

ST RITA'S SCHOOL, SOUTH JOHNSTONE

Weekly Newsletter Term 2, Week 11 2016

21 June 2016



REMINDER FREE DRESS FOR STATE OF ORIGIN TOMORROW

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you to the people who have approached me following my news release yesterday. As I explained to the parents at the P&F meeting yesterday, I am as good as my staff and parent body, and St Rita's has an excellent reputation relating to both of these. Catholic Education has notified me that they will begin the process of advertising for a new principal early next term.

We have an extremely busy week to end the term with sports rotations starting yesterday afternoon. I would like to congratulate the children on their sportsmanship. All teachers returned yesterday with great stories of children from both sporting teams supporting each other. The week culminates with our School Sports Day on Friday, with war cries at school, races at Chap Chappa Park and ball games and tug-of-war back at school. This is always a very fun filled day.

The Prep, Year One and Two classes ventured to Tully today for the Read Me Day. All of the children exited the bus very excited even though they were tired from the experience. The day is a wonderful initiative of the Tully Business Community, exciting youngsters to read.

Tomorrow, the children will be bringing home their end of semester reports. If you need to see your child's teacher, please make an appointment, given the busy schedule we have this week. All the children have made an excellent start to the year. Yes, there may be some who need to put in increased effort, but on the whole after reading all the reports, I am very happy with their progress and feel the teachers have portrayed the students accurately in their comments, in relation to their grades.

Tomorrow the Year 5/6 class has their term liturgy and the Years Fours will be meeting with father for reconciliation.

Tomorrow I am also having the start up meeting for the new building, with the builder, Allan Sultana Constructions, staff from Diocesan Services and the architects. Hopefully when we return from holidays we will see some progress. Pray for fine weather so that the heavy equipment can be brought across the oval.

If you haven't as yet volunteered for the Strawberries and Cream stall at the Innisfail show please contact the office to see which shifts need workers. Remember workers receive a free ticket into the show. This is one of the major fundraisers for the P&F and is in the first week of next term. At yesterday's P&F meeting, Blaise reported on how money has been spent this year from the P&F:

New eating tables for the older children \$3200; New home readers \$2100; New chairs in classrooms to supplement those for events \$2400.

The school thanks the P&F for valuable contribution towards resources.

If you have old batteries please get them to the Calleja farm (Boogan Road, Boogan just after the Vic Sivyer bridge) as soon as possible as in the next few weeks they are being collected, as the price is good.

I would like to congratulate the children on an excellent term. They have certainly earned their break. We return next term on Monday, July 11th with the excitement of the show.

Have a great break, God bless

Vicki

PALMY PIRATES

For Interhouse Sports Day on Friday, the Palmy Captains ask Palmy students to add some type of dress up element that represents a pirate. Thank you.

FITZY FIGHTERS

Fitzzy Captains would like Fitzgerald students to add a 'Fitzzy Fighters' element to their attire on Friday. Thank you.

CURRICULUM CORNER

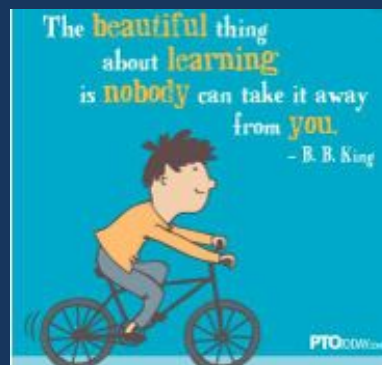


Tomorrow, your child will receive the Semester One Student Report. The purpose of the report is to provide an understanding of where your child is at in relation to the Australian Curriculum. The criterion for

grading (Legend) is at the top of the second page of the report. This Legend is there to guide you with your child's given marks. To clarify, if your child receives a "Sound" or above, this means they are doing well in that learning area. A "Sound" (C) means your child has met the Achievement Standards for that year level as set out in the Australian Curriculum. A "Sound" is the expected level for a particular year group and is, therefore, the grade most children across Australia receive.

If your child receives above a "Sound" (C), they have a high level of knowledge in that learning area beyond what is expected from the Australian Curriculum.

Donna Curzon
Curriculum Support Teacher



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

JESUS TEACHES US TO

PRAY: THE 'OUR FATHER' PRAYER

The 'Our Father' prayer, also known as 'The Lord's Prayer' is the holiest of prayers

because it was given to us by Jesus himself. In the Bible, the disciples begged, "Lord, teach us to pray." (Luke 11:1)

This prayer is the prayer that Jesus taught them in response to their request. There are two biblical accounts of the 'Our Father' prayer. One in Luke's gospel and one in Matthew (6:9-13)

When you take a closer look at the Biblical prayer, you can see that it is perfectly arranged. You offer



yourself to God and ask Him for the best things for yourself and your family and friends. It is led by a greeting "Our Father" and is then followed by seven requests. It can be explained like this:

"Our Father who art in heaven"

- You belong to God
- He created you and watches over you
- He wants you to live with Him in heaven forever

"hallowed be thy name,"

- You pray that God will be respected by all

"Thy Kingdom come,"

- You pray that God loved and worshipped throughout the world

"Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven,"

- You pray that God's laws will be followed on earth willingly as they are followed in heaven

"Give us this day our daily bread,"

- You ask for your spiritual and physical needs

"and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us,"

- You ask God to forgive the sins that you have committed against his laws and promise Him that you will forgive people who cause you harm

"and lead us not into temptation,"

- You ask God to keep you safe from all people and places that may lead you to sin



"but deliver us from evil."

- You ask God to protect you from both physical and spiritual harm

We often simply recite this prayer without realising its beauty and power, so to speak. Think about this explanation the next time you say 'The Lord's Prayer' and perhaps it will be a more meaningful experience.

Why do we open our hands while saying this prayer?

You will have noticed that while saying the 'Our Father' or 'The Lord's Prayer' during our Prayer Assemblies, Liturgies of the Word or Class Masses the children are encouraged to open their hands with their palms facing upwards. This is a simple gesture that acknowledges that this prayer is a special gift from God, given to us through Jesus, and shows our willingness and openness to receive it.



PRAYER REQUEST: PLEASE PRAY FOR THE CLARK FAMILY

As a St Rita's community we ask our students, parents and staff to pray for the Clark family as they mourn the passing of Maria's mother – Lily Valvasori. Maria is one of our highly valued school officers. Please keep her, her husband Wayne and daughter Leigha in your thoughts and prayers during this very sad time. We extend our sincere condolences to the whole Valvasori family. There will be a funeral service for Lily at Black's Chapel on Wednesday June 22nd (tomorrow) at 2.00pm should any of you wish to attend.

May she rest in peace.

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS:



This Wednesday June 22nd, the Year 4 children will go to Reconciliation with Father Kerry in the church at 10.00 am and then after Little Lunch at 11.30am the Year 5/6 class will celebrate their Class Mass

(or Eucharistic Liturgy). Parents and friends are invited along to join in with the children.

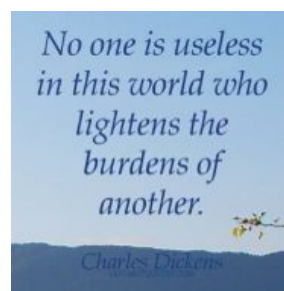
Last Friday at our School Assembly the Prep class facilitated a lovely Prayer Liturgy that focused on learning to follow Jesus. They did an amazing job and we are very proud of their effort. Thank you to all the Preps, as well as Miss Watkins, Mrs Jensen and Lisa for their help in preparing the children. The photos below show some of the wonderful crosses the children created. They are looking forward to taking their crosses home and putting them in a special place as a reminder that they are followers of Jesus.



plight of needy people in our community. The following is a list of ideas for increasing our awareness and contribution as an active part of the society and are ways that all children can be involved.

1. **Little Book of Prayers** – The children of St. Rita's are invited to write their own prayer on a theme that is consistent with the work of SVDP. They can illustrate it and submit it for possible inclusion in the 2016 edition. As you will be aware, last year we had 7 students have their prayers published in the 2015 edition.
2. **Poster Competition** - This is open to all age groups. Children are encouraged to put their creative talents to good use to design a poster that promotes the message of SVDP in regard to the poor, the homeless and the disadvantaged. Closing date will be advised.
3. **School Sleepout** – This year's group is very keen to participate in the Sleepout Challenge. Stay tuned for more info next term.
4. **Raffles**- This week the Mini Vinnies crew will be selling raffle tickets in three jars of goodies. There will be a first, second and third prize. Tickets are 50 cents each.
5. **Spooky Disco** - This will be a fancy dress disco. Date to be advised.

As you can see, the Mini Vinnies group is going to be very busy over the next term. They are a motivated bunch with plenty of ideas and with the support of our school community will no doubt be successful in raising funds and awareness for the St Vincent de Paul Society.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL: MINI VINNIES NEWS



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

At last Friday's assembly the Mini Vinnies group launched the St. Vincent de Paul 'Winter Appeal'. They presented a number of activities and proposals as ways in which our school can contribute to the very worthy Catholic charity.

The work of SVDP is not only about fundraising. It is also very much about raising awareness of the

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday. May God's richest blessings be upon you and your family. Take care. See you next term.

Regards,

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

(SOURCE – www.how-to-pray-the-rosary-everyday.com/our-father-prayer.html) IMAGES - www.clipartkid.com www.ocarm.org www.redeemed.kobob.com www.youtube.com www.vinnies.org.au www.verybestquotes.com)

LIFE SAVING SKILLS

As part of the grant received to promote Life Saving Skills, the Year 5/6 class had a visit today from members of the Etty Bay Surf Life Saving Club. They covered CPR and Surf Awareness. Thank you to Mrs Blaise Cini and Ms Michaela Crompton.



TUCKSHOP

There is NO tuckshop this week.

Malinda is still looking for volunteers to help out with tuckshop.

We are in need of volunteers to help on the tuckshop day. If anyone has any questions please approach Malinda or the office.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Wednesday 27 July, Week 3

This year the schedule for the school photos is very tight as it is also District Sports Day which begins at 12.30pm.

The first photos, the Year 3/4 class, is scheduled for 8.45am and there cannot be any delay during the morning in order to get the competing students to Innisfail. Please ensure all children are clean and tidy in their correct formal uniform and are present at school before 8.45am.

Thank you.

BATTERIES

Can you please kindly remember to gather used batteries – car truck boat motorbike tractor

This collection raises a lot of money for us each year.

Batteries are to be dropped off at the Calleja farm on Boogan Road, Boogan (not far from the Vic Syvier bridge) – just near their shipping container.



We would also like to ask a couple of people to raise their hands to approach businesses in town and organize collections with them. This will make things a lot easier for those already involved.

ICAS TESTING DATES YEARS 3-6 ONLY

Subject	Sitting Date	Closing Date	Price.
Digital Tech	closed		
Science	closed		
Writing	closed		
Spelling	closed		
English	02/08/16	12/07/16	\$8.00
Maths	16/08/16	26/07/16	\$8.00

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

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE: COUNSELLOR – NATALIE MCKENZIE DEVELOPING POSITIVE AND SECURE FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

Often our time as parents is spent juggling so many things that we struggle to spend as much time focused on building positive and secure family relationships. However, in order for our children to learn and grow and to overcome challenges (be they related to sleeping, eating, academic, behavioural, emotional) it is **VITAL** that they **FEEL SECURE AND LOVED**.

Here are **SOME EASY THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP** develop positive and **STRONG FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS**.
(Adapted from *Building Good Family Relationships: raisingchildren.net.au*)

Communicate in Positive Ways

- Talk about things (both easy and more difficult)
- Listen attentively to one another
- Make sure everyone knows it's okay to share and talk about ALL feelings
- Praise one another
- Work with each other to solve problems
- Ensure love, patience and understanding when disciplining
- Use words and affection that show appreciation, encouragement and love for each other

Spend Quality Time Together

- Make time together such as breakfast or dinner a time to talk and laugh together
- Make time for one on one talks with each family member. This enables a building and strengthening of individual relationships within the family.
- Have fun together as a family regularly!
- Discuss and make decisions together in relation to special events/celebrations.

Work Together as a Team

- Create family rules together and make some decisions together as a family (if appropriate.. e.g. holidays, rules)
- Share household chores
- Try to meet everyone's needs when organising activities (as much as possible)
- Allow your children to make some decisions themselves (only within the boundaries you've set and within their developmental levels).

Appreciate Each Other

- Take an interest in one other's lives.
- When discussing what's happened during the day include everyone
- Support one another for importance events e.g. sports days, concerts.

Natalie McKenzie (School Counsellor)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEW DATES IN YELLOW

TERM 2

20-24 June Interhouse Sports Week Rotations – Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

21 June Tully Read to Me Day

24 June End of Term

TERM 3

11 July Start of Term 3

14-15 July Strawberry & Cream Stall
Innisfail Show

25-29 July Catholic Education Week

27, 29 July District Field & Athletics

27 July School Photos

2 Aug ICAS English

2 Aug John Burland Concert

3-4 Aug	Prep/Yr 1 Camp
16 August	ICAS Maths
16 August	U8s Day
30 Aug-2 Sept	Yr 6 Camp – Charters Towers
2 Sept	Father's Night
16 Sept	End of Term
TERM 4	
3 Oct	Queen's Birthday Holiday
4 Oct	Start of Term 4
25 Oct	Wonder of Living Afternoon Parent Session
26 Oct	Good Counsel College Year 7 Orientation Day
27 Oct	Wonder of Living Class Sessions
2 Nov	Melbourne Cup
11 Nov	Remembrance Day
Fri 25 Nov	Year 6 Graduation Dinner
30 Nov	Christmas Concert
2 Dec 12.30pm	School Finishes



Presents

Angry Birds (PG)

24, 25 & 26 June

7.30pm

Admission \$8.00



Well Women's Clinics

(These clinics are available to Medicare eligible clients)

Innisfail Hospital – Monday 27th June – Ph: 4226 4812

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.

Dealing with Disappointment

Disappointment is a fact of life we must all face at one time or another. In developing healthy self-esteem, children need to learn how to deal with disappointment. As parents we can help by:

- Placing value on **effort** not results
- Praise when your child **tries** or makes an **improvement**.
- When you hear your child say things like: "I'm dumb" "you hate me" or "I'm just stupid", avoid being too sympathetic or giving too much attention – no need to feed the negative
- Help your child develop a sense of worth by
 - Reassure, acknowledge and normalise feelings of disappointment, e.g. "I can see you're feeling sad because you didn't win the race. It's ok, everyone feels sad and disappointed at some times in their life".
 - Motivate them to try again, e.g. "there will be another day and another race to try again"
 - Let them know you support them e.g. "wow I am so proud of you for trying your best"
 - And that you have their back e.g. "no matter what I love you for you and I'm proud of you".
- We are all good at something; help your child find their strengths that are unique and individual to them.

For help/ideas chat to your Parenting Promotion Officer:
Jolene 0488321605 F everyfamilycassowarycoast





Reading your child's report

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

Could try harder ... always does her best ... looks concentrated ... easily distracted ... a pleasure to teach ...

Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar?

Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind.

1. Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?

Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pick your expectations in line with your child's abilities. A quick check of your child's last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2. Do you believe that children learn at different rates?

There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends' children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. Are you willing to safeguard your child's self-esteem rather than deflate it?

Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible.

School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc. with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child's progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child's report.



Focus on strengths. Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

Take into account your child's effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.

Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child's progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don't dismiss these as unimportant.

Take note of student self-assessment. Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.

Discuss the report with your son or daughter talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child's efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.

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Home Care Resources

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