



St John's Primary

Staying In Touch—Newsletter Update

Term 2

Week 9

Wednesday, 27th June, 2018

Upcoming Events

Thursday, 29th June:

Reports go home to parents

Sunday, 1st July:

Bunnings Marsden Park BBQ Year 6 Fundraiser

Monday, 2nd July:

Parent Teacher meetings commence all week

Dear Parents, due to technical difficulties, our Newsletter this fortnight will be an update only.

Term 2 concludes:

Friday, 6th July

Term 3 commences:

Monday, 23rd July

Term 3 concludes:

Friday, 28th September

First Semester Report

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The first semester reports will be sent home on Friday.

As you meet next week with your child's teacher to discuss the report it is important to keep the focus on the child. Our first priority at St John's is our children. We aim to develop each child according to their ability. For our school to do its job effectively, the ongoing support and interest of the parent / carer is vital. Teachers and parents working together in partnership means common goals can be established and developed more effectively and efficiently. It is important for children to see parents and teachers supporting each other. To ensure that our meeting time runs according to plan we ask that you allow ample time to arrive at school for your interview. If you haven't booked an interview time please do so today so that you don't miss out on the opportunity to meet in partnership with your child's teacher to celebrate successes and discuss strategies to further support your child.

A huge thank you to our wonderful teachers who invest so much time and care in preparing reports that reflect the purposeful and relevant learning at St John's.

The A – E Report

As you would be aware the reports are mandated by the Government for all grades except kindergarten who have a different style. The achievement level / common grade scale is provided by the Board of Studies. The overall achievement level is for the whole Key Learning Area (KLA) which may contain many strands. It is important to note that some strands have more weight than others. The overall achievement is not just a straight averaging of strands.

Each year of schooling introduces different concepts, content, units of work and skills which can increase in difficulty from the year before. It is therefore possible that your child's achievement level in a particular KLA may change. It is important that parents / carers have an understanding of the reporting system and achievement levels. For example, the achievement level of a 'C' is awarded to children who have achieved sound knowledge and understanding of work covered in that particular grade at the particular time. It means your child is working and achieving appropriately for their stage.

Our parent teacher interviews aim to explain, elaborate and support the reports. If you have any questions in regards to the achievement levels please seek clarification during the interview.

Patricia Charlton
Principal

Mrs Charlton is currently on leave. If you have any questions or issues, please contact Mrs Jackie Willard, Assistant Principal.



Sporting Achievements

The Athletics Carnival was a great opportunity to witness the athleticism and sporting skills of some of our students. At our recent assembly we recognised the achievements of students who excelled in a range of events they competed in on the day and demonstrated a high level of performance. These students were presented with this year's 'Age Champion' Medals.

I know you will join with me in congratulating our Athletics Carnival Age Championship 2018:

Name	Age
Mirko Filipovic	Junior Boys
Stephanie Bugeja	Junior Girls
Dylan Albanis	11 Years Boys
Isabella Penfold	11 Years Girls
Darius Tran	Senior Boys
Page Williams	Senior Girls

Mr Kevin Connolly, Member of Parliament was a guest at our assembly. He came to speak at our assembly to recognize the remarkable achievement of Charlize Tran in Track and Field Events. Charlize represented the Parramatta Diocese at the Nationals which was held in South Australia last year. Charlize competed in the 100m, 200m, 800m and long jump. It was an honour for Charlize to receive a framed citation signed by both Mr Kevin Connolly and the Premier of NSW Gladys Berejiklian. We are all very proud of Charlize!

A big thank you from St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal

Thank you so much for your generous donations of blankets, scarfs and beanies. We were overwhelmed by your generosity. These donations now will be given to those in our community that do not have warm clothing or blankets during these cold winter months.

Final Call— Warm blankets, beanies, scarves and gloves ..

Warm blankets, beanies, scarves and gloves are still sought after items for people in need during the winter months.

St Vincent de Paul Society distributes thousands of these items each year through soup vans and welfare services. As part of our Social Justice outreach this term, our families have been generously donating winter items for our appeal. We will continue collecting these items until the end of next week. If you haven't already donated items, and you are in a position to do so, please consider keeping someone warm this winter. Thank you for your generosity.



Building Child Safe Communities - Forms for all Volunteers and Contractors

Dear Parents & Carers, just a reminder that all Volunteers and Contractors to our school need to have completed an online form (please see attached forms). Tutors and coaches providing private services to children will also need to apply for a Working with Children Check. The tutor or coach should provide their name, date of birth and WWCC number of parent/carers for online verification. If you have any queries, please contact the School Office on Ph. 9854 3200.

2019 Enrolments

Enrolment Application forms for 2019 are now available from the school office. Parents, if you already have a child at St John's, you will still need to submit an Enrolment Form for any new siblings for 2019. Also taking enrolments for Years 1 to 6. Positions are still available for 2018 Year from Kindergarten to 6.



Year 6 Fundraising

Year Six will be holding one of their major fundraising events on Sunday. Yes, it's that time of year again for the Bunnings BBQ at Marsden Park. Mrs Roffmann, students and Year 6 parents would love you to support them by coming along and purchasing one of their 'amazing' sausage sandwiches. The proceeds from this event goes towards the cost of the Year Six end-of-year activities. The BBQ is also another opportunity to promote our school in the wider community.





Religious Education News

Sacramental Program - First Holy Communion

The Parent Information Meeting for the Sacrament of Holy Communion is on Monday 23rd July, 2018 at 4.00 pm or Wednesday 25th July, 2018 at 7.00 pm. This is the Monday and Wednesday in Week 1, Term 3. The children who can make this Sacrament are those students in Stage 2 or above that have already made their Sacrament of Reconciliation.



Kindergarten 100 Days of Schooling

Friday, 6th July is a momentous day for the youngest members of St John's. It's hard to believe but Kindergarten (ES1) will be celebrating their first 100 days of schooling!! The learning activities next week, and particularly on Friday will focus on the concept of '100'. I am looking forward to engaging with the children and seeing what creative activities Miss Saliba has planned!



Meerkat production Incursion 'Bully Bull Ring'

Last week, our students viewed a performance by Meerkat productions 'Bully Bull Ring'. Using song and dance, the students learnt about how they can be a good friend to others and strategies they can use if they find themselves in a bullying situation. The students identified the ways that students may bully others and thought about what bullying is and what it isn't. Themes of positive self image, finding good friends and resilience were a focus of the musical. The students were engaged and sang along with the ways to interact with others.

This production was chosen as it helps to build positive relationships within our student community. It also reinforces the ideas that are presented during our PDHPE lessons throughout the term. You could ask your child what they thought about the musical and what was the most important thing they discovered. If you have any questions about the production, please contact the school.



Second Hand Uniforms urgently needed please...

We are in urgent need of winter uniform items for our second hand uniform shop. Please consider donating your unwanted uniform items that are in good condition. Please drop off to the school office and thank you for your ongoing support.

School Safety Procedures

As part of maintaining a safe environment for all students and staff at St John's Primary, we conduct regular Emergency Evacuation and Safety Drills. You may have information come home from your child regarding an Evacuation Practice, please be assured in the event of a real emergency all families will be notified at the earliest possible time. **Please inform the office in writing if you have changed your contact details.** Thank you.

If your child is absent from school due to illness

In the event of your child being absent from school due to illness, **it is necessary that a note of explanation be forwarded to the class teacher on the day of your child's return to school.** In the case of absences of more than one day, a telephone call to the office indicating your child's expected date of return is required. Prolonged absences from school due to illness should be supported by a medical certificate.

Dear Parents & Carers, please note if someone else will be collecting your child **early or during school hours**, on your behalf, you need to inform the school **in writing or by email to:** (riverstone@parra.catholic.edu.au) **PRIOR TO PICKUP.** This policy is **effective immediately.** Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



Policies and Forms

For all policies and forms, please refer to our School Website—"About Us"—"Policies & Procedures". Please note our Parent Handbook is on our School Website for your convenience.

Mobile Phone—Settings on your phone

Parents, would you please check your Settings for "Incoming Call restrictions" and "Do Not Disturb" notifications on your mobile phones so as in a case of an emergency, we need to be able to contact you. Would you please ensure that you can be contacted quickly and easily. Thank you.

Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day

Yesterday (Tuesday, 27th June) I had the great privilege of accompanying some of our Stage 2 students who participated in the Soccer Gala day with many other schools in our Diocese. We fielded a mixed boy/girl team, including some students who had never laced up a pair of soccer boots before. Many students played outside their comfort zone and took up the challenge to play across the field. There were some big kicks, great saves and outstanding defence. I witnessed every student, at some point in the day, play above and beyond what could have realistically been expected of any of them. They represented the school with pride and passion and are excellent ambassadors for St John's, the likes of which I have never seen before in my 20 years of teaching. Congratulations to the students, their parents and their dedicated coach, Mrs Joyce Williams.

Mr Liam Shields



School Fees

The school fee statements for Billing Period 2, 2018 have now been sent out. The due date for payment is on or before Wednesday 6th June, 2018. If you have not received your statement, please contact the school office on 9854 3200 to arrange for a copy to be sent home.

Catholic Education Diocese, Parramatta, is committed to supporting families experiencing genuine financial hardship. If you are experiencing difficulties with the payment of your school fees, you are encouraged to contact Deanne Hearnden to arrange an appointment to discuss payment options. Discussing of fees will be dealt with confidentially and each person is guaranteed that they will be treated with respect and dignity.

Please be advised that unless alternative arrangements have been made regarding the payment of your account it will be assumed that full payment will be made on or before the due date. Fees can be paid either by cash, cheque, bpay, postbillpay, direct debit or by using our EFTPOS facility.

If you need to discuss any issues in relation to your school fees, please do not hesitate to contact Deanne Hearnden on Ph. 9854 3200.

Visa Status

Could you please ensure the school has the most up-to-date paperwork on your child's Visa Status i.e. if his/her status has changed or if your child is now an Australian Citizen or the passport has expired and a new one has been reissued, please contact the school office immediately.

Australian Citizenship Papers

If parents or students become Australian Citizens at any time during the year, could you please provide the school with a copy of your certificate so we can put it with your child's enrolment forms. This is needed for audit purposes. Thank you.