

ST RITA'S SCHOOL, SOUTH JOHNSTONE

Weekly Newsletter Term 4, Week 6 2015
10 November 2015



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It is with great excitement that I inform you that the building program intended for 2016, ie. a new staffroom, meeting room, toilet facilities and maintenance store, was yesterday approved by Senator Ian McDonald. Although this may cause some disruption during Terms Two and Three next year we have to keep in mind the wonderful facility we will have in the end.

With no suitable applicants for the vacant position on staff, I have re-advertised the position. I am very mindful of employing someone who is the best fit for all stakeholders.

We congratulate Miss Watson on her permanent appointment to the staff of St Michael's Gordonvale, for the 2016 school year. We are confident she takes with her lessons learned whilst on here staff as well as wonderful memories of the school year.

Yesterday the P-3 classes began their week of water confidence classes. Thank you to the parents who have volunteered their precious time to make this opportunity available.

There is so much going on in the following few weeks. Please keep the calendar of events on your fridge so that you do not miss anything.

Thank you to the mini-Vinnies children for the excellent disco held last Friday night. Over 80 children and a large majority of staff, danced the night away to music by DJ's Kenny and Watson, enjoying the treats supplied on the night by the parents of the mini-vinnies children. Thank you to Lina and Milva for manning the food stall for the evening.

As the end of the 2015 school year looms, I thank you for your co-operation relating to all matters around the school. Please keep next Monday morning free for our end of year P&F meeting starting shortly after 9am.

God bless, have a great week.

Vicki



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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

REMEMBRANCE DAY :
11th day of the 11th month

Tomorrow the students of St. Rita's will

commemorate **Remembrance Day**. At our special assembly at 10.45 am we will participate in a short prayer service and then pause in silence to remember all those who died in war. We will pay tribute especially to Australian soldiers and say our own special thank you for their great sacrifice.



In most ceremonies of remembrance there is a reading of an appropriate poem. One traditional recitation on Remembrance Day is the Ode.

It is said that the greatest sin of mankind is to not remember.

This short poem, which the children will recite, does much to keep the memories alive of those who paid the ultimate price of war. The Ode comes from 'For the Fallen', a poem by the English poet and writer Laurence Binyon. It was first published in The Times on 21st September 1914. It was written in response to the long lists of the dead and wounded that appeared in British newspapers less than seven weeks after the outbreak of war. The fourth stanza or verse, which became the League Ode, was already used in association with commemoration services in Australia by 1921. Appropriately, the tradition continues today.

THE ODE

An extract from
For the Fallen

by Laurence Binyon

**They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.**



It will also be a time to pray for peace and to reflect upon what we are doing as individuals, as a community and as a country to bring God's peace into the world.

In our modern world, war is not glorified and peaceful solutions should always be our first preference. This is an ideal that certainly aligns itself well with the Gospel values of Jesus and Remembrance Day is a great reminder of the sanctity of human life.

'Peace' is a concept that we often talk about and it's one that children quite simply interpret as 'getting along'. It would be great if it were as simple as this – but as adults we know it involves a

lot more. It takes effort, perseverance, tolerance and a positive mindset. Prayer can help as well.

World Peace Prayer

Lead me from death to
life,
from falsehood to
truth.
Lead me from despair
to hope,
from fear to trust.
Lead me from hate to
love,
from war to peace.
Let peace fill our
hearts,
our world, our
universe.
Amen



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS :

Tomorrow the Year 5/6 class will celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation in the church with Fr Kerry. This will be at approximately 11.40 due to our prayer service for Remembrance Day. Next week on Wednesday 18th November the Year 2 and Year 3 classes will celebrate a Liturgy of the Word in the church at 11.30am. Parents are most welcome to attend.

MINI VINNIES NEWS: WELL DONE KIDS !

Congratulations to our very dedicated Mini Vinnies group. They did an amazing job to organize and facilitate a fantastic "Spooky Disco" last Friday night. They each displayed many admirable qualities through this event from beginning to end. Well done, Mikayla Camuglia, Karla Calleja, Anna-Louise Celledoni, Bree Jensen and Isaac Darveniza. And thank you for your effort in fundraising for St. Vincent de Paul. The total amount raised was \$403.70. Thank you also to all the children and teachers of St. Rita's who supported this event.



FREE DRESS DAY :

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This Friday 13th November will be a free dress day in support of the St. Vincent de Paul annual Christmas Appeal. The children will be allowed to wear coloured clothes to school in return for donating a non-perishable food item. We will then put together our Christmas Hampers that will be

given to representatives of St. Vincent de Paul at our final school assembly on Friday 20th November. This is a wonderful way of giving to our local community. It is also an experience that teaches the children that there are many people who are less fortunate than us living close by, and not just overseas. Thank you for your continued support of this very worthy cause.



Have a wonderful week. May the peace of Christ be with you all.

Peace be with you all,
Denise (Acting APRE – Assistant to the Principal,
Religious Education)

FEES OVERDUE

A reminder that School Fees were due 27 October. We ask that every effort is made to pay as a matter of urgency. Unless you have a Direct Debit arrangement set up, all fees must be finalized by Week 9. It is at this time of the year CES will begin to look at outstanding accounts and will consider taking further action to recoup debts. Please do not hesitate to contact Vicki should there be any difficulties. Thank you.

TUCKSHOP

There is NO tuckshop this week.

P & F MEETING

Next Monday morning 9am
16 November in the staffroom



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

FREE DRESS DAY



Friday 13 November

Support the St Vincent de Paul annual Christmas Appeal.

Please send in free dress with a non-perishable food item. Please remember students should wear closed in shoes and sun-safe clothing.

FUNERAL

There is a funeral at the church on Friday morning. Please do not park in front of the church. Please keep the deceased Mrs Lorna Gibson in your prayers. Mrs Gibson is a past grandparent of the school.



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CONCERT

Instrumental Music Student Concert
1.30pm Tuesday 1 December

**Australian Sugar Industry
Museum**
Presents

**Saturday Night
Trivia Night**

\$10 per player.
Max 6 players per table.

Phone 4063 2477 to
secure your seat.

Saturday 14th November
7.30pm – 10pm

BYO Alcohol drinks
Soft drinks, tea &
coffee on sale at
venue.

**Sugar Heritage Centre
Mourilyan**

Bring your own food or snacks
or
Snacks and Meal packages available
from Mourilyan Café – 4063 2233



Presents
BRIDGE OF SPIES (M)
13, 14 & 15 Nov
7.30pm
Admission \$8.00



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(new dates in yellow)

TERM 4

- 9-13 Nov Swimming – lower school
- 13 Nov Free Dress Day - St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal**
- 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
- 1 Dec Instrumental Music Concert**
- 4 Dec Last day of school 2015

2016

- 25 Jan Pupil Free Day**
- 26 Jan Australia Day Public Holiday
- 27 Jan First day of school (9 wks)**
- 24 March Last day Term 1**
- 11 April First day Term 2 (11 wks)**
- 24 June Last day Term 2**
- 11 July First day Term 3 (10 wks)**
- 16 Sept Last day Term 3**
- 4 Oct First day Term 4 (9 wks)**
- 2 Dec Last day of school 2016**

AT THE SPOOKY DISCO



