

ST RITA'S SCHOOL, SOUTH JOHNSTONE

Weekly Newsletter Term 4, Week 6 2016

1 March 2016



ACTING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As you are all aware Mrs Conomo is away visiting the USA taking part in the annual LA Religion Congress. From all accounts she is having a wonderful time and is thoroughly enjoying many new experiences. We look forward to her return at the beginning of Week 8.

As usual St Rita's continues to be a busy place and this week is no exception. Tomorrow morning the children will begin the day with the 'Planet Rhythm' Performance at 9.00am in the Little Hall. Tomorrow is also our Dr Seuss reading activity day in the library. Mrs Horsford and Mrs Kelly have planned some fantastic activities aimed at fostering a positive attitude towards reading for enjoyment. This will certainly be a great day full of fun and plenty of laughter no doubt.

I will be away on Wednesday and Thursday this week attending the Principals' Conference in Cairns. Mrs Curzon will also be away on Wednesday as she will accompany me as part of the leadership team. The topic for this professional development is 'Putting Visible Learning Into Action'. Visible Learning is an approach to teaching that the Cairns Diocese is committed to and as such our teachers here have spent considerable time studying and implementing its strategies in their classrooms.

As we are over the half way mark of the term it is clear that the children have settled in well to the routines of their new classes. For the most part, the tears in Prep have dried up and the Year 6's are taking on board their leadership responsibilities. Having said this, if at any stage your child is experiencing difficulties with any aspect of his/her schooling please do not hesitate to contact their classroom teacher or myself (in Mrs Conomo's absence). Open communication between home and school is the best way to ensure that we achieve the best outcomes for you and your family.

Watching the Sunday Night program a few days ago, the reality of how precious life is was very evident. So too was how from tragedy, some people manage to draw strength and the courage to go on. This terribly sad story of a young mother (Sarah Paino) whose life was cut short in an horrific car accident and the subsequent emergency birth of her 32 week infant was hard to watch to say the least. But what really struck a chord was the positive outlook and gentle determination of her partner and father of the two children, Daniel. His appreciation for the life of his son was so obvious as was his grief at losing his beloved partner.

What was truly amazing though, was that not once did he mention or blame the



young driver of the car responsible for the crash. We can learn a lot from other people, and I suppose the message here is that life is what you make it. Perhaps we could all try a little harder to

Have you ever had an experience of needing to nurture someone or something for a long period before they 'produced fruit'? Were there failures along the way? What was it that eventually brought about the growth?



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT: LUKE (13:1-9) The Patient Gardener

Last Sunday's gospel from Luke is really about the loving care and patience of God. It was commonly believed that a loving God could not be responsible for the terrible things which befell people, but that these events must somehow be a result of their own sinfulness. Here Jesus takes the opportunity to say that we must not look to the sinfulness of others but to our own need for repentance. Using the parable of the fig tree that was producing no fruit, he proclaims that no matter what has happened in our lives there is always another chance.

On this point Fr Ken Barker says, ***"We have a God whose heart is full of mercy. He will always give us the opportunity to turn around after a failure and cooperate with his saving Grace."***

Lent is a special time of preparation. Can you think of ways that you can cultivate your own garden of faith? Are there still areas of your life which are yet to produce their best fruit?

During our time of Lent we can focus on God's forgiveness and care for us as we try

to make a real effort to change our ways and to become more like Jesus.

PROJECT COMPASSION NEWS:



Thank you to everyone who last Friday so generously supported our fundraising campaign for Project Compassion 2016. Our free dress day was a great success and the total collected was \$277. This is a wonderful start in our effort to help Caritas Australia with its annual appeal. Please take the time to look at the posters that will be put up at school which will keep track of our progress and outline what can be achieved at the various monetary amounts.

Throughout Project Compassion 2016, inspiring stories from Malawi, Laos, Papua New Guinea, Australia, Cambodia and India will show how education, training and sharing knowledge can empower individual communities to transform their futures and create lasting change.

Week 3 focuses on Dominic - He is 36 years old and lives with his wife and four children in the Jiwaka province of Papua New Guinea where generational poverty has led to many challenges including inequality, alcohol abuse and violence.



Participation in the Caritas Australia supported Community Conservation program has empowered Dominic and the people of his village to create a new way of life far from the problems of the past.

FOR MORE INFORMATION – Search : www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion
Select – Explore featured stories

MINI VINNIES: OUR TEAM FOR 2016

Our St. Rita's Mini Vinnies representatives for 2016 were elected last Friday. This group of dedicated Year 6 students will work to raise awareness and fundraise to support the important work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society particularly in our local area. Congratulations to : **Jorja Adams** (President), **Kiara Foschi** (Vice-president), **Erin Darveniza** (Secretary), **Bennett Buchanan** (Treasurer), **Les Cavanagh** (Publicity Officer), **Jason Robinson**, **Hamish Hunter**, **William Leoni**, **Juanita Filby**, **Zarah Stanley** and **Summer Dunne** (Committee Members).

We wish them well in their endeavours this year and are confident that through their '**good works**' they will positively address the issues of social justice and homelessness.



Wishing you all a wonderful week. Peace be with you all.

Regards,

Denise (Acting Principal/APRE)

(Text Sources – The Summit : Volume 43, No.1)

Images- www.amazon.com
boldyproclaimingchrist.wordpress.com
www.caritas.org.au

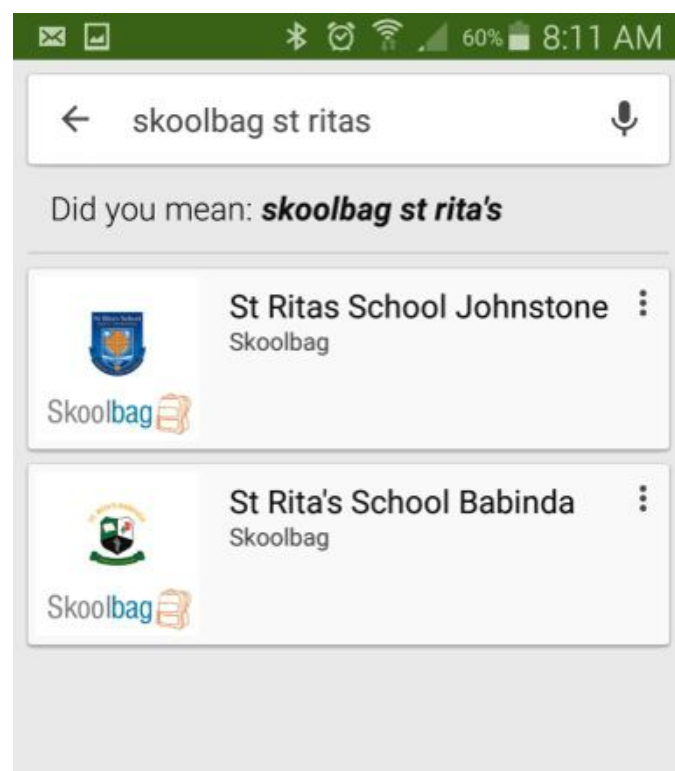


The '*Helping your child read*' workshop last week conducted by Ms Dot Shay.

YOU ARE ALL URGED TO PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE SKOOLBAG APP

All parents are urged to download the Skoolbag app on their phones. The school will send emergency notifications through this app where you will receive a push notification eg instances of flooding or other emergency. Further, the newsletter is uploaded to the app and this may alleviate some problems parents seem to have with their emails.

Search the app store on your device for 'skoolbag st ritas' and make sure you select 'St Ritas School Johnstone' – a screenshot is below. This is a free app for parents that the school pays CES access for.



ASSEMBLY

No assembly this week

TUCKSHOP

There is tuckshop this week please ask your child for a menu.

BEEP TEST CLUB

YRS 3 - 6



Mr Rossi is starting a Beep Test Club. Tuesday mornings 8.20am in the Big Hall. Your child can simply turn up at 8.20 am sharp if interested (there is no form to fill out). Thank you.

HEAD LICE

Unfortunately head lice have again reared their ugly heads. Not to treat your child/children is unfair to the parents who are vigilant in the fight to keep them at bay. **Please make every effort this week to apply treatment to your child's hair, and continuously throughout the next week.** If we all make every effort at the same time, the fight is made much easier. If you do regularly treat your child/children without success, it is suggested repeated combing over a number of days and/or a different product should be applied.

MORE P & F NEWS

SEEKING SOME HELP

We are still seeking volunteers for:

Welcome Night

Grant's Coordinator

Melbourne Cup

Christmas Concert

(sale of softdrinks, tea/coffee only)

These coordinators do not do all the work themselves, but rather coordinate the event with a team of helpers. If you would like to coordinate one of the events below, please let us know as soon as possible. If the event has a name against it, speak up- that person might swap to different event. Thank you.



LAMINGTON DRIVE

A REMINDER THAT ORDERS & PAYMENT ARE DUE BY 11 MARCH.

Lamingtons will be made Tuesday 15th and Thursday 17th March. Those returning an order form will be advised of the relevant pick up date.

Please see Michelle Mann or Malinda Eaves if you have any questions. Thank you.

ICAS TESTING DATES

YEARS 3-6 ONLY

Subject	Sitting Date	Closing Date	Price.
Digital Tech	17/05/16	03/05/16	\$8.00
Science	31/05/16	17/05/16	\$8.00
Writing	13-17/06/16	30/05/16	\$17.00
Spelling	15/06/16	01/06/16	\$11.00
English	02/08/16	19/07/16	\$8.00
Maths	16/08/16	02/08/16	\$8.00

Unfortunately, we are unable to take any late nominations so please have your payment in prior to the closing date. Thank you.



Presents

The 5th Wave (M)

4, 5 & 6 March

7.30pm

Admission \$8.00



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEW DATES IN YELLOW

TERM 1

- 17 March St Patrick's Day
End of Term 1
24 March School Cross Country
25 March Good Friday
27 March Easter Sunday

TERM 2

- 11 April Start Term 2
18 April Real Schools – Adam Voigt
25 April Anzac Day
29 April District Cross Country
2 May Labour Day public holiday
8 May Mother's Day
17 May ICAS Digital Technologies
20 May Peninsula Cross Country
23-25 May Yr 4/5 Camp – Eco Creek
27, 29 May District Field & Athletics
31 May ICAS Science
13-17 June ICAS Writing
15 June ICAS Spelling
20-24 June Interhouse Sports Week
24 June End of Term

TERM 3

- 11 July Start of Term 3
25-29 July Catholic Education Week
27 July School Photos
2 Aug ICAS English
3-4 Aug Prep/Yr 1 Camp
16 August ICAS Maths
30 Aug-2 Sept Yr 6 Camp – Charters Towers
16 Sept End of Term

TERM 4

- 3 Oct Queen's Birthday Holiday
4 Oct Start of Term 4
26 Oct **Good Counsel College Year 7
Orientation Day**
2 Nov Melbourne Cup
11 Nov Remembrance Day

Good Counsel College congratulates the 2015
Year 12 Graduates on their outstanding results:

✓ Total number of OP eligible students	55	✓ Number of students receiving a Dist II	29
✓ Number of students with OP 1	5	✓ Number of students receiving a Dist III	35
✓ Number of students with OP 1-C	15	✓ Number of students receiving a Dist IV	2
✓ Number of students with OP 1-B	15	✓ Students with their second QWAC offers	46
✓ Percentage students OP 1B or better	55%	✓ Students missing first preference	34
✓ Number of students receiving a Dist I	34	✓ Number of students performing better than predicted	32

Students attaining OP 1



Denise Hill



Thomas Durvencia



Aimee Kaye



Jack McKinstry



Alister Price



Arianna Moore



Megan Foster

Good Counsel College students continue to **ACHIEVE** the highest results and outcomes in the district and amongst the highest in the region.

Phone 4063 5300 to arrange a College Tour with the Principal.



Email: gcounsel@gcc.qld.edu.au

Address: 66 Owen St, Innisfail

www.gcc.qld.edu.au

FOR SALE



Concert size steel string guitar In very good condition Together with a sheep's wool lined hard case, a capo, electric tuner and a spare set of strings. Suitable for beginners and experienced players.
Phone Santina Lizzio on 4065 3231 after 6.30pm. All in near new condition. Price for everything \$350

Young Living Essential Oil Sharing

Wednesday 2nd March 11am (where the playgroup is held across the road)
Thursday 3rd March at 7pm (in the 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 essential oil inspired gift just by attending!

RSVP: Dyann
0402861800



Well Women's Clinics
(These clinics are available to Medicare eligible clients)

Innisfail Hospital – Mondays
7th & 21st March – Ph: 4226 4812

Mamu Innisfail – Tuesday 22nd March – Ph: 4061 5102

Service includes Pap Smears, Sexual Health Screening, Breast Awareness, also info on Contraception, Continence, Menopause, Lifestyle Issues, Domestic Violence, etc. All services are provided by a specially trained Women's Health Nurse.



Queensland Government

Australian Literary Festival

Tuesday 22 March 2016

Join us for a "Meet & Greet" with some of Australia's top authors & illustrators

TULLY LIBRARY - 3.00 - 5.00 pm

Kevin Burgemeestre



Meredith Costain



Paul Collins



Elaine Ouston

Aleesah Darlison



Book sales will be available on the day.
40439138

MEET & GREET WITH MATTY BOWEN

FRIDAY 11th MARCH 2016
3:30pm - 5:30pm
INNISFAIL PCYC
OPEN TO ALL AGES!
ENTRY: Gold coin donation

FOOTY MINI-GAMES!
Touch relay & Passing Skills
BBALL SKILLS!
21, Skills challenge and the Half Court Challenge!
GET A PHOTO WITH MATTY!

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS

Diamonds in the Sky

SUICIDE INTERVENTION CARNIVAL

Logos for Harvey Norman, MAMU, and PCYC are visible.

PARENT WORKSHOPS
Triple P Discussion Group

Tuesday March 1st
BEDTIME ROUTINES
10am-12pm or 5pm-7pm

Tuesday March 8th
HASSLE FREE SHOPPING
10am-12pm or 5pm-7pm

Tuesday March 15th
DEALING WITH DISOBEDIENCE
10am-12pm or 5pm-7pm

Tuesday March 22nd
MANAGING MISBEHAVIOUR
10am-12pm or 5pm-7pm

Free for Parents/carers of children aged 2-12
Location: VPG, 158A Edith Street, Innisfail
Bookings essential: Jolene 0488321806 or Natasha 40438400

Every Family Gateway Coast
www.everyfamily.com.au

EVERY FAMILY logo and circular images of families are on the right side.

