

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK 5 – TERM 4

ST RITA'S SCHOOL- SOUTH JOHNSTONE



4th November, 2014

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Today is the day of the race that stops a nation. The children were abuzz with information about who was going to win and which horse they had chosen in their classroom sweeps. Our P & F ladies and gents were busy entertaining over 200 guests at the shire hall. Once again I would like to express my gratitude for their hard work and dedication to our school. The shire hall looked magnificent.

In the last few newsletters I have asked for information to aide in forward planning for 2015. I encourage everyone who is intending making a move from St. Rita's or know of anyone who may be coming to join our community to please let me know. I would much prefer to hear it from you rather than from your child in casual conversation in the classroom. I am very aware that decisions are not made likely and that family circumstances may mean changes have to be inevitably made.

I would like to say congratulations to the Mini Vinnies committee for the wonderful disco they organized last Friday night. Even though I was not able to attend I have heard lots of

positive feedback and I am sure a good time was had by all. Thank you to the parents and teachers who helped out in my absence.

On this subject I would like to thank everyone for their concern and prayers for my dad who is terminally ill and has now sadly been hospitalized. Your support is a great comfort to me, and my family, at this time. Dad is a fighter, but we know realistically that God will call him home soon.

Thank you to all the grandparents who attended the grandparents' day held by the Prep class in the small hall last Thursday. When I popped my head in the room it was abuzz with children sharing all sorts of activities with their grandparents.

This Wednesday the Year Six class will have their orientation day at Good Counsel College. Parents are asked to transport their children to and from the day. Children are not expected to return to school at the conclusion of the session but are more than welcome to.

Just a reminder, that there is a meeting in Mr Rossi's room at 9.00 a.m. this Friday morning for those parents who are helping out with swimming in the next two weeks. Parents please remember that children have to be sun safe when swimming. Our allocated time this year is 1.15 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Children **MUST** have a sun safe shirt to wear swimming. I do not expect you to purchase one a T-shirt will suffice. **NO SHIRT - NO SWIM.** The cost of entry to the pool and bus have been included in your activity levy. Attached to this newsletter is a permission slip for your children to travel by bus to the pool. One slip per family, naming all children, is all that is required.

THIS MUST BE RETURNED BY THE END OF THIS WEEK.

Please make sure everything is named including goggles and towels. Children can bring thongs or suitable footwear to wear to the pool. They will change at school before catching the bus and get dressed back at school prior to going home.

God Bless

Vicki

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



ON THIS DAY: ST. CHARLES BORROMEO

Charles Borromeo was the cardinal archbishop of Milan from 1538 - 1584. Among the great reformers of the troubled 6th century, Borromeo, along with others, led the movement to combat the inroads of the Protestant Reformation. He was a leading figure during the counter-Reformation and was responsible for significant reforms in the Catholic Church, including the founding of seminaries for the education of priests. He is honoured as a saint in the Catholic Church and his feast day is today - 4th November.

He is the patron saint of learning and the arts.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL:

CHRISTMAS APPEAL Launch - 5th November

The Vinnies Christmas Appeal runs annually throughout November to February to support the people that will suffer in silence and will be doing it tough over the Christmas period. This appeal aims to provide much needed help from practical assistance to food hampers, emotional support, toys and gifts for children,

individuals and families so they too can experience the joy of Christmas.

As has been mentioned previously, this term the St. Rita's community is being asked to contribute to this very worthwhile cause. Our Mini Vinnies team is certainly leading the way. All money from Thursday Frozzie sales will go towards the Christmas Appeal as will the profits from last Friday night's Halloween Disco. This enthusiastic little group along with the children who attended raised \$115. What an amazing outcome! Well done to all. And a special thank you to the parents and teachers who volunteered their time.

Next Friday, 14th November, we will hold a Free Dress Day. The children will be allowed to wear coloured clothes to school in return for donating a tin, can or packet of non-perishable goods that we will use to put together our food hampers. These will be presented by our Mini Vinnies group to the invited members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Innisfail at a special assembly in Week 8. On this day we will also hand over a cheque for the total amount of funds we have raised for the Christmas Appeal this term.

Thank you again for your continued support. It is much appreciated and will make a difference to those in our local community.

" Caring for the poor is everyone's responsibility. "

" Preferential care should be shown to the poor and vulnerable people, whose needs and rights are given special attention in God's eyes. "



DAY FOR DANIEL: A National Day of Action

Last Friday it was wonderful to see so many of our students wearing red to support **Day for Daniel**. The message of child safety is an extremely important one and the fantastic work that Denise and Bruce Morcombe do through their foundation is incredible. They are amazing people and listening to them speak in person, as we did last year, is a truly moving and memorable experience. As was explained at our assembly last Friday, the school will be making a donation on behalf of the students to assist the Daniel Morcombe Foundation.

The objectives of Day for Daniel are:

- *To raise awareness about child safety and protection and to promote a safer community*
- *To educate children regarding their personal safety and empower them to 'Recognise, React and Report'*
- *To honour the memory of Daniel Morcombe*
- *To have over 1 million people Australia wide participate in Day for Daniel*

Day for Daniel is an opportunity for Australians to make a statement that *crimes against children are not acceptable in modern Australia.*

It is good to know that we here at St. Rita's have been a small part of this objective.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS:

This week the Prep and Year 1 classes will have their liturgy with Father Kerry in the Church. It will be held tomorrow, Wednesday 5th November at 11.30 am. Parents and friends are most welcome to join us.

Have a wonderful week.

Peace be with you,
Denise

PRAYERS PLEASE

Please keep Sarina Pappalardo, our Library Aide, in your prayers as her mother passed in Sydney away over the weekend.



**NO ASSEMBLY
THIS FRIDAY**

HELP NEEDED!

It would be a fantastic help if ANYONE, who has time this afternoon, could come to the Shire Hall around 3 - 3.30 today to help pack up the hall.

It is a huge job and many hands make light work.

Also help is required tomorrow morning at school to put away all of the items used for Melbourne Cup.

SWIMMING STARTS NEXT WEEK

- GROUP 1 (Week 6) – Prep to Year 2 (Monday 10th to Friday 14th November), will be swimming from 1.15pm to 2.15pm
- GROUP 2 (Week 7) – Year 3 to 7 (Monday 17th to Friday 21st November), will be swimming from 1.15pm to 2.15pm

DENTAL VAN

In a case of emergency please contact the Dental Clinic on 40 160 518.

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: 00001 7401 BSB: 084352

TUCKSHOP THIS WEEK

TERM 4 SCHOOL FEES

Payment of fees would be greatly appreciated as soon as possible to enable us to meet our financial commitments before the end of the school year. Thank you for your assistance with this.

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

Orientation Days for incoming students are as follows:

- **Year 7 - Orientation Day, Wednesday, 5th Nov.**

MUNRO THEATRE BABINDA

7, 8, & 9 November

Commencing 7.30pm

Admission \$8

"GONE GIRL" Rated: M15+

St Rita's School Babinda Community Fair

Saturday 22nd Nov 2014 from 4 - 8pm.

Mini Cent Sale, BBQ, Bric-A-Brac, Cakes & Sweets, Coffee Shop, Entertainment, Market Stalls and more. (Market stalls available for \$10 table). Phone 40671467 for more information.



**Towards the State Election 2015 - Key Issue 1
Annual per student funding that keeps pace
with the rising costs of education**

Catholic schools in Queensland, on average, receive only about 81% of the government funding per student received by state schools.

According to the latest figures available, Catholic schools, on average, receive \$9,238 per student in government funding while state schools receive \$11,440 per student (MySchool website 2012).

Any additional government funding for Catholic schools helps relieve pressure on school fees and assists more families to choose a Catholic school. This also relieves pressure on state schools and also saves government money.

Catholic education is seeking to work with the next Queensland Government to achieve consistent budget outcomes that will:

- assist Catholic schools to keep pace with rising operating costs
- ensure that the gap in resourcing between Catholic schools and state schools does not widen.

[Click here to read more information about the annual recurrent funding of Catholic schools](#) or visit www.qcec.catholic.edu.au or www.pandf.org.au and follow the state election links to find out more detail.



**FREE Well Women's Clinics–
Innisfail Hospital
Fridays 14th & 28th Nov**

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. For appointments please phone 4226 4812 or 0428 781 421

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - TERM 4

WEEK 5	
4 th Nov	Melbourne Cup Luncheon
5 Nov	Yr 7 Orientation Day – Good Counsel College

WEEK 6	
10 th – 14 th Nov	Prep to Year 2 Swimming
11 th Nov	Remembrance Day

WEEK 7	
17 th – 21 st Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 3 to 7 Swimming • Christmas Book Fair

WEEK 9	
1st Dec	Year 6/7 Graduation Night
3rd Dec	Christmas Concert
5th Dec	End of Term