

ST RITA'S SCHOOL, SOUTH JOHNSTONE

Weekly Newsletter Term 4, Week 7 2016

8 March 2016



ACTING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As we begin Week 7 of the term it is clear that for many of us we simply do not know where the time has gone. For some, this may be a result of the extreme busy-ness of day-to-day activities, while for others it may be due to an overwhelming feeling of excitement at what has been accomplished over the past few weeks. Hopefully for the children of St Rita's it has been both. So as we head towards the end of Term One there is much to be grateful for and to recognize as achievements.

With this in mind, some classes will begin parent/teacher interviews next week while others will be scheduled for after the holiday break. These are valuable sessions that allow for the communication of how your child is progressing to date. Please try to make it along by selecting the most convenient time slot from the booking times available. Establishing a positive home/school relationship is crucial for all students. If you have any urgent concerns or queries please feel free to make an appointment to speak with your child's class teacher prior to parent/teacher interviews. Jenni has included the necessary information in regard to the process of booking parent/teacher interviews later in the newsletter and a separate notice is being sent home today as well. Please do not hesitate to contact her at the school office if you experience any difficulty with the online system.

Yesterday the children attended the School Performance Tour – One Stop Rock Shop. The response to this presentation was wonderful from Prep right up to Year 6. The children enjoyed the two- man show in which they learnt about the different musical genres and how a variety of instruments are played all in one fun-filled hour.

Today is International Women's Day. IWD, originally called *International Working Women's Day*, is celebrated on March 8 every year. In different parts of the world the focus of the celebrations on this day range from general celebrations of respect, appreciation and love towards women, to celebrations of women's economic, political and social achievements. Each year the United Nations designates a human rights theme for International Women's Day to promote social awareness of the struggles of women worldwide. In 2016 the UN theme is '**Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step it Up for Gender Equality**'.

In relation to this year's theme UN Secretary General – Ban Ki Moon says, "*Let us devote solid funding, courage advocacy and unbending will to achieving gender equality around the world. There is no greater investment in our common future.*"

Perhaps a simple step for each of us today is to simply recognize the amazing work that the women in our own lives do every

day and to acknowledge this is some small way.

Thank you to all the St Rita's community – students, staff and parents for your support and cooperation over the past couple of weeks. Mrs Conomo will return at the beginning of next week no doubt with many stories to tell and quite a few souvenirs from her trip I imagine.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY: 4TH WEEK OF LENT

"I GIVE MY SHEEP ETERNAL LIFE." (John 10:27-30)

Last Sunday's gospel from John uses the image of a shepherd and sheep to speak of his relationship with us. The care which a shepherd showed for his flock remains a powerful image in the Church, in spite of its origins in an ancient agricultural society. In our country with its vast paddocks and fences the work of a shepherd has perhaps lost some of its meaning, but the intimacy and tenderness of the image still speaks to us of the closeness of Christ's relationship with all who believe in him.



Jesus said,

*' The sheep that belong to me
listen to my voice;
I know them and they follow me.
I give them eternal life;
they will never be lost
and on one will ever steal them from me.
The Father who gave them to me
is greater than anyone,
And no one can steal from the Father.
The Father and I are one.'*

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Latin word for *shepherd* is *pastor*. It is from this word that we derive many of the terms used in the Church people with a special role. (eg. Pastor or priest, pastoral care, pastoral council) These roles imply a duty of

love and care towards those for whom one is responsible.

- The Shepherd-King was an ancient image of God used by the Hebrew people.
- In this gospel text, John is addressing one of the issues which faced his community : the heretical voices of some who sought to lead people away from rather than towards God.

PERSONAL REFLECTION....

- How do you hear the voice of Jesus?
- What are some of the conflicting voices we hear in our world?
- Which voices are the loudest? Where do these voices lead us?
- What sense do you have of being called by name? How do you experience God's constant care for you?

(Sources – The Summit: Volume 43, No.1
Images – jbars.com)

LEARNING MORE
CREATING CHANGE
Project Compassion 2016



PROJECT COMPASSION:

WEEK 4 – EVANGELINE'S STORY (AUSTRALIA)

This week's Project Compassion feature story is particularly relevant to us as it focuses on Evangeline, a young Aboriginal woman living in the small community of Beswick (Wugularr) in the Northern Territory. At times we tend to think that those experiencing poverty and struggling with social justice issues are predominantly people living overseas. However, this week's story certainly highlights the problems that face many of our own population and explores how Caritas is working towards achieving better outcomes for Australians.

CREATING NEW CONNECTIONS TO TRADITIONAL CULTURE

When Evangeline left high school she had a limited vision for her future. But the training she has received while working at the Djilpin Arts Ghunmarn Centre, supported by Caritas Australia, has helped her develop new skills and ignited her passion for the maintenance and preservation of her Aboriginal culture.

For more information please visit :

[www.caritas.org.au/
projectcompassion/weeklystories/week-4-
evangeline](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/weeklystories/week-4-evangeline)

**SO WHAT'S NEXT:
FISH AND CHIP FRIDAY**



To add to our current total of \$272 we will be holding Fish and Chip Friday next week – **FRIDAY 18TH MARCH.** The items for sale include fish and chip packs (small or large) A tuckshop order form will be sent home early next week with further details. Please complete this in the usual way if you wish to order fish and chips for Friday.

With the help of our Year 6 leaders we will set up a 'Caritas Cafe' in the Little Hall with tables and chairs for the children to eat their fish and chips at. Thank you for your support of this event to aid our fundraising for Caritas Australia and the Project Compassion Appeal.

**ASSEMBLY THIS
FRIDAY:**



We have made a slight change to the format for Friday assemblies. This year the Year 6 leaders and Mini Vinnie group will alternate to host the assembly but each class will take a turn at facilitating the Prayer Liturgy of the morning gathering. As well as this, it will be an opportunity for the designated class to highlight some of the work that they have completed or projects they have participated in. This week's assembly will be organized by Year 3 /4 and Mrs Devaney.

Wishing you all peace, light and many blessings for the week.
Regards,
Denise (Acting Principal/APRE)

**PARENT TEACHER
INTERVIEWS
ONLINE**



Parent-Teacher interviews will be held during the following weeks (depending upon when you child's teacher is available) –

Prep	Weeks 8 & 9 Term 1
Yr 1	Week 9 Term 1
Yr 2/3	Weeks 8 & 9 Term 1
Yr 3/4	Weeks 8 Term 1
Yr 5/6	Weeks 1, 2 & 3 Term 2


Interviews will be of 15 minutes duration.

For these interviews we again using the internet-based booking system called **Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO)**. Using this system you will be able to book the interview times that suit you best from any internet-connected device.

Please access the system as follows:

- Go to the school's home page: **www.stritascps.qld.edu.au**
- Click on the '**Links & Logins**' button at the bottom right corner of the home page
- Click on the '**Parent/Teacher Interviews Online**' link
- Enter your surname and PIN, **provided on the slip given to your child today**
- **IF YOU LOOSE YOUR PIN** - Click "Obtain PIN/Password" and enter your email address. Your PIN will be emailed to you. The email you receive will include a link that can be clicked on to log straight into PTO, bypassing the login screen.

Full instructions are provided to you after log in. Please note the following points:

- When you log on, the system displays only your own child/children.
- You will only see time slots that are *available* at the time you are using the system. As time slots are booked for teachers, those time slots are no longer displayed as available. PTO prevents double-booking of teachers or parents/guardians.
- When you have made all the bookings you require, you can download or email a *report* of your bookings in time order for printing. You can log in and *change bookings* any time **up to 7.00pm on the day prior to your interview.**
- If you see this symbol  displayed along side your child's name, it means this teacher recommends that you book an interview.
- Other parents may be making bookings at the same time that you are using the system. It is possible, though unlikely, that a time slot is displayed to you as available, but is then booked by another parent shortly afterwards. If you then attempt to book this time slot it will not be available and a message will be displayed to indicate this.
- If you encounter any problems using PTO please contact the school office by phone on 4064 2153, or by email to **secretary.johnstone@cns.catholic.edu.au.**

DR SEUSS DAY

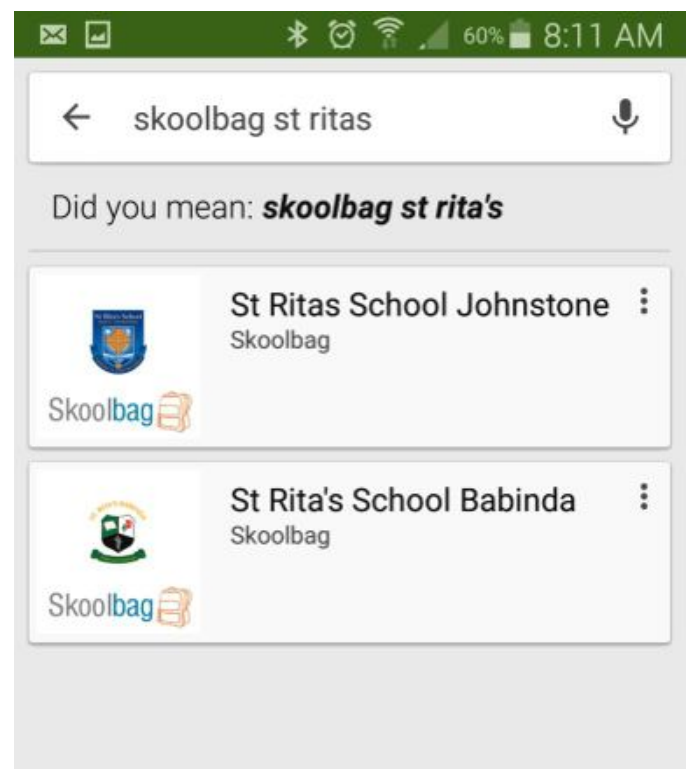
The Cat in the Hat took part in Dr Seuss' birthday celebrations Thursday last week in the library. There are lots more great photos at the end of the newsletter.



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

There is a assembly this week – in the little hall after the morning bell.

TUCKSHOP

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

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.

WELCOME NIGHT

We are still seeking a volunteer to coordinate our **Welcome Night** which has been tentatively planned for **Friday, 18 March**. This night is a wonderful evening for new families to get to know the old, but unfortunately it needs a coordinator. In the past we have had a pizza and movie night. Please volunteer at the office if you are interested and able. 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.

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
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, 29 July	District Field & Athletics

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 Cert II	29
✓ Number of students with OP 1	5	✓ Number of students receiving a Cert III	35
✓ Number of students with OP 1.5	15	✓ Number of students receiving a Cert IV	2
✓ Number of students with OP 6-10	15	✓ Students with first round QAC offers	46
✓ Percentage students OP 10 or better	55%	✓ Students receiving first preference	34
✓ Number of students receiving a Cert I	34	✓ Number of students performing better than predicted	32

Students achieving OP7

Therese Hill, Thomas Deravito, Aarwen Kaur, Josh McKinlay, Marika Price

Students achieving Cert IV at Justice Studies

Rhianna 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



Presents

Gods of Egypt (M)

11, 12 & 13 March

7.30pm

Admission \$8.00



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.

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

Diamonds in the Sky

SUICIDE INTERVENTION CARNIVAL

Logos for Mamu and PCYC are visible at the bottom.



You and your guests are cordially invited to the

Innisfail Art Society Inc

2016 ART Awards & Exhibition

OFFICIAL OPENING 7.30pm, Saturday 19 MARCH 2016
 by Mr Andrew Cripps MP,
 Member for Hinchinbrook
DOORS OPEN AT 7PM

INNISFAIL SHIRE HALL, Rankin Street, Innisfail
\$10 ENTRY FEE on opening night
 Finger food & drink ticket provided, cash bar

Exhibition open on Feast of the Senses MARKET DAY until 7pm 23 March

Genoschlo
Cassowary Coast

Mr Andrew Cripps MP
 Mr Herb Layt
 MSF Sugar
 Paronella Park
 Rothnie's Pharmacy
 Brothers Leagues Club
 Schmidt Family in memory Mr G&H Schmidt
 Innisfail Dentists
 Mr Kuno Bert Schmidt
 Mr Mark & Marsha Niles
 JeDePs Eposition Emporium
 Mr Jeff Barnes
 Mr Scott Doherty
 Hendler Family
 High Scan
 ICU
 North Coast Machinery
 Franchisors Innisfail
 The Picture Framers
 Oxloides (formerly The Art Barn)
 Cairns Create It (formerly Cairns Craft Centre)