

Weekly Newsletter

WEEK 9 - TERM 1

ST RITA'S SCHOOL

SOUTH JOHNSTONE



25TH March 2014

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you to Denise and the Year Seven children for the wonderful Harmony Day assembly on Friday. Australia is an extremely diverse country and the majority of us will have an overseas ancestor to thank for the wonderful life we experience today.

Last Friday the school was a sea of colourful hair. Some of the creations would have put Stefan to shame. I am pleased to advise that we raised approximately \$360 for the Leukemia Foundation.

Congratulations to Anna Louise Celledoni who bravely stood before the congregation at church on Sunday, at Christ the King, Mourilyan and read the day's readings. It is encouraging to see young parishioners taking on ministry roles. Anna Louise is an inspiration to others.

Next Tuesday is set down for our annual Palmerston/Fitzgerald School Cross Country challenge. Fitzgerald to date has the lead on lap running of a morning. Weather pending, we will walk to Chap Chappa Park at 1p.m. and begin races by 1.30p.m. Parents are welcome to attend, but please be aware that all children, Prep through to Year 7 will participate. Distances are as follow:

2009 (5 years in 2014) 300m
2008 (6 years in 2014) 500m
2007 (7 years in 2014) 1km
2006 (8years in2014) 1km
2005 (9 years in 2014) 2km
2004 (10 years in 2014) 2km
2003, 2002, 2001 (11, 12, 13 years in 2014) 3km

Next week Parent/Teacher interviews will be in progress. **I urge all parents to be on time and to stick to time limits.** If further discussion is necessary make an appointment to talk to the teacher at another time convenient to both parties. Some parents have a number of interviews to attend so one late time slot can hold up the whole school.

This Thursday will be the last league tag club for the term due to parent/teacher interviews next week. Parents dust off your shoes as if weather permits, the parent/student league tag match will be on Friday April 4th at 2.15p.m. All parents are welcome to participate. You do not have to have a child in Year Six/Seven. Thank you to Mr Rossi and the children for their commitment over the last term. Watch out for a new sport next term.

Last week interviews took place for our new Prep teacher. **Today I am sending out an SOS for accommodation that anyone may know of and if anyone may have spare furniture.** The successful applicant, Ms Ursula Pretorius, will be moving north with her two small children and all donations will go a long way to making the move north easier. If you can help out in any way please see me, as she will be at school next Tuesday to meet staff, students and parents and liaise with April.

How wonderful is it to walk from the back gate and not get wet in this inclement weather? Thank you to Duncan and his crew for getting the job done quickly, as well as to the wonderful family who made this venture possible by their generous donation.

Have a great week.

God bless.

Vicki

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION

Today, 25th March we celebrate the feast of the Annunciation. This rather unique word simply means an announcement or

proclamation. It has special meaning though when it refers to the announcement made by the angel

Gabriel to Mary that God had chosen her to be the mother of his son.

According to Luke's gospel (1: 26-38) the angel Gabriel told Mary to name her son Jesus, which means 'saviour'.

On this day we commemorate Mary's acceptance of God's will and the conception of Christ nine months before Christmas. The annunciation, as much as or even more so than Christmas, represents Christ's Incarnation (the central mystery of Christianity that God took on human nature and became man).

The narrative of the Annunciation testifies strongly to the truth of the Catholic tradition that Mary played a very important role in God's plan and that together with Jesus, the privileged and graced Mary is the link between heaven and earth.

We are continually reminded of the importance of this feast to our salvation in various devotional prayers. Two examples that highlight the significance of this feast are the *joyous mysteries of the Rosary* and the *Angelus*.



DO YOU PERHAPS RECOGNIZE THE PICTURE ABOVE? HAVE YOU SEEN IT SOMEWHERE BEFORE?

It is a famous painting about a famous prayer : the Angelus. In this 19th century work by French painter Jean-Francois Millet, a farming couple prays the Angelus at dusk.

This prayer is well suited to the artist's subject matter; two humble people paying homage to our Lord and His blessed Mother in the Hail Mary together with Gospel verses which recall his Incarnation as he entered the world. Its name comes from its opening line in Latin, "*Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariae*" – "*The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary*".

It is said that this wonderful prayer evolved from a recitation of three Hail Mary's following an evening bell around the 12th century. Many of you may remember saying the Angelus at 12 o'clock every day while attending school. Traditionally, the Angelus

was said three times daily, at 6 am, noon and 6 pm although nowadays you can pray it anytime.

In a nutshell, it sums up Mary's great news!
(WHEN PRAYED IN A GROUP A LEADER RECITES THE VERSES AND EVERYONE RECITES BOTH THE RESPONSES AND THE HAIL MARY'S IN BETWEEN EACH VERSE AS SHOWN BELOW.)

**V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
(Pray 1st Hail Mary)**

**V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done unto me according to they Word.
(Pray 2nd Hail Mary)**

**V. And the Word was made flesh.
R. And dwelt among us.
(Pray 3rd Hail Mary)**

**V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

LET US PRAY

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

(Source : www.ourcatholicprayers.com)

PROJECT COMPASSION NEWS : Week 4

MARTINA FROM THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

Martina is a teacher in the Solomon Islands. Her favourite part of the school day is teaching the children songs from Caritas Australia's Disaster Risk Management Project.

Using well-known tunes and simple lyrics, children learn what to do in the event of potential disasters that face the Solomon Islands such as cyclones, floods, earthquakes and tsunamis.

"Nursery rhymes break down the fear associated with natural disasters, and also help children memorise the rhymes and the emergency response," said Martina.

“They enjoy the singing.”

Martina’s school in Ngossi is in a region, much like many in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, that is prone to all manner of natural disasters.

Adam Elliott, Caritas Australia’s Solomon Islands and Vanuatu Program Manager, said disasters often occur early in the morning when the children are at school. So it is very important for the young children to learn strategies to be safe during disasters and emergencies.

“This season we’re better prepared and know how to respond, and in an emergency this can make all the difference,” said Martina.



See Martina’s class sing and dance, and hear more about how her teaching is changing their lives in a short film at www.caritas.org.au/project/compassion

Have a wonderful week. Peace be with you,
Denise

FETE

Help needed.

If you are able to help out in any way, either in the planning or during the event, please return the Stall Workers list to the office as soon as possible.

SCHOOL FEES

& Instrumental Music Fees ARE NOW OVERDUE!

School fees are now well overdue. All accounts should be paid by the end of Term. If you are having difficulty paying please contact Jenni or Vicki.

Remember, not to pay is not an option. New fee collection procedures will be activated according to Catholic Education Cairns new fee collection policy.



DIRECT DEBITTING SCHOOL PAYMENTS

Please indicate in your description whether the amount is for fees or other. Amounts without a description will automatically go against school fees.

Account Name: RCTC for the Diocese of Cairns
- St Rita’s School, South
Johnstone

Account No: 00000 50 18 BSB: 084352

DATE CLAIMER

ST RITA’S FETE

SATURDAY 31ST MAY, 2014
4.00PM – 9.00PM

TUG-OF-WAR

We are again having our Tug-of-war Competition at this year’s fete.

Sponsors are needed.

If you are interested in sponsoring this event, or know of a business that may be interested, please see Jenni Taylor or Jo Spry.

It is probably time to get your team organized and build those muscles.

REMINDER

Just a reminder be on the lookout for suitable prizes for our Cent Sales coming up on Mother’s Day Morning Tea and of course our Fete in May. These can be left at the office. Thank you for your continued support

ICAS Testing Dates Years 3-7 ONLY!

Competition	Sitting Date	Closing Date	Price
Computer	20 May	15 April	\$8.80
Science	4 June	30 April	\$8.80
Writing	16 June	12 May	\$18.70
Spelling	17 June	12 May	\$12.10
English	29 July	24 June	\$8.80
Maths	12 Aug	24 June	\$8.80

Unfortunately, we are unable to take any late nominations so please have your envelope into the school office by 9.00am of the closing date indicated. Thank you.

IMPORTANT REMINDER
HOMEWORK CLUB
CLOSES AT 4.00PM
EVERY FRIDAY.



MUNRO THEATRE BABINDA
28th, 29th & 30th March

Commencing 7.30pm
Admission \$8

“ROBO COP”
- Rated: M

HOMEWORK CLUB

*This facility operates due to the commitment of the St Rita's staff on a volunteer roster and is **NOT** to be used as a baby-sitting service for beauty appointments and coffee dates. The teachers are giving their precious time and are all parents a well. Abuse of the facility may see your children being disallowed useage.*

The facility operates from Monday to Friday. A teacher will be on duty Monday to Thursday until **4.30pm and 4.00pm on Friday.**

A booking sheet operates through the school office.

Children **MUST** be booked in to use the facility **BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN** as there are days that Homework Club cannot run due to staff responsibilities off campus.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE ARE LIMITED DAYS NEXT WEEK DUE TO PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS.

TNT Department Ediq uette Academy

Coming to Innisfail - 27 March 2014 3.30pm - 5.30pm. Let your little ones be the talk of the town because of their manners. We finish with an Enchanted Tea Party - Prep to Year 3
THE COURSE IS PERFECT TO TEACH Confidence & Social Skills Topics: Manners for home & school Table manners, Posture, Hygiene Habits, Party Manners, Beat Bullying & Rudeness AND meet Mr Marvellous Manners himself.

Marvellous Manners for Little Ones
North Qlds Most Popular Children's Course
Bookings essential - Registration
tntdepartment.com.au OR 0438421741
12 places per course — ACT QUICKLY
Certificates are awarded to each child

CANCER COUNCIL QLD LAMINGTON DRIVE

\$12 per dozen

Phone Lydia 40 645 281 / 0424 649 093

Swimming Pool & Gym Kurrimine Beach School Holidays Swim & Fitness Camp 7-10 April 2014

14-17 April 2014

\$30 per day or

\$100 for the (4day) course

10am-2pm Monday to Thursday

This day camp will include group Learn To Swim and Stroke Correction for all four competitive strokes, fitness swimming sessions, introduction to gym and cross-fit training, (including circuit training, boxing, yoga and pilates), nutrition and goal setting, as well as obstacle courses, water games and play activities! The camp is suited to all swim levels; from beginner to competitive athletes will enjoy and benefit from this camp!

PWH Swim Camps are run by

Alex Glasson level 2 Ascta Swim Coach, Austswim LTS teacher,
Fitness Australia Group Fitness Trainer, Blue Card Holder
Jonah Glasson Swim Australia LTS teacher

Qld Youth Performance Squad & National Age Group swimmer.

For more information or to book

phone **Alex on 0428571363** or email

pelicanwaterhole851@gmail.com

please note; bookings are essential as spaces are limited

**Pelican Waterhole 851 Murdering Point Road
Kurrimine Beach, QLD 4871**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - TERM 1

APRIL	
WEEK 10 – PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS	
1	Palmy/Fitzy Cross Country
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easter Assembly • Parent –v- Kids League Tag Comp

DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 2	
21 st April	Easter Monday
22 nd April	Start of Term
25 th April	Anzac Day
9 th May`	Mother's Day Morning Tea
11 th May	Mother's Day
13, 14 & 15 May	NAPLAN
19 th May	Book Fair
21 st May	School Photos
31 st May	FETE
9 th June	Queen's Birthday Holiday
27 th June	End of Term

TERM 3	
11 th July	Innisfail & District Show
14 th July	Start of Term
27 th July – 1 st Aug	Catholic Education Week
18 th & 19 th Aug	Prep/Year 1 Camp
27,28 & 29 Aug	Year 4/5 Camp
14 th to 18 th Sept	Year 6/7 Camp
19 th Sept	End of Term

TERM 4	
6 th Oct	Labour Day Holiday
7 th Oct	Start of Term
8 th	Parent Session – Puberty Talk 2-3
22 nd Oct	Wonder of Living (Years 1-7)
31 st Oct	World Teachers Day
4 th Nov	Melbourne Cup Luncheon
10 th – 14 th Nov	Prep to Year 2 Swimming
17 th – 21 st Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 3 to 7 Swimming • Christmas Book Fair
11 th	Remembrance Day
5 th Dec	End of Term

APRIL 2014

FNQ FC SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINICS

4 PLANNED LOCATIONS:

CAIRNS

PORT DOUGLAS*

INNISFAIL*

MAREEBA*

*also feature Squirts & Girls Only

*subject to participant numbers

COST: \$145pp (includes FNQ Heat jersey)

ALSO AVAILABLE

GIRLS ONLY CLINIC
AGE 6-13

Dates: Mon 7 April – Thursday 10 April
Cost: \$145pp (includes FNQ Heat jersey)
Venue: Cairns State High School

SQUIRTS
AGE 3-5

Dates: Mon 7 April – Thursday 10 April
Cost: \$55pp (includes FNQ Heat Squirts tshirt)
Venue: Cairns State High School

register online at www.fnqfc.com.au or via email: community@fnqfc.com.au



*STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED AWARDS AT
LAST FRIDAY'S ASSEMBLY.*



FUNKY HAIR DAY



ST PATRICK'S CONCERT