

# Weekly Newsletter

WEEK 1 - TERM 3

**ST RITA'S SCHOOL**

**SOUTH JOHNSTONE**



15 July, 2014

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back to Term Three. It is hard to believe that we are in the second half of 2014. If you thought Term Two was hectic Term Three is looking just as full. **Please note that there has been a change to the Silkwood Mena Creek whole school sports day.** *The field events are on Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> and the whole school track day is now on Thursday August 7<sup>th</sup>.* I apologise for any inconvenience but this change could not be avoided to accommodate all schools and teachers.

Thank you to all who helped make the Strawberries and Cream stand such a success at the show last week. A huge thank you to Michelle Mann for all her work co-ordinating the stall this year. Thank you also to SOS Signs, (Steven and Priscilla Wilcox) for the new signage at the stall, and Michelle's mother and father for the tablecloths and refurbishment of the see through painting easels. A summary of earnings will be given at our next P & F meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> August. A survey is also attached. Please take the time to complete it and return it to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you.

We have strawberries left over from the show and will be selling these at \$2 per punnet. Please see the office to purchase.

It was also encouraging to see, as I walked through the arts and crafts pavilion, the amount of talent in our student body, with children

winning prizes in cake baking and decorating, sewing, lego and photography. Well done kids.

Over the next three weeks we ask for your patience in the office as we train for the new administration system and go through its implementation.

Jenni will be extremely busy during this time and simple tasks may take longer than normal.

Congratulations to Gemma Doolan who has been selected in the Peninsula Touch team. Gemma was initially selected as a shadow player but has been called up to the team. Congratulation to Coen Stephensen who played in the Innisfail team at the Peninsula Touch trials. The team were the winners of the competition.

Yesterday Denise and I had the privilege of attending a lecture given by Prof. Dr. Didier Pollefeyt, from KU Leuven University in Belgium. The lecture was about 'Catholic Identity in our Schools'. It was extremely challenging and will be a subject that we will be examining more in the coming months. What makes us a Catholic School? How are we different to the State School up the road? How are our children being introduced to the Catholic traditions?

Please keep in your prayers the Henson family (Mitchell Year 3) following the passing of his grandfather on Sunday night.

**Keep next Monday night 21<sup>st</sup> free as Christine Coop is back at 7p.m. to talk about navigating the way to adolescence.** This is being brought to you by your P & F at no cost to you. You can bring along friends if you wish. See the attached flyer.

I look forward to a continued close association with you over the coming term. Take a deep breath, let the term begin. Have a great week. God Bless.

Vicki

**NO ASSEMBLY  
THIS WEEK**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



### JUMPING INTO JULY :

#### **Another busy month !**

Welcome back to Term 3. And welcome to July, the seventh month of the year that is named after the Roman emperor Julius

Caesar. July is an interesting month – it signals the second half of the year, it is the middle month of winter so is often accompanied by flus and colds and is generally a time of much activity ( ie. school holidays, the show and of course back to school.)

July is also a busy time for the church. It sees a return to Ordinary Time and is the month dedicated to **The Precious Blood of Jesus**. This feast was established by Pope Pius IX in 1849 and is celebrated each year on the first Sunday of July. Our Lord's blood poured out on the cross purchased our salvation and gave birth to the Church as it flowed from his wounded side. Christ's precious Blood is a symbol of his love for all mankind.



**As well as this July is also a month in which we celebrate the feast day for several saints : St. Thomas the Apostle ( 3<sup>rd</sup>), St. Benedict (11<sup>th</sup>), St. Bonaventure(15<sup>th</sup>), Our Lady of Mount Carmel (16<sup>th</sup>), Mary Magdalene ( 22<sup>nd</sup>), St. Bridget ( 23<sup>rd</sup>), St. James (25<sup>th</sup>), St. Joachim and St. Anne – the parents of Mary ( 26<sup>th</sup>) and St. Ignatius (31<sup>st</sup>) just to name a few.....**

### Focus of the Word in July

The Gospel readings for the four Sundays in July are taken from Matthew – all are from Year A, Cycle 2. In three of these we hear about Jesus using parables. A parable is a simple story with a profound meaning or message. Parables were a familiar way of teaching in the time of Jesus and remain relevant today too.

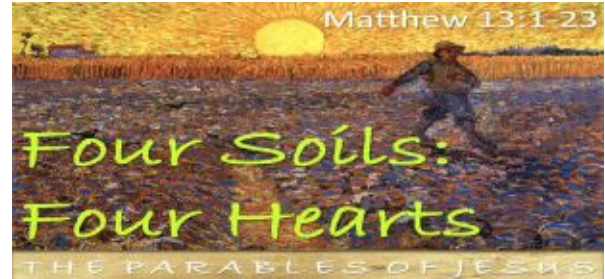
**July 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time-  
Jesus tells the parable of the sower**

**July 20<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time –  
Jesus continues with the parable of the weeds  
among the wheat**

**July 27<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time-  
Jesus says the kingdom of heaven is like a treasure  
hidden in a field**

**THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER** – Matthew 13: 1-23  
Perhaps you could take some time to read this passage or even 'google it'.

[www.biblegateway.com/](http://www.biblegateway.com/) is an excellent website



### SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

Jesus uses the image of the seed to help his followers understand something about the word of God.

First, it is alive and active and capable of growth and productivity.

Second, it requires us to be open to receive it and we must not allow it to be crowded out of our lives by other concerns or stolen away by those indifferent or hostile to Christ.

Finally, we must cultivate the soil of our lives so that the seed can take root and bear rich fruits.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- In parables some images have set meanings eg. a vineyard, sons or servants represent Israel, while a master, king or father represent God.
- Matthew's gospel uses the term 'kingdom of heaven' rather than 'kingdom of God' because his audience was largely Jewish converts to Christianity and the Jewish people avoid using the holy name.

### REFLECTION :

What are the rocks and thorns in our world that may cause the word of God to choke and wither ?

In our modern world, what the things that make it difficult for the word of God to flourish?

How can believers ' cultivate their soil' to help the seed of faith grow?

*"Lord, may the seed of your word fall into deep soil in me.*

*May it not return to you without yielding its fruit in me."*

Have a wonderful week. Peace be with you,

Denise

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### **CHANGES TO OFFICE PROCEDURES**

During weeks 1 - 3 of this term, (14 July to 1 August), Catholic Education are implementing new Student Information and Finance Systems.

During this period Jenni will not be available for any financial information you may require. Santina will be manning the office from 8.15am to 9.00am from Monday to Thursday of these weeks and from 2.30pm to 3.00pm in the afternoon.

We ask that during this transition period that calls and visits to the office be kept to an absolute minimum. Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

## **TUCKSHOP THIS WEEK**

Tuckshop for this term will feature a new menu for each week. The ladies in charge each week will decide the menu for the week.

Tuckshop orders were sent home yesterday with each child.

**PLEASE HAVE ORDERS INTO THE CONTAINER IN THE OFFICE BEFORE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON. Thank you.**

**COY WAZAH**

A **BIG** "thank you" to Pricilla and Stephen Wilcox of **SOS SIGNS** for donating the fantastic signage for our 2014 Strawberries & Cream Show Stall.

### **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

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

Orientation Days for incoming students are as follows:

- Year 8 - Orientation Day, Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October
- Year 7 - Orientation Day, Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> November.

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



Quality coaching at affordable prices for kids aged 4 to 16 and Adults of all ages  
Railway Courts, Cassowary Street  
Innisfail. Phone Travis on 0417 571 929  
Free Come and Try days:

- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> 2:30 to 4:00pm
- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> 10:00 to 4:00pm

**FREE Well Women's Clinics**  
**Innisfail Hospital – Fridays 25<sup>th</sup> July & 8<sup>th</sup> Aug**  
**– Ph: 4226 4812 or 0428 781 421**  
**Mamu Health Service – Tuesdays 29<sup>th</sup> July & 19<sup>th</sup> Aug – Ph: 4061 4477**  
 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.

<b>WEEK 6</b>	
18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Prep/Year 1 Camp
<b>WEEK 7</b>	
27,28 & 29 Aug	Year 4/5 Camp
<b>WEEK 9</b>	
12 Sept	NADOC Activities Day
<b>WEEK 10</b>	
14 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Year 6/7 Camp
19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	End of Term

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS - TERM 4

TERM 4	
6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Labour Day Holiday
7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Start of Term
8 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Parent Session – Puberty Talk Years 2-3
9 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Year 2/3 Camp
22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	Yr 8 Orientation Day - GCC
23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	Wonder of Living (Yrs 1-7)
31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	World Teachers Day
4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Melbourne Cup Luncheon
5 Nov	Yr 7 Orientation Day - GCC
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

**INNISFAIL JUNIOR TOUCH SIGN ON**  
 Wednesday, July 16 – 5 – 6 pm  
 Wangan Sports Ground  
 Boys and Girls aged 7 – 12  
 \$50 per child  
 Games start Monday, July 21 5 – 7pm  
 Contact Deb -0447 777 306 or Brendan 0457 132 392 or Allison – 40 611 492

**MUNRO THEATRE BABINDA**  
**18, 19 & 20 July**  
 Commencing 7.30pm  
 Admission \$8  
 “  
**"Transformers: Age of Extinction"**  
 in 3D - Rated: M

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS - TERM 3

<b>WEEK 1</b>	
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Start of Term
<b>WEEK 2</b>	
21 July	Christine Coop 7-9pm
<b>WEEK 3</b>	
27 <sup>th</sup> July – 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug	Catholic Education Week
28 <sup>th</sup> July	Catholic Education Week Mass at Good Counsel College
<b>WEEK 4</b>	
5 Aug	Yr 7 Enrolment Night - GCC
6 <sup>th</sup> Aug	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SMC – Field Events (selected students)</li> <li>Maggie Dent</li> </ul>
7 Aug	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SMC – Whole School Sports Day</li> <li>Yr 8 Enrolment Night - GCC</li> </ul>

## CHRISTINE COOP "NAVIGATING THE CHANGE"

ST RITA'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
 SOUTH JOHNSTONE

MONDAY, 21 JULY

7.00PM TO 9.00PM

RSVP: 40 64 21 53 by Friday, 17 July.