

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK 3 – TERM 4

ST RITA'S SCHOOL

SOUTH JOHNSTONE



21 October, 2014

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

It has come to my attention that there is some angst amongst our parent body about the "Wonder of Living Program" being held this Thursday. Might I begin by saying many parents will have different views on this subject and it is not our place to judge people on what they believe to be best for their child. The course is **not compulsory** and the idea is for the parents to view the videos beforehand to gauge the level of readiness their child may or may not be at, before they view them. Parents should watch the videos themselves to make an informed decision. If you wish to do so contact the school office. There will be no follow up lessons in the classroom following the lesson on Thursday and any discussion the children may have will be in the sanctity of their own home with their parents. The "Wonder of Living Program" has been in all Cairns Diocesan schools since 1996 and has the endorsement of not only Catholic Education Services but Bishop James as well. St Rita's chooses to hold the program every two years with the children in the upper school being involved in puberty talks each year. We acknowledge that parents are the first educators of their children in these matters, but we also wish

our children to be exposed to the proper facts in a truly Christian caring setting. The educators are highly trained and have been delivering these talks for many years. If you still have any concerns please come and see me. Parents are more than welcome to come and sit in the sessions on Thursday with their child.

Thank you to the mums for helping out with tuckshop last Friday at the Kanga Cricket day. Lina conveyed to me the many positive comments they received on the food provided. The children had a great day despite the heat.

Something that arose at the P & F meeting last Tuesday night, was the role of the APRE in the school. APRE means Assistant to the Principal Religious Education. Although Denise is involved in all Religious matters in the school she is also part of the administration team and the go to person in my absence. On days when I am not in the school Denise deals with any matters that may arise, or a deputised teacher if we are both absent.

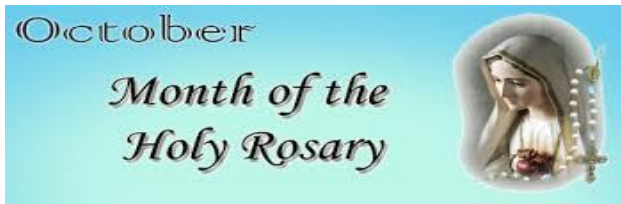
Yesterday was a highly rewarding day with approximately 100 staff, teachers and school officers, coming together to affirm what we are doing in our schools. We were also joined by the staff of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Thursday Island. The teachers came away with renewed vigor as well as shared work samples and strategies to adopt in their classrooms.

Thank you to everyone for their hard work in preparing for our Melbourne Cup Luncheon. If you can help out in any way please contact the school office or Tania Pensini and Jo Spry who are coordinating the event this year.

Have a great week. God bless.

Vicki

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



OCTOBER : THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. This is mainly due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection and guidance that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful. During October, we are reminded of the importance of uniting our prayers with the Mother of God and conforming ourselves to Christ as revealed in the mysteries of His life.

When praying the Rosary, believers focus on the **joyful mysteries** surrounding His birth; the **luminous mysteries** of His ministry of teaching and healing; the **sorrowful mysteries** of His passion and death; and the **glorious mysteries** of His triumph and resurrection.

In the words of Pope John Paul II, '*the Rosary is a compendium of the Gospel - the Gospel in miniature - in which we more fully contemplate the face of Christ.*'

Similarly, Fr Paschal M Corby suggests that, '*the Rosary should be prayed with the intention of contemplation, in which the repetition of the prayers creates, in mantra-like fashion, an atmosphere conducive to meditation.*'

In this month of October, it is suggested that we consider this beautiful prayer of the Rosary as a way of drawing closer to Jesus and Mary by mediating on the great mysteries of our salvation.



SOCK IT TO POVERTY:

Socktober is an initiative of Catholic Mission and one way that our school can fundraise and engage in advocacy and formation activities for Catholic Mission during World Mission Month in October.

The 'sock it to something' concept is an Australian expression that means to fight, punch or strike out at. For example, each year Socktober will sock it to social issues such as poverty, child labour, child trafficking and homelessness.

This year's theme is:

WHEN I GROW UP I WANT TO BE ALIVE...

Its focus is **Jamaica - a country troubled by violence and crime.**

As a way of supporting this very worthwhile Catholic cause we at St. Rita's will once again this year hold a ' CRAZY SOCK DAY' where children are encouraged to wear brightly coloured socks to school and will have the opportunity to participate in a SOCKTOBER HIP HOP DANCE OFF. A gold coin donation would be much appreciated.

CRAZY SOCK DAY will be this FRIDAY 24th OCTOBER. We look forward to seeing some fantastic creations being worn with our sports uniforms on that day.



MINI VINNIES FUNDRAISER:

This Thursday the members of the St. Rita's Mini Vinnies group will be selling frozen cups at Big Lunch and after school to kick start their fundraising effort for Term 4. So look out for Michala, Hannah, Jorjah, Zane, Coen and Jared for some lovely cool and refreshing frozzies !!!

Thank you all for your support of these events that ultimately help those less fortunate than ourselves. Have a wonderful week.

Peace be with you,
Denise

**NO ASSEMBLY
THIS FRIDAY**

**TUCKSHOP
THIS WEEK**

MELBOURNE CUP NEWS
We desperately need prizes for our Melbourne Cup "Cent Sale" as we have not received many at this stage. We need prizes into the school office by **FRIDAY, 25 OCTOBER** because these have to be sorted and wrapped.
If you are planning to attend the luncheon on Tuesday, 4 November, please contact Jade on 0427 042 391.
TABLES FILLING FAST!

WONDER OF LIVING PROGRAM
Thursday 23 October - Yrs 1 to 7
Years 5, 6 & 7 Puberty Talks

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

TERM 4 SCHOOL FEES

Payment of fees would be greatly appreciated as soon as possible to enable us to meet our financial commitments before the end of the school year. Thank you for your assistance with this.

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.

INNISFAIL LIONESS CRAFT FAIR

Saturday, 25th October commencing at 9.00am until 3.00pm - at the See Poy's Pavilion, Innisfail Showgrounds. Entry is \$2

All monies raised go to local charities. There will be lots of stalls, prizes, cent sale, 200 board and raffles galore plus food and entertainment. For more information phone Elaine Edwards on 0488 067 935.

INVITATION

Local artist, Lou Micallef is holding a "Shirt Exhibition" on Saturday, 25 October at "Tin Fork", Hynes Street, South Johnstone, from 2.00 to 6.00pm. Great time to organize Christmas shopping. For further information phone Lou on 40 644 121.

MUNRO THEATRE BABINDA

24, 25 & 26 OCTOBER

Commencing 7.30pm

Admission \$8

"LUCY" Rated: M15+

CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM 4

WEEK 3	
22 nd Oct	Yr 8 Orientation Day – Good Counsel College
23 rd Oct	Wonder of Living (Yrs 1-7)
WEEK 4	
31 st Oct	World Teachers' Day
WEEK 5	
1 st Nov	All Saints Day
2 nd Nov	All Souls Day
4 th Nov	Melbourne Cup Luncheon
5 Nov	Yr 7 Orientation Day – Good Counsel College
WEEK 6	
10 th – 14 th Nov	Prep to Year 2 Swimming
11 th Nov	Remembrance Day
WEEK 7	
17 th – 21 st Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 3 to 7 Swimming• Christmas Book Fair
WEEK 9	
1 st Dec	Year 6/7 Graduation Night
5 th Dec	End of Term