



# The Evangelist

The St John's Primary School Newsletter

Wednesday 11th October, 2017 Term 4 Week 1

## Welcome Back!



*Dear Parents / Carers*

**Welcome back** to Term 4, 2017. I hope you had a relaxing holiday and made the most of the beautiful sunshine. How quickly the year is flying by. As always the term will be very busy with exciting learning opportunities and activities; as well as community and social events. I refer you to our **parent calendar** for upcoming events. Please keep in mind every effort is made to have firm dates and publish these as early as possible; but changes are sometimes necessary due to circumstances out of our control.

**Kindergarten Orientation** for 2018 commences tonight with the Parent Information Evening at 6.30 pm. This will be followed by three ES1 transition sessions where children will have the opportunity to experience school life at St John's. The transition sessions will be held on the following dates: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November. I look forward to welcoming new families and siblings to our learning community. I congratulate them on choosing St John's and our staff value the opportunity to work in partnership with them in educating their children. If you know of anyone who has missed enrolment or is still undecided, please invite them along to this evening.

**Curriculum Overviews** will be sent home next week. This overview will give parents / carers a brief summary of the teaching and learning planned for your child this term. I encourage you to use the curriculum overview as a basis for discussing with your child the concepts being taught in each Key Learning Area this term.

**Confirmation** takes place this term. Please keep in your prayers all Stage 3 children and their families in our Parish who over the next few weeks will be preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The enrolment night for Confirmation will be on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October. This will be followed by 4 weekly workshops and culminating with the Confirmation Mass on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm. We ask God to bless all the children during their preparation and to remain by their side on this next step of their faith journey.

**Grandparent's Day** will be held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October. St John's School community warmly invites all our grandparents to join us in a celebration of thanksgiving to recognise and honour all grandparents. The program is as follows: Grandparent Day liturgy to be held in the hall at 1.45 followed by an assembly and afternoon tea. The afternoon tea will commence at 2.30pm. Hope to see you there! **Please indicate on the invitation that has been sent home today the number of grandparents who will be attending. Thank you.**

**Parents in Education** - as a significant partner in your child's education, if you wish to seek clarification on any learning procedures, behaviours or can assist the teacher through a 'united approach' towards your child's development, it is appreciated and preferred if a phone call or an appointment with the teacher is made. This in turn ensures that the teachers prepare for lessons in the mornings or make their way to afternoon duties and staff meetings. My sincere thanks to the dedicated teachers of St John's who are always present, available and only too willing to work with you regarding your child, who is our first priority.

**Swimming Program** St John's Swimming Program will commence on Monday 23rd October to Friday 3rd November, please return emergency/permission notes that came home with your child on Monday.

**St John's Spring Fete** was a wonderful community event that was made successful by the support and involvement of a dedicated team of parents / carers who worked very hard to create a welcoming and fun atmosphere. There are so many people to thank but it would be hard to do so individually without leaving someone out but I would sincerely like to thank Jessica Stone and Pauline Boltjes and their families for all they did in coordinating the Spring Fete. On behalf of the St John's community, THANK YOU. On Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November, we are having a thankyou afternoon tea for all those wonderful parent / carer volunteers who helped at the **School Fete**. Please look for the invitation coming home with your child today and return the tear-off slip if you will be attending our thank you afternoon tea.

**Uniform** I refer you to our School **Uniform Policy** which states:

**'Hair shoulder length or longer must be tied back with a regulation (school colours) ribbon, band or school scrunchie and off the face so sight is not impeded'**

It has come to my attention that some of our girls are wearing the incorrect **hair accessories**; not the regulation hair scrunchies / bands. I have been advised that parents / carers purchased different bands (diamond patterned) from the School Fete. Although I was asked by a school community member last term to look at hair accessories that are available through a different supplier; approval was not sought or given for these hair accessories to be sold at the fete as part of St John's school uniform.

Furthermore, over the last year 'bows' for securing hair have become extremely large in size. These bows, I understand are being purchased from the same supplier of the bands that are now appearing. I remind parents / carers that all hair accessories are to be in keeping with the standards for a school uniform. The regulation hair accessories can be purchased at Lowes. If in the future changes are to be made to school uniform parents/carers will be advised. I ask for your support in this matter.

**Long Service Leave** I would like to advise the school community that I will be on leave from Wednesday 18th October to Friday 27th October. If you have any concerns please see Mr Jason Fisher who will be looking after the school in my absence.

*God Bless, Patricia.*

## **EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

*IT IS THE REponsIBILITY OF ALL PARENTS/CARERS TO ADVISE THE SCHOOL OFFICE IN WRITING OF ANY CHANGES/UPDATES TO PARENT/CARERS AND EMERGENCY CONTACTS TELEPHONE/MOBILE NUMBERS*

***It is imperative that the school is able to get in contact with each and every child's emergency contacts at anytime.***

*PLEASE FORWARD ANY CHANGES/UPDATES IN WRITING TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE SO YOUR CHILD RECORDS CAN BE AMENDED. YOU CAN ALSO PICK-UP A FORM FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE*

*Thank you for your support*

## **NEW CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER**

### **FOR ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

St John's Primary School has been migrated to a new telephone system by the CEDP and therefore we have a new telephone number.

Please update your records.

**02 9854 3200**

# CURRICULUM



## Curriculum Evening - Cyber Safety with Senior Constable Bollard

The internet is easy, convenient and fun. But all that easy convenience can be risky, and some of the risks can have serious, lasting outcomes.

Personal photos can end up being public jokes, arguments can turn into fully blown, fully documented flame wars and private details can be used against you - illegally or even *legally*.

These kind of things can happen to anybody, which is why it's important to do your best to stay safe online.

**On Thursday October 26 at 6.30 in the hall, Senior Constable Bollard from NSW Police will be presenting a talk on 'cyber safety'. Cyber safety is an issue that all parents need to deal with as the world our children are living in has become digital. I encourage all parents to join us for this very insightful presentation. Please look for the note coming home later this week.**

Reasoning Strategies in Mathematics.

Mathematics helps us all to make sense of the world in which we live as we go about our daily lives. Reasoning is part of a much wider set of skills that are required to help us to develop mathematically and allow us to **think critically**.

This year at St John's we have been developing reasoning strategies in all students.

Parents can help their children develop reasoning strategies by;

1. Be models of math's learning

Engaging your child in interesting mathematical activities can help stimulate a lifelong enjoyment of mathematics.

2. Look for opportunities to use math talk

Math talk grows with your child. Math talk is simply talking to your child about the math that they experience.

3. Look for opportunities to count, add, subtract, multiply or divide

Once your child has mastered a concept, move on to the next e.g. once they count by ones, encourage your child to count by 2's, 5's and 10's.

4. Look for opportunities to problem-solve

Grocery shopping and other routine situations provide many opportunities for mathematics. Use these opportunities to involve your child in solving problems.

5. Use open-ended questions to sustain math talk as long as possible

Math talk means talking about mathematical ideas and open-ended means being ready with questions that allow for multiple routes to solutions.

6. Encourage measurement in the home

Let your child make meaningful and helpful measurements.

These are just some of the strategies that can develop reasoning skills in your child.

*Jason Fisher Assistant Principal*

**Confirmation Sacramental Program**

Stage 3 children will participating in the Parish based sacramental program for Confirmation. There is a parent meeting on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 4p.m and another session on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 7p.m. The enrolment mass will be on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 6p.m and Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 9 a.m. We ask for your prayers for these children during the program as they prepare to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

# GRANDPARENT'S DAY AT ST JOHN'S RIVERSTONE

## Friday 27 October 2017

AFTERNOON EVENTS:

1.45 p.m. Liturgy in the hall

approximately 2.00 p.m. Normal afternoon assembly

2.30 p.m. Afternoon tea for Grandparents

*Please look for the invitation coming home with your child today and rsvp by  
23rd October 2017 for catering purposes*



Kim Roffmann

Religious Education Coordinator

# AWARDS

## Week 7 Values Award COMPASSION

Jelena Filipovic ES1, Sienna Luppino & Isbella Hartz Stage 1, Christian Hanna & Alisha Xerri Stage 2, Charlotte Santos Stage 3

### Merit Award Week 7

Georgia Dickson ES1, Madeleine Taylor & Edward Brown Stage 1, Charlotte McIntyre & Mirko Filipovic Stage 2, Emily Mason & Jessica Spryn Stage 3

### Principal Award Week 7

Mersadiez Syme ES1, Amelia Makin Stage 1, Nico Hofma Stage 2, Isaac Calleija Stage 3

### Week 8 Values Award

## DEDICATION

Sienna Maggio ES1, Ashton Goodwin & Sofia Maggio Stage 1, Gurleen Kaur & Marcella Galati Stage 2, Charlotte Santos Stage 3

### Merit Award Week 8

Chelsea Wilson ES1, Ryan Bentley, Alexander Lopez & Aanooh ShafeFatah Stage 1, Tallara Spence & Joseph Calleija Stage 2, Emily Mason & Jessica Spryn Stage 3

### Principal Award Week 8

Georgia Dickson ES1, Chelsea Peter Stage 1, Liam Mercieca Stage 2, Isaac Calleija Stage 3

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!!**

# AWARDS

## Week 9 Values Award DIGNITY

Mersadiez Syme ES1, Zoey Dunn & Shayla Baldock Stage 1, Chanelle Xeri & Stephanie Bugeja Stage 2, Candice Mercieca Stage 3

### Merit Award Week 9

Jamie Hartz ES1, Xygelle Aguila & Angelia Bird Stage 1, Dylan Albanis & Alisha Xerri Stage 2, Seth Jackson Parkhouse & Noah Filipovic Stage 3

### Principal Award Week 9

Lachlan Watson ES1, Ryan Camilleri Stage 1, Mirko Filipovic Stage 2, Isabelle McIntyre Stage 3

### Week 10 Values Award

## HOSPITALITY

Nevaeh-Lee Ah-Kiau ES1, Jacob Sinka & Ryan Bentley Stage 1, Charlotte McIntyre & Hope Gibson Stage 2, Vito Galati Stage 3

### Merit Award Week 10

Baylie Savage ES1, Eleanor Sharp & Shaun Tolmie Stage 1, Marcella Galati & Aaron Sciberras Stage 2, Page Williams & Bronte Peter Stage 3

### Principal Award Week 10

Chelsea Wilson ES1, Pippa Wood Stage 1, Jacob Camilleri Stage 2, Emily Mason Stage 3

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!!**



# PARISH NEWS

The next get-together of the  
**Youth Group**  
will be on  
**Friday 13th October**  
**6pm**

All children and their parents are invited  
to attend.

There will also be activities for the  
Parents.

*Please come along and bring a friend if  
you are interested.*



## Our School Prayer

*Heavenly Father,  
At St John's we pray that you watch over  
us in all we say and do.  
Guide us with love and peace.  
Be with us as we learn.  
Let us make choices that create a friendly  
and respectful community.  
Help us to be the best we can.*

**Amen**

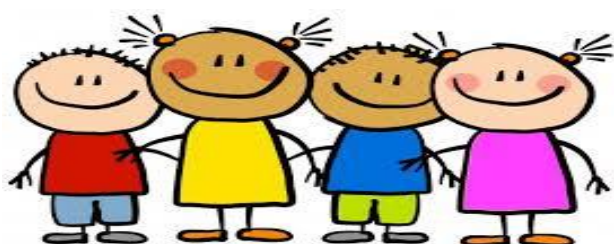


## ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL RULES

**Be a good learner**

**Be respectful**

**Be safe**



**2018**

## ENROLMENTS

**IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW  
HAS A CHILD READY TO START  
SCHOOL NEXT YEAR, IT'S NOT  
TOO LATE TO  
PICK-UP AN ENROLMENT  
PACKAGE FROM THE SCHOOL  
OFFICE**

**ALSO TAKING ENROLMENTS FOR YEARS 1 TO 6**

*ST JOHN'S THE HEART OF THE  
COMMUNITY*








# WHAT'S COMING UP

11th October	Kindy 2018 Parent Information Evening 6.30pm
23rd October to 3rd November	Swimming Program WHOLE SCHOOL
27th October	GRANDPARENTS DAY Assembly/afternoon tea From 1.45pm
2nd November	BOOK FAIR ARRIVES
8th - 10th November	LIFE EDUCATION Happy Harold
10th November	BBQ & BUSH DANCE From 5pm
13th November	PRC Meeting 7pm
15th November	Kindy 2018 Transition Day 2pm
16th November	BOOK FAIR LEAVES
22nd November	Kindy 2018 Transition Day 2pm
23rd November	SWIMMING CARNIVAL
29th November	Kindy 2018 Transition Day 2pm

every learner  
every day 

St Johns Primary Riverstone

 85.9%

Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level %
K	 94.5%
01	 82.0%
02	 83.1%
03	 80.0%
04	 76.3%
05	 93.3%
06	 86.7%



Jelena Filipovic 14th Sept,  
Christian Hanna 19th Sept,  
Aleisha Rhad Knight 24th Sept,  
Amandeep Singh 25th Sept,  
Marcella Galati 18th Sept, Darius Tran  
19th Sept, Charlize Tran 19th Sept, Seth  
Rogers 29th Sept, Edward Brown 21st  
Sept, Imogen Talbot-Woodford 23rd  
Sept, Jamie Hartz 7th Oct,  
Ryan Camilleri 6th Oct, Sofia Maggio  
5th Oct, Cooper Stone 1st Oct,

# SCHOOL FEES REMINDER

## School Fees are now OVERDUE

Please contact Deanne Hearnden in the school office if you would like to discuss fees further or you would like to set up a payment arrangement.

Discussing of fees will be dealt with confidentially and each person is guaranteed that they will be treated with respect and dignity.

Fees can be paid either by cash, cheque, bpay, postbillpay or by using our EFTPOS facilities.

# STAY IN THE LOOP SUBSCRIBE TO THE NEWSLETTER

Take a look at our  
website and you can  
subscribe to receive  
our fortnightly  
newsletter, event  
reminders and news

[www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au)

Please call into the school office and speak to our friendly office staff if you prefer to receive a printed hard copy and this can be arranged for you.

# LATE ARRIVALS

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL PARENTS/CARERS

**THE GATE NEAR THE KISS AND DROP AREA WILL BE CLOSED BY THE  
TEACHER ON DUTY AT THE CONCLUSION OF KISS AND DROP DAILY**

***IF YOU ARRIVE AFTER THE BELL AT 8.50am YOU WILL NEED TO USE THE INTERCOM TO  
GAIN ENTRY AND MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR CHILD TO THE OFFICE TO COMPLETE A LATE  
ARRIVAL/PARTIAL ABSENCE FORM, YOUR CHILD WILL BE GIVEN A LATE ARRIVAL PASS TO  
HAND TO THEIR CLASS TEACHER TO CONFIRM THAT A PARTIAL ABSENCE HAS BEEN  
PROCESSED BY THE OFFICE STAFF***

**WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT REGARDING THIS MATTER**



every learner  
every day 

**At school we are interested in your child's**

Well being and happiness

Engagement with learning in the classroom

Social and emotional development

**The single most important thing you can do to support all of these areas is ensure they attend Every Day**



**Lunch orders are available on Monday's and Friday's from SAM'S Café.**

Please write your child's name, class and order on a brown paper bag and enclose the correct money.

Children can then place their orders in the blue lunch order boxes located in the under-croft, near the student foyer

**Orders need to be in the boxes by 8.45am**



**REMINDER THAT PARENTS/CARERS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO PARK IN THE STAFF CAR PARK WHEN THEY DROP OFF OR PICK UP THEIR CHILD/ CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL.  
THE STAFF CAR PARK IS OUT OF BOUNDS TO ALL PARENTS AND STUDENTS  
THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS IS PARIMOUNT AND WE APPRECIATE YOUR CO OPERATION REGARDING THIS MATTER**

## COMPLAINTS AND GREIVENCES

If , at any time, you find that you have a concern with the school, you are encouraged to come to the school and speak with the teacher/s, assistant principal and/or principal, to find a resolution for your concern.

It is our aim to work with all members of our school community to ensure that we do the very best we can to provide a productive, safe and enjoyable learning experience for our students and professionally fulfilling experience for our staff.

If you would like to raise a concern formally, the Catholic Education Office has procedures for ensuring that complaints are handled fairly. Information about how to lodge a complaint and a complaint form are available from the school office or in the Complaint Handling Policy and Procedures. These documents can be accessed on the CEDP website [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)



# Building Child Safe Communities

## Important Information for Volunteers

Thank you for your interest in volunteering. The opportunities provided to students are greatly enhanced by the contribution of volunteers. All volunteers will need to complete the **Undertaking for Volunteers' Form and Training Module** online before they can volunteer at St John's, please use the link below.

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/home>

### **Step 1: Complete 'Building Child Safe Communities - Undertaking for Volunteers' Form**

You will need to complete a Volunteers Form for **each location** that you volunteer. A notification of your successful completion of the form will be sent via e-mail to the volunteering location and also to your email address.

### **Step 2: Complete the online training module**

It is a system requirement that the online training module be completed by all volunteers commencing at any of our locations and the training needs to be completed every second year.

- Open the module by clicking the **Start** link below.
- Read through the presentation.

Complete and submit quiz questions (this will take approximately 10 minutes).

***NOTE: IF YOU HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED THE TRAINING MODULE YOU WILL ONLY NEED TO COMPLETE THE 'UNDERTAKING FOR VOLUNTEERS' FORM.***

# UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES

LETTERS ARE SENT HOME TO  
PARENTS/CARERS ON A WEEKLY BASIS  
REGARDING UNEXPLAINED  
ABSENCES

THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION IS  
REQUIRED URGENTLY AND NEEDS TO  
BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE  
If your child is absent from school it is  
the Parent/Carers responsibility to  
send to school with the child (on their  
return) a written explanation of the  
reason for absence and it also needs to  
be signed by the Parent/Carer. Notifi-  
cation via telephone will be accepted  
providing the caller can be verified.

This is a legal requirement.



## MORNING SUPERVISION

Before school supervision of  
students commences at 8.20am.  
Parents are asked not to drop off their  
children at school prior to this time.

*This is for the safety of all our  
students*

# UNIFORM EXPECTATION

Thank you very much to our parents  
for ensuring that your children  
come to school in the correct full  
school uniform and neatly  
groomed.

- ♦ BLACK LEATHER SCHOOL SHOES
- ♦ JEWELLERY - STANDARD WATCHES (Boys & Girls)
- ♦ JEWELLERY - PLAIN STUD OR SLEEPERS EARRINGS (Girls only)
- ♦ LONG HAIR MUST BE TIED BACK WITH REGU-  
LATION (SCHOOL COLOURS) RIBBON, BAND  
OR SCHOOL SCRUNCHIE AND **EXTREME HAIR  
STYLES ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. THIS IN-  
CLUDES STREAKS, HAIR COLOURING , LINES,  
SHAVED CUTS, UNDER CUTS, RATS TAILS,  
MULLET ETC.**
- ♦ SPORTS SHOES MUST BE PREDOMINANTLY WHITE  
WITH WHITE LACES **NOT COLOURED.**
- ♦ SPORTS SOCK ARE WHITE COVERING THE ANKLE
- ♦ GIRLS SOCKS ARE LIGHT BLUE and BOYS ARE GREY  
WITH MAROON STRIPE (available at Lowes)
- ♦ NAIL POLISH is NOT PERMITTED
- ♦ SCHOOL HAT IS TO BE WORN OUTDOORS AT ALL  
TIMES (St John's Primary School has a NO HAT NO  
PLAY Policy)
- ♦ GIRLS AND BOYS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR  
TIES WITH THE WINTER SCHOOL UNIFORM
- ♦ GIRLS TAB TIES ARE AVAILABE FROM THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE FOR \$7
- ♦ BOYS TIES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE FOR \$17
- ♦ GIRLS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR GREY TIGHTS  
WITH THE WINTER UNIFORM

Thank You for your co-operation

# Parent Pick-up

Parents/Carers are asked to please wait in the parent pick up area in the under-croft and

**NOT TO CONGREGATE NEAR YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM OR IN THE AREA BETWEEN EARLY STAGE ONE AND STAGE ONE CLASSROOMS**

This is for the safety of all of our children. We appreciate your co-operation regarding this matter

# ASSEMBLY

Whole School Assembly is held  
**FRIDAY'S AT 2.30PM**

All Parent's/Carers/Family and Friends are most welcome to join our school community

## SCHOOL START AND FINISH TIMES

School commences at 8:50 am and concludes at 2:50 pm

All children that arrive after the morning bell need to be accompanied by a Parent/Carer to the office to complete a late arrival form that needs to be signed by the Parent/Carer. This is a legal requirement and the child will be processed as an unexplained partial absence if the Parent/Carer does not attend the office with the child. Please have your child at school before 8:50am.



## ST JOHN'S PLAYGROUP

Tuesday and Thursday  
**9:15—11:15 am**

If you have children under 5 years old, why not bring them along each Tuesday or Thursday to Playgroup in the Church Hall. Mums, dads, grandparents and carers are all welcome. For further inquiries please contact Tina on 9627 7625 or the Parish Office on 9627 1176

### School

5 McCulloch St Riverstone/PO Box 20, Riverstone, 2765  
Tel: 9854 3200 Email: riverstone@parra.catholic.edu.au

[www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au)

**Principal: Patricia Charlton**

Office Hours 8.30 am—3.30pm

Call in for a School tour anytime

### Parish

Cnr Garfield Rd & McCulloch St  
Riverstone 2765.

Tel: 9627 1176 Email: [stjohns10@bigpond](mailto:stjohns10@bigpond)

**Parish Priest: Father Zakaria Gayed**

Weekend Mass Times:

Saturday 6pm, Sunday 7am & 9am