



The Evangelist

The St John's Primary School Newsletter

Wednesday 16th August, 2017 Term 3 Week 5

Dear Parents / Carers

Gospel Reflection (Greg Sunter)

Sunday's Gospel Reading - Mt 15: 21 – 28

A Canaanite woman asks Jesus to heal her daughter.

This week's gospel provides a fascinating illustration of Jesus' response to those in need.

Jesus has travelled to the area of Tyre and Sidon – part of modern day Lebanon. He was physically removing himself from the place of his very active ministry and taking a break. When the Canaanite woman approaches Jesus and his disciples, she is an interruption; a nuisance. Jesus is very abrupt with her. He tells her simply that his ministry is to the house of Israel – the Jews – and is not for her. But the woman is persistent and again asks Jesus to help her. Jesus is even more abrupt and tells her that it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs.

Through this use of metaphor, Jesus refers to the children of Israel (the Jews) and to the gentiles and pagans – sometimes referred to as 'dogs' to reflect their lowly status in the eyes of the Jewish tradition. Still the woman persists and turns Jesus' metaphor back on him, saying that even the dogs get to eat the scraps that fall from the table.

The woman's persistence and faith pay off. Jesus is moved by her faith and through that faith heals the woman's daughter. Despite his initial abruptness and reluctance, Jesus responds with compassion to the woman's request. It is as though she needed to demonstrate that she was really serious and that she did in fact believe that Jesus could make a difference in her life and the life of her daughter. This is an important story in Matthew's gospel. This gospel was written predominantly for Jewish Christians but this story reveals that the ministry of Jesus and the reign of God is open to anyone who believes.

Our **Spring Fair** is only four weeks away now, we are getting very excited. The School Community Group have done an amazing job in organising and promoting the Fete but they can't be expected to do it all! We will need your help on the day to make this event a success to raise funds for additional resources for your children. ***Please complete the 'Help Wanted' form and return to the school office to let us know what time you are available to help on Saturday 16th September.*** Your support is very much appreciated.

Please continue to pray for *Jacob Camilleri, Tallara Spence, Chanelle Xerri and Jessica Spryn* who are preparing to receive the **Sacrament of First Holy Communion** this Sunday, 19th August at the 9.00am at St John's Parish Church.

Our Year 1 teacher, *Mrs McCarter* will be **leaving St John's** at the end of this week. We thank Mrs McCarter for her dedication and commitment to St John's and wish her all the best as she awaits the arrival of her first child. Miss Amee Paes has been employed as the Year 2 teacher. Miss Paes, who is well known to the children will commence at the beginning of Week 8. Mrs Mary Aneuri will be on the class for a two week period until Ms Paes returns from overseas.

Following the recommendation from our latest **tree evaluation report** and St John's WHS plan, an arborist has been engaged to cut back some trees on our site. Overall our trees have been rated in the healthy range and don't require much work. During the work period we will make adjustments to playground boundaries, movement of children / pedestrians around the site to ensure the safety of our students and staff. The children will be advised of the work to be carried out and teachers will take the necessary measures to adequately prepare children, particularly those who might need additional support with change to routine.



Best of Luck to our '**Zone Athletes**' who will represent St John's this Thursday the 17th August.

Joseph Calleja, Cooper Stone, Stephanie Bugeja, Alisha Xerri, Mirko Filipovic, Jacob Camilleri, Charlotte McIntyre, Gurleen Kaur, Dylan Albanis, Kristian Albanis, Chanelle Xerri, Christian Hanna, Charlotte Santos, Aaron Camilleri, Darius Tran, Claudine Echersley, Dage Williams, Anthony Chiddo, Noah Filipovic, Isabelle McIntyre, Jessica Spryn, Charlize Tran, Shudarshan Krishnan, Bella Marie Hanna, Kaitlyn Bentley and Krishan Kirpal.

Mr Fisher, Mr Shields and Mrs Izci will accompany the team to the event.

Movie Night: On Friday evening a large number of our students and their families enjoyed a community social event organised by members of our School Community Group. We owe our gratitude to Trish Talbot, Adrian Reid, Jessica Stone and Pauline Boltjes for organising this tremendous event. We also express our thanks to all those wonderful helpers who worked tirelessly to ensure we enjoyed a very tasty BBQ dinner. The children were also very impressed with the lolly cups and popcorn. I would also like to extend my appreciation to Mrs Noden, Miss Saliba, Miss Espiritu, Mrs Stafford, Mrs Izci and Mrs Roffman for giving up their time in support of St John's Community.

Thank you one and all! Our students and teachers recognise and appreciate your ongoing commitment to the school, to the children and to the community.

A great night was had by all. THANKYOU.

God Bless, Patricia.

NEW CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER

**FOR ST JOHN'S
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

St John's Primary School has been migrated to a new telephone system by the CEDP and therefore we have a new telephone number. Please update your records.

02 9854 3200

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

IT IS THE REponsIBILITY OF ALL PARENTS/CARERS TO ADVISE THE SCHOOL OFFICE IN WRITING OF ANY CHANGES/UPDATES TO PARENT/CARERS AND EMERGENCY CONTACTS TELEPHONE/MOBILE NUMBERS

It is imperative that the school is able to get in contact with each and every child's emergency contacts at anytime.

PLEASE FORWARD ANY CHANGES/UPDATES IN WRITING TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE SO YOUR CHILD RECORDS CAN BE AMENDED. YOU CAN ALSO PICK-UP A FORM FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Thank you for your support



Religious Education

Happy Hands program

Next week will see the reintroduction of the 'Happy Hands' program. This program supports our student management policy and ensures that we have a balanced approach to how we as a school community, manage student behaviours on the playground. A letter will also be sent home explaining the program, procedures and how 'congratulations cards', happy hands and bronze, silver and gold awards can be earned for displaying appropriate behaviour on the playground.

Values Award

As a staff, many hours have been spent working on developing a new 'values' award that will be handed out to students at assembly each week. These awards are linked to the values of St. John the Evangelist, patron saint of our school.

The values are:

- Compassion - understanding the needs of others and living unselfishly;
- Justice - the fair treatment of all people;
- Dignity - respecting and recognising the value of each person;
- Dedication - doing the absolute best we can for God;
- Hospitality - creating an environment that is welcoming and respectful using words and actions;
- Stewardship - grateful and responsible use and looking after God's creation; and
- Service - being a leader so I can make a positive difference in the lives of others.

The wording on these awards is age appropriate so that students can clearly understand what the award is being given for. These awards will begin next week.

Father's Day Liturgy

As a community we will be celebrating the important males in our lives with a Father's Day Liturgy and afternoon tea. The Liturgy will be held on Friday 1st September and it will commence at 1.45p.m. After the Liturgy we will be providing a special afternoon tea for all those important males in our lives. All are welcome to join us.

Mrs Kim Roffmann

Religious Education Coordinator.

WHAT'S COMING UP

21st August	Book week commences (Theme: Escape to Everywhere) Meerkat Productions Incursion 'Gary'
21st August	PRC Meeting 7pm
23rd August	BOOK WEEK CELEBRATIONS Commencing at 12noon
25th August	Father's Day Stall 11.30-1.30
31st August	VOY STAGE 3
1st September	Father's Day Liturgy & Afternoon Tea 1.45pm
4th September	ES1 Excursion
8th September	Hawkesbury Eisteddfod Choir attending
11th September	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
14th & 15th September	STAGE 3 OVERNIGHT CAMP
16th September	ST JOHN'S SPRING FETE
21st September	Musica Viva Performance

every learner
every day 

School Name	≡	School Attendance Level %
St Johns Primary Riverstone		 84.5%

Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level %
01	 84.3%
02	 83.9%
03	 80.0%
04	 68.2%
05	 93.3%
06	 80.0%
K	 94.7%

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

PLEASE MARK YOUR
CALENDAR

THE NEXT STAFF
DEVELOPMENT DAY WILL BE HELD ON

**MONDAY 11TH
SEPTEMBER 2017**

**'NO STUDENTS AT
SCHOOL ON THIS DAY'**

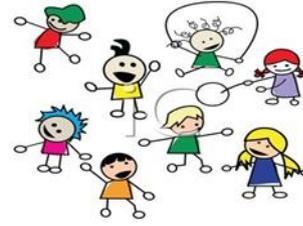
TERM 3 SCHOOL FEES REMINDER

Term 3 School Fees have been sent out by CEDP and are due on the 21st August 2017

Please contact Deanne Hearnden in the school office if you would like to discuss fees further or you would like to set up a payment arrangement.

Discussing of fees will be dealt with confidentially and each person is guaranteed that they will be treated with respect and

Parent Representative Council (PRC)



This is an invitation to parents/carers of St John's to be part of a **free** information session on *Every Learner Every Day*

When: Monday 21st August, 7pm

Where: St Patrick's Catholic Primary School- Villiers St, Parramatta

MISSING SCHOOL = MISSING OUT

Early primary children learn new sounds and words every day. These are important building blocks upon which all future learning is built.

Help your children achieve their best by getting them to school on time every day.

every learner every day ✓ Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

LATE ARRIVALS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL PARENTS/CARERS

THE GATE NEAR THE KISS AND DROP AREA WILL BE CLOSED BY THE TEACHER ON DUTY AT THE CONCLUSION OF KISS AND DROP DAILY

IF YOU ARRIVE AFTER THE BELL AT 8.50am YOU WILL NEED TO USE THE INTERCOM TO GAIN ENTRY AND MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR CHILD TO THE OFFICE TO COMPLETE A LATE ARRIVAL/PARTIAL ABSENCE FORM, YOUR CHILD WILL BE GIVEN A LATE ARRIVAL PASS TO HAND TO THEIR CLASS TEACHER TO CONFIRM THAT A PARTIAL ABSENCE HAS BEEN PROCESSED BY THE OFFICE STAFF

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT REGARDING THIS MATTER



St John's Spring Fete



Saturday, 16th September 2017

stjohnsft@outlook.com

We are only 4 weeks out from our School Fete, and we are all getting very excited with how it's coming together. We would like to thank the whole School Community on helping us out, from your suggestions, to buying Ride Bands, offering your help on the day and offering to make items for the cake stall. Without any of these things this day would not be possible. So THANK YOU!

Ride Bands: *Pre- Purchase your unlimited ride bands from the front office for the discounted price of \$25.00. Cash or Eftpos accepted.*

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Cake Stall: *It's not too late to still offer to cook baked goodies for the Cake stall. Fill in your form which you can find in the newsletters and drop back to the front office.*

Help Wanted: *Any help on the day would be greatly appreciated.*

We are still needing a lot more help, any Parent, Guardian, Aunty, Uncle, Grandparent, Family Friends and Older Siblings can help.

We also need helpers with banking/accounting background and First Aid Certificate. When you fill in the helpers form, please mention if you can assist with either of these options.

If you have already sent in the Helpers Form and you can assist with these can you email us at stjohnsft@outlook.com to let us know.

There will be lots to see and do at the Fete, from buying Chocolate Wheel tickets, strolling through the amazing stalls we have coming, eating from all the food outlets including our own BBQ & Cake Stall, trying out the 9D Cinema (tickets purchased on the day), the 5 fun rides to keep the kiddies entertained, Face Painting & Plaster Castles & the Entertainment we have coming to show off their talents.

We look forward to seeing you all there for a fun filled day to share with your family & friends.

MAJOR FUNDRAISER***ST JOHN'S FETE*****SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2017**

St John's School Fundraising Group are working hard organising the St John's Fete which will be held on the 16th September 2017.

In order for our fete to be a success we will need the support of the whole school community. This term we are asking families to donate items to our collection days for a 'Tombola Stall.' The basic idea of a Tombola stall is very simple. Supporters of our fete donate items / products in advance. These items then have a number assigned to them and are put on display. During our Fete people buy tickets, which if they match the number on an item, win that prize.

"Can you supply a small item for our Tombola?"

Term 2, Week 2: ESI	Toiletries (eg. shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand wash)
Term 2, Week 3: Year One	Paper products (eg. serviettes, paper towels, tissues)
Term 2, Week 5: Year Three	Tinned soups, UDH milk products.
Term 2, Week 7: Year Four	Sauces / salad dressings (eg. BBQ sauce, tomato sauce, Caesar dressing)
Term 3, Week 1: Year Five	Tin products (eg. vegetables, fruits, baked beans etc)
Term 3, Week 4: Year Six	Bottle products (eg. wine, soft drinks)
Term 3, Week 6: Year Two	Snacks (eg. chips, twisties, muesli bars)

Please note that with perishable products the use by date should be checked to ensure it has not expired. Keep in mind the date of the fete is the 16th of September.

KEEP YOUR DONATIONS COMING, IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT

AWARDS

Week 3 Values Award

FAIR GO

Chelsea Wilson ES1, Amandeep Singh
Stage 1, Christopher Uildriks Stage 2,
Sophia Mae Aguado Stage 3

Merit Award Week 3

Aleisha Rhad Knight ES1, Charles Blanks &
Aliyah Kimes Stage 1, Imogen Talbot-
Woodford & Liam Mercieca Stage 2, Darius
Tran & Kaitlyn Bentley Stage 3

Principal Award Week 3

Lucas Mitropoulos ES1, Cooper Stone
Stage 1, Hayden Jones 2,
Aleida Boltjes Stage 3

Week 4 Values Award

FREEDOM

Phoenix Baldock ES1, Emilia Keating Stage 1,
Stephanie Bugeja Stage 2,
Page Williams Stage 3

Merit Award Week 4

Nevaeh-Lee Ah Kiau ES1, Sofia Maggio &
Ashton Goodwin Stage 1, Alisha Xerri & Tyra
Gray Stage 2, Bella-Marie Hanna & Isaac
Calleija Stage 3

Principal Award Week 4

Sienna Maggio ES1, Lyla Dickson Stage 1,
Charlotte McIntyre Stage 2,
Aaron Camilleri Stage 3

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!



Jazmin Taylor 11th August

And

Benjamin Arrowsmith

16th August

LIBRARY NEWS

***Premiers Reading
Challenge***

will conclude

Friday 25th August 2017

At 11.59pm

**All books need to be entered
prior to this date/time**

If anyone has any concerns or
queries please see Mrs Abbott in the Library

Friday 18th August from 8.20am

every learner
every day 

At school we are interested in your child's

Well being and happiness

Engagement with learning in the classroom

Social and emotional development

The single most important thing you can do to support all of these areas is ensure they attend Every Day



Lunch orders are available on Monday's and Friday's from Wildcats Café.

Please write your child's name, class and order on a brown paper bag and enclose the correct money.

Children can then place their orders in the blue lunch order boxes located in the under-croft, near the student foyer.

Orders need to be in the boxes by 8.45am



REMINDER THAT PARENTS/CARERS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO PARK IN THE STAFF CAR PARK WHEN THEY DROP OFF OR PICK UP THEIR CHILD/ CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL.

THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS IS PARIMOUNT AND WE APPRECIATE YOUR CO OPERATION REGARDING THIS MATTER

COMPLAINTS AND GREIVENCES

If, at any time, you find that you have a concern with the school, you are encouraged to come to the school and speak with the teacher/s, assistant principal and/or principal, to find a resolution for your concern.

It is our aim to work with all members of our school community to ensure that we do the very best we can to provide a productive, safe and enjoyable learning experience for our students and professionally fulfilling experience for our staff.

If you would like to raise a concern formally, the Catholic Education Office has procedures for ensuring that complaints are handled fairly. Information about how to lodge a complaint and a complaint form are available from the school office or in the Complaint Handling Policy and Procedures. These documents can be accessed on the CEDP website www.parra.catholic.edu.au



Building Child Safe Communities

Important Information for Volunteers

Thank you for your interest in volunteering. The opportunities provided to students are greatly enhanced by the contribution of volunteers. All volunteers will need to complete the **Undertaking for Volunteers' Form and Training Module** online before they can volunteer at St John's, please use the link below.

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/home>

Step 1: Complete 'Building Child Safe Communities - Undertaking for Volunteers' Form

You will need to complete a Volunteers Form for **each location** that you volunteer. A notification of your successful completion of the form will be sent via e-mail to the volunteering location and also to your email address.

Step 2: Complete the online training module

It is a system requirement that the online training module be completed by all volunteers commencing at any of our locations and the training needs to be completed every second year.

- Open the module by clicking the **Start** link below.
- Read through the presentation.

Complete and submit quiz questions (this will take approximately 10 minutes).

NOTE: IF YOU HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED THE TRAINING MODULE YOU WILL ONLY NEED TO COMPLETE THE 'UNDERTAKING FOR VOLUNTEERS' FORM.

UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES

LETTERS ARE SENT HOME TO
PARENTS/CARERS ON A WEEKLY BASIS
REGARDING UNEXPLAINED
ABSENCES

THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION IS
REQUIRED URGENTLY AND NEEDS TO
BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE
If your child is absent from school it is
the Parent/Carers responsibility to
send to school with the child (on their
return) a written explanation of the
reason for absence and it also needs to
be signed by the Parent/Carer. Notifi-
cation via telephone will be accepted
providing the caller can be verified.

This is a legal requirement.



MORNING

SUPERVISION

Before school supervision of
students commences at 8.20am.
Parents are asked not to drop off their
children at school prior to this time.

*This is for the safety of all our
students*

UNIFORM EXPECTATION

Thank you very much to our parents
for ensuring that your children
come to school in the correct full
school uniform and neatly
groomed.

- ◆ BLACK LEATHER SCHOOL SHOES
- ◆ JEWELLERY - STANDARD WATCHES (Boys & Girls)
- ◆ JEWELLERY - PLAIN STUD OR SLEEPERS EARRINGS
(Girls only)
- ◆ LONG HAIR MUST BE TIED BACK WITH REGU-
LATION (SCHOOL COLOURS) RIBBON, BAND
OR SCHOOL SCRUNCHIE AND **EXTREME HAIR
STYLES ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.** THIS IN-
CLUDES STREAKS, HAIR COLOURING , LINES,
SHAVED CUTS, UNDER CUTS, RATS TAILS,
MULLETS ETC.
- ◆ SPORTS SHOES MUST BE PREDOMINANTLY WHITE
WITH WHITE LACES **NOT COLOURED.**
- ◆ SPORTS SOCK ARE WHITE COVERING THE ANKLE
- ◆ GIRLS SOCKS ARE LIGHT BLUE and BOYS ARE GREY
WITH MAROON STRIPE (available at Lowes)
- ◆ NAIL POLISH is NOT PERMITTED
- ◆ SCHOOL HAT IS TO BE WORN OUTDOORS AT ALL
TIMES (St John's Primary School has a NO HAT NO
PLAY Policy)
- ◆ GIRLS AND BOYS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR
TIES WITH THE WINTER SCHOOL UNIFORM
- ◆ GIRLS TAB TIES ARE AVAILABE FROM THE
SCHOOL OFFICE FOR \$5
- ◆ BOYS TIES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE
SCHOOL OFFICE FOR \$17
- ◆ GIRLS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR GREY TIGHTS
WITH THE WINTER UNIFORM

Thank You for your co-operation

Parent Pick-up

Parents/Carers are asked to please wait in the parent pick up area in the under-croft and

NOT TO CONGREGATE NEAR YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM OR IN THE AREA BETWEEN EARLY STAGE ONE AND STAGE ONE CLASSROOMS

This is for the safety of all of our children. We appreciate your co-operation regarding this matter

ASSEMBLY

Whole School Assembly is held
FRIDAY'S AT 2.30PM

All Parent's/Carers/Family and Friends are most welcome to join our school community

SCHOOL START AND FINISH TIMES

School commences at 8:50 am and concludes at 2:50 pm

All children that arrive after the morning bell need to be accompanied by a Parent/Carer to the office to complete a late arrival form that needs to be signed by the Parent/Carer. This is a legal requirement and the child will be processed as an unexplained partial absence if the Parent/Carer does not attend the office with the child. Please have your child at school before 8:50am.



ST JOHN'S PLAYGROUP

Tuesday and Thursday
9:15—11:15 am

If you have children under 5 years old, why not bring them along each Tuesday or Thursday to Playgroup in the Church Hall. Mums, dads, grandparents and carers are all welcome. For further inquiries please contact Tina on 9627 7625 or the Parish Office on 9627 1176

School

5 McCulloch St Riverstone/PO Box 20, Riverstone, 2765
Tel: 9627 2588 Email: riverstone@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Patricia Charlton

Office Hours 8.30 am—3.30pm

Call in for a School tour anytime

Parish

Cnr Garfield Rd & McCulloch St
Riverstone 2765.

Tel: 9627 1176 Email: stjohns10@bigpond

Parish Priest: Father Zakaria Gayed

Weekend Mass Times:

Saturday 6pm, Sunday 7am & 9am