



The Evangelist

St. John's Primary School, Riverstone

Ph: (02) 9854 3200

E: riverstone@parra.catholic.edu.au

W: www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au

Term 4 Week 1

Wednesday 14th October 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,



Welcome to our last term for the year. I trust that you and your family were able to share some relaxing and fun time together and enjoy those few days of wonderful sunshine. I think we would all agree that 2020 has been a year we will never forget. COVID-19 and the restrictions placed on every facet of our lives has presented many challenges. As a school community we are overcoming these challenges with resolve, hard work by our dedicated staff, and with the ongoing support of our parents and carers. We extend our appreciation to you for working in partnership with us to ensure that we have been able to create and maintain a safe environment for our students, their families and staff in the midst of a pandemic. As you would be fully aware the virus is still with us; and therefore we cannot afford to become complacent. On the other hand we are encouraged to move forward with our lives and adapt to a 'new' way of living and interacting. This has led to the easing of some of the restrictions imposed by the health professionals, both the State and Commonwealth Governments and our Catholic Education Department. As some of the restrictions that impact schools are lifted, we will in a safe and timely manner, make the necessary adjustments to our school routines, protocols, teaching and learning programs and extra-curricular activities. Any changes made will be communicated to our community. By now we all know that to protect the health and wellbeing of students, teachers, staff, and visitors it's important that the appropriate cleaning, hygiene and social distancing procedures are followed at all times to protect against this deadly virus. This term we will continue to focus on safety and cleanliness and the health of our students and staff while we engage with our students in teaching and learning programs.

We look forward to the further easing of restrictions in the near future, and a return closer to a more normal way of life.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - Monday 19th October 2020 will be a staff development day, no students will attend school on this day. Please mark this important day on your calendar.





Easing of COVID – 19 School Restrictions

School "Learn to Swim" Swimming Programs in Term 4

We have received updated advice from CEDP in relation to school sport (*this includes competitive sport, recreational sport and activities*). The NSW government has also issued updated advice aimed at minimising the risk when running sport programs. All advice is considered in conjunction with the current NSW Health guidelines, NSW public health order, venue protocols and CEDP and school specific directives. We are currently investigating whether we will proceed with our Swimming Program this term. I have been in contact with Coulter Swimming Centre and Near or Far Bus Company and I am awaiting their COVID-19 safety plans. To proceed with the program we are required to adhere to the following:

- ***No contact with the general public or other schools (schools must have exclusive use of the facilities or a designated area within the facility)***
- ***The school must complete their own risk assessment***
- ***All staff continue to practise physical distancing***
- ***No parents / spectators are permitted***
- ***Public change rooms are to be avoided***
- ***Students to sanitise their hands before and after travelling on the bus***
- ***Bus company to implement strict cleaning protocols prior to student travel***

We will advise our community in due course once we have determined whether we will proceed with the swimming program.

Snack Shack

This term we are re-opening the Snack Shack. The Snack Shack will be open on Monday and Friday each week. St John's snack shack coordinator, Belinda Murray is consulting with parent / carer volunteers and will prepare a roster.

Strict hygiene practices will be observed in the serving of food items to students. One parent volunteer will work in the canteen on each rostered day. To maintain stringent protection against this deadly virus, thorough cleaning, hygiene, and social distancing procedures will be followed at all times.

Access to School Site

This term parents and visitors will be permitted access to our site via the front gate on McCulloch Street to **a)** collect a child from sick bay or **b)** to pick up a child who is leaving early for an appointment. On admission to the site parents / carers are to make their way to the reception area in the administration block. Parents / carers are reminded that when on site strict hygiene and social distancing protocols must be observed at all times. Parents / carers are required to bring their own pen to sign any required documentation; for eg. leave forms. Please do not enter the school grounds if you are exhibiting any cold or flu like symptoms.



The Evangelist

Parents and carers are asked to use the designated entry and exit gates assigned to your family name. It has been noted that a growing number of parents / carers are using the kiss and drop area in the parish carpark. I thank you for your support in this matter.

Safety and Hygiene Protocols:

The following guidelines remain in place for Term 4. Students do not attend school if they are unwell.

- Each student who is absent from school or who has been sent home due to flu like symptoms **must be tested**
- Students **must not return to school until they return a negative COVID-19 result and are symptom free**
- Schools must **sight the negative COVID-19 test result** prior to allowing students to return to school i.e. NSW Health or COVID-19 Testing Centre correspondence (SMS or email or hard copy) and/or a medical certificate must be provided to the school and a record of this kept by the school.

Drop Off / Pick Up Arrangements

Due to physical distancing guidelines our procedures for dropping off students in the morning and picking up students at the end of the school day will be maintained.

Starting Tuesday (20th October 2020) of Week 2 the following will commence:

Families A – K are to use the parish carpark entry / exit gate
Families L – Z are to use the McCulloch Street entry / exit gate

Curriculum Overview Term 4

Curriculum overviews for each stage will be sent home by the beginning of Week 3.

The curriculum overview outlines the content that will be covered in each Key Learning Area during Term 4. Parents / carers are encouraged to refer to the overview when talking with their children about their learning.

Extra Curricular Activities

In term three we started to gradually implement some extra curricular activities in a COVID safe way. We participated in Footy Colours Day; held a school-based athletics carnival and each stage enjoyed a movie on the last day of the term. We are planning to hold some additional 'fun' activities this term. The following are some proposed activities: Crazy Sock Day, Water Fun Activity afternoon, Book Fair, Book Week Activity, Christmas Colour Day. Dates and details will be forwarded to parents / carers in due course.



Grandparent's Day

NSW Grandparents Day is held every year on the last Sunday in October. This year it will be celebrated on Sunday 25 October.

NSW Grandparents Day celebrates the contributions grandparents make to their families and communities. This special day recognises the diversity of grandparent relationships across age groups, cultural backgrounds, and geographical locations. Grandparents, grand-friends, and those who take on the role of a grandparent in their family or community are celebrated for their contributions and support given to our young people and their families.

Sunday 25th October will be a day to spend time with an older loved one and connect across the generations.

Although we are unable to host a grandparent morning tea this year please know that the students and staff of St John's will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. We pray that this day will continue to strengthen the bonds grandparents have with their grandchildren and nurture the unique tradition that they share in a family. Enjoy a wonderful day with your grandchildren!

Loving God,

Grandparents are cherished members of our family.

They bring gifts of wisdom, experience, and love and share with us their life of faith.

We thank God for their example and ask that he bless them with happiness and good health. Bless our grandparents with long life, happiness, and health.

May they remain constant in your love and be living signs of your presence to their children and grandchildren.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen





World Teachers Day



This year NSW will celebrate World Teachers' Day on **Friday 30th October 2020**.

World Teachers' Day is an opportunity to celebrate the hardworking and dedicated primary, secondary and early childhood teachers in NSW. 2020 has been a year like no other with teachers having to adjust their teaching practices in response to the outbreak of COVID-19. Our teachers at St John's are extremely committed to their profession and are dedicated to providing the best educational opportunities to all children in their care.



Enrolling now for 2021: You're welcome!

We're all about learning at St John's Primary School. We put safety first, and focus on student wellbeing.

A reminder that limited places are still available for 2021 in ES1. Please share this news with your friends, family and neighbours. For more information about joining our caring school community, please contact Mrs Cremona on 9854 3200.

Student Data Validation Forms

Student Data Validation Forms will be sent to primary household contacts via email or SMS next week by CEDP.

Given the current challenges with COVID-19, please complete these forms to ensure our school has accurate and reliable information.

Any questions about Student Data Validation can be directed to the School Office or Enterprise Service Desk (cl@parra.catholic.edu.au)

God Bless Patricia



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

MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL ON THIS DAY

REQUEST TO ADMINISTER MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

If your child needs to be administered medication at school (this includes any over the counter medications/creams), Parents/Carers are required to complete a '**Request to Administer Medication at School**' form completed and signed by the prescribing doctor (or a separate letter from the doctor can be submitted to the school office. The letter must state the child's name, class, type of medication, dose and the time it needs to be administered and be signed and dated by the doctor.

All medication must be in it's original labelled container.

'Request to Administer Medication at School' forms can be collected from the school office or can be downloaded from our website.

**PARENTS/CARERS ARE REQUIRED TO ENSURE THAT ALL
MEDICATION IS KEPT IN DATE AND THE OFFICE HAS A READY
SUPPLY AT ALL TIMES**

Thank you for your continued support

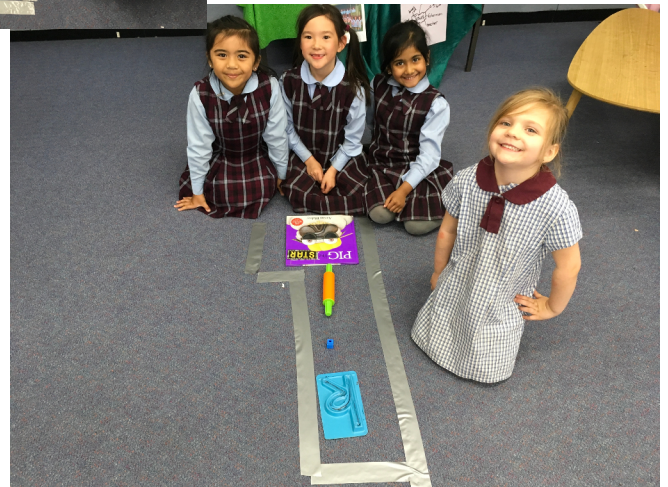
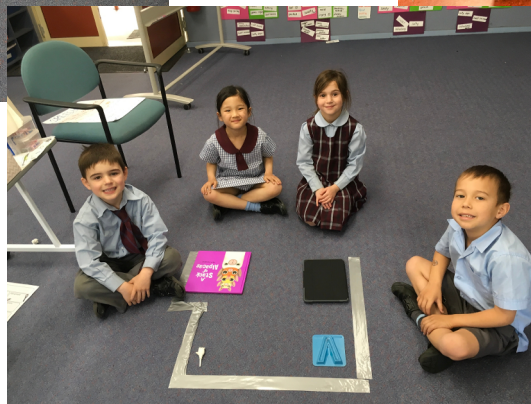
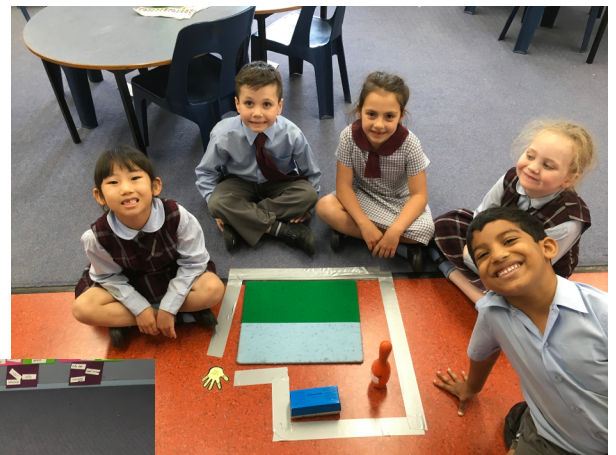
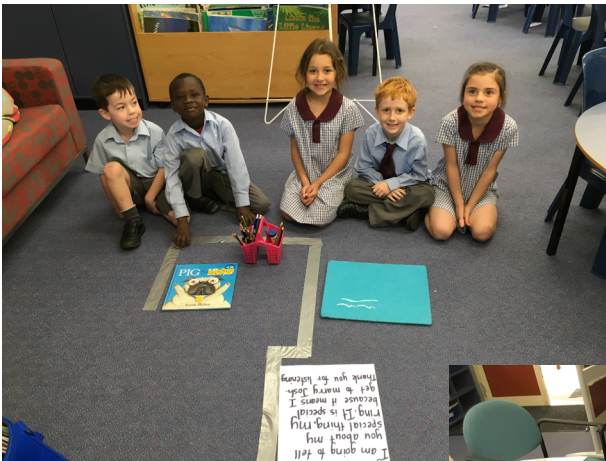


EARLY STAGE ONE

ES1's Terrific Technology Adventures!

In Early Stage One we have been exploring lots of different types of technology. We loved using the school's blue bots to navigate and program! In class we got to create our own course using materials around our room and then we created a path for our Blue Bots to follow.

Here's some of our hard thinking!





BOOK WEEK CELEBRATIONS

**Book Fair arrives on the 5th November
(for Students Only)**

More information will be sent home in due course along with details for
Book Week

**Back to the
LIBRARY!**



PLEASE!

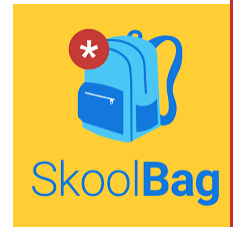
**Please return any
overdue books to
the library**

Mrs Abbott





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





The Evangelist

SCHOOL DROP OFF AND PICK UP TERM 4

COMMENCING WEEK 2 TERM 4 (TUESDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2020)

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

A - K students are to be dropped off and picked up at top gate (Parish Car park)

and L - Z 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