



# The Evangelist

St. John's Primary School, Riverstone

Ph: (02) 9854 3200

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## Term 4 Week 7

### Wednesday 25th November 2020



*Dear Parents/Carers,*



The Season of Advent starts on the 29th November. Advent means 'Coming' in Latin. Its purpose is to look forward to the coming of Christ to Earth; it was a season that focused on waiting. So Advent means something new is coming. It's the celebration of the Advent of a new era. God broke into time and space and entered our world. This is the coming of Jesus into our world. The four weeks of Advent is a time when we start the countdown to Christmas and remember the real meaning of Christmas. Hopefully, we all have the opportunity for family and friends to be together to prepare for and celebrate this most holy and joyous event together. Through prayer, we can enter into God's presence and ask Him to prepare our hearts the way He prepared history to receive the gift of his Son.



*Dear Heavenly Father,  
Help me to hear your voice. Touch me once again.  
Give me the courage to be your beloved.  
Give me courage to choose joy.  
I need you now this Christmas.  
Be born in me again.  
Today. In Jesus' name.  
Amen*

I would like to advise that this year we will not be able to hold our traditional Christmas concert. Students and teachers will prepare a special Christmas message that will be shared with our families via Facebook. On Monday the 14th December the students and teachers of St John's will participate in a 'Christmas Colour Day' to mark the significant events of the Christmas Season. Further details will be sent home next week.



## **Second Semester Reports**

As previously communicated the second semester report will be sent home on Wednesday 9th December. The information contained in this report is a summary of your child's achievement in the second part of the year. Please use the report with your child to discuss strengths and areas of challenge and to set individual goals for 2021. As per the Diocesan Reporting Policy optional teacher / parent interviews are available to discuss your child's progress. If you require an interview please contact your child's teacher or office no later than Thursday 10th December and a teleconference will be scheduled for you.

## **Year 6 Graduation**

St John's Graduation Ceremony (2020) for our Year 6 students will be held on Thursday 10th December. As schools are required to adhere to a COVID safe health plan the Year 6 students, their parents / carers and some teachers will be able to attend this event. The Graduation Ceremony will be followed by a celebratory morning tea for the children. Morning tea will be prepared by Sam's Café, Riverstone and Essence Patisserie, Rouse Hill and will be individually packaged for each student.

## **Leadership 2021**

This term the Year 5 students have been involved in St John's student leadership program. Students and parents / carers were given a copy of St John's Leadership Policy which outlines role descriptions, essential criteria for the positions and expectations of our student leaders to read and discuss. Student nomination forms have been submitted from candidates and within the coming days the successful applicants will write a speech to deliver to peers about their understanding of leadership and their personal qualities that would make them positive role models and responsible student leaders. The next part of the process involves voting for our 2021 student leaders. The students elected to be St John's leaders will inform their parents / carers by telephone before being announced to the community on SkoolBag.



## **Year 6 Fun Day Movie Cinema Event**



**EXCITING NEWS !!!!!** On Friday 11th December Year 6 will attend their Fun Day at Reading Cinema Rouse Hill. We have been very fortunate to secure for our own private use the whole cinema for our Year 6 class and their teachers. The Students and staff will travel to and from the cinema by private bus and receive a treat while watching the movie 'The Croods 2'. All Covid-19 social distancing and safety protocols will be followed at all times.



## Kindergarten Orientation



It was a wonderful experience to welcome next year's Kindergarten children to St John's as part of the transition program. We look forward to learning more about these delightful children and working in partnership with their families in the years ahead. The virtual parent information session held with our new and current parents was a huge success. We received some very positive feedback.

## Dance Fever

The last of the make-up sessions for Dance Fever will be held on Wednesday 9th December. In Term One, 2021 the gymnastics program has been booked.

## TikTok

TikTok has become extremely popular among young people recently. It has been brought to our attention that some students at St John's are accessing this app outside of school time. We wanted to make parents and carers aware that the usage policy guidelines of most social media platforms, including Tik Tok, state that users must be over the age of 13. While these platforms endeavour to not post any harmful content, unfortunately it still happens.

Our concern is that some of the students have used TikTok in such a manner that it has embarrassed other students. This behaviour is unacceptable. We would like to remind our students that inappropriate use of technology (including online services) is against our Responsible Use of ICT Policy and it is against the user agreement necessary to use social media.

***Harassment, teasing, bullying or belittling students at St John's will not be tolerated. We ask that you have a serious conversation with your children about acceptable behaviour on social media and read the user guidelines to which you agreed to when downloading the application.***

If you would like further information you can see the TikTok Terms of Service at:

<https://www.tiktok.com/legal/terms-of-use?lang=en>

## Students not returning to St John's for 2021

Please contact the school office if your child/children are not returning to St John's in 2021. An '**Advice of Withdrawal of Enrolment Exit Form**' will need to be completed and signed by a Parent/Carer and returned to school asap.



*God Bless Patricia*



## NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS AND CARERS

### **Students not returning to St John's for 2021**

Please contact the school office if your child/children are not returning to St John's in 2021. An **'Advice of Withdrawal of Enrolment Exit Form'** will need to be completed and signed by a Parent/Carer and returned to school asap.

**Last day for purchasing uniform shop items Friday 11/12/20**

**Last day snack shack operating is Friday 11/12/20**

**Last day for lunch orders Monday 14/12/2020**

**No payments can be received at the school office after Friday 11/12/20**

**Any school fee payments can be made during the break via BPay or in person with your statement at your local post office.**

**LAST DAY FOR ALL STUDENTS**

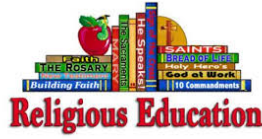
**WEDNESDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2020**

**FIRST DAY 2021**

**FRIDAY 29TH JANUARY 2020**







## Confirmation

The following students in Stage 3 will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this week:

*Angelia Bird, Talara Sciberras,  
Amelia Makin, Alexander Lopez, Emilia Keating,  
Jacob Sinka, Isabella Hartz, Alexander Hills  
and Naethan Joseph.*

We pray as a community that they will be filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and live these out in their daily lives in both words and actions.



*The gifts of the Holy Spirit are: **Wisdom** is the ability to exercise good judgment. It distinguishes between right and wrong, seeks and upholds truth and justice, and balances personal good with the common good. **Understanding** is the gift of intelligence and enlightenment. It is the ability to think clearly; to perceive, comprehend and interpret information; and to have insight and discern meaning. **Counsel** is good advice. It is the ability to teach, inform, guide, direct, warn, admonish, recommend and encourage. It is not limited to the giving of advice but extends to the ability to graciously receive it. **Fortitude** is an unwavering commitment to God or a proper course of action, and it shows itself as moral strength, courage, determination, patient endurance, long suffering, a resolute spirit, stamina and resiliency. **Knowledge** is the ability to study and learn; to acquire, retain and master facts and information; and to put what is learned to good use for constructive purposes. **Fear of the Lord** is awe, reverence and respect for God. It acknowledges that everything comes as a gift from God, downplays personal achievement and self-sufficiency, and gladly offers praise, worship and adoration to God. **Piety** is personal holiness, and it includes devotion to God, prayer, virtue, goodness, decency, self-mastery, innocence, the avoidance of sin and obedience to God's will.*

### Season of Advent

The Season of advent begins on Sunday 29th November. Advent is a time where we prepare ourselves for the birth of Jesus. We are waiting like the Shepherds and the Wise Men for the promised one.

At Advent we place our advent wreath on our Sacred spaces in our learning spaces. The wreath is a circle which means that it never ends. The green - means evergreen and new life. We also have four candles on the wreath which symbolise the four weeks of advent. Each candle and week has a special significance this being:

- The 1st Sunday of Advent symbolizes Hope with the "Prophet's Candle" reminding us that Jesus is coming. **(Purple Candle)**
- The 2nd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. **(Purple Candle)**
- The 3rd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy with the "Shepherd's Candle" reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus. **(Pink Candle)**
- The 4th Sunday of Advent symbolizes Peace with the "Angel's Candle" reminding us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men." **(Purple Candle)**



The white candle is lit on Christmas Day to symbolise Jesus' birth.

*God Bless  
Kim Roffman REC*



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# SPORT



**2021 Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials are OPEN!**

ALL 2021 Team Sport Trials are OPEN.

All sports trials will be held in Term One & Two in 2021.



Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2021 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials. It is important to note that these trials are generally for those children who **display an above-average ability and/or have representative experience in their chosen sport**. While teams are open in age it is strongly recommended that only children of a representative standard in Years 5 & 6 in 2021 be invited to attend.

Parramatta Diocesan trials will be held in the following sports: **AFL, Cricket, Hockey, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby League (11 yrs & Opens), Rugby Union, Softball, Touch football**. The sports of Diving & Golf will be held at the MacKillop level.

To be eligible for selection for these trials the **2021 CEDP Primary Sport TEAM Registration** Form must be completed. Please visit the Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport website or Facebook for the link and information.

WEBSITE: [www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au)

FACEBOOK: [Primary Sport Parramatta Diocese](#)

This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** for 2021 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials. Parents may complete this form to attend a selection trial. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport. Each sport has its own criteria therefore, it is imperative that the correct form is completed.

Please note that your online registration is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ONLY** and MUST be approved by the child's school. For the child to attend the nominated trial or event, the school approves students based on playing history and selection criteria. All fields and especially "Representative Experience" if applicable to the sport MUST be completed. Under no circumstances will a child be eligible to trial if the **2021 CEDP Primary Sport TEAM Registration** Form has not been completed and approved by the school by the closing date.

More detailed information can be located in the **2021 CEDP Parra Primary Sport Rep Team Trials Info for Parents COVID19 information sheet**

**Please contact the office if you would like us to send home this information sheet.**



**Yours In Sport**

*Rebecca Tolhurst*





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

**25th Nov**

**ES1/2021 Transition Morning 10am - 11am (Group 2)**

**10th Dec**

**Year 6 Graduation Mass**

**14th Dec**

**Christmas Colour Day**

**16th Dec**

**Last Day for Students**

**Christmas Blessings to you all**

**27th & 28th**

**MAI & BEST START ASSESSMENTS and**

**Jan 2021**

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS**

**29th Jan 2021**

**FIRST DAY FOR ALL STUDENTS (Summer Uniform)**



## Happy Hands

Congratulations to the following students  
for receiving a Bronze Award

*Jelena Filipovic Stage 2,  
Mersadiez Syme Stage 2,  
Marlee Syme Stage 1 and  
Isabela Gadzambo Stage 1*





## AWARDS



### Students of the Week

#### Term 4 Week 5

Ryan Pullan ES1, Ameliah Paterson Year 1, Reyana Paudel Year 2, Breanna Xerri Year 3  
Sienna Luppino Year 4, Isabella Hartz Year 5 and Hayden Jones Year 6

#### Term 4 Week 6

Hayley Ferguson ES1, Adrija Roy Year 1, Reva Borawake Year 2, Shritik Vivek Year 4,  
Ashton Goodwin Year 5 and Vitoria BatistaAndrade Year 6









## 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](mailto:riverstone@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Subscribe to our fortnightly newsletter at: [www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au](http://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



for Android users



for more info visit [skoolbag.com.au](http://skoolbag.com.au)





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## **SCHOOL DROP OFF AND PICK UP TERM 4**

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

PARENTS AND CARERS ARE ASKED TO PLEASE BE ON TIME FOR AFTERNOON PICK-UP

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](mailto:riverstone@parra.catholic.edu.au)

[www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au](http://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](mailto:stjohns10@bigpond)

***Parish Priest: Father Zakaria Gayed***

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