024 (a short last week). Wednesday is our last day of school and as previously advised, children are invited to wear festive Christmas clothes to school for the last day of the year. **School finishes at 12pm on Wednesday, and there are no end-of-day school buses running that day for our students. Please make sure that you have made the necessary arrangements for your child(ren) getting home from school early on Wednesday.**

It's been a very busy, very exciting time as we move closer to the end of the school year. Thank you so much for your very generous support throughout the year. We are very grateful for your support and simply couldn't do what we do without you! Thank you!

Enjoy the last few days whānau!

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)

## 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 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).**
2. 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);
3. 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;

## SCHOOL RESOURCES - RETURN PLEASE!

Last call for school resources to be returned please. We're still waiting for a few ukuleles and are always hopeful for more library books and readers! Thanks!

## PB4L FOCUS

Our Positive Behaviour for Learning focus next week will be:

### “Being Festive”

We expect that students will:

- Be cheerful and enjoy the classroom Christmas activities
- Be thoughtful and understanding as it is a busy time of the year
- Be grateful for what they have and think of those who are less fortunate
- Have a fabulous Christmas and enjoy the holiday and time with their families



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



## HEAD LICE

Unfortunately there have been several cases of head lice in our school. Would you kindly check your child's hair regularly and treat it if necessary to reduce the risk of spread.

**Unless all parents attend to this the spread is ongoing and we will not be able to stop re-infection.**

If your child's hair is long, please make it a practice to ensure it is tied back, in accordance with the uniform guidelines.



## CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to our Junior school award winners.





Well done to all the students who took part in the Queenstown's annual Christmas show.

## CATHOLIC CHARACTER

Next week we head into the third week of Advent. It is also called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete* means 'Joy' and our candle is pink as a symbol of rejoicing as we await the birth of our saviour and Lord.



A candle is burning, a candle of Joy;  
A warm glow to welcome brave Mary's new boy.  
New life like a koru now being unfurled.  
God's promise of joy to an expectant world.



Merry Christmas

## 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)

## KEEP UP TO DATE WITH SKOOL LOOP

All our school news in one place

Download The Skool Loop App Today

THE SKOOL LOOP APP


Welcome to the Skool Loop App


Notices Absentee Check In  
Calendar Forms Bookings  
Contacts Newsletter Settings

Simple free download: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' and choose our school once installed.


**NW NEW WORLD**  
Queenstown


**TORQUE AUTOMOTIVE** WHERE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE SPEAKS FOR ITSELF →

**ACG Queenstown** EARLY LEARNING 

**Kamo Marsh** Landscape Architects 

**maddison** FINANCIAL SERVICES Grant Maddison - Financial Advisor in Queenstown. [Tap Here](#)


**DIVINE** PROPERTY MANAGEMENT → 

**green homes** - QUEENSTOWN - 

**JONES** CONTRACTING Queenstown Ltd →

**TOP PERFORMER** Stephanie McMeeken New Zealand Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

**ARROWTOWN POOL** SEASON PASSES AVAILABLE Arrowtown Memorial Pool

**CENTRAL GLASS SERVICE** 

**Highlander Firewood** QUEENSTOWN

SKOOL LOOP ADVERTISERS SUPPORTING ST JOSEPH'S