

# Weekly Newsletter

WEEK 2 - TERM 2

**ST RITA'S SCHOOL**

**SOUTH JOHNSTONE**



29th April, 2014

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Let me ask you a question - "Would you let a stranger into your child's bedroom?" Last weekend I was fortunate to attend the Queensland Parent and Friends Conference in Cairns. As part of the conference Susan McLean, Australia's foremost expert in the area of cyber-safety and young people, spoke to the parents about this very question. She suggested getting technology out of children's bedrooms and into an area of the house where parents can monitor their usage.

Susan talked about popular sites for kids. Sites such as Facebook, Instagram, kids games such as Club Penguin & Minecraft, Twitter and the dangers of online games such as World of Warcraft. I am told that some of our senior children have an app called KiK. Legally a person has to be 17 to have this app. Susan was adamant that younger children should not have access to this app as it has a number of adult only aspects embedded in it.

Susan wanted to make people aware of privacy settings and location services in relation to these networking sites. Make sure that information is for friends only and that location services were turned off so that predators could not easily locate where the device was being used from. A predator can gain all they need to know in as little as five questions. Parents should be parents and say "NO!" Go into the restriction settings and set them to what you want.

She was not suggesting that we punish our children by taking technology away from them as this is the world in which they live. She did however want us to make our children tech savvy and aware of their "digital footprint". Snapchat photos do not get lost after fifteen seconds, they are easily retrieved off the device if need be by different agencies. The internet and the various applications are a lot of fun and a wonderful tool ... maximize the benefits and surf safely together.

It was wonderful to see so many of our littlies out there and taking part in the Football Club. There are still seven spots left for anyone who is interested.

At last night's P & F meeting the issue was raised of extra traffic starting to pass the school with the introduction of at least 40 iron ore trucks on the way to the harbor each day. We are going to pen a petition to the local council to see if they will do something with the parking in Driscoll Street as a safe alternative, now that we have the covered walkway, to parking at the front of the school in Green Street. I will notify parents and interested community members when it is ready to come in and sign. .

With just over a week till our annual Mother's Day Morning Tea we are still calling for Cent Sale Prizes and helpers for the event. Please complete the form sent home the other day for

planning purposes. This is always a great morning so let's get behind it.

Have a great week. God bless.

Vicki

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### EASTER 101:

#### **A Fifty Day Celebration**

As you know Easter is the commemoration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, three days after his crucifixion. This event, that was foreshadowed in the Old Testament and by Jesus himself, is the cornerstone of our Catholic faith. By remembering Christ's resurrection, we become aware that we too will rise again.

In his first Easter message last March, Pope Francis said that Easter means that, *"the love of God is stronger than evil and death itself; it means that the love of God can transform our lives and let those desert places in our hearts bloom. Easter is the exodus, the passage of human beings from the slavery of sin and evil to the freedom of love and goodness."*



It is little wonder then why we celebrate this important season for 50 days. On this note theologian Nathan Mitchell writes, *"the great fifty days are not an unwelcome, unrealistic obligation to 'party on' even if we don't feel like it, but an invitation to explore more deeply the 'weather of the heart' to awaken our memory of God's presence and power in our lives."*

So while Easter does not really have the commercial impact of Christmas and we don't really get an extra day holiday as it always falls

on a Sunday, it is nonetheless an extremely important time for all Catholics because it is an opportunity for listening and for learning.

During this season many stories in the gospels tell of Jesus appearing to the disciples after his resurrection. Each visit strengthened the disciples faith that Jesus had truly risen, and that he was truly the Messiah. Jesus also hands on to them his own mission. This mission to be messengers that the first disciples received, is also given to us. So when we here the gospel words of Jesus today, they are being spoken to us.

#### Reflection

*How can we 'see and touch' Jesus today?*

*What helps me to understand the Scriptures?*

*How can I bring the message of Jesus to others?*

#### A Prayer After Easter by Erin M Cline

O God of the Last Supper

God of the Cross

And God of the Empty Tomb

We come before you now and we pause.

We inhale the scent of snow white Easter lilies.  
We see rain as it falls in veils and sheets of April showers.  
And we listen.

Holy Week has passed.

But how we long to live by the marvellous story we have heard.

Let us remain ever beside you at the table of the Last Supper.

Show us who is hungry.

And give us the courage to offer them bread from your table.

Show us who is thirsty.

And give us strength to lift up the cup of your love.

Most of all, show us how to linger at the table,  
serving others-  
Doing ALL that we do  
In remembrance of You,  
And the way You were when You walked this  
earth.

We lift these simple, limited words  
Up to you, O God.  
Amen

Have a wonderful week. And may the peace of  
the risen Christ be with you as we journey  
together through this special time of  
Easter.

Regards,  
Denise



## NO ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

**PLEASE NOTE: Due to  
commitments on Fridays there  
will only be assemblies on  
Weeks 4, 7 & 10.**

## MOTHER'S DAY MORNING TEA HELPERS

A flyer for helpers for the Mother's Day Morning Tea to be held on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> May, was handed out last week. Please take the time to read it, complete it and return to the school office by next Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> April.

A book of raffle tickets was attached to the flyer. Please sell as many tickets as possible.

**WE URGENTLY NEED CENT SALE  
PRIZES. THESE CAN BE LEFT AT THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE.**

## SCHOOL FEES



Term 2 School Fees were sent home yesterday with the eldest child in the family. If your child has not passed them to you, you will find them in their school bag. Please kindly make every effort to pay these fees by the due date. If you are having difficulty paying please contact Jenni or Vicki.

**TUCKSHOP** will recommence in  
Week 4.

## ACTIVITIES LEVY

You will see on your Term 2 Fees Invoice that we have now included an Activity Levy, billed per student per term. As advised previously this includes all the little payments that are usually requested from you throughout the year eg. Performing Arts Productions, transport to activities, swimming etc. This levy does not include fees for camps or some payments for some sporting activities where only certain students attend. These fees will be requested separately as they occur throughout the year.

### DIRECT DEBITING 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

## STOP PRESS!

**ST RITA'S FETE**  
**SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014**  
**4.00PM – 9.00PM**

**MOTHERS' DAY**  
**MORNING TEA**  
**FRIDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2014 - 9.30AM**

## CENT SALE ITEMS

Just a reminder to 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.

## EASTER RAFFLE WINNERS

1<sup>st</sup> - William Macgillivray  
2<sup>nd</sup> Eden Cini  
3<sup>rd</sup> Heidi Piccolo  
4<sup>th</sup> Coen Stephensen

## BOOK CLUB - ISSUE 3

Book Club order forms were sent home last week. If you wish to order from this issue please have your order into the school office no later than 7<sup>th</sup> May. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to the school.



Condolences to the Foschi Family on the passing of their Great-Grandmother in Ayr. Our prayers are with you at this sad time. (Janita's Grandmother).

## ICAS Testing Dates Years 3-7 ONLY!

Competition	Sitting Date	Closing Date	Price
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.**

**HOMEWORK CLUB**

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.

**INNISFAIL LIBRARY ON THE MOVE**

The Innisfail Library will close at 49 Rankin Street on Saturday 3 May at 12.00 noon to allow the move to 57-59 Rankin Street (cnr of Grace Street) where the library will re-open on Monday 12 May at 0.00am. We look forward to seeing you in our new temporary site from 12 May.

**ETTY BAY SURF LIFE SAVING  
SIGN ON**

**WHERE:** Etty Bay Surf Life Saving Club  
**WHEN:** Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2014  
**TIME:** 9.00 -11.00 am  
**WHO:** Children 7 years of age to Masters  
**New & past members all welcome.**  
(NOTE – Children aged 5 years of age can also join if a parent or older sibling is an active member). Age is determined as at midnight 30<sup>th</sup> September.

**ALL WELCOME  
HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE BEACH**

**STUDENT TRAVEL REBATES**

**Semester 1, 2014 Bus Fare Assistance**

- Does your child attend a **school outside the Brisbane City Council** boundary?
- Does your family spend more than **\$25/week\*** on fares to and from school (\* \$20/week if you hold a concession card)?
- Does your child travel on a **publicly available bus** not owned or associated with the school?

**Students with Disabilities**

- Does your child have a **verified disability** that requires **transport assistance** to and from school?
- Has your school's learning support teacher assessed your child's **travel capability rating** as 'semi-independent' or more dependent?

Visit our website to see if you qualify for financial assistance to

help with the cost of transport and apply at [www.schooltransport.com.au](http://www.schooltransport.com.au)

**by 31 May 2014.**

**Late applications cannot be accepted.**



**MUNRO THEATRE BABINDA**

2, 3 & 4 May

Commencing 7.30pm  
Admission \$8

**“American Hustle”  
- Rated: M**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS - TERM 2**

<b>WEEK 2</b>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	SMCSA Cross Country
<b>WEEK 3</b>	
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Book Club closes
9 <sup>th</sup> May`	Mother's Day Morning Tea
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Mother's Day
<b>WEEK 4</b>	
13, 14 & 15 May	NAPLAN
<b>WEEK 5</b>	
19 <sup>th</sup> May	Book Fair
20 <sup>th</sup> May	ICAS Computer Skills
21 <sup>st</sup> May	School Photos
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	St Rita's Feast Day
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Peninsula Cross Country

<b>WEEK 6</b>	
28 <sup>th</sup> May	- Young Performers Choir Day - Girl's Futsal (Yr 6/7)
29 <sup>th</sup> May	Boys' Futsal (Yr 6/7)
<b>WEEK 7</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> June	Sunday - Peninsula Soccer
4 <sup>th</sup> June	ICAS Science
<b>WEEK 8</b>	
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Queen's Birthday Holiday
<b>14<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>SCHOOL FETE</b>
<b>WEEK 9</b>	
16 <sup>th</sup> June	ICAS Writing
17 <sup>th</sup> June	ICAS Spelling
20 <sup>th</sup> June	Fitzgerald -v- Palmerston Day
<b>WEEK 10</b>	
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Peninsula Touch & Softball
24 <sup>th</sup> June	Reading Day - Tully (P-Yr 2)
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Brave Hearts
27 <sup>th</sup> June	End of Term

## DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>TERM 3</b>	
11 <sup>th</sup> July	Innisfail & District Show
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Start of Term
27 <sup>th</sup> July – 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug	Catholic Education Week
18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Prep/Year 1 Camp
27,28 & 29 Aug	Year 4/5 Camp
14 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Year 6/7 Camp
19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	End of Term
<b>TERM 4</b>	
6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Labour Day Holiday
7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Start of Term
8 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Session – Puberty Talk 2-3
22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	Wonder of Living (Years 1-7)
31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	World Teachers Day
4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Melbourne Cup Luncheon
10 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Prep to Year 2 Swimming
17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 3 to 7 Swimming</li> <li>• Christmas Book Fair</li> </ul>
11 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day
5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	End of Term

## BOOGAN STARS JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB ALEX SMITH COACHING CLINIC

**You won't want to miss this!!**

Registered Boogan Players are invited to attend a training Clinic with Heat Player and Accredited Coach Alex Smith. This Clinic will be held at Boogan Club Grounds, Castor Park Mourilyan, Wednesdays afternoons commencing 30th April, Castor Park, Mourilyan.

4.00pm - 5.00pm - *u6, u7 and u8*

5.00pm - 6 pm - *u9, u10, u11, u12, u13, u14.*

Cost \$6.00/player/session = \$30.00 for the five week program.

*Please register your interest with Moira Sultana email: [janabuilding@bigpond.com](mailto:janabuilding@bigpond.com)*

Read Up... Read Up...

the

CIRCUS

is in town!



P-3 Reading Day, Tue 24 June

# Read up....Read up....the circus is coming to town!



Hello! My name is Carmen Pedroni and I am the Arts teacher at Feluga, El Arish and Mission Beach State schools.

This year I am the contact person ( for schools) for the P-3 Reading Day in Tully on Tuesday the 24 June.

Yes folks , the time is drawing near. The theme for this year's reading day is "Circus"..... so start thinking creatively about how you can incorporate some 'Circus' elements into your curriculum for next term.

Holly from El Arish will address her technology KLA by having her students make various circus equipment/costumes. Go Holly!

If you know of some fantastic 'Circus ' books or music please let me know so I can share it with others.

I will be back in touch closer to the time. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need more information about the day.

Happy reading.

Carmen Pedroni

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carmen'.

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