

ST RITA'S SCHOOL, SOUTH JOHNSTONE

Weekly Newsletter Term 4, Week 8 2015
24 November 2015



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

With less than two weeks remaining in the school year we are in for a full two weeks of activities.

This afternoon the students played the parents in our annual league tag match with the parents coming away victors, see the photos later in the newsletter. A similar event is happening next week with soccer. You do not have to have a child in the upper classes to participate, come along and join in the fun.

Friday night is our annual Christmas concert. The children, under Mrs Kenny's guidance have been preparing for this event all term. All children are to be at school by 6:30pm in their classrooms for a 7:00 pm start. Parents are asked to bring along a plate for a cuppa following the concert. Family and friends are welcome to attend.

To our wonderful P&F, what a fantastic group of people who have the best interest of the school and its children in mind. The P&F have committed to helping with the shortfall of the purchase of the "Trek for Tech" laptops, new chairs for assemblies etc., as well as more tables and chairs for the children in the eating area. Thank you wholeheartedly from the staff and children.

Last Wednesday morning I had the opportunity to attend the Year 12 graduation assembly at Good Counsel

College. It was a very proud moment as many of the past St Rita's pupils, whom I began their educational journey with in pre-school, are now leaving school to forge career paths for themselves.

Please read the attached "Principal's End of Year Report". Not only does it give a detailed account of the graduating Year Six class and their families it also gives a summary of what has happened around the school over the year. We tend to forget our achievements in the busyness of the year.

Congratulations to the Vaclavik family who last week welcomed a beautiful baby girl, Isabella weighing just over 7lb. We can't wait to welcome her in to our community.

Next Monday afternoon at 2pm the finals of our annual handball competition will be held. Everyone is welcome to come along and cheer on the children who have made it to the finals.

The chess competition is well under way with children playing games before school and in breaks. Trophies will be awarded next week.

As we count down the last days of the 2015 school year here is a quick reminder about what is happening around the school.

25 Nov	Prep Grandparents Morning Tea
27 Nov	Christmas Concert

30 Nov Handball Competition 2pm
Year 6 Graduation Dinner

1 Dec Children vs Parents soccer match 2 pm

2 Dec Volunteers morning tea (please let the office know if you are attending)
Year 5/6 Warrina Lakes Reports and Portfolios home – inside will also be class lists and book lists for 2016

3 Dec Desk cleaning – slip and slide

4 Dec 9:00 Assembly – Year 7 DVD – chess awards
10:30 Graduation Mass
11:40 Cutting end of year cake
12:00 Children dismissed – a reminder that all children are to be picked up at 12.

God bless, have a great week

Vicki



There is NO assembly this week.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

ADVENT IS COMING: ABOUT THE SEASON

Advent heralds in the new year of the Church.

This year it begins on Sunday, 29th November.



Advent is the season of waiting. Many of the words we pray and sing are full of desire, hope and expectation. One of our Advent companions is MARY, and during these weeks we remember her as she waited for the birth of her child. We know what waiting is like – we often wait for weather changes, the end of the school year and of course we look forward to summer holidays. This ‘waiting’ can help us to celebrate Advent well. *Advent is a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ’s first coming is remembered.*

We know that the first coming of Jesus at Bethlehem will not happen again, so during Advent, we prepare and long for a new coming of Jesus into our lives. We take this time every year to practise how to receive Jesus every day of our lives. We remember the call of Jesus to his followers to make our world a peaceful place and so, during Advent we make special efforts to be signs that God is with us.

This is what the word ‘Emmanuel’ means – God with us.

The season of Advent has its own special mood, colours, sounds, words and joys.

Sometimes it can be swamped by Christmas and we can be tempted to celebrate Christmas too early. During Advent we can try to wait, as the world waited long ago for the coming of Jesus, the ‘Light of the world’.



Artwork by Eva Bertram



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:

Assembly last Friday

Last Friday at our assembly we handed over the hampers full of grocery items that our school donated for the annual

Christmas Appeal of St. Vincent de Paul. Thank you once again for your generous support of this worthy cause. Mr Arnell, Mr van Slooten and Mr Cazzulino (representatives of the Society) were very overwhelmed and grateful for the generous support and thanked the children on behalf of all those in our local area who will receive the hampers at Christmas time.



A special mention also again, to the Mini Vinnies group – Mikayla, Karla, Ann-Louise, Bree and Isaac for their hard work this year. Presenting the SVDP men with a cheque for \$600 was certainly an amazing effort!



CHRISTMAS CONCERT:

Just a reminder that our annual Christmas Concert is this Friday night. As well as the class performances it will also be a time to remember and reflect on the special message for us all at Christmas time – the birth of Jesus, the Saviour of the world. As Christians, this is a highlight of the liturgical year and one that we celebrate with great joy. Please take some time to talk with your child/children about the real meaning of Christmas.



Have a wonderful week. Peace be with you.

Regards,

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



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

Tuesday 1 December

Instrumental Music Concert 1.30pm

Friday 4 December

Graduation Assembly

Graduation Mass 10.30am

School finishes 12noon

(no homework club)

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.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

School will be dismissed at 12pm. Please ensure that all children are picked up at this time. Homework Club will not be operating and no staff are available for supervision.

PARENT -V- STUDENT LEAGUE TAG

This afternoon saw the parents (and Mr Rossi) retain the Parent -v- Student League Tag Trophy with a win of 6-2. Thank you to those parents who participated. Next week is the Parent -v- Student Soccer Match. We would love to see more parents make it if they can. Mr Rossi will be out of action. We hope he recovers quickly.



It looks like things got rough.



'It's OK, we'll let you win soccer next week'.

LIBRARY NEWS

Dear Parents,
Our school year is coming to an end and all library books borrowed by your children need to be returned to the library **tomorrow**. Could I ask you to check with your children that they have all library books in their bags ready to bring back to school. It might pay to have a look in their

rooms, under beds etc. in case they are unable to find them.

Wishing you and your family a very Happy Christmas & safe travels over the holidays and thank you for your support throughout the year.

Judi Kelly

IMPORTANT CYBER SAFETY MESSAGE -

In the process of delivering the [Virtual Classrooms Activities in 2015](#), the **Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner** has become aware of two Apps that are causing quite some concern in school communities. These Apps are **Animal Jam** and **Subway Surfer**. One of the main concerns with these Apps is that they contain an in-built global chat facility. This facility enables anyone in the world to make contact with users of the Apps. The potential for children to be exposed to phishing scams, grooming and cyberbullying is substantial.

The **Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner** maintains an excellent resource page that assists parents to better understand these Apps amongst a range of others. This resource may be accessed at: <https://esafety.gov.au/esafety-information/games-apps-and-social-networking>



Animal Jam



Subway Surfers

I trust that this information is useful !



SCHOOL UNIFORMS FOR 2016

School uniforms will be on sale through the office from Tuesday 19 January to Friday 22 January, 2016 from 9am to 2pm.

Payment can be made by cash or cheque; no credit card facilities available. Sorry we cannot give out change. Please itemize your order on the back of an envelope and fill out your details on the front. This will make things a lot quicker and easier.

Uniform prices are -

Skorts	\$20
Blouses	\$30
Sports shorts	\$20
Sports shirts	\$30
Hair scrunchies	various
School badges	\$4.50

If you have a child that requires an odd size uniform, please contact Margaret Tinney on 0422 951 862. Margaret sews the girl's blouses and skorts for the school.

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS

6.30PM

Calling for all parts: Joseph, Mary, shepherds, angels and animals.

Come and be part of the real meaning of Christmas. Practice for the Children's Gospel will be on Friday 11 and 18 December, commencing at 3.30pm in Mother of Good Counsel Church, Innisfail. Please contact Maria Clark on 4063 2210 or 0448 716 271 or Angie Sheerans on 0409 871 636.

Young Living Essential Oil Sharing

Wednesday 25th November at 7pm
St Rita's Library

Come taste, touch and smell these amazing oils and discover why and how these oils are changing people's lives. Also learn about chemical free living and how to get the toxins out of your life!

Win a free bottle of 5ml essential oil just by attending!

RSVP: Dyann 0402861800



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(new dates in yellow)

TERM 4

27 Nov	Christmas Concert
30 Nov	Handball finals 2pm
30 Nov	Grad Dinner
1 Dec	Instrumental Music Concert Parent/Student Soccer 2pm
2 Dec	Volunteer's Morning Tea 9am
2 Dec	Yr 5/6 Warrina Lakes
4 Dec	Graduation Assembly Graduation Mass 10.30am End of Term – 12pm (No homework Club)

2016

25 Jan	Pupil Free Day
26 Jan	Australia Day Public Holiday
27 Jan	First day of school (9 wks)
22 Feb	Parent Seminar- Mark Davidson
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

INNISFAIL JUNIOR THEATRE GROUP

The Innisfail Junior Theatre Group is starting up again in 2016.

Enrolment dates are –

1st, 4th, 8th, 9th & 11th of February
3pm to 5pm

At the **Innisfail Cultural Complex Society** building (across the road from the Con).

Costs are –

\$50 per child per term
\$80 2 children per term
\$1003 or more children per term
plus there is a \$5 per child or \$20 per Family annual membership fee.

If you have any enquires please don't hesitate to contact Erika on ph.

0434149568 or email

kme3781@dodo.com.au or Cheryl

0458855946 or email

cherylcleslie@gmail.com

KIDS' CLUB

SOUTH JOHNSTONE HALL

2pm - 4pm

Saturday 19/12/2015 - 23/01/2016

This summer, SJYACAInc will host a family circle/kids' club on Saturday afternoons at the S J Hall.

We invite families to attend (children *must* be accompanied by an adult) to share skills and participate in activities over the long holiday break.

Entry: Gold Coin donation per person, or \$5 per family

Afternoon tea provided



Presents
EVEREST in 3D (M)
27, 28 & 29 Nov
7.30pm
Admission \$8.00

