



The Evangelist

The St John's Primary School Newsletter

Wednesday 25th October, 2017 Term 4 Week 3

Dear Parents / Carers

"The secret of Christian living is love" Pope Francis

As Christians, we know that love is at the core of our beings. We are called to love one and other. Jesus was the ultimate example of love, as He sacrificed His life so we could understand what it means to love. It is with love that we treat others. Whether we are playing, working or going about our daily lives we should do so with love. As Christians, we are called to love people who are less fortunate than ourselves. We can show love in many ways such as; listening to those in need, do acts of charity, speak up for those who are vulnerable, ask people if they are OK, help where needed, etc.

If we all live in love, we are truly living the word of God.



Once again we have a busy week at St John's with many different events happening.

The children started their two-week **swimming programme** this week. All children have enjoyed their daily swim and are showing great respect to the swimming teachers. As the swim program moves to the second week the children will become quite tired. This is normal, so maybe bedtimes may need to be adjusted.

Grandparents are such a unique part of our families. A great combination of wisdom and patience.

Grandparents, never doubt that you are a very important person – a VIP – in your grandchild's life.

On Friday, we will be holding our **Grandparents Liturgy at 1.45pm**. Thank you, Mrs Roffmann for your hard work in preparing the liturgy. Following the Liturgy we will be having an afternoon tea for all our Grandparents. There is always a great response to Grandparents Day which is beautiful for our community.

Tomorrow night we will be holding our second **Curriculum Evening at 6.30pm** in the school hall. Everyone is welcome. If you have not heard Senior Constable Bollard speak before I highly recommend you come along.

The **BBQ and Bush Dance** is coming up in Week 5. Please keep Friday 10th November free for a fun night of dancing, the Book Fair will also be open on that night. We look forward to seeing you there.

Huge congratulations to Charlize Tran who has made Nationals for Athletics in South Australia. She will be competing in the 100m, 200m, 800m, and Long Jump. We wish Charlize all the best. We are so proud of you.

I (Mr Fisher) will be on LSL from Tuesday Oct 31 to Tuesday Nov 14 as I enjoy a trip away to Melbourne.

Have a great week

Jason Fisher



BALES OF HAY NEEDED

**FOR BUSH DANCE ON
FRIDAY 10/11/17**

If you have any bales of hay we can
borrow please see Mrs Cremona in the
school office or call 02 9854 3200

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

2017 SUMMER BOOK FAIR

EVERY PURCHASE YOU MAKE, EARNS LEARNING AND LITERACY RESOURCES FOR OUR SCHOOL



BOOK FAIR WILL OPEN AT ST JOHN'S ON
MONDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2017



BOOK FAIR COMPETITION

Look for the separate note coming home today

***ENTRIES FOR THE BOOK FAIR COMPETITION CLOSE
THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2017 AND THE WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE BUSH
DANCE ON FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER***

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 return the RSVP asap.

Jason Fisher Assistant Principal

Literacy Update

This year we have been focusing on improving our vocabulary and word consciousness across the school in order to improve the composition of our writing. One way that we have been working towards this goal is through our Literacy Alerts.

Below are the 'Literacy Alerts' for this term.

The alerts are repeated over the year when necessary.

You can support this initiative at home by talking to your child about what they are learning and discussing these alerts with them.

Term 4 Literacy Alerts

Weeks	Spelling/Vocab Focus
2/3	'ed' makes 3 The three sounds of ed: d/t/ed or id
5/6	Irregular past tense verbs Most past tense verbs in English end with "-ed." But many do not. Many don't follow the rule. They are called <i>Irregular Verbs</i> .
7/8	Affixes An affix is added to the root of a word to change its meaning. An affix added to the front of a word is known as a prefix . One added to the back is known as a suffix . Sometimes, prefixes are hyphenated
9/10	Homonyms, Homophones and Homographs HOMONYMS are words that sound alike but have different meanings. Homophones are a type of homonym that also sound alike and have different meanings, but have different spellings. HOMOGRAPHS are words that are spelled the same but have different meanings.

Pauline Berry Leader of Literacy

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



Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 Parish Mass

This Sunday 29th October 2017, Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 will be participating in our Parish Mass. As we have a partnership with the Church/Parish and you are the first educators of your children in their faith, it would be great to see many of you celebrate this Mass with our parishioners at St John's.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Children in Stage 3 as well as other children of our Parish began their preparation lessons for the Sacrament of Confirmation yesterday. I ask that we keep these children in our prayers over the coming weeks as they prepare to receive this sacrament.

Mission Mass

On Friday October 13th, I had the privilege of taking our School Captains and SRC captain Jenella, Krishan and Isabelle to the Diocesan Mission Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. This Mass was attended by Principals, Religious Education Coordinators, staff, other school leaders both primary and secondary, as well as our Executive Director Mr Greg Whitby and members of the Catholic Education Department Parramatta. In the Mass, Fr Chris De Souza spoke about what our Mission is - 'to be the face of God to all we meet' and to help people who are in need and don't have life essentials both in our community and also globally. After the Mass, the students had the opportunity to attend an exhibition, which showcased Mission, Social Justice initiatives and Evangelisation in our schools. The students came away with real life examples and ideas that they feel that they would like to develop and incorporate as part of our Mission, Social Justice and Evangelisation work at St. John's.

Kim Roffmann Religious Education Coordinator

LOST PROPERTY

**THE LOST PROPERTY BOX IN THE STUDENT FOYER IS OVER FLOWING WITH UNIFORM ITEMS,
PLEASE ASK YOUR CHILD TO CHECK FOR ANY MISSING ITEMS OF CLOTHING.**



Diocesan Mission Mass

On Friday the 13th of October, we went to the Diocesan Mission Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta. After Mass we were able to participate in an exhibition, where schools in the Parramatta Diocese showed what they have been doing in their schools this year to work on social justice issues.

One high school we saw had a day without electricity and technology. So the students had to use books, maps and other resources to research their subject topic. Each student needed to organise a time to find that piece of information. They found it hard not having technology at their fingertips to find out the information they needed. On the day that this event occurred, it was also a really hot day, but they did not have access to fans and air conditioning to cool themselves down, they had to use a piece of paper or something else to blow air on them. This day was undertaken so that the students were able to see what it would be like to be in a school that did not have electricity or technology.

Another of the high schools had thought of a way to help children in Africa who have no access to clothes. They figured out a way to create a dress for girls, and shorts for boys out of a pillowcase, or a piece of fabric. To make the dress out of the pillowcase is very simple. All you need to do is cut out a hole for the head, and two holes on the side for the arms. They raised a lot of money to help the children in Africa who are suffering.

Everybody deserves a place at the table. There was once a family of 4, grandfather, Mum, Dad and their son. When it came to dinner they all sat down at the table to share a meal together, but as the grandfather started to get older he was eating in a very messy way and the parents decided to place the grandfather at a different table, they separated him from them. Then one day the parents came home and saw that their son making a table, they asked "why are you making a table?" He replied "when you get older this is where you will sit" it made the parents think, and from then on everybody sat together as a family at one table. This was done by one of the high schools to highlight helping and give company to the elderly people. No one should be excluded, only Included.

One of the Primary schools had gotten the children to do chores at home for their parents, and instead of earning money, they earned cans of food. The year sixes also did chores and earned money instead of food cans. The money and food cans were donated to charity to help them throughout the summer. We learnt a lot from this day and we were inspired to talk to others about ideas we could try at St. John's.

Krishan Kirpal, Jenella Mendoza, and Isabelle McIntyre



PBL – Project Based Learning

This term Stage 3 at St John's launched into their first project addressing the driving question: *How can we as town planners create a plan and design the "New Riverstone" so that we can meet the needs of the community and the environment.*

The students participated in an exciting entry event presented by two strategic town planners from Blacktown Council (Helen Budd and Fiona McDermott). The students were given a thorough understanding of what a town planner does and how involved a process it is to develop an area.



The students have read local newspaper articles that address the changes proposed for Riverstone and have written persuasive texts that put forward their thoughts about the issues.

The children have developed an understanding of the four 21st Century skills that are the focus for this unit. These skills are; communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creative thinking. The children are writing a weekly reflection on how they have developed these skills.



The next steps for the children is to start designing their vision of Riverstone and writing reports explaining their decisions.

Jason Fisher Assistant Principal

SWIMMING PROGRAM 2017



SWIMMING PROGRAM 2017



FOLLOWING OUR SWIMMING PROGRAM, ST JOHN'S WILL BE HOLDING THE

ANNUAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL ON THURSDAY 23RD NOVEMBER 2017 AT HAWKESBURY OASIS COMPLEX

Thank you to those students that have already returned the permission/emergency note, code of conduct form and payment.

If you haven't done so please return them asap. We also urgently need Parent/Carer Volunteers to help out on the day, to date we only have one volunteer.

Volunteers are vital for a smooth running and successful carnival.

Thank you for your continued support of the students at St John's.



AWARDS

Week 1 Values Award

JUSTICE

Austyn Murray ES1, Pippa Wood & Alexander Hills Stage 1, Jacob Camilleri & Alisha Xerri Stage 2, Sarah Mansweto Stage 3

Merit Award Week 1

Jacinta Bird ES1, Sofia Maggio & Jacob Sinka Stage 1, Kristian Albanis & Mirko Filipovic Stage 2, Charlize Tran & Jessica Spryn Stage 3

Principal Award Week 1

Aleisha Rhad Knight ES1, Cooper Stone Stage 1, Charlotte McIntyre Stage 2, Charlotte Santos Stage 3

Week 2 Values Award

SERVICE

Aleisha Rhad Knight ES1, Isabella Hartz & Ryan Bentley Stage 1, Stephanie Bugeja & Chanelle Xerri Stage 2, Jenella Mendoza & Aaron Camilleri Stage 3

Merit Award Week 2

Jelena Filipovic ES1, Madeleine Taylor & Emilia Keating Stage 1, Christian Hanna & Rishi Krishnan Stage 2, Jazmin Taylor & Claudine Eckersley Stage 3

Principal Award Week 2

Giovanni Galati ES1, Talara Sciberras Stage 1, Mirko Filipovic Stage 2, Shudarshan Krishnan Stage 3

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

St John's
Primary School

Happy Hands Awards

Week 1 Term 4

Bronze Award

Tallara Spence &
Chanelle Xerri

Week 2 Term 4

Bronze Award

Jenella Mendoza,
Isabelle McIntyre,
Candice Mercieca &
Jessica Spryn

Silver Award

Tallara Spence &
Chanelle Xerri

WHAT'S COMING UP

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
11th December	Year 6 Fun Day
13th December	Year 6 Graduation Mass & Supper 6pm
15th December	LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS End of Year Mass 10am Assembly 2pm Arch of Tears
18th & 19th December	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS

every learner
every day 

CEDP Attendance Level % 



School Name

School Attendance Level %

St Johns Primary Riverstone

89.1%

Scholastic Year

Sch Yr Attendance Level %

K	94.4%
01	84.2%
02	88.7%
03	90.0%
04	76.4%
05	93.3%
06	93.3%



Shudarsban Krishnan

17th October

&

Hayden Jones

22nd October

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

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

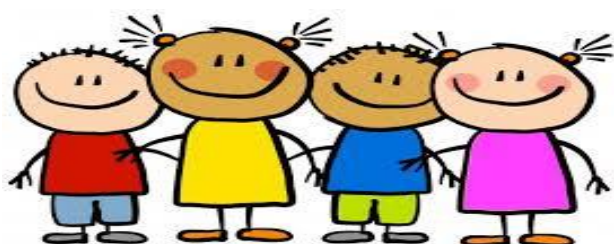


ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL RULES

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*

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

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 Gourmet 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



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,
MULLETS 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

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
Parish Priest: Father Zakaria Gayed

Weekend Mass Times:

Saturday 6pm, Sunday 7am & 9am