

# ST RITA'S SCHOOL, SOUTH JOHNSTONE

Weekly Newsletter Term 2, Week 9 2016

7 June 2016



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I have just received notification that the extra funding has been approved for our building, so now we will finally see some progress. I will shortly be meeting again with the builder to go over final details. We now have to pray for good weather so we can catch up on the weeks of work the project is now behind.

Thank you to everyone who was involved with last Friday nights disco, making it was the success it was. It was great to see our students interacting with students from other schools all having loads of fun and entering in the competitions.

It is timely to remind parents about privacy and that the work teachers have in their classroom, no matter where it is, **is not** for parents to be searching through. Each child has the right to privacy as well as my staff. If you wish to know about your child's progress please talk to the teacher directly. St Rita's has always had an open door policy therefore it would be a shame if classrooms have to be locked when teachers are not there due to the misguided actions of a minority of parents who may spoil it for those who do the right thing.

Last Thursday we successfully completed our external audit. The panel was extremely pleased with what was happening in our school based on

information gained from interviewing the leadership team, staff members, parents and our school leaders. From this process there will be some recommendations made to guide us in our planning for the future of the school. In the coming weeks I will be bringing you some information around the new strategic direction of Catholic Education Cairns.

As part of our own analysis of classroom practices for our recent audit, and ongoing professional development, a term that you will be hearing more of around our school is 'Visible Learning'. Children identifying what they need to be a successful learner, and recognizing when they have successfully learned a topic. The focus is on the steps needed and what they have to do in the future to take themselves to the next level. Watch the newsletter for an upcoming Curriculum Corner from Mrs Curzon keeping you informed on curriculum issues.

This Friday I will be taking four of our Year Six students, Tamsin Darveniza, Summer Dunne, Tyla Plumb and Hamish Hunter to participate in the Readers Cup at St Joseph's School, Parramatta Park. The children have all had to read a series of six books and will undertake activities based on these books on the day. This is the first time we have undertaken this activity so I wish them well. It will be a learning experience for us all.

We are very proud to announce seven of our students have had their illustrated prayers published in this year's Mini

Vinnies' Little Book of Prayers.

Congratulations to Jack Lodge, Kari Cini, Poppi Parmenter, Jason Robinson, Kohan Spry, Hamish Hunter and Zarah Stanley.

This week I am absent at a number of workshops, which continue into next Monday when Miss Watkins and I will be attending a Down Syndrome conference in Townsville.

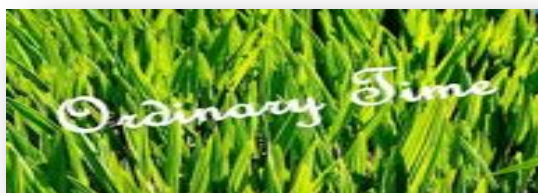
Please note the change in the Sports rotations in the last week of term. As the younger classes in the school are attending the 'Read Me Day' in Tully, the first round of rotations will be Monday afternoon, with none on Tuesday afternoon. Please be advised that the program will change in the event of bad weather.

Have a great week. God bless.

Vicki



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



### WHAT TIME IS IT?

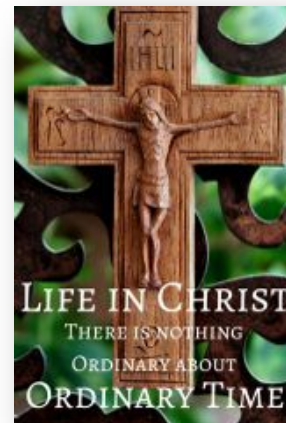
*The return to Ordinary Time began last Sunday. This simply refers to the period of the Catholic*

*Church's liturgical year that falls outside of the major seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter.*

Often people think this refers to the parts of the church year that are unimportant because of the 'connotations' associated with the term 'ordinary' but this is so far from the truth.

**Ordinary Time is called 'ordinary' because the weeks are numbered.** There are 33 or 34 weeks of Ordinary Time each year and these are divided into two periods. The first occurs between Christmas and Lent and the second between Easter and Advent.

The Latin word '*ordinalis*' that refers to numbers is derived from the Latin word '*ordo*' from which comes the English word '*order*'. So in fact, Ordinary Time basically means the ordered life of the Church – the period in which we live our lives neither in feasting nor in penance, but rather reflecting and celebrating our call to follow Jesus each and every day.



### **GOSPEL CONNECTIONS: LUKE 7: 11-17 Young man, I say to you, arise**

Last Sunday's gospel from Luke is more about Jesus' response to the plight of the widowed mother than the restoration of life to her son. For this reason, Luke's Gospel is often called the 'gospel of compassion' and in it is a great example of Jesus being emotionally moved by what he sees. The widowed mother has lost her only means of support – her only son. A woman at that time only had status through her husband or her sons. This widow has lost everything and her grief and tears move Jesus to 'feel sorry' for her. He restores her son to life and returns him to his mother.

The response by the crowd is just as it should be: they are filled with awe and praise God. Their words show that they have truly recognised the significance of what they have just witnessed: **'A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people'**.



- **What moves you to great compassion?**
- **What fills you with awe?**
- **How do you experience the presence of God in your own life?**

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL :  
WINTER APPEAL 2016**



Speaking of compassion...the Church has always engaged itself in acts of service to those in need. As a Catholic school community we too are called to follow this example. One of the very important ways that we do this is through our support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society led by our Minnie Vinnies group. And, there is never a more crucial time to do this than during the season of winter. During the coldest months of the year, it is vital that Vinnies has the resources it needs to assist the most marginalised and vulnerable members of the community.

This winter, the St Vincent de Paul Society is urging all Australians to **'Rethink Homelessness'**, particularly with statistics now showing that 59% of Australians seeking help from specialist homelessness services are women. This is significantly higher than the UK's 26% and the USA's 38%.

[What is even more alarming is the fact that the fastest growing group experiencing homelessness is women over 55. This totally contradicts the common myth that homelessness mostly affects younger men.](#)

Our Minnie Vinnies group here at St. Rita's will meet this week to discuss and formulate an action plan for the coming weeks and Term 3. Stay tuned for more details about how we will raise funds and raise awareness to help the St. Vincent de Paul Society tackle this most devastating problem. For

more information about the Winter Appeal please go to:

[http:// www.vinnies.org.au/2016/rethinkhomelessness](http://www.vinnies.org.au/2016/rethinkhomelessness)

Wishing you all a wonderful week. May God keep you all in his warm and comforting embrace.

Regards,

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

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Sources - The Summit : Volume 43 No. 2 About religion –

[www.catholicism.about.com/od/holydaysand\\_holidays/f/what-does-ordinary-time-mean.htm](http://www.catholicism.about.com/od/holydaysand_holidays/f/what-does-ordinary-time-mean.htm)

Images – [www.slideshare.net](http://www.slideshare.net) [www.examiner.com](http://www.examiner.com)  
[www.saints365blogspot.com](http://www.saints365blogspot.com) [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)



## TUCKSHOP

Friday 17 June, Week 10, we are looking for volunteers to help with tuckshop. If there is anyone out there that can help, please let Malinda know.

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



## ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

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

**Week 10 17 June**

# 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.

26 Oct	Afternoon Parent Session 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

## CYBER SAFETY EXPERT BACK

**Susan McLean Australia's foremost cyber safety expert is back in Innisfail.**

Parent session Wednesday 22 June

3.15pm – 4.45pm

Parent Session Thursday evening June

23 7pm - 8.30pm

Parent Sessions are FREE.

Venue- Good Counsel Theatrette

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEW DATES IN YELLOW

### TERM 2

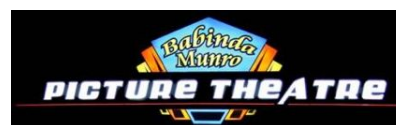
- 13-17 June ICAS Writing
- 15 June ICAS Spelling
- 14 June 1.30 Instrumental Music Concert
- 20-24 June Interhouse Sports Week Rotations – Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
- 21 June Tully Read to Me Day
- 24 June End of Term

### 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
- 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



Presents

### Mother's Day (PG)

10, 11 & 12 June

7.30pm

Admission \$8.00



### Well Women's Clinics

(These clinics are available to Medicare eligible clients)

Mamu Innisfail – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June – Ph: 4061 5102  
Innisfail Hospital – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> 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.

Great opportunity for parents of boys. Don't miss out.

*St Augustine's*  
COLLEGE



## Parents in Touch

*presents*

### An Evening with Dr Ian Lillico

Dr Ian Lillico (father of three sons) is a former Principal, and international consultant in boys' education. He is the founder and CEO of the Boys Forward Institute and has provided professional development for teachers and parents for over ten years.



In his presentation Ian will discuss contemporary practices and theory in dealing with male students from birth to adulthood. Ian will share practical strategies relating to boys and ways of supporting them in school and life.

We are bringing Ian from Western Australia for this event, so I look forward to the community supporting this evening. I know parents will enjoy his presentation and look forward to discussing it.

Br Darren Burge FMS  
Principal

"To hear Ian Lillico speak was so refreshing... The functionality of society and community is tied up with having well balanced boys. Ian gives us parents solutions on how to relate and interact with our boys. This understanding helps build quality relationships during these formative years. Absolutely a message our society clearly needs to hear and act upon."  
Russell & Anne Fiebert Parents

"Ian's seminar was the best in-service I have attended in 22 years. His advice was practical, very interesting and easy to connect with... Every teacher and parent of boys should have the opportunity to listen to Ian. I know I will be a better mother and teacher for having this opportunity. Thank you."  
Karen Campbell Teacher and Parent

#### When

Monday 25 July 2016  
7:00pm – 9:00pm

#### Where

Lennon Hall  
St Augustine's College

#### Who

Parents/Carers/Teachers  
**This is a Parents Only Event**

#### RSVP To The College Office

By Monday 18 July

T: 4051 5555

E: [reception@sac.qld.edu.au](mailto:reception@sac.qld.edu.au)

#### Cost

\$10.00

Payment can be made at  
College Reception or over  
the phone with a credit card

"... / did this presentation by Ian was founded on respect - respect for boys, respect for their families, their schools and their education. Not judgemental, not pessimistic, not patronising. He glad I went. I'll certainly be visiting the web site for follow up PD."  
Shirley Gordon

# Celebrating 50 years of Catholic Education in Dimbulah

*To Seek, To Strive, To Find for Love of God*



All past Teachers, Teacher Aides, Administration Staff,  
Parents, Students and Community Members are  
invited to attend the weekend of festivities.

## Saturday 27th August

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Dinner Dance, Dimbulah Shire Hall

Doors open 6pm, Dinner served 6.30pm, Music by local band 'Careless'

## Sunday 28th August

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10am Sign-on and Celebration Mass, St Anthony's Church, followed by  
activities, fashion parade, class displays, photos and memorabilia from the past

Guest Speakers and cake cutting

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea available for purchase from  
P & F Association stall

Photos and contributions are sought to assist with a **Commemorative 50  
Years Book**. Businesses and families are invited to sponsor a page. The  
booklet, souvenir items including a paver engraved with family details  
are available for purchase from the website. Visit [www.sta.qld.edu.au](http://www.sta.qld.edu.au) or  
Facebook Page 'St Anthony's Celebrates 50 years'.

Contact [secretary.dimbulah@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:secretary.dimbulah@cns.catholic.edu.au) or 4093 5319

P: 4093 5319 W: [www.sta.qld.edu.au](http://www.sta.qld.edu.au)