

Weekly Newsletter

WEEK 6 - TERM 2

ST RITA'S SCHOOL

SOUTH JOHNSTONE



27th May, 2014

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Today our thoughts are with the Dean family and our colleagues at Good Counsel College. Difficult times avail with Sophie's passing last week and I am sure that all of our thoughts and prayers are with them at this time. Life is precious, let your children know you love them and take time in your busy schedules to have quality time with them.

On Thursday the children were engaged in activities to celebrate St. Rita's Feast Day. A huge thank you to teachers and parents who helped make the day the success it was.

Last Friday I accompanied students to the Peninsula Cross Country in Cairns. All of our students should be proud of their efforts. Eamonn has been picked in the Peninsula team and we wish him well at the upcoming state titles.

Next Thursday, June 5th, Good Counsel College will be holding an open night, showcasing the school's facilities and students' work. The night is open to all, not just Year Six and Seven students who will attend there next year.

With under three weeks to go to the Fete we still need lots more hands on deck. If you have not yet offered some of your time please come forward and do so. We **URGENTLY** need ticket sellers.

We have had some wonderful sponsors come forward and the prizes for our major raffle are rolling in. (\$1000 First Prize for Tug-of-War / \$1000 holiday package as major raffle prize.)

We need to put in a concerted effort to sell raffle tickets. Just remember our next free dress day is this Wednesday. Children are to bring along another bottle or chocolate. Children in Years Two and Four/Five must come in school uniform due to Young Performers. Children will be permitted to change into free dress on returning to school.

Our thought for this week is all about emotions: *"Emotions spread faster than any disease. A smile or a panic will spread through a group of people far quicker than any virus could."* (Seth Godin)

Godin was referring to the workplace when he wrote this sentence, but he may as well have been talking about families. Family tone is usually impacted by the emotions and mood of parents.

Anger creates tension especially when it simmers just below the surface. Kids go into their shells when anger is near, because they feel unsafe. Fear accompanies parent anger.

Grumpiness makes kids switch off parents. It's also contagious, spreading around a family like wild-fire.

Scepticism (suspicion, doubt) leads to cynicism and a hardening of the empathy arteries. Scepticism is sneezed, spreading germs everywhere.

Gratitude spreads quickly, lifting everyone who receives it. Family tone quickly lightens when gratitude is expressed.

Calm falls on a family like blanket instantly increasing family security and contentment. It too spreads but quietly.

Enthusiasm lifts the spirit, making everything seem possible. Most children are naturally attracted to enthusiasm, as it offers hope and inspiration.

Good luck to our boys and girls teams attending the NQ Futsal championships this Thursday and Friday at Redlynch Sports Stadium in Cairns. Thank you to Mr Rossi for preparing these teams. Also, best wishes to the boys and girls competing in the SMC Soccer teams this Sunday at the Peninsula championships.

God bless, Have a great week.
Vicki

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION

WEEK : 'Let's Walk the Talk'



National Reconciliation Week celebrates the relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and all other Australians. Every year, the week is held between the same dates - 27th May to 3rd June. The dates draw attention to significant historical events.

The 27th May marks the day in 1967 when the referendum was passed for the Australian Government to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and to allow them to be recognised in the census. The 3rd June marks the day in 1992 that led the Australian Government to recognize native title and acknowledge Indigenous Australians as the original occupants of Australia.

In 2014, the theme for National Reconciliation Week is '*Let's Walk the Talk*', which focuses on turning past conversations into actions. In order to create positive change we need more people not only talking about the issues but getting involved. There are many ways to celebrate National Reconciliation Week and to '*walk the talk*'.

What will you do this week? It might mean that you attend an organized NRW activity, read an Aboriginal Dreamtime story with your child/children or it might be something as simple as praying the prayer below as a family.

Whatever you choose will contribute to the wider effort to build a reconciled Australia for it is strongly believed that whenever people come together to share conversations and participate in common activities the process of reconciliation takes another step forward - *so be part of the action !*

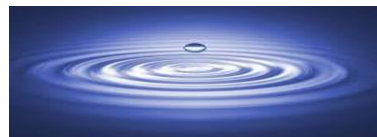
Did You Know ...

- Only 31% of Australians say they know a lot about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, but 82 % of us want to know more
- About 60% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people live in cities and major regional areas
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians excel in numerous areas, not just sport.

(People such as Professor Helen Milroy, Australia's first Aboriginal psychiatrist and ACT Minister Chris Bourke, who was the also the first Aboriginal dentist are just some of those who make outstanding and highly influential contributions to Australia in diverse areas.)

National Reconciliation Week started as the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation in 1993 and was supported by Australia's major religious groups. Under the guidance of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation (now Reconciliation Australia), it has evolved into the week-long celebration that it is today.

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO
www.reconciliation.org.au/nrw/



Reflection : by Bob Randall Songman

What ripples do I create through my words, thoughts and actions ?

***Spirituality* is the ultimate answer to reconciliation in Australia and everywhere else in the world. Loving ourselves, our families, our neighbours, our countrymen and every other living thing is the reason we are here on earth. If we follow the ripple in the pond when a stone hits the water, we can easily see that the entire pond is affected by that one little stone. If the stone represents love, and it drops somewhere in our universe, that love will send its ripple throughout the entire universe.**

All the people, birds, animals, insects, plants, trees and rocks will in some way be affected by it. It is the same with anger and hate. We must choose which ripples we wish to send into our universe.

A Prayer for Unity



Creator God,
May the power of Your grace transform us;
Christ give us courage and hope
To manifest the unity we have in you,
And to share our life with each other and the world.
Holy Spirit, empower us to work for justice for all people and the earth.
God in your grace, transform the world. Amen

Have a wonderful week. Peace be with you,

Denise

NO ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

PLEASE NOTE: Due to commitments on Fridays there will only be assemblies on Weeks 7 & 10.



PROUD PARENTS RAISE YOUR HANDS

Catholic Education Services are creating a corporate video to promote Catholic Education and we're looking for proud parents to interview. Production will commence in late May / early June, 2014. Previous applicants will still be considered without the need to reapply. If you'd like to help other parents make the right decision for their child, please email dianne@suasive.com.au for more information.

SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW OVERDUE



Thank you to the families who have paid their school fees. Please kindly make every effort to pay any outstanding fees as a matter of urgency. This is particularly important this term as we start to purchase items for fete preparations. If you are having any difficulties paying please contact Jenni or Vicki. Thank you.

TERM 2 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC FEES



If your child has not given these to you, please look in their school bag. Thank you.

GOOD COUNSEL COLLEGE – INNISFAIL ENROLMENT FOR YEAR 7 & 8 – 2015

Limited vacancies are still available for 2015. Applications for enrolment may be obtained from the College office at 66 Owen Street, Innisfail or by phoning 40 635 300.

Orientation Days for incoming students are as follows:

- Year 8 - Orientation Day, Wednesday, 22nd October
- Year 7 - Orientation Day, Wednesday, 5th November.

Enrolment packages are available from St Rita's school office.

GOOD COUNSEL COLLEGE INNISFAIL

Invites the Cassowary Coast Community

To an

OPEN EVENING

Thursday, 5th June, 5pm - 7pm

- College 'live'
- Displays
- Performances
- Information Desk
- Presentations
- Tours

TUCKSHOP THIS WEEK

PROUD MOMENT FOR KARLA CALLEJA

Last Wednesday Karla travelled to Ayr to compete in the Burdekin Eisteddfod which attracts competitors from Townsville, Charters Towers, Mackay, Ayr, Bundaberg and Proserpine districts. Karla was one of two local children who competed in this competition.

Results for Karla were:

1st Tap Solo
1st Song & Dance Solo
3rd National Solo
HC Jazz Solo

The extra excitement was Karla competed against the main child actress who starred in "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" in Brisbane last year. Karla won this section and this girl came second. Congratulations Karla. Well done!

DIRECT DEBITING SCHOOL PAYMENTS

Please indicate in your description whether the amount is for fees or other. Amounts without a description will automatically go against school fees.

Account Name: RCTC for the Diocese of Cairns
- St Rita's School, South
Johnstone

Account No: 00000 50 18 BSB: 084352

STOP PRESS!

ST RITA'S FETE

SATURDAY 14TH JUNE 2014
4.00PM – 9.00PM

STUDENT TRAVEL REBATES

Semester 1, 2014 Bus Fare Assistance

Visit our website to see if you qualify for financial assistance to help with the cost of transport and apply at www.schooltransport.com.au by 31 May 2014. Late applications cannot be accepted.

ICAS Testing Dates Years 3-7 ONLY!

Competition	Sitting Date	Closing Date	Price
Science		CLOSED	
Writing		CLOSED	
Spelling		CLOSED	
English	29 July	24 June	\$8.80
Maths	12 Aug	24 June	\$8.80

Unfortunately, we are unable to take any late nominations so please have your envelope into the school office by 9.00am of the closing date indicated. Thank you.

HOMework CLUB

The facility operates from Monday to Friday. A teacher will be on duty Monday to Thursday until **4.30pm and 4.00pm on Friday**. A booking sheet operates through the school office.

Children **MUST** be booked in to use the facility **BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN** as there are days that Homework Club cannot run due to staff responsibilities off campus.

MUNRO THEATRE BABINDA

30th, 31st May & 1st June

Commencing 7.30pm

Admission \$8

"NOAH" - Rated: M

Little Athletics Queensland (LAQ) Winter Championships

Sat 28th & Sun 29th June 2014

Townsville Sports Reserve

For children 6 - 16

Nomination fees per child:

LAQ Registered \$10.00

Non-LAQ Registered \$15.00

For further detail visit the LAQ webpage

www.laq.org.au

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE



If you wish to report an incident relating to sick, injured or orphaned wildlife please phone 1300 264 625 (RSPCA).



If you wish to report an incident involving crocodiles or cassowaries please phone the wildlife hotline 1300 130 372.



Fun with science.



Celebrating St Rita's Day

A huge thank you to teachers and parents who helped make the day the success it was.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - TERM 2

WEEK 6	
28 th May	- Young Performers Choir Day
29 th May	Boys' Futsal (Yr 6/7)
30 th May	Girls' Futsal (Year 6/7)
WEEK 7	
1 st June	Sunday - Peninsula Soccer
4 th June	ICAS Science
WEEK 8	
9 th June	Queen's Birthday Holiday
14th June	SCHOOL FETE
WEEK 9	
16 th June	ICAS Writing
17 th June	ICAS Spelling
20 th June	Fitzgerald -v- Palmerston Day
WEEK 10	
22 nd June	Peninsula Touch & Softball
24 th June	Reading Day - Tully (P-Yr 3)
26 th June	Brave Hearts
27 th June	End of Term

DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 3	
11 th July	Innisfail & District Show
14 th July	Start of Term
27 th July – 1 st Aug	Catholic Education Week
6 th Aug	Maggie Dent
18 th & 19 th Aug	Prep/Year 1 Camp
27,28 & 29 Aug	Year 4/5 Camp
14 th to 18 th Sept	Year 6/7 Camp
19 th Sept	End of Term

TERM 4	
6 th Oct	Labour Day Holiday
7 th Oct	Start of Term
8 th Oct	Parent Session – Puberty Talk Years 2-3
9 th – 10 th Oct	Year 2/3 Camp
22 nd Oct	Wonder of Living (Years 1-7)
31 st Oct	World Teachers Day
4 th Nov	Melbourne Cup Luncheon
10 th – 14 th Nov	Prep to Year 2 Swimming
17 th – 21 st Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 3 to 7 Swimming • Christmas Book Fair
11 th	Remembrance Day
5 th Dec	End of Term