

ST RITA'S SCHOOL, SOUTH JOHNSTONE

Weekly Newsletter Term 1, Week 3 2015

10 February 2015



Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week we received the news of the passing of ex-student Terry Luxford, 25 years old, tragically killed in a car accident in the Northern Territory. I ask for your prayers for his parents Robert and Lorrai, and brothers Simon and Derek. May God's blessing be with them at this time.

On a happier note, I have great news in that Gracie Rose Eilers was born this morning a 3.25 weighing 8lb 11 oz. A little sister for Tiarne (Year 3) and Jackson (Prep). Mother and baby are doing well.

Thank you to all the parents who have taken time out of their busy schedules to attend Parent/Teacher meetings. As mentioned last week communication between school and home is important. Of importance also is continuity. If parents know teachers' expectations, these can flow through to home as the children are doing their homework.

School fees were issued last week and with CES policy, payment is due within 14 days, unless a direct debit arrangement is in place, annualizing fees. As you will be aware, we rely heavily on the prompt payment of these fees to meet our financial commitments.

We pride ourselves on providing our children with the best possible opportunities and resources, but revenue raised from school fees funds this. Families experiencing genuine hardship meeting fee commitments are asked to contact me to arrange a confidential meeting to discuss payment arrangements.

Just a reminder that if your child requires any medications administered during school time a 'Medication Form' is to be completed in order for staff to do so. These are available at the school office. Children SHOULD NOT have medication in their bags and be self administering eg Panadol.

Just a reminder that next Monday night our first P&F meeting is to be held in the library commencing at 7.30p.m. It would be wonderful to see new faces attending. This Thursday, following the commencement of school there will be a tuckshop meeting in the little hall. If you can help out in any way please come along to this meeting.

If you are a parent of a pre school aged child, St Rita's Scalliwags Playgroup runs in the building across the road from the school in Green Street, each Tuesday morning from 9.30 - 11.30 am.

Thank you for a great start to the year. The children are certainly working hard in class and on their relationships in the playground.

Have a great week. God bless.

Vicki



THIS FRIDAY - 13 February

In the school hall after the morning bell.

We will welcome all new students, present class awards and birthdays.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

THE CHURCH AND ITS SEASONS : ORDINARY TIME DRAWS TO A CLOSE

At present the Church season is known as 'Ordinary Time'. Ordinary time occurs between Christmas and Lent, and later in the year links Pentecost and Advent. While its name can sound pretty dull and uninteresting, in actual fact this period of time in the Church year is when Catholics are encouraged to grow and mature. Ordinary time is typically an opportunity for everyday people to strive to become the extraordinary messengers of the Gospel. It is said that Ordinary Time is, **"this day, this moment. Now."**

So, until Lent begins next week on Ash Wednesday (18th February) it is not too late to make the most of this liturgical phase. Below are six exceptional ways to live the Church's 'Ordinary Time' by Woodeene

Koenig-Bricker. The first may be a little difficult considering the time frame, but nonetheless, the concept is certainly worthwhile and may be something you might consider when 'Ordinary Time' occurs again later in the year.

1. **Create your own novena –**

A novena is nine days of private or public prayer intended to obtain a special grace, favour or blessing.

2. **Keep a gratitude journal –**

Some scientific studies have shown that people who regularly 'count their blessings' are happier than those who don't.

3. **Focus on God's abundance –**

When everything seems to be going wrong, focus on the ways God shows his providence in tangible and practical ways.

4. **Act out - Put your faith into action.**

Spend a little more time 'doing' rather than 'thinking about doing'.

5. **Read something with moral value –**

In the weeks when the Church is not preparing for something special, we have the time to read what others have written about God, faith and the meaning of life.

6. **Keep the Sabbath –**

Find something you and your family can enjoy and save that activity for Sunday.

Appropriately, green is the colour for Ordinary Time as it is associated with life, growth and hope. Lived well, Ordinary Time can help us to be more open to God's goodness, his blessings and the riches within, in our family, the church and the wider community. In this way it is, **'possible to experience the really extraordinary in the ordinary.'**



THE WORLD AROUND US: PEOPLE ARE NOT FOR SALE

In Sunday's parish bulletin there was a green insert which documented the World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) and Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH) supported His Holiness Pope Francis in declaring Sunday 8th February, 2015 (yesterday) as World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking.

From a media statement it was reported that the Vatican Secretary of State invited each National Conference to join the observance of this day to contribute to the sensitising of public opinion to this tragic phenomenon, which represents one of the saddest wounds of our time. It also acknowledged that despite many efforts to end human trafficking internationally, an estimated 27 million women, men and children are deprived of their freedom and forced to suffer in conditions of exploitation and slavery.

The ACBC and ACRATH support the statement published by the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and Social Sciences in November 2013, declaring that, ***'it is our moral imperative to make ours the last generation that has to fight the trade in human lives.'***

Certainly, some food for thought. This is not only an 'overseas' issue as people are also trafficked into Australia to work in the agriculture, construction and hospitality sectors.

If you would like a full copy of the transcript please feel free to make contact through the school office.



THANK YOU:

Thank you to the parents and friends who attended our Opening School Mass on Friday.

We are grateful for your support and most definitely appreciate you giving of your time to join us to celebrate. Thank you also to the Piccolo family for their generous donation of flowers for the church.

JELLY BEAN PRAYER: A jar of jelly beans, colourful and sweet, is a prayer, is a promise, is a very special treat.

RED is for the blood He gave
GREEN is for the grass He made
YELLOW is for the sun so bright
ORANGE is for the edge of night
BLACK is for the sins we made
WHITE is for the grace He gave
PURPLE is for His hour of sorrow
PINK is for our new tomorrow



Have a great week everyone. Looking forward to seeing you at Assembly this Friday.

Peace be with you all.

Regards,
Denise

(Acting APRE – Assistant to the Principal Religious Education)

MAKING JESUS REAL IN OUR LIVES (MJR)

Last week Year 5/6 participated in the 'Making Jesus Real' program. 'Making Jesus Real' is a Christian values based program focussing on appreciating Jesus' presence in our everyday lives and developing essential life skills. The day was lots of fun with students participating in team building activities and examining how Jesus was a good leader. They also learnt to have a positive attitude to life, no matter what it throws at you. Also, have a positive attitude towards the people who you meet each day. At the end of the day it is good to be able to think back over your day to see the positives and the Good (God) in your life.

Peace & Blessings, Peta Bryan



PREP NEEDS A BIRD!

In Term 1 Prep is doing a Science Unit covering the care of animals. We would love to have a BIRD for our Preppies to care for. A baby bird would be ideal. If anyone has either a bird or suitable cage, or both, that they would be willing to donate to the school, please contact Ms Watkins or the office.

P & F MEETING

Next Monday, 16 February, we have our first P & F Meeting for the year. 7.30pm in the library. All are very welcome to come along. Remember agenda items for discussion must be to the office by Monday afternoon before each meeting. The following items are on the agenda already –

- AGM; Thank you – photocopier; Keep it clean (tuckshop/hall kitchen etc); Staffroom access (a reminder); Be mindful of Jenni's time (school time is not P&F time); Tuckshop fridge; Parent Welcome Night/Disco?; Grants Writer

TUCKSHOP

No tuckshop this week

A reminder -

If your child suffers Lactose/Gluten allergies YOU MUST LET THE OFFICE KNOW. Lactose/Gluten Free items on the menu are only available for these children, so you need to let us know.

TUCKSHOP MEETING

Are you are interest in helping our tuckshop run smoothly with healthy menu options for our children where possible? If you are available, please attend our tuckshop meeting **THIS THURSDAY MORNING** at drop off time in the little hall. All are very welcome to attend.



SCHOOL FEES

SCHOOL BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS –

BSB: 084-352

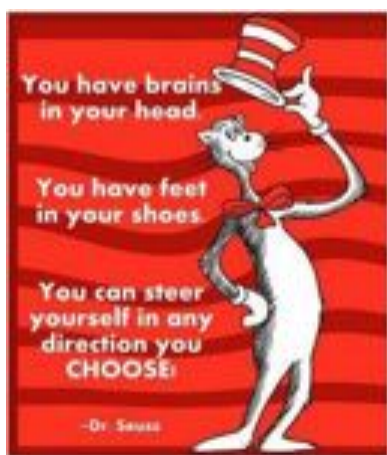
A/C#: 00005018

A/C NAME: RCTC St Rita's School South
Johnstone.

IGAS TESTING DATES YEARS 3-6 ONLY

Subject	Sitting Date	Closing Date	Price.
Digital Tech	19/05/15	05/05/15	\$8.80
Science	03/06/15	20/05/15	\$8.80
Writing	15/06/15	01/06/15	\$18.70
Spelling	16/06/15	02/06/15	\$12.10
English	28/07/15	14/07/15	\$8.80
Maths	11/08/15	28/07/15	\$8.80

Unfortunately, we are unable to take any late nominations so please have your envelope into the school office by 9am of the closing date. Thank you.



A HUGE THANK YOU

We would like to extend a huge thank you to the family who has very kindly volunteered their time to clean the church. 'Thank you for your generosity'.

FITNESS SESSIONS AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL

4.30pm Fridays IN THE BIG HALL
\$8 @ session

Come along. Kate will get you fit !!



HOMEWORK CLUB

St Rita's School Homework Club is a facility that will operate from Monday to Friday. A teacher will be on duty until **4.30pm**

Monday to Thursday and until 4pm on Friday. Due to staff meetings, however,

it is asked that Homework Club only be used on WEDNESDAYS in EMERGENCY cases ONLY.

A booking sheet will operate through the school office. Children **MUST** be booked in to use the facility. If you know ahead of time that you will not be able to collect your child by 4.30pm, please let the office know beforehand.

Students using this facility will need to **bring their afternoon tea**, (in a separate container), which is to be put in the **tuckshop** fridge in the morning. Please make sure the container is clearly marked with your child's name. If you need any further information please contact the school office on 4064 2153. **REMEMBER: THIS FACILITY IS FOR WORKING PARENTS AND EMERGENCIES. IF IT IS ABUSED IT WILL CLOSE.**



HOME WANTED

Good home wanted for a young wolfhound cross, approx 8mths old. Good with kids. Please see Vicki.



Presents
The Water Diviner (M)

13, 14 & 15 Feb
7.30pm
Admission \$8.00



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 1

27 Jan	School Starts – Term 1
3 Feb	Yr 5/6 begin Chinese Online Yr 5/6 MJR Day
4 Feb	Instrumental Music Lessons Begin
14 Feb	St Valentine's Day
18 Feb	Ash Wednesday
11 March	School Performance Tours 'Making Friends'
17 March	St Patrick's Day
2 April	Easter Play End of Term 1
3 April	Good Friday
4 April	Easter Sunday
5 April	Easter Sunday

TERM 2

20 April	Start Term 2
25 April	Anzac Day
10 May	Mother's Day
12-14 May	NAPLAN
19 May	ICAS Digital Technologies
20 May	School Photos
3 June	ICAS Science
8 June	Queen's Birthday Holiday
15-19 June	ICAS Writing
16 June	ICAS Spelling
26 June	End of Term

TERM 3

13 July	Start of Term 3
18 July	ICAS English
26 July-1 Aug	Catholic Education Week
3 August	School Performance Tours 'A Slice of Vaudeville'
6&7 Aug	Yr 2/3 Camp Darradgee
11 Aug	ICAS Maths
30 Aug-4 Sept	Yr 6 Camp Longreach
7 Sept	Starr Production 'Bully is Back'
9-11 Sept	Yr 4/5 Camp Barrabadeen
18 Sept	End of Term

TERM 4

6 Oct	Start of Term 4
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3 Nov	Melbourne Cup
9-13 Nov	Swimming – lower school
11 Nov	Remembrance Day
16-20 Nov	Swimming – upper school

FREEZERS FOR SALE

The school still has a deep freezer for sale. If you are interested in purchasing, please see the office.

Tuckerbox Deep Freezer \$100 ono

NETBALL

Innisfail Netball is holding a free come and try day next Tuesday the 10th of February from 4pm to 6pm at the Bessie Spiller Courts.

LITTLE ATHLETICS



sign on now! IT'S ALL ABOUT FAMILY, FUN & FITNESS! **Queensland Little Athletics** family fun & fitness

CASSOWARY COAST LITTLE ATHLETICS

Sign on day: 27th February, 2015
Where: Castor Park, Mourilyan
When: 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Club nights start on 6th March with a free sausage sizzle.
For more information contact Centre Manager, Cameron on 0409485566

Queensland Little Athletics
ph 1300 559 436
or www.qlaa.asn.au  

SWIMMING SCHOOL

INNISFAIL SWIMMING POOL



All squads and learn to swim have recommended.

Anyone interested in lessons or squads please contact the pool to organise a free assessment.

40611267

SOCCER



Sign On Day

14 February 2015
Time: 9:00am to 2:00pm
Goondi Bend Combined Sports Field
Contact: Scott Davies - 0428 773 481

Professional Players from FNQ Heat
will be at our Sign On Day so come along, sign up
and learn some new skills with the FNQ Heat players.
There will also be a sausage sizzle and drinks on sale
You'll have loads of fun - hope to see you there!

DYNAMIC KIDS

BOYS & GIRLS AGED 6 -12 YEARS

2nd & 4th Fridays of each month

Christian Outreach Centre

191-193 Mourilyan Road

FEBRUARY DATES

13th Slip n Slide

(Wear old clothes)

27th Wet n Wild Pool Night

(Permission slip require)

Phone Kareen 40642480 A/H

For more info

Meet & greet
FNQ FC HEAT
players!



Sign On and Fun Day

Free FUN and FITNESS

when: **SATURDAY 14 February**
time: **12noon to 4pm**
where: **Castor Park, Caster Street, Mourilyan**

MEET & GREET THE **FNQ FC HEAT**,
STAY TO WATCH THEIR MATCH

try our new soccer target game,
enjoy the sausage sizzle,
meet & great **FNQ FC HEAT** players,
stay on & watch **FNQ FC HEAT -v-**
Innisfail United - 3 games to watch
Training commences Thursday 26 February, 5.15pm

Please note the changes to the schedule for the Boogan Fun Day. FNQ FC Heat games are scheduled for 12.30pm, 2pm & 4pm.