

ST RITA'S SCHOOL, SOUTH JOHNSTONE

Weekly Newsletter Term 2, Week 1 2016

12 April 2016



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to a busy term with school camps, discos, NAPLAN, testing, report cards, finishing with a fun week of sports, with our Interhouse Sports Day on the last day of term.

Some very exciting news is that Adam Voigt is back in our school next Monday and Tuesday, so keep Monday night free for another one of his very interesting sessions with parents. For those of you new to our school, Adam is the founder of Real Schools Australia with whom St Rita's have a three year partnership. Adam a former principal himself, is obsessed with learning and helping children learn. He is very big on school culture. Talk to someone who came to his talk in October. You won't be disappointed. We would like to see as many parents here as possible. Adam will be working with the teachers on Monday, so there will be different teachers in the rooms, and then working with the children on Tuesday.

On Thursday Dance Fever lessons begin again. This is the third year that we have undertaken this program and the cost is highly subsidized by our RREAP funding. The children, as the name suggests, undertake a 30-45 minute dance lesson. These lessons not only help with social skill building but with co-ordination and brain function. The 10 week course culminates in

a showcase to parents.

Congratulations to St Rita's Scallywags Playgroup who turn 21 this month. Last week a birthday party was held and a great time was had by all in attendance. I would like to thank all the people who have given on their time over the years to be coordinators and all those who have supported the playgroup. It is certainly the longest running in the area and could be getting close to a state record. Photos are at the end of the newsletter.

This week I would like to talk about self-esteem and confidence. These issues seem to be arising more and more with our young people. Children with healthy self-esteem and self-confidence learn more, achieve more and are generally happier than those with low confidence levels. However building children's and young people's confidence is complex.

Great confidence-builders use a number of approaches that impact on how kids' think, how they feel and what they can do.

Here are 5 practical strategies that you can use to build real self-confidence in kids of all ages:

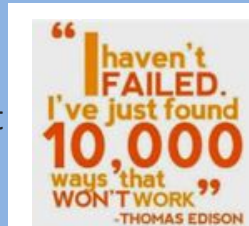
1. Model confident thinking

Kids soak up the language, thinking and behaviour of those closest to them in their environment. Parents and teachers play a part in modelling confident thinking and behaviour especially when it comes to

tackling new activities. In particular, let kids hear positive self-talk when you tackle something new. They should hear something like *“I’ll have a go at this. If I don’t do so well then I can try again tomorrow.”* This is far more effective than *“I’m no good at this. I’ll probably stuff it up.”* What story are you creating that your children will copy and pass on?

2. Focus on effort & improvement

Current thinking shows that people who believe that they can increase their intelligence through effort and challenge actually get smarter and do better over time in school, work, and life. One way to develop this 'growth mindset' is to focus your language on effort and improvement rather than on the results of what kids do. By linking success with effort you are teaching them success comes from something other than pure ability, talents or smarts.



3. Praise their strategies

While effort is key for achievement, it's not the be all and end all. Kids need a broad repertoire of approaches – not just sheer effort – to learn and improve. Focus your language on better and smarter ways of improving. Comments such as *“That was a smart idea to tackle the hardest task while you were fresh!”* and *“You recognised the first few steps were the most important but then after that you were right”* are descriptive statements that have significant instructional value for kids.

4. Develop self-help skills from an early age

A child's self-esteem comes as a result of his or her successes and accomplishments. The most important competencies to build confidence are **basic self-help skills**. These

form the building blocks upon which other competencies such as organisational skills and many social skills are formed.

5. Give them real responsibility

From a young age, start giving children responsibility for some aspects of their lives. By giving kids responsibility we are sending a powerful message that we think **they are capable**. Also they are learning the skills necessary to be independent.

Most importantly, great parents and teachers have a knack of communicating confidence in kids. They find ways to let kids know that they believe in them – that they know their kids will perform and succeed, that they have faith that they can deal with life's challenges and know that they can become more independent.

Have a great week. God bless

Vicki

P.S. a reminder that our next P&F meeting is next TUESDAY at 9a.m. Note the change of day due to Adam working with teachers on Monday.



ASSEMBLY

There is no assembly this week.

HOMEWORK CLUB

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Homework Club will now only be operating until 4pm (emergencies only each Wednesday due to staff meetings). There will be no Homework Club next Monday & Tuesday (18 & 19 April) as teachers are at a PD.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



EASTER : THE SEASON OF GLORY !

Easter is not just a day or weekend. It is a whole season that lasts seven weeks. After the penance and fasting of Lent, make this season one of joy and celebration. The resurrection of Jesus is indeed the highpoint of the Church's life marking Christ's victory over sin and death.

The season of Easter extends from Easter Sunday through to Pentecost Sunday. During this time we are called to rejoice.

St. Augustine said: "We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song."

So what can we do to witness the joy of the resurrection during the fifty days of Easter? How can we bring "Alleluia" to a world in need of hope and joy?

Mary Green, former director of Adult Faith Formation, suggests that one way we can do this is by trying to bring joy into another person's life. She adds that it is interesting to see what happens when we who are filled with the joy of Jesus share that joy with the world.



LOOKING FORWARD: THE TERM AHEAD

- **Sacramental Parent Meeting** – Wednesday 13th April (Tomorrow night)
- **Anzac Day Prayer Assembly** – Friday 22nd April (Week 2)
- **MAY** – A MONTH DEDICATED TO MARY
- **The Ascension of Our Lord** - Sunday 8th May
- **Pentecost Sunday** – Sunday 15th May
- **Sacrament of Confirmation** – Thursday 19th May (Week 6)
- **Year 2/3 Prayer Assembly** – Friday 20th May (Week 6)
- **Feast of St Rita** – Sunday 22nd May
- **Year 1 Prayer Assembly** – Friday 3rd June (Week 8)
- **Prep Prayer Assembly** – Friday 17th June (Week 10)

Hope you all had a wonderful Easter holiday with family and friends. As you can see this will be another busy term, but no doubt one that will be filled with experiences that the children will enjoy and learn from.

As well as the celebrations listed above we will continue this term with Class Liturgies, Reconciliation for Year 4 and Year 5/6 and Class Visits with Fr Kerry or Fr Nathan.

As usual, parents are welcome to attend any of these special times of gathering along with our scheduled Friday Prayer Assemblies.

Wishing you all a great first week back.

May the peace and joy of the risen Christ be with you all.

Regards,

Denise (Acting APRE – Assistant to the Principal, Religious Education)

(Sources – www.sjeciowa.org www.zazzle.com www.osv.com)

TUCKSHOP

There is no tuckshop this week.

More helpers are needed in tuckshop. If you can help out in any way please see Malinda Eaves. Thank you.

ANZAC DAY



ANZAC Day is in two weeks. St Rita's has a long association with the Anzac Day parade and we will be marching again this year. Please keep this in your diary as we would like to see as many children as possible at the parade. Students are to be lined up in their school groups in front of the RSL by 8am for an 8.30am start. Children are to wear correct formal uniform with a school hat and black shoes for the march. If students are wearing medals of family members who served, these medals are worn on the right hand side.

Wearing poppies

The red represents the blood of all those who gave their lives, the black represents the mourning of those who didn't have their loved ones return home, and the green leaf represents the grass and crops growing and future prosperity after the war destroyed so much. The leaf should be positioned at 11 o'clock to represent the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, the time that World War One formally ended. Women should wear their poppy on their right side.



EASTER RAFFLE WINNERS

- 1st Emma Edgerton
- 2nd Noah Pensini
- 3rd Stone Family
- 4th Ghislane Ross



DATE CLAIMER

ST RITA'S P&F DISCO

3 June 6:30 - 8:30pm PCYC

\$5 per child entry. Drinks/snacks/glow sticks available for purchase on the night. Children from all local schools are invited.

More information to come.

INCLUSIVE PRACTICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

During Term 1, our Executive Director Bill Dixon advised of the review of Inclusive Practices for Students with Disability in Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Cairns. Its purpose is to improve the ways in which Catholic Education Services include and support students with disability in schools in the Diocese of Cairns. University of Canberra Emeritus Professor Tony Shaddock who has significant experience across all levels of education and across all educational sectors is conducting the Review. Professor Shaddock will visit a sample of schools in the Diocese, interview and/or survey key stakeholders, and report in June 2016.

An important voice within these surveys is that of our parent group.

All parents are given the opportunity to participate in this survey -

<http://goo.gl/forms/tcoRRLdneM>

The survey document contains information regarding the confidential nature of this survey.

Please note the survey deadline of COB 3rd May 2016.

ICAS TESTING DATES YEARS 3-6 ONLY

Subject	Sitting Date	Closing Date	Price.
Digital Tech	17/05/16	03/05/16	\$8.00
Science	31/05/16	17/05/16	\$8.00
Writing	13-17/06/16	30/05/16	\$17.00
Spelling	15/06/16	01/06/16	\$11.00
English	02/08/16	19/07/16	\$8.00
Maths	16/08/16	02/08/16	\$8.00

Unfortunately, we are unable to take any late nominations so please have your payment in prior to the closing date. Thank you.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEW DATES IN YELLOW

TERM 2

18 April	Real Schools – Adam Voigt
25 April	Anzac Day
29 April	District Cross Country
2 May	Labour Day public holiday
8 May	Mother's Day
16-20 May	Book Fair
17 May	ICAS Digital Technologies
20 May	Peninsula Cross Country
23-25 May	Yr 4/5 Camp – Eco Creek
31 May	ICAS Science
3 June	DISCO - PCYC
13-17 June	ICAS Writing
15 June	ICAS Spelling

15 June 1.30pm Instrumental Music Concert

20-24 June	Interhouse Sports Week
24 June	End of Term

TERM 3

11 July	Start of Term 3
25-29 July	Catholic Education Week
27, 29 July	District Field & Athletics
27 July	School Photos
2 Aug	ICAS English
3-4 Aug	Prep/Yr 1 Camp
16 August	ICAS Maths
30 Aug-2 Sept	Yr 6 Camp – Charters Towers
16 Sept	End of Term

TERM 4

3 Oct	Queen's Birthday Holiday
4 Oct	Start of Term 4
25 Oct	Wonder of Living Afternoon Parent Session
26 Oct	Good Counsel College Year 7 Orientation Day
27 Oct	Wonder of Living Class Sessions
2 Nov	Melbourne Cup
11 Nov	Remembrance Day

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

Champion House Palmerston

2011 Girls – 500m

First	Ava Lyons
Second	Abbey Leonardi
Third	Amber McCarthy
Fourth	Kobi Price
Fifth	Ashleen Boora

2011 Boys – 500m

First	Quinn Devaney
Second	Travis Sinton
Third	Dylan Stone
Fourth	Zayde Butler
Fifth	Cooper Cini

2010 Girls – 500m

First	Mikayla Marozzi
Second	Neena Curzon
Third	Jessie Bullman
Fourth	Eva Bertram

2010 Boys – 500m

First	Ashton Cini
Second	Nate Pensini
Third	Bohdi Spry
Fourth	Boyd Baxter
Fifth	Nathan Robinson

2009 Girls – 1km

First	Tahlia Butler
Second	Sasha Darveniza
Third	Leigha Garozzo
Fourth	Kahli Moore

2009 Boys – 1km

First	Ronan Sultana
Second	Declan Sinton
Third	Harry Leoni
Fourth	Kynan Henaway
Fifth	Eddie Leoni

2008 Girls – 1km

First	Kayden Plumb
Second	Brydee Spry
Third	Eden Cini
Fourth	Rylee Leonardi
Fifth	Lily Mears

2008 Boys – 1km

First	Happy Venables
Second	Jack Bertram

Third	Matthew Urquhart
Fourth	Jasper Curzon
Fifth	Jack Calleja

2007 Girls – 2km

First	Reef Galea
Second	Hannah Foschi
Third	Evita Piccolo
Fourth	Tiarne Eilers
Fifth	Kaitlyn Mann

2007 Boys – 2km

First	Declan Adams
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2006 Girls – 2km

First	Nevaeh Galea
Second	Genevieve Lindsay
Third	Zarah Stanley
Fourth	Rachel Urquhart
Fifth	Megan Calleja

2006 Boys – 2km

First	Kohan Spry
Second	Kayden Crowley
Third	Harrison Corsi
Fourth	James Macgillivray
Fifth	Ted Kenny

2005 Girls – 3km

First	Sophie Leonardi
Second	Kiara Foschi
Third	Tyla Plumb
Fourth	Poppi Parmenter
Fifth	Bree Mears

2005 Boys – 3km

First	Luke Magnanini
Second	Hamish Hunter
Third	Mitchell Henson
Fourth	William Leoni
Fifth	Zac Betts

2004 Girls – 3km

First	Tamzin Darveniza
Second	Erin Darveniza
Third	Juanita Filby

2004 Boys – 3km

First	Blake Taylor
Second	Les Cavanagh
Third	Dylan Manitto
Fourth	Damien Davies



Presents

Kung Fu Panda 3 (PG)

15, 16 & 17 April
7.30pm
Admission \$8.00



POOL TABLE FOR SALE

Full sized slate pool table
Perfect condition

Thick vinyl protective cover (custom made)
Balls, queues, queue rack, accessories etc
\$2500

Phone Michelle 0428 184 344

2016 Safeguarding Children Conference

Our Children, Our Communities, Our Future

Education staff, Diocesan & Parish staff and volunteers, Parents

Date: Saturday, 11 June 2016
Time: 9.00am to 3.00pm
Venue: Pullman Cairns International
Website: www.2016safeguardingchildren.weebly.com

Presentations, Practical Workshops, Parent Sessions and Resources Expo.
Registration closes 27 May 2016

2016 Safeguarding Children Conference

This year Catholic Education Services is excited to announce that their annual Safeguarding Children Conference includes presentations specifically for parents.

This year's theme is *Our Children, Our Communities, Our Future.*

We hope that you are able to join us on Saturday, 11 June 2016 at the Pullman Cairns International. Specific parent sessions include:

- Keynote speaker: Andrea Musulin (Safeguarding Project Officer – Archdiocese of Perth)
- Protective Behaviours: everyday teaching moments that encourage safety not fear
- Mental Health: Early warning signs of depression and anxiety, school responses and when should I be worried?
- Social Media: the world our children live in doesn't have to be all digital, but it sure feels that way!
- Help! My child is a teenager!

Please note that there is no registration cost but places are limited.

Conference information and registration details can be accessed via the conference website:

www.2016safeguardingchildren.weebly.com

If you have any further queries please contact Professional Standards:

Ms Heidi Williams

hwilliams5@cns.catholic.edu.au

South Johnstone State School

Centenary Celebrations

1916 - 2016

100 Years

Celebrate! with us - June 25th & 26th

FETE

SATURDAY
25th June 3:00-9:00pm

- Food Refreshments
- CENT SALE
- Great Prizes
- Stalls
- Rides
- Fun
- Fireworks

PHONE 07 40642182 for Centenary Package. Find us on Facebook Email the.principal@southjohnss.eq.edu.au

The Celebration

JUNE 26th 9:00 -3:00pm SUNDAY

- 9:00 Registrations
- 10:00 Morning tea
- 11:00 Roll call
- 11:30 Official Photo
- 12:00 Lunch (Prepaid)
- 1:00 Cutting the cake
- Time Capsule Contents on display

Day commences at 9:00 am with registrations through to Roll Call at 11:00am. Photo displays, memorabilia and school tours throughout the day. Souvenirs will be on sale. Contents of Time capsule will be displayed. Student performances

PHONE 07 40642182 for Centenary Package. Email the.principal@southjohnss.eq.edu.au Find us on Facebook

remember WHEN

