



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 2023

Term 1 ~ Wednesday 1 February to Thursday 6 April

Term 2 ~ Monday 24 April to Friday 30 June

Term 3 ~ Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September

Term 4 ~ Monday 9 October to Tuesday 19 December

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

Newsletter

15 December 2023

Week 10

Term 4

Calendar of Events			Office Manager's quote of the week: Remember, if Christmas isn't found in your heart, you won't find it under the Christmas tree Charlotte Carpenter
Monday	18 December	Whole School Fun Day	
Tuesday	19 December	Last day of School for 2023 (12pm finish)	
Wednesday	31 January	First Day of Term 1 for 2024	
Tuesday	06 February	Waitangi Day NO SCHOOL	
Thursday	8 February	Ezlunch Orders will Resume for 2024	
Friday	29 March	Good Friday NO SCHOOL	
Monday	01 April	Easter Monday NO SCHOOL	
Tuesday	02 April	Easter Tuesday NO SCHOOL	
Friday	12 April	Last Day of Term 1	
Monday	29 April	Term 2 starts	



Sleeps 'til Santa 9!!



SKIDS ... AVAILABLE FROM 12PM ON 19TH DECEMBER

Skids are available from 12pm on Tuesday 19th when school finishes early. Here is the link for parents who would like to make a booking.

https://enrolmy.com/skids-rosie-cole/activity/50-Queenstown_Christmas_Holidays_2023

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 2022: our Graduation and Prize Giving, followed by our whānau BBQ and picnic. Special thanks to Juliana and the PTA for hosting the BBQ and serving up some great kai! Earlier in the week 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.

We know that children flourish in their school years when the partnership between child, home and school is strong. The celebrations this week were a wonderful experience of just that. Our graduating students have absolutely flourished, in particular in this 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 nearly a 15-year partnership. 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.

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 2023 (a very short last week). On Monday we have our Whole School Fun Day at the Queenstown Events Centre. We've planned an exciting day for our tamariki who will spend the day moving in their Whānau groups around a series of fun games and activities before spending the afternoon in the pool! We need lots of parent helpers for our pool time so please, if you are able to help, get in touch with your child's classroom teacher - more details below, read on...

Tuesday is our last day of school and as advised last week, children are invited to wear festive Christmas clothes to school for the last day of the year. School finishes at 12pm on Tuesday.

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 in the last few weeks, especially to those of you who came with us on our various EOTC Week adventures last week. 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

WHOLE SCHOOL FUN DAY - MONDAY 18 DECEMBER

On Monday 18 December we will be holding a whole school fun day at Queenstown Events Centre. Students will not wear school uniform but will need to wear comfortable activewear, sports shoes and sunhats. They will arrive at school as normal and be transported by bus to the Events Centre where they will take part in a rotation of activities in their School Whānau groups. Students will need to bring their lunchbox and drink bottle (filled with water), as well as swimming togs and towel. Students will be transported back to school by bus ready for home time.

We still need more parent helpers from 1pm to help younger students changing for the pool, as well as to get in the pool to support these students. Alpine Aqualand requires a ratio of 1 adult to 5 children 5-8 years of age, and that half of the caregivers are in the water actively supervising the children in the water. If we don't have enough adult helpers to meet this requirement we will plan a different afternoon activity for all children 8 years of age and under. Alpine Aqualand requires that some caregivers are in the water actively supervising children in the water aged 9-12 years. If you are able to help please make contact with your child's classroom teacher. Please indicate too if you are happy to be in the water actively supervising children while they are in the water. Again, thank you for your very generous support.

If you intend to drop your children off at the Events Centre or to pick them up from there at the end of the day, please advise your child's classroom teacher. Please do not ask your child to tell their teacher - we need to hear those instructions directly from you, either in person or by email. We are expecting to arrive at the Events Centre at approximately 9:30am and to leave there at approximately 2:30pm.

MEDIA LEADER

It's the last full week of school for the year! Everyone is getting ready for the holidays but that means that it is so busy. On Monday morning we had our End of Year Mass and the leadership roles for next year were announced. The Year 7s were each given a scroll by the Year 8s to symbolise passing on their roles to the next leaders. Also on Monday evening all the Year 8s, their families and some of the teachers gathered in the church to hear the Leavers Speeches. Every Year 8 shared some of their school experiences and what values they have learnt at this school. Then afterwards they went to the Memorial Hall for a special shared dinner, which everyone contributed to. Thursday evening was another very special night for the Year 8s, the Graduation and Prize Giving. At the start we walked down the centre aisle with our little buddies and a candle, then the candles were lit and we went back to our seats. Some readings, and the prayers of the faithful, were read and certificates awarded. The Year 6&7 girls performed the Irish Blessing dance and the choir sang a special song for the graduates. A slideshow was played with music of photos of all the Year 8s when they were little, compared to now, and it was so cute! Then the graduating Year 8s got their candle and graduation cap, which they created, and walked out of the church, and the kapa haka group performed to them. Afterwards we had a sausage sizzle, some drinks, and an ice block to eat, which was all very delicious! Everyone had a great time and it was an amazing way to celebrate the Year 8s!

EOTC WEEK ... WHAT'S IN OUR WATERWAYS?



CONGRATULATIONS



On Sunday, The Whitmarsh Football Academy had their end of year prize giving. Congratulations to Francisco who won "Moment of the year".



If you went to see the Queenstown Christmas show on the weekend, you may have recognised a few St Joseph's students in the cast. Congratulations to: Giuliana Cochrane, Arka Huck, Harper-Rose Reid, Tatum Hookey and Oisín Cantwell on a great performance.



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 the 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

CATHOLIC CHARACTER



Happy Holidays and Blessed and joy filled Christmas season

Lord God,

We put ourselves into Your hands and pray that You will bless us and our families during the wonderful months of summer. May we all help make our home a place of relaxation, joy, love, peace and safety. May we be generous and considerate, not thinking only about ourselves, but helping others enjoy the blessings of summertime. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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 , and 5 th Sundays: 11 am Mass 2 nd & 4 th Sundays: 11 am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Check out the latest Parish news on-line:

www.stjosephsqueenstown.co.nz

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