



# St Bernard's School Newsletter

21 February 2022

Term 1, Week 4

## Upcoming Events

### February

21 - 24 Zero Waste Programme

### March

01 - Scientist Visit, All Classes

02 - Ash Wednesday

15 - First Aid Sessions

### April

04 - 3 Way Conferences (TBC)

05 - 3 Way Conferences (TBC)

16 - Term 1 Finishes, 3pm

## Principals Message

This week teachers will be posting videos as a replacement for our usual Meet the Teacher evening. These videos will tell you everything you need to know about how the classes and the learning programmes are organised. If you have further question don't hesitate to contact the teacher.

As we continue through the pandemic, I want to reassure you that we are doing all we can to keep your children healthy and are prepared should a case appear in our community. Thank you for your understanding and support. We know that Covid is poised to cause disruptions to our lives and work, but we are all doing our best in these ever-changing and difficult times. Below are responses to some frequently asked questions that might be of use to you.

Please note that we are not the health experts and if you have specific questions that are not answered here, then I encourage you to contact <https://covid19.govt.nz/> for more detailed information and links to further support.

Please also note that this information is subject to change, based on any updated guidelines from the Ministry of Education & Health.

### **Who do we advise if my child tests positive for Covid-19?**

Please contact **Lisa Small (principal)** as soon as you have been informed of a positive test result. The number to call is **021 267 5037** or email me during the school day at [principal@stbernards.school.nz](mailto:principal@stbernards.school.nz)

### **Is it safe to send my child to school?**

Our school's health and safety planning for learning under the Red setting contain a number of protections for our students and staff. This includes ventilation of the rooms, mask-wearing and excellent sanitisation processes. St Bernard's School is a safe place for students, and I encourage you to keep sending your children to school.

### **My child tests positive for Covid-19. What does this mean?**

This means your child will need to isolate. All family members will be close contacts and may also need to isolate. The Ministry of Health will provide more guidance for you. They will contact you once the positive case is determined.

### **What actions does the school take when there is a positive at school?**

We follow a response plan based on advice and guidance from the Ministry of Education. This involves:

- Seeking detailed information of the positive case and when the infectious period was
- If this was during a school day and the student was present, then we begin working through our contact tracing steps
- We will advise the parents/caregivers of students who are close contacts via email initially and then via phone contact
- If this occurs during the school day, we will require a parent or caregiver to collect your child as soon as possible. How to do this safely will be shared with you at the time
- The rest of the school and our community are advised of the case but remain at school

## **2022 Term Dates**

Term 1 Thurs 3 Feb - Thurs 14 Apr

Term 2 Mon 2 May - Thurs 7 July

Term 3 Mon 25 Jul - Fri 30 Sept

Term 4 Mon 17 Oct - Fri 16 Dec

*Teacher Only Day - Fri 8 July*

## **Contact Us**

Office@stbernards.school.nz  
www.stbernards.school.nz

Ph: 04 3899 377

## **How do we work out who was a close contact?**

There is detailed guidance around this process and a range of criteria. Because we keep our students (mostly) in their own class groups, then it is likely that the whole class would be deemed a close contact.

## **My child is a close contact. What does this mean?**

This means that your child is a close contact of a positive case at our school (or maybe is a close contact through social interactions while at home). Under phase 2 of the government's Covid Protection Framework, they will be required to isolate at home for 7 days and get a Covid test on Day 5 of this isolation period. (NOTE: the 7 days start from the date that they were in contact with a positive case. Because of a possible time lag between confirmation and case/test results, this may mean your child remains isolated for a shorter period of time. You will be advised of this.

## **My child needs to isolate at home. What support will the school provide around teaching and learning?**

When needed, we have remote learning programmes in place and are ready to roll out using Google Classrooms. We are able to provide printed copies of work for students as well.

## **Do I need to provide anything to the school before my child is able to return?**

Yes. For positive cases or close contacts, we would like to see the last negative test result.

## **If my child is a close contact, does this mean the rest of the household will also need to isolate?**

For the best and most recent information about this, please contact Healthline::

- For general health advice and information call [0800 611 116](tel:0800611116) anytime
- For COVID-19 health advice call [0800 358 5453](tel:08003585453) anytime
- For COVID-19 vaccination advice call [0800 28 29 26](tel:0800282926) (8am - 8pm 7 days a week)

## **A member of my household (or myself) is a close contact, can my child still attend school?**

It may be the case, but the Ministry of Health will advise you of this. If they need to self-isolate as well, then please contact the school.

## **We received an email/phone call saying that my child is NOT a close contact. What do I need to do?**

- Firstly, your child is still able to attend school
- You and your whānau should watch for symptoms
- If any develop, get tested immediately
- Then, stay at home until you receive the result
- Please keep an eye out for further school communications

## **My child is feeling unwell (e.g. cough, cold, headache, sore throat etc) Can I still send them to school?**

Because these are all symptoms of Covid-19 please do not send your child to school. While these may be normal bugs and sniffles that occur, we encourage you to seek medical advice and undertake a Covid-19 test.

## **What is the school doing to keep my child safe?**

- All staff, tutors and volunteers on-site are fully vaccinated.
- We are ventilating all rooms and are monitoring air quality using CO2 monitors.
- All staff and students Year 4-8 are wearing masks.

## **My child is anxious or scared. What advice do you have?**

We have a fantastic team of people here, starting with our teachers and support staff, who understand the stress and anxiety students are facing at the moment. They are here to talk and listen.

We encourage you to focus on the things that they can do to help out. Washing and sanitising hands, wearing a mask and getting tested if required.

The website: [www.kidshealth.org.nz](http://www.kidshealth.org.nz) has useful advice and guidance as well.

**Lisa**

## School News

**Library Visits** Unfortunately, under the red setting guidelines we are unable to visit the Brooklyn Library.



**Happy Birthday** to Joan who turns 8 this Sunday. We hope you have wonderful, fun filled birthday.

## Class Programmes

## Room 1

We had a fantastic week last week in Room One. We had an amazing art session on Thursday and really enjoyed our cricket session on Friday.

In maths, we have been looking at the value of numbers and all the ways numbers can be represented. As a whole class, we had a go at sorting and matching digits, dice patterns, tens frames, finger patterns and words.

As part of our inquiry, we have continued our science work around living things. This week, we looked at habitats and what living things need in a habitat to survive.

The week before last, we also read the book, 'The Word Collector' and we have now started to create our very own 'word collector' word wall.



Room 1 had a cricket session with coach Dylan from Wellington Cricket. They learnt lots of new skills and had lots of fun. Mrs Small was very impressed with the respect they showed listening to instructions and the way they gave their best effort even with tricky new skills.



## Room 2

The beginning of the year assessment is well underway. PAT testing has dominated our timetable this week. The Year 4 and Year 5 students sat Mathematics, Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary, Punctuation and Grammar test. It was the first time the Year 4 students have sat such a test and I was extremely proud of them. The students have also completed an Essential Spelling Lists checkup for the start of the year and established handwriting expectations.

As Monday was Valentines' Day, the students were given a task to recognise love in their lives. They could choose to write what qualities people love about themselves, what qualities they love about others or pay tribute to those who love them the most - their family.

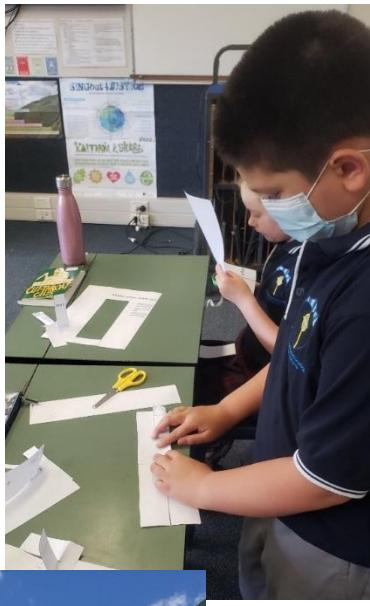


One of the joys of teaching in a small school with composite classes is witnessing the tuakana/teina relationships which naturally form. Listening to the older students read aloud and explain to the younger students fills my heart. Not only are the older students demonstrating our Mercy Values and helping the younger students with their learning, they are also reinforcing their own understanding as they apply what they know to teach the younger ones.



## Room 4

Week 3 was a busy week for Room 4 with lots of assessment and science! Our school science advisor Stephen Williams worked with Room 4 on Tuesday. Stephen introduced the children to the four forces of flight - thrust, friction, lift and gravitational force. The children made two different objects to investigate these forces - paper planes and paper rotary blades. The paper planes were made on Tuesday while rotary blades were made and tested on Wednesday afternoon. The rotary blade designs were tested by dropping them from the balcony and watching them spin around as they made their way to the playground below!



Room 4 have also been leaning how to write prayers following the ACTS structure- Adoration, Contrition, Thankfulness, Supplication. Here are a few examples that they wrote.

### **ACTS Prayer Example**

**Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, and Supplication**

*Identify the ACTS in the following prayer:*

#### **My ACTS prayer - Vincent:**

**Dear God I love and adore you are my almighty father.  
Please look over and care for us.  
Please forgive all my sins and bad deeds.  
Please help me when I'm in trouble.  
Thank you for all that you have done for me.  
Thank you for giving me a good education.  
Thank you for my loved ones.  
Please help me to be a better and caring person.  
Please bless my friends and family.  
Amen.**

## My ACTS prayer - Greta:

Dear God,

Please let people trust one another. I know that you care and help people, so please let us do that too.

Please forgive us for Climate Change and all the times we have hurt people by ignoring them. Please let us be better people and stop hurting the environment and please let all the wars come to an end.

Thank you for how lucky we are. We have a house to live in and family to love us. We have the chance to get an education and we have plenty of food and water.

Please let help all the people who poach or do animal testing become much better people. Also, please help everyone be kind and help stop wars and fighting.

Amen

## My ACTS prayer - Logan N:

**Dear God, I pray that I can trust everyone and especially you.**

**I know that you will help everyone.**

**Please forgive me for hurting people and let me do the right thing.**

**I know that I can be a better person with your help.**

**I want you to know that I thank you for everything you have done.**

**Thank you for my amazing family and friends.**

**Please help everyone to live in peace.**

**Help me to be nicer to everyone.**

**Amen**

## Public Notices

### **St John Youth Programme**

The St John programme (Penguins) runs on a Monday 3.30- 4.45pm at the Brooklyn Scout Hall during term times, restarting in Term 2.

They are currently looking for new Penguins. See the attached flyer and for more details contact Karen Don on

[Karen.don@stjohn.org.nz](mailto:Karen.don@stjohn.org.nz) 0274046343.

### **Geckos Hockey Club invites you to play hockey in 2022**

Come and play hockey with the Geckos Hockey Club at the Brooklyn Bowling Club astro turf at Tanera Park.

**Tuesdays 4.15-5.15pm for yr5/6/7/8**

**Fridays 4-5pm for yr 1-4**

**Give it a go, summer hockey in term 1 is free!**

Just turn up on practice day and we take it from there.

We provide sticks and balls.

**More info about Wellington's best little hockey club:**

<https://www.facebook.com/geckoshockeyclub/>

<https://geckoshockeyclub.weebly.com/>



**RĀTĀ STUDIOS SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

# **RĀTĀ YOUTH ORCHESTRA**

An orchestra to introduce young musicians (ages 6-12) to the fun and skills of playing together, without having to audition!

A brand new venture for Wellington's young musicians run by top Wellington professional musicians Brenton Veitch and Bruce Roberts with support from our adults' WELLSO Orchestra (Wellington Late Starters Orchestra)

Any orchestral instruments are welcome, String, Brass, Woodwind and of course Percussion.

Saturdays 1.30-2.30pm, 12 Feb - 9 April

Enrol now at [ratastudios.co.nz](http://ratastudios.co.nz)

**RĀTĀ STUDIOS**

Igniting Creative Futures

ratastudios.co.nz | mark@ratastudios.co.nz  
Located in Scots College facilities in Strathmore