



The Evangelist

St. John's Primary School, Riverstone

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Term 3 Week 7

Wednesday 2nd September 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

On Sunday we celebrate Father's Day. In Australia we observe Father's Day on the first Sunday of September. It is a day for all of us to show our appreciation for fathers and father figures. As we know father figures may include stepfathers, fathers-in-law, guardians (eg. foster parents), and family friends; other important men in our lives. On behalf of the staff and all students of St John's we wish our fathers a very Happy Father's Day for Sunday. Enjoy your special day with your family.

A Prayer for Fathers

God our Father,

We give thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers newly embracing fatherhood;

May they find the courage and perseverance to balance work,
family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own fathers who have supported and challenged us;

May they continue to guide in strong and gentle ways.

We remember fathers around the world whose children

are lost or suffering;

May they know that the God of compassion

walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor
and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers and great grandfathers
who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and
nourish us with their love.

Amen





I have received notification from St John's COSHC Quality and Compliance Manager (Melanie Corke) that the Department of Education has booked an appointment to visit St John's on Friday to inspect our site and facilities. Ms Corke is confident that we are tracking very well in this part of the approval process and she is optimistic our application will be approved. The COSHC team will be at St John's throughout this week to set up the hall as a Catholic Out of School Hour Care space in readiness for the inspection. Once we have obtained 'official approval' the enrolment process will commence. St John's COSHC will be open and available for our families who require this service from the beginning of Term One, 2021.



On Friday St John's is supporting 'Footy Colours Day.' Fighting Cancer; Giving Hope Appeal. Students and staff are encouraged to wear their favourite sporting team colours or jersey. Donations for participating in Footy Colours Day can be made online at <https://footy-colours-day-2020.raisely.com/stjohnsprimaryriverstone>

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, donations will not be accepted at school. Photographs of the day will be posted on Facebook for our community.

ATHLETIC FUN DAY

On Friday 11th September St John's students will participate at the Athletics Fun Day. Permission/Emergency/Code of Conduct Forms were due last Friday 28th August, if you haven't already done so please return your child/children's note asap.





FEELING UNWELL, GET TESTED AND STAY AT HOME

There appears to be some confusion about the protocols and procedures regarding student attendance at school when they are unwell and COVID-19 testing requirements. The COVID update forwarded to parents / carers on the 19th August from the Executive Director, Greg Whitby still stands; it has not changed. I refer our community to the following excerpt from Mr Whitby's letter:

COVID-19 Testing

- **Currently, no student should attend school if they are unwell. That still applies but now, each student who is absent from school or who has been sent home because they have flu-like symptoms must have a COVID-19 test**
- **Students are not able to return to school until they return a negative COVID-19 result and are symptom free**
- **A negative COVID-19 test result must be provided to the school before a student can come back to school. The test results can be a NSW Health or COVID-19 Testing Centre letter, SMS or email and/or a medical certificate.**
 - **These same protocols apply to school staff**

Managing COVID-19 is a complex issue. At St John's (as elsewhere) our primary goal is the well-being of our students, families and staff. With this in mind we will continue to implement practices and protocols advocated by NSW Health and the Catholic Education Department. When there is a change to advice from Health professionals and the CEDP we will inform our community immediately. Thank you for your continued support in this matter.



God Bless Patricia



Talking and Listening Skills

Talking and listening are important life skills that are part of the NSW school curriculum. The Department of Education has the following advice for parents:

Being able to take in information, respond to instructions and share ideas, thoughts and opinions are all vital skills your child will need.

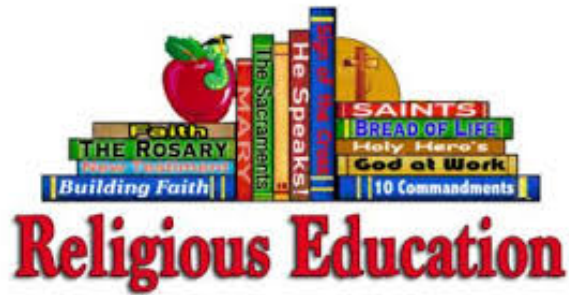
Thankfully it's an area where teachers are experts, but there are ways you can help your child develop these skills and reinforce talking and listening at home.



Talking and listening tips

1. Avoid interrupting your child when they're talking and listen carefully to what they have to say.
2. Use everyday opportunities to talk with and listen to your child as they share things that are of interest or importance to them.
3. Show your child you are interested in what they are saying when they are speaking by giving nods, smiles, sounds, supportive words and gestures. The positive feedback helps reinforce to them that what they say is important and worthwhile.
4. If your child has trouble remembering things said to them, it's a good idea to encourage them to repeat in their mind what has been said, then retell it in their own words. Making notes can help if they have to do a task.
5. If you are planning something such as a special occasion or purchasing a gift, try having a brainstorming session with your child. You can do this just by listening and sharing ideas or by writing them down together.
6. Discuss common dates on a family calendar, such as public holidays, and have your child mark in important events.
7. From the calendar, talk about days, months and years in relation to events such as birthdays and other special occasions.
8. When walking or travelling together, talk about street names and the meaning of signs, etc. You could discuss anything known about names and signs encountered (eg give an explanation about how street names may have come about).

Judith Murphy Assistant Principal



Religious Education

What is a Dad?

A Dad is a person
Who is loving and kind,
And often he knows
What you have on your mind.
He's someone who listens,
suggests, and defends
A dad can be one
of your very best friends;
He's proud of your triumphs,
but when things go wrong,
A dad can be patient
and helpful and strong.
In all that you do,
a dad's love plays a part
There's always a place for him
deep in your heart
And each year that passes,
you're even more glad,
More grateful and proud
just to call him your dad!
Thank you Dad...
for listening and caring,
for giving and sharing,
but, especially, for just being you.

Author Unknown

Father's Day

We wish all our Father's and
significant males in our lives a
Happy Father's Day for this
Sunday 6 September. A
reflection to share with you on
'What is a Dad'. Let us take time
on Sunday to celebrate these
special men in our lives and all
that they do for us.



Kim Roffmann REC



STAGE THREE

STAGE 3 INCURSION

Normally, this term, Stage 3 would have gone on an overnight excursion and visited Parliament House and the Museum of Democracy but due to Covid 19 restrictions, this was not able to take place. We still wanted

Stage 3 to have an experience of Parliament so with this in mind, we booked a virtual incursion.

On Friday, Stage 3 participated in this virtual incursion entitled "the Parliamentary Process". The students broadened their knowledge on democracy. They also developed an understanding of how a preferential vote is undertaken and participated in a preferential vote. There were 5 candidates chosen, each representing a party - these were the 'No Homework Party, the Sports Party, the Digital party, the Lolly Party and the Pets party. The students had to have their name marked off a roll like they would at a polling booth, they were then guided on how to undertake a preferential vote and then votes were counted and totalled by chosen students, then a process was undertaken with the students showing them how the preferential system works until there was a party that had a majority vote. The students also learnt about the 3 levels of Government and what each level of Government is responsible for. They also broadened their knowledge on the Senate and the House of Representatives. On the day the students also participated in a role play depicting the House of Representatives where they had 2 sides of government and debated the issue of 'No homework'.

Overall the students enjoyed the incursion and found the experience worthwhile.





SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Calendar of Events

What's Coming Up

4th September **FOOTY COLOURS DAY - wear your favourite sporting club jersey and donate online at:**

<https://footy-colours-day-2020.raisely.com/stjohnsprimaryriverstone>

11th September **ATHLETICS CARNIVAL - Students and Staff Only - held on school site**



Tyga World's Greatest Shave

Tyga from Stage One has never had a haircut in his life. He has decided to have his curls cut but it doesn't end there. Tyga is raising money for the Leukemia Foundation and he is donating his hair to help create wigs for people in need.

Congratulations Tyga. We are so proud of you. If you would like to contribute you can view Tyga's page at:

<https://secure.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/registant/FundraisingPage.aspx?RegistrationID=796724>



Exciting News!!!!

St Johns Library is ready to reopen for borrowing.

Your child's teacher will advise in the coming week when borrowing will occur for your child's class. Please remember Students must have a library bag to borrow books and books must be returned

Premier's Reading Challenge

Well done to the following students who have also completed the Premiers Reading Challenge

Raphael Vaz , Oliver Lopez, Riley Stone, Elizabeth O'Neil, Danica Vaz, Amelia Bennett, Alexander Lopez , Talara Sciberras, Cooper Stone, Hope Gibson, Aarav Singh and Pippa Wood

The 2020 Premiers Reading challenge is now closed, however you can start recording your PRC 2021 books on a personal list and add them when the challenge opens in 2021.

Certificates will be issued late in Term 4, once they are received from the Premiers Office.

Due to Covid 19 the official CBCA Book Week was delayed.

the new date is 17th October to the 23rd October, this year's theme is

" **Curious Creatures Wild Minds** "

We look forward to celebrating Book Week in Term 4 even though it will be different from previous years. More information will be sent home towards the end of this term or early Term 4.



Mrs Abbott



Happy Hands

Congratulations to the following student for receiving a Bronze Award last week

Leighthan Wilkinson Early Stage One

Evaleigh Kimes Early Stage One

Ryan Cooney Stage One

Erina Zulkhisri Stage One

Harmony Worrell Stage One

Sia Tahiliani Stage Two

Marcella Galati Stage Three

Hope Gibson Stage Three





KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Dear Parents and Carers,

To keep up to date with the latest news and important announcements we strongly advise that you install the SkoolBag app on your mobile devices.

It is imperative that you are able to receive the latest most up to date information straight to your mobile phone anytime/anywhere.

Please see the instructions on how to install the app and if you have any questions or concerns please contact the school on

Telephone: 02 9854 3200

Or

Email: riverstone@parra.catholic.edu.au

Subscribe to our fortnightly newsletter at:

www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au

Don't forget to follow us on FACEBOOK



How to install the SkoolBag app

instructions for parents and community

1. Get your favourite mobile device
2. Open the App Store/Play Store
3. Search for "SkoolBag"
4. Download the free app
5. Open the app and add your school(s)

for Apple users



Download on the
App Store

for Android users



GET IT ON
Google Play

for more info visit skoolbag.com.au





SCHOOL DROP OFF AND PICK UP TERM 3

REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS

MORNING SUPERVISION COMMENCES AT 8.20 AM and AFTERNOON PICK-UP IS AT 2.50 PM

PARENTS / CARERS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO PARK OR WALK THROUGH THE STAFF CAR PARK

Drop off and pick up areas (A – K) – (L – Z) maintained

L – Z students are to be dropped off and picked up at top gate (Parish Car park)

and A – K front gate, McCulloch Street entrance

Any students that arrive late will need to be dropped off at the pedestrian gate on McCulloch Street and signed in by their parent/carer (A partial absence will be recorded)

**STRICTLY NO ACCESS THROUGH THE TOP GATE
(PARISH CAR PARK) BETWEEN 8.50am and 2.50pm**

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

School

5 McCulloch St Riverstone 2765

Tel: 9854 3200 Email: riverstone@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Patricia Charlton

Office Hours 8.30am - 3.30pm

Parish

Cnr Garfield Rd & McCulloch St

Riverstone 2765 Tel: 9627 2276

Email: stjohns10@bigpond

Parish Priest: Father Zakaria Gayed

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