

Weekly Newsletter

WEEK 5 - TERM 2

ST RITA'S SCHOOL

SOUTH JOHNSTONE



20th May, 2014

Dear Parents and Caregivers

If you haven't as yet had the opportunity to visit Bookfair it will be set up in the little hall all week. Remember this is a great way for us to put new stock into our school library. Thank you Mrs Kelly for you Egyptian props.

Tomorrow is school photo day. Children must be dressed in the correct formal uniform. Black shoes for all and girls are to have only blue, black or white accessories in their hair. I do realize there is a lot of sickness in the school at present but this cannot be helped. If your child is not well you may be able to find what time their photo is and bring them in just for the photo.

Thursday is the feast of St. Rita. St. Rita is the patron saint of impossible causes. She had a very hard life but through it all maintained her love for her God. Children are asked to bring along something for a shared morning tea. Following morning tea we will be celebrating with a liturgy at 11.30 in the church to which everyone is welcome to attend. Following the liturgy the children will be involved in a series of fun activities for the rest of the day. They will be able to wear free dress, once again for a bottle donation for the fete. If you are stuck for ideas pop your head into the office and see what was given last week. We need volunteers to help with our sausage sizzle lunch. Children will

not need to bring along lunch unless they do not eat sausages.

Friday is "Walk to School Day". This will depend on the weather. Children coming to school early can walk up to the park with the teachers, otherwise parents can meet near the playground at the park, leave their cars there and walk to school. Parents will be transported back to the park afterwards to collect their cars. A decision will be made on Thursday afternoon as to the running of this activity.

Please put in your calendars August 7th as this is the date set down for our 2014 session with Maggie Dent. More information will be made available as the day draws closer.

With the introduction of the new Shared Services system in administration, we are asking parents to make sure that your current details are up to date. If you have changed your address or phone number, or have a different emergency contact person, please make sure to contact Jenni so data can be updated. The advantage of the new system is, if you have children at Good Counsel College your details will be automatically updated there, when you do it with us.

A call has gone out again for parents to be involved in the new Catholic Education video. It would be great to have a St Rita's parent telling everyone how wonderful a Catholic education is, especially our school. If you are interested please email dianne@suasive.com.au for more info.

I have contacted the council through Mark Nolan re parking in Driscoll Street. It would not hurt if we all championed this cause. Hopefully we will have good news in the future. Mark is very concerned about our plight.

With just over three weeks till the fete I ask everyone to get behind this event. Remember if we all work together the job won't seem so big and it is all our children who benefit. I do realize that families do have other commitments on the night, but may be able to do something before hand.

I leave you with a thought that I heard recently:

Around the world we all speak in different languages but smile in one. So this week smile at someone and make their day.

Have a great week. God bless.
Vicki

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

LET'S CELEBRATE:

ST RITA'S FEAST DAY - THIS THURSDAY



May 22nd is the Feast Day of St. Rita of Cascia. St Rita was an Augustinian nun from 14th century Italy. She is the patroness of impossible causes and hopeless circumstances because of her difficult and demanding life. Through her trials God used her in remarkable ways, not only while she lived, but now from heaven she assists those who plead for her intercession for their seemingly impossible and hopeless circumstances.

History

From an early age St. Rita desired to become a nun, but her parents insisted that she marry at a young age. St. Rita did so in obedience to them. Adding to her disappointment, the man she married was cruel and harsh, and she spent 18 years in a very difficult marriage. Two sons were born to her whom she loved deeply. After many years it is reported that she eventually won her husband over to greater civility and kindness.

In the 14th century Italy was rampant with families feuding in vicious circles of assassinations and violent vendettas. St. Rita's family was caught up in this and her husband was murdered as a result. She mourned his death and interceded for his soul with great earnest.

Her two young sons talked of avenging their father's death. However, St. Rita did all she could to guide her children into forgiveness. Prayer was her only hope. She prayed that God would change the evil swelling up in their hearts or

allow them to die before they committed a mortal sin. God granted her prayers. Both her sons died within a year of natural causes and thus were prevented from following the path of their father. After the death of her husband and sons, St. Rita was all alone in the world and sought again to enter the convent. She was turned away because of her family's association with civil strife. So once again, facing crushing disappointment and yet another impossible situation she turned to prayer and the intercession of the saints.

St. Rita's sincerity and spirit of charity and forgiveness prevailed and she was eventually granted entry. She became known as a holy and prayerful nun, who often meditated on the sufferings of Jesus Christ.

During the forty years she lived in the convent she enjoyed many mystical experiences with Christ. She died on May 22 at Cascia in 1457 and was canonized in 1900.

Symbols

The Forehead wound - One day when she was about 60 and was praying before a crucifix, St. Rita received a visible wound on her forehead. This was a mystical, yet visible mark of Jesus' wound from the crown of thorns, symbolizing her unity with Christ in his sufferings. She bore this external sign for the next 15 years of her life.

Roses

A story is told that near the end of her life, St. Rita was bed-ridden at the convent. A relative visited her and asked her if she desired anything from her old home. Rita responded by asking for a rose from her garden. The relative did not expect to find one as it was Winter. However, upon arrival at Rita's home her relative found a single blooming rose in the garden. She took the rose back to Rita in the convent. St. Rita is often depicted holding roses or with roses nearby.

Our Celebration

In honour of St. Rita, on Thursday we will celebrate her special day with a variety of activities. It will be a 'fun' day at school and the children are permitted to wear free dress. The following is an outline of the day's events. Parents are most welcome to join us for any or all of these.

11.00 Shared Morning Tea (Could each family please bring a plate to share)
11.30 Liturgy of the Word (In the Church)
12.00 **Group Activities** (Children will be in mixed age groups and rotate through the different activities)
12.30 **Group Activities**
1.00 Sausage Sizzle (Children may like to bring their own lunch if they would prefer)
1.30 - 3.00 **Group Activities Continued**

This should be an enjoyable day and one that will hold great significance for each of our students here at St. Rita's. Looking forward to seeing some of you on Thursday.

Peace be with you,
Denise

SCHOOL PHOTOS TOMORROW!

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ST RITA'S FEAST DAY

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NO ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

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

SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW OVERDUE



Term 2 Invoices were due last Monday, 12 May 2014. Thank you to the families who have paid their school fees. Please kindly make every effort to pay any outstanding fees as a matter of urgency. This is particularly important this term as we start to purchase items for fete preparations. If you are having any difficulties paying please contact Jenni or Vicki. Thank you.

TERM 2 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC FEES



Term 2 Instrumental Music Invoices were issued last week. If your child has not given these to you, please look in their school bag. Thank you.

GOOD COUNSEL COLLEGE – INNISFAIL ENROLMENT FOR YEAR 7 & 8 – 2015

Applications for enrolment may be obtained from the College office at 66 Owen Street, Innisfail or by phoning 40 635 300.

Orientation Days for incoming students are as follows:

- Year 8 - Orientation Day, Wednesday, 22nd October
- Year 7 - Orientation Day, Wednesday, 5th November.

Enrolment packages are available from St Rita's school office.

SCHOOL PHOTOS TOMORROW MORNING

If you require sibling photos these are available from the counter in the office.

Please note that photos **MUST** be paid for by **TOMORROW**. We act as agents for Advancedlife Photographers. Please enclose the correct money as we cannot give change. The envelopes are handed directly to the company on the day.

FREE DRESS DAY

THIS THURSDAY students are welcome to come to school in free dress. Instead of a monetary donation students are asked to bring in a **BOTTLE** item to help with the fete. Families with more than two children need only bring in two items. Please make sure that the items will not be out of date by fete day and are not damaged or rusty. Students are asked to bring these items to the office.

Volunteers to gurney

There are a lot of areas around the school that need to be gurnied before the fete. If you can spare some time outside of school hours sometime between now and 9 June please come into the office and arrangements can be made.

TUCKSHOP THIS WEEK

Walkway Access

With the weather we have had it has been wonderful to have our covered walkway. However, it would be appreciated if when parking your vehicle, you could please leave clear access to the gate. Please do not park up on the footpath outside the gate. Thank you.

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 14TH JUNE 2014
4.00PM – 9.00PM

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Girls' Futsal date has been changed from Wednesday, 28th May to Friday, 30th May, due to the unexpected number of nominations.

ICAS Testing Dates Years 3-7 ONLY!

Competition	Sitting Date	Closing Date	Price
Science		CLOSED	
Writing		CLOSED	
Spelling		CLOSED	
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.

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.

MUNRO THEATRE BABINDA

23, 24 & 25 May

Commencing 7.30pm

Admission \$8

“THE LEGO MOVIE”

– IN 3D” - Rated: PG

STUDENT TRAVEL REBATES

Semester 1, 2014 Bus Fare Assistance

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 by 31 May 2014. Late applications cannot be accepted.

Little Athletics Queensland (LAQ) Winter Championships

Sat 28th & Sun 29th June 2014

Townsville Sports Reserve

For children 6 - 16

Nomination fees per child:

LAQ Registered \$10.00

Non-LAQ Registered \$15.00

For further detail visit the LAQ webpage

www.laq.org.au

CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM 2

WEEK 5	
19 th May	Book Fair
20 th May	ICAS Computer Skills
21 st May	School Photos
22 nd May	St Rita's Feast Day
23 rd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peninsula Cross Country Walk to School Day

WEEK 6	
28 th May	- Young Performers Choir Day
29 th May	Boys' Futsal (Yr 6/7)
30 th May	Girls' Futsal (Year 6/7)
WEEK 7	
1 st June	Sunday - Peninsula Soccer
4 th June	ICAS Science
WEEK 8	
9 th June	Queen's Birthday Holiday
14 th June	SCHOOL FETE
WEEK 9	
16 th June	ICAS Writing
17 th June	ICAS Spelling
20 th June	Fitzgerald -v- Palmerston Day
WEEK 10	
22 nd June	Peninsula Touch & Softball
24 th June	Reading Day - Tully (P-Yr 3)
26 th June	Brave Hearts
27 th June	End of Term

DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 3	
11 th July	Innisfail & District Show
14 th July	Start of Term
27 th July – 1 st Aug	Catholic Education Week
6 th Aug	Maggie Dent
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 Oct	Parent Session – Puberty Talk Years 2-3
9 th – 10 th Oct	Year 2/3 Camp
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