



The Evangelist

St. John's Primary School, Riverstone

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Term 1 Week 1
Wednesday 31st January 2018

Welcome to the new school year. I trust that you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and enjoyed quality time with family and friends. This week we extend a warm welcome to Mrs Willard (Assistant Principal) and Ms Jefferey (Stage 2 teacher) who are joining our staff. We also welcome Mrs Spillane who will be the Year 1 teacher until a new teacher has been appointed. Mrs Spillane has been a valuable staff member at St Johns for many years. She has a wealth of teaching experience; particularly in Stage 1. Mrs Spillane is known to all our students.

Today we were excited to have our kindergarten children (ES1) join our community. It was lovely to see so many smiling faces and such excitement. The children had a smooth transition into 'BIG' school; they were so grown up. I congratulate the children (and parents) for the way the children wore their new uniforms with pride. You all looked absolutely beautiful.

On behalf of the community of St John I welcome:

Kindergarten - Taiti Ah Kiau, Chloe Bennett, Matilda Keating, Sienna Kimes, Mithun Kumar, Oliver Lopez, Antonio Maggio, Zylar Mason, Ava Mitropoulos, Harnidh Murba, Makenna Murray, Rony Park, Tyga Sale-Czipri, Rubbie Searle, Cohen Stanton, Riley Stone, Marlee Syme, Shane Tolmie and Harmony Worrell. Year 6 - Joy Nowlan.

Thank you to parents and carers for bringing your children to school over the last two days for either MAI testing (Year 1 – 6) or Best Start testing (Kindergarten). The data that teachers gather from these assessments are invaluable. It allows the teachers to identify the individual learning needs of each student and to develop learning programs and tasks that personalise the learning. The testing period will continue over the next few weeks until all beginning of year data is collected.

WHAT'S COMING UP

14th February	Ash Wednesday
16th February	Beginning of Year Mass
23rd February	Welcome BBQ
1st March	Book Fair Arrives at St John's
5th -9th March	Catholic Schools Week
7th March	Open Day





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[Curriculum Overviews](#) will be sent home in the coming weeks. This overview will give you an outline of the teaching and learning planned for your child this term.

I encourage you to read the overview carefully and display it in a prominent position to refer to throughout the term. The overview can be used as a platform to engage your children in discussion about their learning this term. If you need clarification about any aspect of the overview or if you have any questions about your child's learning please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

We have been advised that the [Stage 2 pedestrian bridge](#) (under construction) will not be completed until the end of week 2 due to unforeseen delays in obtaining some building materials. Stage 2 will be working in the library during this period of time.

[St Johns fundraising group](#) will hold their first meeting for 2018 on Thursday 8th February, commencing at 7.00 pm. The meeting will be held in the school hall. The School Fundraising Group has been instrumental in raising much needed funds for our school. The major fundraising event in 2017 (Spring Fair) organised by the SFC raised over \$11,000 which has allowed us to place an order for 10 new ipads and 5 laptops. The children and staff are very appreciative of this financial support as a number of our ipads need to be replaced as they are no longer compatible. I ask all our parents and carers to seriously consider joining St Johns Fundraising Group. You will be part of a dynamic group of people who are passionate about supporting their children, your children in their learning and ensuring that they have the latest resources. The School Fundraising Group also supports special social events throughout the year and they would love to have some more 'helping hands' to assist them in 2018.

Hoping to see you on the 8th February! Mark this date in your calendar.

As we believe it is important to strengthen the partnership between home and school we like to give parents the opportunity to meet with staff and other parents in a social setting at the beginning of the school year. You are therefore invited to St John's [Welcome BBQ](#).

The BBQ will take place in the school grounds and will be held on Friday 23rd February from 5.00pm to 6.30pm. More details will be sent home soon.

God Bless,

Patricia





KINDERGARTEN 2018

In Early Stage One we had to become investigators to find where Nemo was hiding in the school. We explored Stage One, visited Stage 3, passed Stage 2 in the Library, checked out Mrs Charlton in the office with Mrs Cremona to get a clue until Harnidh and Chloe finally found Nemo in the Hall.

We have had fun playing with our buddies and making new friends. We have explored the Jungle in our jeep, sailed the Seas and cooked in our kitchen.



Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrated their special day during the holidays



Matilda Keating 3rd January

&

Taiti Ah Kiau 28th January

Happy Birthday!



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE plays a critical role in enhancing the lives of students in schools. Every day of attendance adds to a student's academic achievement and success at school.

Schools in partnership with parents/carers are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents/carers are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff as part of their duty of care play a vital role in promoting daily attendance, recording and monitoring absences and preventing the establishment of absenteeism. A shared approach to school attendance between students, parents/carers, schools system learning ad CEDP will maximise the opportunity for every learner every day.

In keeping with legislative and CEDP/school policies and procedures attendance rates for all students will continue to be closely monitored at St John's.

Please refer to the attendance levels for K to 6 that will be published in the newsletter commencing Week 3.

The target level for all schools in the Parramatta Diocese is above 90% attendance rate.

Working together we can achieve this target





IMPORTANT NOTES COMING HOME WITH YOUR CHILD TODAY

- ACCEPTABLE USE OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY 2018
- PERMISSION TO WALK (ESI AND NEW STUDENTS)
 - CHILD PROTECTION VOLUNTEER INFORMATION
- SAM'S CAFE LUNCH ORDER MENU 2018
- SNACK SHACK VOLUNTEER FORM AND MENU

Snack Shack

Please look for the volunteer form and menu coming home with your child today

The Snack Shack is open for recess and lunch on Monday's and Friday's and we rely on the generosity of Parent Carer Volunteers, please consider helping out.



SCHOOL FEES FOR 2018

**CEDP will send out
new fees in
approximately
week 3**

**If you have any queries please see Mrs
Hearnden in the School Office.**

SPORTS NEWS

2018 PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN TEAM
SPORT TRIALS EXPRESSIONS OF
INTERESTS CLOSE THIS FRIDAY 2ND
FEBRUARY FOR ALL TEAM SPORTS.

The sports are listed below:

**AFL, CRICKET, HOCKEY, FOOTBALL
(SOCCER), NETBALL, RUGBY LEAGUE 11
YEARS, RUGBY LEAGUE OPENS, RUGBY
UNION, SOFTBALL and TOUCH
FOOTBALL.**

Please only register once per sport using
the link below by choosing the sport that
you are nominating your child for and
upon pressing the submit button a reply
email should be received to confirm the
nomination.

<http://www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au/rep-selections>

School

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www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au
stjohns10@bigpond

Principal: Patricia Charlton

Office Hours 8.30am - 3.30pm

Parish

Cnr Garfield Rd & McCulloch St

Riverstone 2765

Tel: 9627 1176 Email:

Parish Priest: Father Zakaria Gayed

Weekend Mass Times: Saturday 6pm, Sunday 7am & 9am