



# The Evangelist

The St John's Primary School Newsletter  
Wednesday 21st June 2017 Term 2 Week 9

*Dear Parents / Carers*

On Friday we celebrate **the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus**. The Feast of the Sacred Heart is a solemnity in the liturgical calendar of the Roman Catholic Church. It falls 19 days after Pentecost, on a Friday. Devotion to the Sacred Heart is one of the most widely practiced and well-known devotions, taking Jesus' physical heart as the representation of his divine love for all humanity. We hope that you can join with us in celebrating this special feast day at the 10.00 am Mass to be held in St John's the Evangelist Church. After Mass the children will assemble in the under-croft near Stage 1 to present the food items they have been collecting as a part of our **Social Justice Initiative** for this term.

On Friday, the Feast of the Sacred Heart, you might like to pray or reflect on the following prayer:

*Loving Father,*

*You draw us to you, holding us gently.*

*Guide our hearts and our steps that we may be more like you.*

*Heart of Jesus, source of justice and love, unite all nations and  
peoples throughout the world.*

*As we celebrate the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we pray that our love  
for others mirrors Yours, our Lord.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



**Parent Teacher Interviews** are taking place throughout this week and next week. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss the report that was sent home on Friday. If you have not booked an interview online please contact the office so that a time can be scheduled for you. Sometimes with our busy and hectic lifestyles we can leave 'schooling' totally to the teachers; but it is important to keep in mind that parents are the 'first educators' of their children. It is also worth noting that the link between teachers and parents is paramount in our children's education and a child's performance is strongly influenced by his or her parent's attitude to school. Parental involvement can develop a real sense of community within a school. We are very blessed to have very caring community members who value the work of St John's dedicated team of teachers and we look forward to your continued support in education of all our children.

**WE NEED YOU TO SUPPORT THE FUNDING PETITION!** As you would be aware from the current media releases the Australian Government's Quality Schools funding proposals are being vigorously debated both in the government and education sectors. It is expected that the Senate will debate and vote on the Australian Education Amendments Bill later this week. To ensure that the voices of Catholic families and students are heard in this crucial funding debate, can I ask that all our families go online and support the petition to ensure that Catholic Schools, and your children, get a fair deal in the Gonski 2.0 funding model. You can access the petition on the following site. <http://tinyurl.com/ychhlnfm>

**Looking forward to seeing you on Friday at 1pm in the Library for our next Cuppa & Chat.**

*God Bless, Patricia.*

# NEW FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Starting Term Three St John's Primary School will be migrating to a new system for our school finances – **Technology One**. Over the past 8 weeks Mrs Deanne Hearnden has been attending training courses to enable a smooth transition onto this new system. As this is a completely new system and very different to our previous eSchool Finance System we ask for your patience when you come to the office to pay over the counter.

One of the changes that will occur is the emailing of all receipts to families. We will no longer be printing receipts at the time of over the counter payments. If you have changed your email address recently or the school does not have an email address on file for your family, it would be appreciated if you could contact the office with your email address before the end of Term 2.

## SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP

NEW TRADING HOURS FOR OUR  
SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP ARE:

TUESDAY'S 8-9am and  
THURSDAY'S 2.30-3.30pm

## UNIFORM PRICE LIST

SCHOOL BAG	\$50
LIBRARY BAG	\$12
HAT	\$16
BOYS TIES	\$17
GIRLS TIES	\$7

AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE  
BETWEEN 8.30AM - 3.30PM

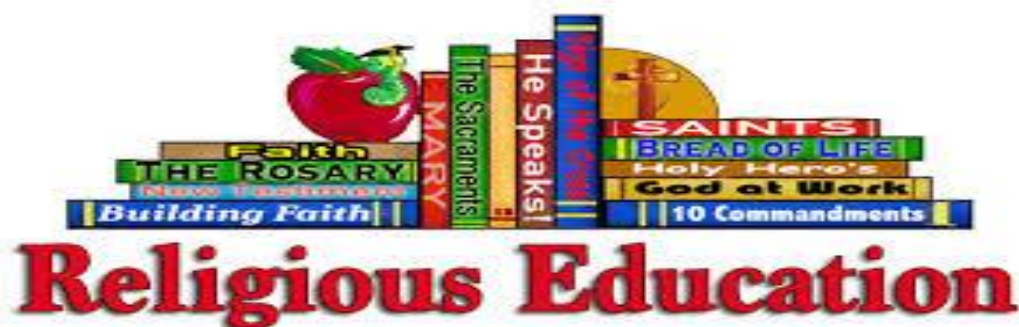
## ***EMERGENCY CONTACTS***

*IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY 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'S RECORDS  
CAN BE AMENDED. YOU CAN ALSO  
PICK-UP A FORM FROM THE SCHOOL  
OFFICE*

*Thank you for your support*



On Friday 23rd June, 2017

we will be celebrating the

## *Feast of the Sacred Heart*

We will be having a Mass at 10.00am in the Church, followed by a ceremony of donations from our school community. *Everyone is welcome to attend.*

All children are asked to bring to school a can of food that will be able to be given to those less fortunate than themselves. It may be a can of soup, beans, spaghetti, fruit ... You may like to donate more than one can if you are able.

After Mass, we will ceremoniously make a "HEART OF CANS" as we offer our donations and thus show love and compassion towards those in need.

Please send the cans to school with your child and they can be kept in their classroom ready for Friday's ceremony. I am sure that your child will feel they have made a positive contribution of reaching out to others.

*Thank you to those families who have already donated to the Heart of Cans, your contribution will make a difference to those who need it. If you would like to continue to donate cans, you can do so until Friday and it will be kept in your child's classroom.*

*Once again thank you for your compassion to those who are in need.*



## Growth Mindset

In recent years there has been much written about 'fixed mindset' & 'growth mindset'. This is mainly based on the work of world renowned Stanford University psychologist Dr Carol Dweck.

### So what is the difference between a fixed mindset and a growth mindset?

In a fixed mindset, people believe their basic qualities, like their intelligence or talent, are simply fixed traits. They spend their time documenting their intelligence or talent instead of developing them. They also believe that talent alone creates success—without effort.

In a growth mindset, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work—brains and talent are just the starting point. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment.

At St John's we have been developing an atmosphere where a growth mindset can be fostered. In Week 2, Term 3 (July 25) we will be holding a Curriculum Evening where we will be exploring;

What is a mindset?

Fixed vs growth mindset?

Do you recognise these traits in your children?

When do you feel smart?

How do we define intelligence?

Praise and mindset?

What promotes motivation for learning?

How can parents support student achievement & engagement in the classroom setting?

How can we promote a positive view of failure/ mistakes/ setbacks in the classroom?

We will also explore the language used to create a growth mindset.

At St John's each learning space has created a display to develop a growth mindset in all the students.

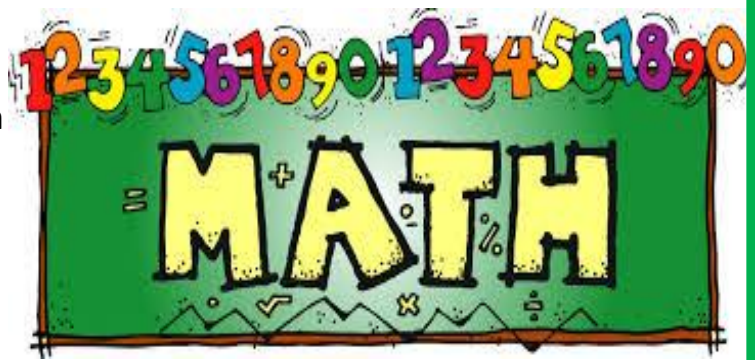
Below are some examples.



SO MARK JULY 25 IN YOUR DIARY FOR THE 'CURRICULUM EVENING'

*Jason Fisher*

*Assistant Principal*





## LEARNING TO WRITE

Children experiment with writing long before they start school. Their early squiggles and drawings are the beginning of writing.

Books provide a powerful model of what writing looks like. Books convey the understanding that squiggles on a page convey a message. Reading and writing with your children helps them to make sense of how written language works.

We learn to write by writing. In classrooms, children are encouraged to select topics that express their ideas and interests. Before writing, talking about a topic is a good place to collect thoughts and ideas.

When children write and freely express their ideas, this is called draft writing. Children need many opportunities to express their thoughts and ideas in writing without being concerned about the mechanics of writing such as spelling, punctuation and grammar. At this stage, worrying about spelling, punctuation and grammar can hinder their styles, expressions and exploration of words that best communicate their ideas. In fact, this level of response often 'kills' off the writer who learns to write less and take fewer risks. Instead, respond to the ideas of the writer – for example, ask: *Where did you get your idea? Are you writing a factual text (poem, recipe, chapter book etc)? What is going to happen next? Read me your lead sentence again because that really had me interested in your story. What is going to happen to your main character?*

If the draft writing is to be shared with a wider audience, and has been edited for meaning, the next stage is to proofread for spelling, punctuation and grammatical mistakes. Not all writing needs to be edited. We do not edit our shopping lists, diaries or reminder notes! Children need to be encouraged to write for enjoyment and play with words.

In classrooms, children explore writing as a process from drafts to published pieces. Children are encouraged to write for real purposes and utilise a range of different text types such as recipes, factual texts, notes, report writing, narratives and poetry. They are also taught to consider how to appeal to different audiences.

Handwriting should not be confused with writing. Handwriting is a surface feature of writing.

# LITERACY



Work that comes home from school may not have every spelling error corrected, every grammatical mistake rectified or punctuation inserted. It is important to talk with your children about the purpose of the work and what they learned, rather than emphasise the errors. Ask 'tell me questions' such as: *'Tell me about this work ...'* *'Tell me how you did this ...'* *'Tell me what you liked about this activity.'*

## LEARNING TO WRITE *continued*

### What you can do at home...



Encourage children to write, write, write! Provide many opportunities such as writing the shopping list, sending letters and cards to friends and relations, writing emails, keeping a diary, publishing personal stories, labelling photos in the family album, and leaving notes. Locating writing apps such as Book Creator. Writing should be relevant and meaningful rather than writing for the sake of writing.

Give children opportunities to read their stories aloud (while you sit back and listen). Listen with a focus on the message they express. Comment on what they have done well, for example: 'I enjoyed how you used interesting words such as X, Y, Z.' 'The character you created seems so real. I can imagine how he looks.' Leave comments about spelling, punctuation, and grammar to another time — they are important if and when it is to be published.

Draw children's attention to how writing is presented, for example, on brochures, billboards, books, and electronic media — these are models of writing for real purposes.

Create a community of writers. Provide a quiet place for writing with lots of writing materials. Leave notes for each other, write poems for your children, and send messages in lunch containers. Play writing games, for example, one person writes the beginning, another the middle and the other the end of a family story.

Write together.

(Extract taken from: Parents' guide to helping children with reading and writing at home. By Kaye Lowe)

*Pauline Berry*

*Leader of Literacy*



# STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

PLEASE MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR  
THE NEXT  
STAFF DEVELOPMENT  
DAY

WILL BE HELD ON  
**MONDAY**









**17TH JULY 2017**

*'NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL ON THIS DAY'*

**TERM THREE WILL  
COMMENCE**

**TUESDAY 18TH JULY  
2017**

every learner  
every day 

School Name	School Attendance Level %
St Johns Primary Riverstone	 89.5%
Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level %
K	 100.0%
01	 83.9%
02	 84.7%
03	 100.0%
04	 75.9%
05	 93.8%
06	 86.7%

## WHAT'S COMING UP

22nd June	Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day
23rd June	Feast of the Sacred Heart 10am
23rd June	Principals Cuppa & Chat 1pm
25th June	Woolworths BBQ Fundraiser
29th June	Stage 2 Boys/Girls Soccer Gala Day
30th June	LAST DAY TERM 2
17th July	SDD/NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL TODAY
18th July	FIRST DAY TERM 3

## TERM 2 SCHOOL FEES REMINDER

Term 2 school fees have been issued and were due on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> May.

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.

## We Need Your Help!



**St John's  
Fundraiser Team**

## Woolworths BBQ

Sunday 25th June 2017, the St John's Fundraiser Team will be having a BBQ at Woolworths in Schofields (Railway Terrace) to raise money for the Spring Fete. Please look for the volunteer note that was sent home with your child yesterday and return to school asap if you can help

## PRINCIPALS CUPPA AND CHAT

FRIDAY 23RD JUNE 2017

1PM IN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY



*Everyone is most welcome to join us at our next Principals Cuppa and Chat*

During our get together there will be items for sale from Scentsy to raise funds for the St John's Spring Fete. Scentsy is a company that offers warmers, melts, room sprays and lots more. Please look for the note that was sent home with your child last week

# 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**



# ***MAJOR FUNDRAISER***

## ***ST JOHN'S FETE***

**SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**



St John's School Fundraising Group are working hard organising the St John's Fete which will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

In order for our fete to be a success we will need the support of the whole school community. This term we are asking families to donate items to our collection days for a 'Tombola Stall.' The basic idea of a Tombola stall is very simple. Supporters of our fete donate items / products in advance. These items then have a number assigned to them and are put on display. During our Fete people buy tickets, which if they match the number on an item, win that prize.

***"Can you supply a small item for our Tombola?"***

Term 2, Week 2: ESI	Toiletries (eg. shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand wash)
Term 2, Week 3: Year One	Paper products ( eg. serviettes, paper towels, tissues)
Term 2, Week 5: Year Three	Tinned soups, UDH milk products.
Term 2, Week 7: Year Four	Sauces / salad dressings ( eg. BBQ sauce, tomato sauce, Caesar dressing)
Term 3, Week 1: Year Five	Tin products (eg. vegetables, fruits, baked beans etc)
Term 3, Week 4: Year Six	Bottle products (eg. wine, soft drinks)
Term 3, Week 6: Year Two	Snacks (eg. chips, twisties, muesli bars)

Please note that with perishable products the use by date should be checked to ensure it has not expired.  
Keep in mind the date of the fete is the 16<sup>th</sup> of September.

***KEEP YOUR DONATIONS COMING, IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE***

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT***

# AWARDS

## Week 7 Values Award

### RESPECT

Georgia Dickson ES1, Sienna Luppino Stage 1,  
Nico Hofma Stage 2, Darius Tran  
Stage 3

### Merit Award Week 7

Jelena Filipovic ES1, Lyla Dickson & Ashton  
Goodwin Stage 1, Charlotte McIntyre &  
Hayden Jones Stage 2, Seth Jackson-  
Parkhouse & Isaac Calleija Stage 3

### Principal Award Week 7

Jonathon Sinclair ES1, Aliyah Kimes Stage 1,  
Chanelle Xerri Stage 2, Charlotte Santos  
Stage 3

## Week 8 Values Award

### RESPONSIBILITY

Manny DeGuzman ES1, Pippa Wood Stage 1,  
Charlotte McIntyre Stage 2,  
Claudine Eckersley Stage 3

### Merit Award Week 8

Phoenix Baldock ES1, Jacob Sinka & Shaun  
Tolmie Stage 1, Jacob Camilleri & Christian  
Hanna Stage 2, Jessica Spryn & Bella-Marie  
Hanna Stage 3

### Principal Award Week 8

Georgie Dickson ES1, Charles Blanks Stage 1,  
Tyra Gray Stage 2, Bronte Peter Stage 3

# CONGRATULATIONS!!!!



*Jenella Mendoza 9th June,  
Candice Mercieca 11th June,  
Hugo Adamcewicz 15th June,*

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN

### ST JOHN'S EAGLES

#### INDOOR SOCCER ROUND ROBIN

at INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE, Corner Hamilton St and  
Garfield Rd

Organized by St John's Church, 164 Garfield Rd, River-  
stone

## Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017

9.30am -2.30pm Opened to boys and girls aged 5-16  
\*Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by a  
parent/carer or responsible person over the age of 15.  
No child under the age of 8 can be left unattended at  
any time.

### SAUSAGE SIZZLE LUNCH

We remind you to wear the proper non marking  
shoes, long socks and shin pads.

Tell your friends and bring them along

**COST: \$12 per player, sausage sizzle  
included LUCKY DOOR PRIZES**

Pick up a flyer from the back of the church  
or school student foyer

**All enquiries to the parish office  
9627 1176**

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 Wildcats 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 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 \$5
- ♦ 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: 9627 2588 Email: [riverstone@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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