

# ST RITA'S SCHOOL, SOUTH JOHNSTONE

Weekly Newsletter Term 4, Week 5 2015

4 November 2015



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

A small school with a big heart, and very talented parents, certainly shone through at the Shire Hall yesterday for the P&F's annual Melbourne Cup luncheon.

Approximately 160 patrons enjoyed a scrumptious lunch, excellent prizes and outstanding entertainment. I would like to whole-heartedly thank everyone involved, whether in a big or small way, for their hard work in making the day the success it was. We certainly got a big rap in the Advocate today.

Thank you to the parents who have approached the office re the new health care card discount being offered to low income parents next year, mentioned in previous newsletters. The diocese is committed to giving all children access to a catholic education, and no child will be denied based on financial hardships, hence the introduction in 2016 of the 70% discount on tuition fees, for families who hold suitable cards. This incentive along with the country discount, which families at our school have been receiving for a long time, will help in these trying economic times. Attached to today's newsletter is a schedule released from the diocese outlining valid concession cards. To be eligible for the discount parents must present their eligible card to the office for verification. A HCC tuition fee discount form will be given to complete. Please note that this will only be for St Rita's. If you

have children in other schools you will have to complete the same process there as well. Parents are asked to keep their records up to date especially those pertaining to older siblings at high school. We thank you for your co-operation.

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to help out at water confidence classes over the next two weeks. Your help is certainly appreciated. I realize that some of you are new helpers, therefore if you have any concerns or questions see Mr Rossi before school. All lessons are very scripted, remember it is water confidence NOT swimming lessons.

Over the past week we have had notification of many people associated with St Rita's, (past and present) undergoing serious surgeries and treatments. Please keep these people and their families in your prayers.

As mentioned last week I realize that some parents are anxious about next year. Please be assured I am not "hiding" any information from you in relation to classes and staffing. There are a lot of external factors and vigorous planning, one being funding based on numbers, which comes into play. This is the reason, that for a number of weeks now, I have asked parents to come forward if they are moving their children. I can now tell you that next year we will have 5 classes, the configurations of which have not been finalized. Historically we have always had a straight Prep and

Year One. Our teachers will be Lauren Watkins, Donna Curzon/Beth Hayley, Aileen Bufen/Andrea Devaney and Shane Rossi. Sadly we will be saying goodbye to Miss Watson who will be moving closer to home. Her position is yet to be filled. I ask people to please come and speak to me with any concerns and get the "correct" facts rather than listening to what may be incorrect information.

As we enter the final weeks of what has been a very busy year, I ask parents to be vigilant regarding all aspects of school, behavior, homework and uniform. It is assessment time so please ensure the children have a hearty breakfast. Students are reminded that we are all getting tired, the weather is heating up and our tempers will fray much easier. We want the closing weeks to be happy ones.

You may have all seen in the paper over the weekend that Education Minister Kate Jones has announced a "special one off" extra pupil free day on Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. This will give the children an extra few days holidays and be a less disruptive start to the 2016 school year.

Once again I urge anyone who has any problems big or small to come and see me. Have a great week, God bless.

Vicki



There is NO assembly this week.

**Next week there is a special Remembrance Day Assembly at 10.45am. All are welcome to attend.**

**TUCKSHOP**

There is NO tuckshop this week.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

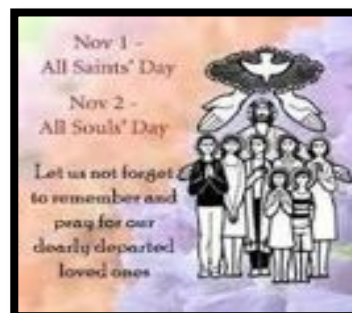


### **NOVEMBER : A Month to 'Remember'**

November is the last month in spring. It holds the promise of summer, although during the last few weeks one could be forgiven for thinking that summer is already here.

In earlier times when the calendar began in March, November was the ninth month of the year. This meant that September, October and December were the seventh, eighth and tenth months of the year. The Latin words for seven, eight and nine were used to name these months. When two more months were added to the calendar, these names were retained.

November is the last month of **Ordinary Time**. November 23<sup>rd</sup> is the Feast of Christ the King, the last Sunday of the Church year. The New Year for the church begins with the First Sunday of Advent, which will be Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup>.



November begins with a double feast in remembrance of those who have died. The feast of **All Saints** was celebrated on November 1<sup>st</sup>. On that day we commemorated all the known and unknown saints and martyrs of the Christian faith. Many members of our own families have died and are now with God. We prayed for them yesterday November 2<sup>nd</sup>, **All Souls Day**. On both of these days, we are reminded of all who have loved as faithful Christians. They encourage us to grow in our own faith. Our Christian faith tells us that one day, we will all be reunited with God in heaven, because we share in the resurrection of Jesus.

Also in November, we will stop to remember and reflect on the great sacrifice made by all those who fought for our country and lost their lives in doing so. On November 11<sup>th</sup>, at 10:45am we will have a short assembly in honour of **Remembrance Day** and will participate in the keeping of a minute

silence to pay our respect and demonstrate our gratitude.

***All through the month of November we offer prayers dedicated to those who have died and to thank God for the gift of their lives.***

(Source - [www.catholic.org/saints/allsouls/](http://www.catholic.org/saints/allsouls/) [www.catholicism.about.com](http://www.catholicism.about.com))

### **SOCKTOBER 'THANK YOU': WE RAISED \$161**

Thank you to all the wonderful children of St. Rita's who last Friday supported 'Socktober' by wearing bright and colourful socks to school and making a gold coin donation to help 'Sock it to Poverty' and support the children of Madagascar. They all looked fantastic. As well as this, the kids very happily showed off their best 'hula hoop' moves in a grade by grade display which required talent, skill, rhythm and a whole lot of showmanship! We certainly had a lot of fun. Even the teachers joined in, with Mrs Devaney, Miss Souvlis and Mrs Jensen proudly showing us all some great 'Hula-Hooping' techniques !! Below is a list of the class winners – although **Catholic Mission** was the real winner on the day.

Prep – Neena Curzon

Year 1 – Victoria Caltabiano

Year 2 – Jack Bertram

Year 3- Genevieve Lindsay

Year 4 - Rachel Urquhart

Year 5 – Kiara Foschi/Tamsin Darveniza

Year 6 - Karla Calleja

Congratulations also to all the Runner- Ups who did an amazing job as well.

### **MINI VINNIES REMINDER :**

**'SPOOKY' THEME DISCO THIS FRIDAY  
IN THE LITTLE HALL – 6:30 TO 8:30**

**\$2 Entry**

**CHIPS AND CORDIAL ON SALE**

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO ST VINCENT DE PAUL  
SOCIETY**



### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION : What's On This Week**

Yesterday each class held a short prayer liturgy around their class altar for All Souls Day. The children respectfully put forward the names of their family members and friends that they wanted to remember and pray for on this special day. Many teachers commented on our sincerely the

children participated. Tomorrow, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November our Prep and Year 1 classes will have their Liturgy of the Word for the term. And Father Kerry will visit the Year 3, 4/5 and 5/6 children. Another very busy week! Please feel free to join us.

Have a wonderful week.

Peace be with you all,

Denise (Acting APRE – Assistant to the Principal,  
Religious Education)



## **FEES OVERDUE**

A reminder that School Fees were due last Tuesday. We ask that every effort is made to pay as a matter of urgency. At this time of year it is important to have all accounts finalised as soon as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact Vicki should there be any difficulties. Thank you.



## **WATER CONFIDENCE PROGRAM**

Mr Rossi has finalised the student groups. If you still wish to help out please fill out the form at the end of the newsletter or email.

## **MELBOURNE CUP**

Melbourne Cup is over for yet another year. We wish to extend a huge thank you to all those to helped in any way - organizing, on the day or providing any of the fabulous prizes.

# Thank you

## **MELBOURNE CUP \$500 WINNER**

Congratulations to Mrs Heather Riera who won the \$500 Major Raffle sponsored this year by LMB Farming.

## **UNCLAIMED CENT SALE PRIZES**

If you have not checked your cent sale tickets that you purchased, details of the unclaimed prizes are –

Green	1345682
Blue	1336134
Blue	1207927

## **CHRISTMAS IS COMING**

The P & F have bar items leftover from the Melbourne Cup. These might make good presents. If you wish to purchase any please pop into the office.



## **MINI VINNIE'S "SPOOKY" DISCO**

**THIS Friday, 6 November**

**6.30pm – 8.30pm**

**\$2 entry**

Chips and cordial on sale

Please don't go out and buy costumes.

All proceeds to St Vincent de Paul



## **CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

Please mark the following dates in your diaries for our end of year functions –

**Friday 27 November** Christmas Concert  
**Monday 30 November** Yr 6 Grad Dinner

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

### ***Catholic schools to follow suit on pupil free day***

Catholic school children will have a pupil free day on Monday, January 25 after Education Minister Kate Jones declared that state schools would start next year on Wednesday, January 27, after the Australia Day public holiday on January 26.

Catholic Education Services Executive Director, Bill Dixon said as some parents had students in both education systems and to avoid complications with the school bus transport system, it made sense for Catholic schools to fall into line with the state system and also declare a pupil free day.

"I am sure many families will be grateful for the extended summer break," he said.

The pupil free day on January 25 will be a once-off additional pupil free day for the year.

## NEWS FROM INDIA



Army Public School – Chandigarh & Jorja, Bennett & Miki

The children are 11 or 12 years old and are in Yr 6. They have amazing English and they have only studied English for 2 years.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(new dates in yellow)

### TERM 4

- 9-13 Nov Swimming – lower school
- 11 Nov Remembrance Day Assembly at 10.45am
- 16-20 Nov Swimming – upper school
- 16-20 Nov Book Fair
- 27 Nov Christmas Concert
- 30 Nov Grad Dinner

### 2016

- 25 Jan Pupil Free Day
- 26 Jan Australia Day Public Holiday
- 27 Jan First day of school



Presents  
**THE INTERN (M)**  
 6, 7 & 8 Nov  
 7.30pm  
 Admission \$8.00



## SWIMMING HELPERS: (Please tick appropriate boxes)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print)

GROUP 1 (Week 6) – Prep to Year 2 (Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November),				
Monday, Nov 9	Tuesday, Nov 10	Wednesday, Nov 11	Thursday, Nov 12	Friday, Nov 13

GROUP 2 (Week 7) – Year 3 to 7 (Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> November),				
Monday, Nov 16	Tuesday, Nov 17	Wednesday, Nov 18	Thursday, Nov 19	Friday, Nov 20

# FITNESS HOOPING!

NOW AT

*Contours*

Contours Fitness



## JOIN US! EVERY WEDNESDAY

3.30-4PM HOOPA KIDFIT - Ages 5-10 years

4.30-5PM HOOPA DANCEFIT - Ages 11-16 years

5.20-6PM HOOPA SHAPEFIT - Adults all ages

**EAST INNISFAIL STATE SCHOOL**

**Beginners Welcome!**

**CERTIFIED HOOP INSTRUCTOR  
KRISTY MILLS**

**\$5 FOR KIDS CLASSES**

**\$10 FOR ADULTS**

**YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER OF  
CONTOURS TO PARTICIPATE**

**WEEKLY BOOKINGS REQUIRED DUE TO LIMITED NUMBERS  
CONTACT CONTOURS ON 40616870 TO SECURE YOUR SPOT**

**HOOPS ARE PROVIDED AND CAN BE MADE TO ORDER. GOOD  
QUALITY STRONG AND HANDMADE, JUST ASK AT CLASS**

Like us on FACEBOOK @ Innisfail

*Contours*