

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK 8 – TERM 3

ST RITA'S SCHOOL

SOUTH JOHNSTONE



2nd September, 2014

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Thank you to those parents who have taken the time to follow the link to the satisfaction survey sent out last week. If you haven't as yet done so can you please do so at the link below ASAP. As mentioned in the email last week, results will help with future planning.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/StRitasSJParent14>

This Friday, weather permitting the Year Four to Seven classes will be walking to Chap Chappa Park to take part in the annual Silkwood/ Mena Creek Sports Association Softball/T-ball day. The day will start at 9.30 a.m. and conclude at 2.00p.m.

I would like to congratulate the Year 4/5 classes on a very successful camp last week. The Echo Creek camp is all about working together in teams to bring about a positive result. The children worked very hard at their challenges and showed great persistence. The Tully Mill tour was a high of the trip as was the Forest Fruit Farm. The children got to taste many exotic fruits from around the world.

Today I have had the pleasure of meeting the new parents to our school community who will be bringing their little ones to Prep next year. I am sure that they will bring many new perspectives to our school community as they are all eagerly awaiting what the new journey in

their lives brings. I am positive you will all have the opportunity to meet them next term as we start Get Set for Prep. If you are an existing family who has a little one starting in Prep next year and you have as yet not collected your enrolment papers please do so as soon as possible.

This Friday night will be our P&F function to celebrate the fathers in our school community. It isn't often that we get to see them around the school but last years Fathers night was hugely successful therefore we are holding the event again this Friday night at 6.30p.m. in the big hall . A slip was sent out last week as to pizza orders for the night. If you have as yet not filled one out and intend coming please fill in the tear off below and return to the office by Thursday morning.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make the Father's Day raffle so successful. There are excellent prizes to be won so if you have not returned you tickets please do so by Friday morning. The raffle will be drawn on Friday night.

Congratulations to our Year 4 students who are receiving their First Eucharist in this fortnight.

To all our wonderful dads and granddads, have a great day on Sunday.

Have a great week.

God bless.

Vicki

**NO ASSEMBLY
THIS FRIDAY**

**NO TUCKSHOP
THIS WEEK
NEXT TUCKSHOP
FRIDAY, 12TH SEPTEMBER.**

WALK With Me, Daddy

By Hassen Badi

WALK alongside me, Daddy
and hold my little hand
I have so many things to learn
that I don't yet understand
Teach me things to keep me safe
from dangers every day.
Show me how to do my best
at home, at school at play
Every child needs a gentle hand
to guide them as they grow.
So WALK alongside me, Daddy.
We have a long way to go.

death, as he journeyed towards Jerusalem. Matthew tells the story of that journey across the next four chapters of his gospel. In last Sunday's text Peter's lack of understanding of Jesus' mission causes him to be ridiculed. While it is understandable to have sympathy for Peter in wanting to spare Jesus the pain and suffering he predicts, what is at issue is Peter's failure to see that the cross is part of the plan and that discipleship will also involve the cross.

The lesson here is that renouncing self and taking up the cross is basically the difference between taking 'the easy way out' and 'making sacrifices' to achieve a greater good. Following Jesus is like that. It means making sacrifices, just as he did, for the good of others. Over the long history of the Church, there have been many people who have literally taken up the cross of Christ and given their lives for their faith. They are the martyrs of the Church and have a special place of honour.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

CELEBRATE SEPTEMBER !



In Australia, the first day

of September is known as Wattle Day. Some of the early wattles and blossoms have been flowering or will begin to flower, and their scent is in the air. Trees that have lost their leaves may even be budding and we begin to hear the chirping of birds that have been elsewhere during Winter. With the sun higher in the sky, we start to notice the lengthening of hours of daylight – yes Spring is definitely here. What wonderful weather we are enjoying at present. September is certainly a time to celebrate. In the Church the weeks of Ordinary Time are mounting up. As we begin September this week we are in the twenty-second week of Ordinary Time. Sunday's Gospel was Matthew 16: 21-27. This gospel contains the first of three predictions made by Jesus of his passion and

- ***What have been the crosses in your life?***
- ***Do you know others who are burdened by a cross at the moment?***
- ***Has there been a time when you chose to face hardship or pain, rather than avoid it?***



Next year a new Religious Education curriculum will be introduced into the schools in the Cairns Diocese. We will be implementing the program that is used in the Brisbane Archdiocese. It is interesting to note that this will include introducing the children to the strong link between Christianity and Judaism.

September, as it happens, is an important time in the Jewish faith as four major festivals occur during this month.

Sept 4 – **Rosh Hoshanah** : The Jewish celebration of the New Year

Sept 13 – **Yom Kippur** : The holiest of days on the Jewish calendar and is called the Day of Atonement.

Sept 18 - **Sukkot** : An 8-day celebration where many Jewish people will build a tent in their yard to remind them of God’s protection of their ancestors when they were wandering the desert and had to live in fragile huts.

Sept 26 - **Feast of Simkat Torah** : This means the ‘rejoicing in the Torah’. The Torah is the name for the first five books of the Bible – Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. In many Jewish meeting places on this day, the scrolls of the Torah are carried around the synagogue seven times.

Jews begin reading from the book of Genesis on this day. Throughout the year they continue reading the Torah and finish the whole Torah by this time next year. Then they will begin again. Tolerance and acceptance of people from other religious backgrounds is an essential part of our own faith development. And we look forward to educating our children in the rich traditions of the Jewish religion.

September means Spring – and Spring is the season of freshness and renewal. So as we begin the Spring months let us approach all that we do with a little more ‘brightness’ and vitality. On that note, a sincere congratulations to Sophie, Dylan, William, Kiara and Juanita who received the Sacrament of First Eucharist on the weekend. What an appropriate time to receive the special gift of Jesus. We wish them well as they continue on their faith journey and can now participate more fully in the liturgy of the mass. We also pray for Jett and Bennett who will do the same this weekend at St. Rita’s.

Have a wonderful and ‘bright’ week.
Peace be with you,
Denise

Positive Parenting

One of the most emotional stressful experiences you have maybe surrounded around our relationships with our children and their progress through life. Parent stress and well-being , the following article, presents a variety of ideas and tips that you can use to manage the inevitable stresses and strains of parenting.

To strengthen your resilience this involves:

- Being aware of your emotions when faced with difficult or demanding situations or behaviours of your children.
- Staying calm
- When extremely upset, controlling your behaviour
- When you have become very upset, calming down within a reasonable amount of time
- Bouncing back to parenting

Parent stress and well-being also focuses on the issue of how you experience high levels of well-being and to flourish in your role as a parent.

Happy reading everyone. Hope this article helps. Keep on smiling!

Angela Cristaudo
SEL Coordinator

SCHOOL FEES OVERDUE!

School fees are now well overdue. 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 pay for camps and purchase new ipads and cabinets. If you are having any difficulties paying please contact Vicki.

Remember this term Fee Statements were emailed out and there is a change of bank account number (**A/C 00001 7401 BSB: 084352**). If paying by EFT remember to use your new reference number only.

From this term Instrumental Music will also appear on your School Fee Statement. There will not be a separate invoice. Thank you.

P & F FATHER'S DAY

The eldest student in each family was given a book of P & F Father's Day Raffle tickets to sell. Tickets are \$1 each. Details are on the cover of the ticket book.

We ask that families return sold AND UNSOLD tickets before THIS THURSDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER. Thank you.

FATHER'S NIGHT - PIZZA & GAMES THIS FRIDAY 5- SEPTEMBER

Commencing 6.30pm

WE HAVE HAD VERY FEW RESPONSES TO CATERING. Please complete the section at the end of the newsletter and return to the school office by **TOMORROW MORNING** for catering purposes. Please be aware that we are unable to order extra pizzas so it is important to let us know your requirements. Thank you.

WONDER OF LIVING PROGRAM

Wednesday 8 October–

Parent Session

2.00pm – 3.00pm

Thursday 23 October - Years 1 to 7

Thursday 23 October

Years 5, 6 & 7 Puberty Talks

URGENT INFORMATION

PREP ENROLMENTS FOR 2015

Parents who have children starting in Prep next year are please asked to collect enrolments forms from the school office.

If you are aware of other children wishing to start at St Rita's next year please ask them to contact the school office on (40 642153) as soon as possible.

HEAD LICE

Unfortunately head lice have again reared their ugly heads. Not to treat your child/children is unfair to the parents who are vigilant in the fight to keep them at bay. Please make every effort this week to apply treatment to your child's hair, and continuously through the next week. If we all make every effort at the same time, the fight is made much easier. If you do regularly treat your child/children without success it is suggested repeated combing over a number of days and/or a different product should be applied.

DENTAL VAN

In a case of emergency please contact the Dental Clinic on 40 160 518.

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: 00001 7401 BSB: 084352

GOOD COUNSEL COLLEGE – INNISFAIL

ENROLMENT FOR YEAR 7 & 8 – 2015

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.



Congratulations to Dylan Manitto, Juanita Filby, Kiara Foschi and Sophie Leonardi who made their First Communion on the 31st August at Good Counsel Church.

MUNRO THEATRE BABINDA

5, 6 & 7 SEPTEMBER

Commencing 7.30pm

Admission \$8

"The Hundred-Foot Journey"

Rated: PG

THE CAT & THE RIDDLE

ST THERESE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

135 Robert Rd, Bentley Park

NIGHTLY Sept 9, 10 & 11 – 6.30pm

Tickets available at door

Adults \$15 / Children \$10

EVERYONE WELCOME!

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITY

The Brisbane Road are coming to town.

Brisbane Roar Holiday Coaching Clinic –

Saturday, 20th September from 3.00pm to

6.00pm for children 5 to 15 years of age.

Open to all kids not just soccer players.

Limited no of places so register early.

Participants have a chance to win one of

two Brisbane Roar autographed hats.

Register: www.roaractive.com.au or phone

Charles Manitto 0418 772 381

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - TERM 3

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| WEEK 9 | |
| 12 Sept | NAIDOC Activities Day |
| WEEK 10 | |
| 14 th to 18 th Sept | Year 6/7 Camp |
| 19 th Sept | End of Term |

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - TERM 4

| 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 | Yr 8 Orientation Day - GCC |
| 23 rd Oct | Wonder of Living (Yrs 1-7) |
| 31 st Oct | World Teachers Day |
| 4 th Nov | Melbourne Cup Luncheon |
| 5 Nov | Yr 7 Orientation Day - GCC |
| 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 Nov | Remembrance Day |
| 1 st Dec | Year 6/7 Graduation Night |
| 3 rd Dec | Christmas Concert |
| 5 th Dec | End of Term |

FATHER'S NIGHT FRIDAY, 5 SEPT

Please complete and return to the school office by TOMORROW MORNING

FAMILY NAME: _____

We will be attending the social on Friday night and wish to order _____ pieces of pizza priced at \$2 per slice.

Supreme _____ Hawaiian _____

Pepperoni _____

Please pay on the night.