

ST RITA'S SCHOOL, SOUTH JOHNSTONE

Weekly Newsletter Term 2, Week 6 2016

17 May 2016



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Yesterday I was fortunate to attend a seminar given by Professor Tom Groome, Professor of Theology and Religious Education at Boston College. The subject of his talk was: "Deepening the Catholic Identity of schools: Education From and for Faith." Jesus was a teacher and is referred to as a teacher 150 times in the four gospels.

Tom spoke about curriculum that includes not just what is taught/texts but the who, why, where and how:

- Who we teach people to be and become; forming identity; who they are and how they lead their lives. The thought of "treading softly you can tread on my dreams".
- Why learning outcomes; shaping who kids become: to be gracious, forgiving, to have mercy. Learning outcomes not just to be for knowledge but for judgments and decisions.
- Where – whole ethos of school community, values, discipline, worship, prayer and service.
- How students are taught: are they are actively engaged in the teaching/learning dynamic or simply being "told" what they need to know.
- What is taught through every subject, towards knowledge, ethics and wisdom for life. Every subject is full of values.

I sat quietly conscious of the fact that at St Rita's we are a welcoming and inclusive community where all feel included and integrated, we strive to engage and educate the whole person for who they will become, their gifts and potential not just for themselves, but for life for all. Tom talked about training the children not just to get a job but for life.

I will be away again tomorrow and Thursday at a principals' conference. Mrs Curzon will be attending with me tomorrow as we analyse the implementation of visible learning in our school. Feedback from the children has been very positive with most of the children aware what they are learning and why they are learning it.

This Friday we will celebrate the feast day of our Patron Saint, St Rita. Her actual feast day is not until Sunday (22nd). The year 4 and 5 classes are off on their annual school camp on Monday so we couldn't celebrate it then. The day will start with assembly in the big hall led by the children in year 2/3, focusing on St Rita. Children will then return to class before catching a bus to Etty Bay. (There is a permission form attached to this newsletter that must be returned by Thursday) Children are asked to bring a plate of food for a shared morning tea. I ask that there are no chips and lollies. A sausage sizzle lunch will be provided by the school. Please ensure that your child has a spare set of clothes to change into as well as a plastic bag for wet clothes. Shoes must be worn to school but the children can

change into a set of thongs (or similar footwear) for the beach. There will be NO swimming. In the event of torrential rain the children will undertake activities at school. We need plastic Coles bags for an activity at the beach. If each child could bring in 5 bags we should have enough. Parents are more than welcome to attend and help out on the day. We will need a couple of parents to man the BBQ's.

This Thursday night six of our Year Four students receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop James. Thank you to Mrs Eilers who has helped them prepare over the last few weeks. Please keep them in your prayers.

We also ask you to keep in our prayers the young Prep boy from South Johnstone State School, who yesterday afternoon, was critically injured crossing the road in Wangan. Malcolm is in the Townsville hospital.

Tuckshop is in dire need of people who can help run it on a Friday. New parents do not be afraid to put your hand up, as mums who are experienced are happy to assist you learn the ropes. Tuckshop is a great source of income for the P&F and it would be a shame to not have it. It is also a great social experience, where you get to meet parents from other grade levels in the school.

There are only two weeks until our Neon Disco at the PCYC for primary school children only, on Friday 3rd. If you can help out in any way on this night please contact the school office so we can let Mandy know.

Good luck to Nevaeh Galea, Kohan Spry and Luke Magnanini who are competing this Friday in the Innisfail team at the Peninsula

Cross Country. Congratulations also goes to Luke for being selected in the Peninsula U12's Touch Football team to compete later in the year in Roma.

Thank you to Neil Bertram who took time out of his very busy schedule to come in and talk to the students about Electricity last week. He was even able to explain why the school lost power last week and actually brought in the massive 6600 volt fuse that was replaced by Ergon to show the students. We really appreciate the effort Neil went to, preparing a wonderful information session and answering many of the questions the Year 6 students had prepared.

Congratulations to the boys from Years 4, 5 & 6 who competed yesterday as an U12 team in the FNQ School Futsal Titles. The boys did extremely well winning four out of their six matches. Good luck to the girls who play tomorrow.

Have a great week. God bless.

Vicki

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

PENTECOST SUNDAY: THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

On the weekend the Church celebrated Pentecost Sunday. In the Christian tradition it marks the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples (Acts 2:1-11). This enabled them to go out and spread the good news about Jesus. Pentecost is also significant as it signals the end of the Easter Season.



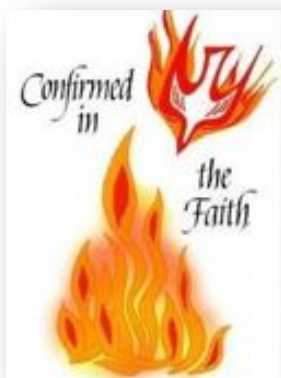
On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem. This event marks the beginning of the Church. After his death Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world. The Spirit is the link between the Father, and the now absent Son. The Spirit inspires the followers of Jesus to continue his mission.

In the context of Pentecost, the gospel (John 20:19-23) reminds us about the strong connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace before commissioning them to go out and continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: RECEIVING THE GIFT OF THE SPIRIT

This Thursday night six of our Year 4 children will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please keep in your prayers Genevieve Lindsay, Jorja Buchanan, Megan Calleja, Tiarne Eilers, Ted Kenny and Matthew Brincat. This is a very special time in the faith journey of these children as they take the next step in becoming full members of the Catholic community.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is an initiation sacrament that completes the sacrament of Baptism. Through Confirmation the participant is sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit and is strengthened in his/her Christian life. This sacrament is called Confirmation because the faith given at Baptism is now confirmed and made strong. It is affirmed by the laying on of hands by the Bishop, the anointing with Chrism oil and is accompanied by special prayers. For the children it is an important stage because they now speak for themselves and renew the promises that their parents and godparents made for them at their baptism.



FEAST DAY OF ST RITA: 22ND MAY

This Friday (20th May) we will celebrate the Feast Day of our school's patron saint – St Rita of Cascia. St Rita was an Augustinian nun from 14th century Italy. She is the patroness of impossible causes and hopeless circumstances. This is mainly due to her very difficult and demanding life. She is remembered as a loving daughter, a dedicated wife and mother, a devoted nun and an exemplary peacemaker.

To honour the life of St Rita we have a special day with a variety of activities planned. It will begin with the Year 2/3 Prayer Assembly at 9.00am and this year will involve a day at Etty Bay. The children will be permitted to wear free dress on Friday, though sun-smart clothing will be required. We will have a shared morning tea when we arrive at the beach so please send along something suitable for this. Lunch will be a sausage sizzle at the Etty Bay Surf Lifesaving Club. The children will participate in group rotational activities throughout the day. We will depart St Rita's after our Prayer Assembly at about 10.15. Our shared morning tea will be approximately from 10.30 -10.55 and lunch at 12.30-1.00pm. Buses will leave the beach at 2.00pm

Parents are most welcome to join us for the day's activities and a few helpers would be greatly appreciated. Once back at school the children will have some quiet time in reflection about St Rita and her example for us and then the day will conclude with the cutting of our Feast Day cake. It should be a fun day for all.



OTHER CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

Tomorrow Fr Kerry will visit the Year 3 /4 and 5 /6 classes and the Prep and Year 1 children will celebrate their first liturgy for the year. The focus for the Liturgy of the Word will be Mary, Our

Mother. This will begin at 11.30 am in the church and all parents are most welcome to join us.



Wishing you all a wonderful week. May the peace of Christ and the determination of St Rita be with you all.

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

TUCKSHOP

There is no tuckshop this week as Friday is Feast Day of St Rita.



ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

Approximately 9am in the Big Hall unless otherwise advised. Please note the schedule is subject to change if necessary.

Week 6 20 May
Week 8 3 June
Week 10 17 June

POSTER COMPETITION TIME

Get your art and craft out kids!

We have a 5 free entry passes into the school disco for the most creative posters advertising our Disco!!

All posters will be placed conveniently around town so keep an eye out for yours.

Your poster must include the following details -

St Rita's Neon theme Kids Night Out Disco
Friday 3rd June 6:30pm-8:30pm at Innisfail PCYC.
\$5 entry

All entries need to be handed in to the office by **next MONDAY** or handed to **Mandy Stone** outside the prep classroom any day.

Make sure to write your and class on the back of your poster.



SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW OVERDUE

Reminder Notices for unpaid Term 2 School Fees were emailed out last Thursday. School Fees are now overdue. Every effort should be made to pay your balance as a matter of urgency.

CES are making a push to enforce strict debt collection procedures. As such if you do not have a regular payment plan in place, please make arrangements for payment as a matter of urgency. Please, if you are having difficulties do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you, Vicki

CAMP FEES

When your child's Camp arrangements are finalized your child's teacher will advise you of the cost of the camp. **Camp Fees will then be added to your School Fee Statement** and the statement will be emailed to you. The Camp Fee component of your statement is due within two weeks

of issue. Camp Fees are payable before your child goes on camp.
The Year 4/5 Camp Fee of \$130 has now been added to the statements.

BOOK FAIR THIS WEEK

Book Fair is held in the little hall during this week.

Book Fair is our biggest school library fundraiser so please support it.

Perhaps you have some birthday or Christmas presents to buy?

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEW DATES IN YELLOW

TERM 2

- 16-20 May Book Fair
- 17 May ICAS Digital Technologies
- 20 May Peninsula Cross Country
- 23-25 May Yr 4/5 Camp – Eco Creek
- 31 May ICAS Science
- 3 June DISCO - PCYC
- 13-17 June ICAS Writing
- 15 June ICAS Spelling
- 15 June 1.30 Instrumental Music Concert
- 20-24 June Interhouse Sports Week
- 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
- 3-4 Aug Prep/Yr 1 Camp
- 16 August ICAS Maths

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
- 2 Dec 12.30pm School Finishes

ICAS TESTING DATES YEARS 3-6 ONLY

Subject	Sitting Date	Closing Date	Price.
Digital Tech	closed		
Science	closed		
Writing	13-17/06/16	23/05/16	\$17.00
Spelling	15/06/16	25/05/16	\$11.00
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.



2016 Boys Futsal Team – well done boys!

Peninsula colours



Presents
EDDIE the EAGLE
(PG)

20, 21 & 22 May
7.30pm
Admission \$8.00



BUILDING CHILDREN'S RESILIENCE

What does resilience really mean?

In general terms, resilience refers to being 'mentally and psychologically tough', being flexible and able to cope with changes, not giving up and 'bouncing back' when disappointments are experienced.

Even though we might feel that our children struggle with resilience, the good news is that **RESILIENCE CAN BE NURTURED and DEVELOPED.**

I hope that if you or child are experiencing challenges with resilience that these tips and ideas might help to begin to nurture and develop resilience further. (These ideas are from the book, "Teach your kids to shrug" by Michael Grose. I highly recommend this book if you would like further information).

- **Teach your kids to SHRUG** sometimes. (To shrug their shoulders in a nonchalant way and say, "Oh well" and walk away.
- **Make time for 'Mooching'** – relaxation, reading. This is particularly important if life is very hectic.
- **Word kids up for resilience** – teach kids words for identifying and managing their emotions.
- **Teach kids not to jump to conclusions** – to slow down, stop and think through the reasons why things have happened and not automatically think the worst.
- **Encourage alone time** – allow children to learn to be comfortable with who they are.
- **Make persisting a family trait** – teach children to stick at things by modelling this as well – showing them how to.
- **Promote good health habits** – good sleep patterns, exercise, help others, talk and relaxation.
- **Communicate confidence** – if you would like your children to be brave, courageous and confident, it is important that you are brave, courageous and confident! Assisting our children to build confidence is not only about encouraging, but about modelling. It is important to challenges kids with real responsibilities and to describe their successes to them.
- **Let kids spend time where they feel confident** – help them find a place or activity where they feel confident, to spend time in that place and to transfer that feeling of confidence to other activities and places.
- **Make encouragement a daily habit** – point out strengths, give some praise, give constructive criticism.
- **Give kids a pat on the head for the right things** – e.g. being cooperative, being brave, being helpful, being tolerant, being patient, being persistent, being friendly.
- **Do enough, but not too much** – allow your child to do some things themselves that are appropriate and assist them to build confidence in this way
- **Tell your story** – share your own struggles and/or successes with resilience and confidence. Share your feelings sometimes.

There are even more wonderful ideas in the book that I am sure you would find as helpful as I have! Resilience is something I'm sure we can all use more of at different times in our lives. Let's work together to make sure that our children all feel even more confident and happy in themselves and feel able to bounce back from all that life can sometimes challenge us with and so that they can feel the gifts presented as well.

Natalie McKenzie (School Counsellor)

NEON DISCO

3rd JUNE | 6:30PM – 8:30PM | \$5 PER CHILD

AT THE INNISFAIL PCYC
Primary School Ages Only



DANCE OFF
COMPETITION



FULLY ADULT SUPERVISED

All children to be registered at drop off



Lochlan

Name:

Date:



On the weekend
I played with
my brother.

Ayden Williams

Name:

Date:

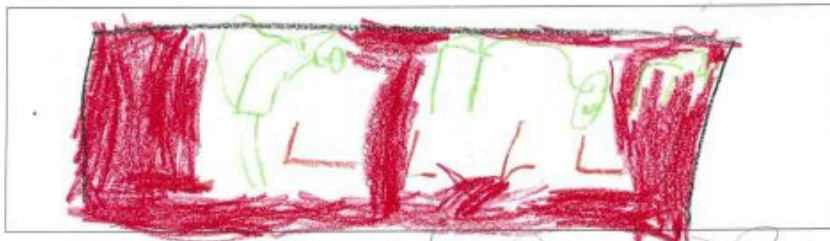


on the weekend
I played tennis.

Pinu

Name:

Date:



on the weekend
I went
to cinema.

ETTY BAY SLSC SIGN ON DAY

Sun 15th
May
9.00 am

Absolutely anyone can join! Have you ever thought about becoming a volunteer surf lifesaver or a ripper? We need both skilled and supportive members to not only help patrol the beautiful Etty Bay, but to fill a number of other important roles.

You could be a patrolling lifesaver, a ripper, a first aid officer, a coach, an official, a fundraiser, a supervisor for our junior activities program, a committee member, a trainer & assessor or a rescue boat driver. We even have roles for people who love to cook up a BBQ!

Joining age is 7 years as at 30th September (or 5 years as at 30th Sept if you have an active sibling or parent). You don't have to be a super fit swimmer, as long as you have a positive attitude, you've got what it takes.

Become a part of an Australian icon and become a surf lifesaver today. No matter if you are young or simply young at heart, there is a role for everyone both on and off the beach. TCU can make a difference to the safety of your beach and community.

Lifesavers come from all walks of life, all ages, shapes and sizes. Surf lifesaving has been built by volunteers who love the beach and their community, who are looking for fun, fitness and seeking new skills and challenges.

To find out more about how you can become a member, please visit the Etty Bay SLSC on Sunday 15th May from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm.

What you will need at Sign on Day

- Birth Certificate/Driver's licence for new members
- 2 forms of ID for members 18 & over (for Blue Card Application)

For members looking to join in & have a go on the day please bring:-

- togs, sunscreen, water & a hat

Ages
7 to 70
years &
over

