



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 9

Wednesday 9th December 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

As the year draws to a close I would like to acknowledge the contribution of our staff and students to St John's during 2020. I think we would all agree it has been a year like no other. There has never been a time when being a teacher has been more demanding or challenging. COVID 19 took us all by surprise and impacted all facets of our lives. The staff is to be applauded for the way in which they embraced the challenges this year.

I am so proud of how our dedicated staff adapted to a new way of teaching and learning, connecting with students and parents and finding new and creative ways of doing our work. Preparing for remote teaching and learning; supporting students well-being while adhering to a myriad of mandated protocols and health guidelines to ensure the safety of our staff, students and families was a mammoth task at times.

To our teachers and support staff, thank-you for your energy, creativity and enthusiasm. What a privilege to witness the joy that comes with the understanding or satisfaction of solving problems together as they arose. The reality is that the learning experiences and activities that have taken place this year would not have been so successful without a great deal of commitment and support from the teachers, students and families.

Thank You for your Support!!

My appreciation and thanks to our parents / carers for your valuable role as the primary educators of your children and for showing support for our teachers as they went about their work under such difficult and challenging circumstances. Your words of encouragement, your willingness to do things differently and your patience made the job a little easier. Thank you to *Belinda Murray* for supporting the school to reopen the snack shack. We are grateful to the following volunteers *Kate Beazley, Lisa Maggio Sarah Fuller, Steve Yeo, Esther Yeo, Jane Stanton and Jessica Stone* for giving up their time to assist Belinda. Moving into 2021 we would like to increase the number of parent / carer volunteers. If you have some extra time to spare we ask that you consider to offer your assistance. You can register your interest by telephoning Mrs Cremona on 9854 3200 at the school office.





Transition

A transition morning will be held on Wednesday 15th December for students to meet with their teachers for 2021.

Farewell Year 6

St John's Graduation ceremony for our Year 6 students will be held this Thursday the 11th December at 10.30 am. Due to our small class size both parents are able to attend the ceremony. A COVID safe plan will be in place. Parents / carers are asked to arrive 10 minutes prior to the commencement of the ceremony to register your attendance in the church. The ceremony will be followed by a celebratory brunch to be held in the school hall for the students of the graduation class of 2020.

A Prayer for Our Graduating Students

We pray for our Year 6 students and their families,

May they enjoy this special time - the beginning of a new journey in their lives.

We give thanks for the joy they have brought to our learning community of St John's.

May God guide and watch over them as they continue to walk in the light of Christ.

Amen.

Class of
2020

End-of-Year Awards

Year 6 awards will be presented to students at their graduation ceremony on Thursday 10th December. Kindergarten to Year 5 will receive their awards at a school assembly to be held on 16th December. Photos of students with awards will be posted on our Facebook page. After the assembly our Year 6 students will be farewelled by our students in a COVID safe way.



In closing, on behalf of the staff and students of St John's I wish all our families a happy and holy Christmas followed by a New Year full of promise, hope and love.

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

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

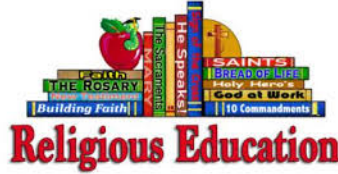
FIRST DAY FOR ALL STUDENTS (Summer Uniform)



Oh come
LET US
ADORE
The
CHRIST
THE LORD



The Evangelist



Next Sunday 13 December is the third Sunday of Advent. The 3rd Sunday of Advent symbolises Joy with the “Shepherd’s Candle” reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus. This week the pink candle is lit on our advent wreath.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John Jn 16:8 19-23

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.



A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,

as a witness to speak for the light,

so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,

only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, ‘I am not the Christ.’ ‘Well then,’ they asked, ‘are you Elijah?’ ‘I am not,’ he said. ‘Are you the Prophet?’ He answered, ‘No.’ So they said to him, ‘Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?’ So John said, ‘I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.’

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, ‘Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?’ John replied, ‘I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.’ This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord

Let us take the time to reflect on this Gospel and look at how we are preparing ourselves for the birth of Jesus. Are our hearts open to receive this great gift and in turn share this great gift with others.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and blessed Christmas time with family and loved ones. Covid has taught us this one lesson that family time and spending time with loved ones is so important. Let us take the time to be really present to each other at this special time.

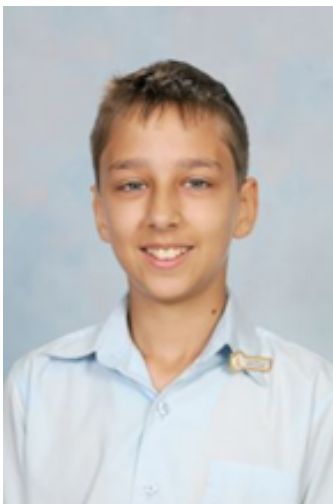


God Bless
Kim Roffman REC



HONORING THE CLASS OF 2020

On my first day at St John's I was really worried because while I had changed schools before and even countries I'm not good at making friends easily. I expected there would be lots of kids and I was thinking what if they don't like me or something. When I walked in that first day I walked inside where I was told my classroom would be and there were only **4** kids in the classroom with 2 teachers! This was not really what I was expecting but that's what you get when you start school during a pandemic! **Vitoria**



People mostly know me for my awesome sporting skills. This is because of how athletic I am and how I have been sports age champion over my years at St John's.

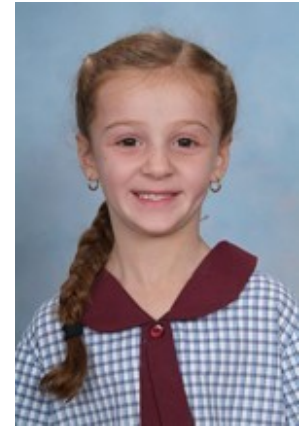
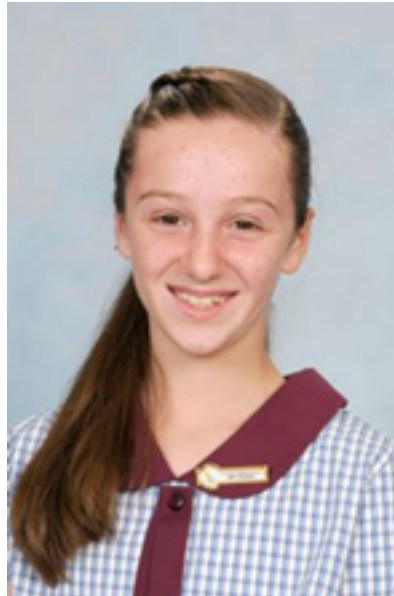
One of my favourite sports is soccer because you get to work as a team and I love to be a part of a team. Maybe in the future you will see me playing soccer for Real Madrid! **Mirko**



The Evangelist

I remember that in Stage Two how we used to play Kahoot and whenever we would win or lose we would scream that loud that Mr Shields would get upset.

Stephanie



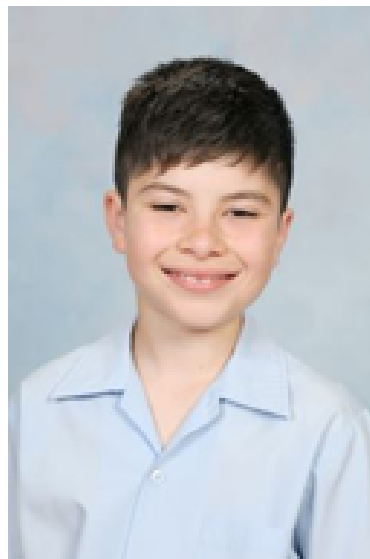
One of my proudest moments at St John's was being picked by the students to represent them as school captain for 2020. I have really enjoyed my role this year even though it was a little different than I expected.

My friends are what has made this year a great one! **Marcella**

"I MAY BE SMALL BUT I AM MIGHTY!"

Liam

2020
Class of
CONGRATULATIONS!





The Evangelist



One of my best memories in St John's is going to camp at Yarramundi. I got to be with my friends and try new things. I also liked how Year 5 and 6 got to know each other more. I also liked how I got to be in a cabin overnight with my friends and be myself in front of my friends. **Esha**

Class of **2020**
CONGRATULATIONS!

One of my best friends at St John's is Stephanie. The story goes that when I was in Kindy and going on my first bus trip to an excursion I was nervous and scared because I had never been on a bus without my parents before. I was sitting by myself and Steph came and sat next to me. We started playing Eye Spy and the rest is history. From that moment on we have been friends and everytime we went on a bus trip through the years we always played the same game. **Alisha**



I remember in Stage 1 rushing to the middle of the floor to sit on the purple dot on the rug when we were called and usually someone would end up getting hurt. Mrs Bawden and Mrs McCarter were always telling us to slow down. **Hope**



The Evangelist



"Never give up on anything because you can always do it if you put 100% effort."

I always tried in every sporting event and always tried my hardest. **Hayden**

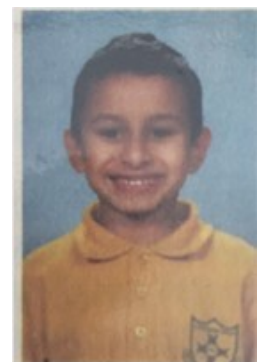
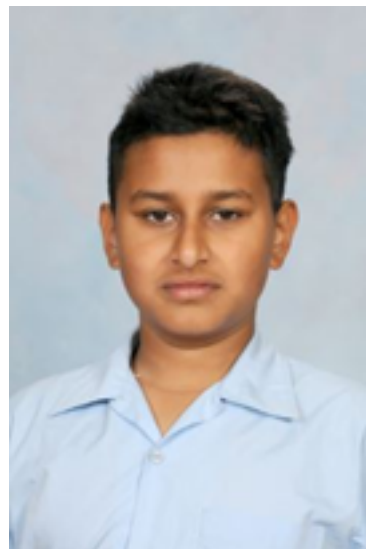


"School is the one place my brain would not and will not shut down. Education is our rising action to a successful life." **Christian**

2020 was a difficult year for being in Year 6. The pandemic made the year different. I like working on technology so I found homeschooling ok. However we couldn't go on our Canberra excursion this year.

My teachers arranged an incursion instead and I learnt about Parliament and how our country votes.

Ryan



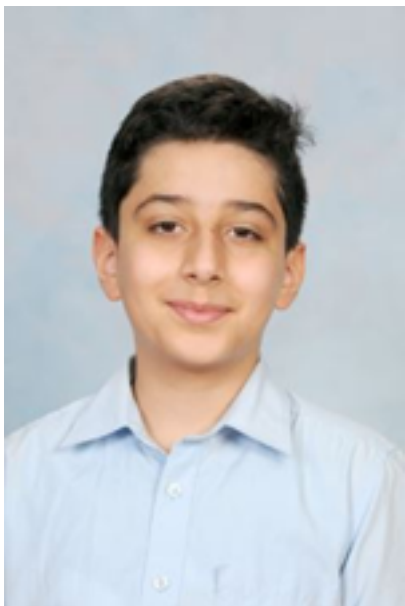
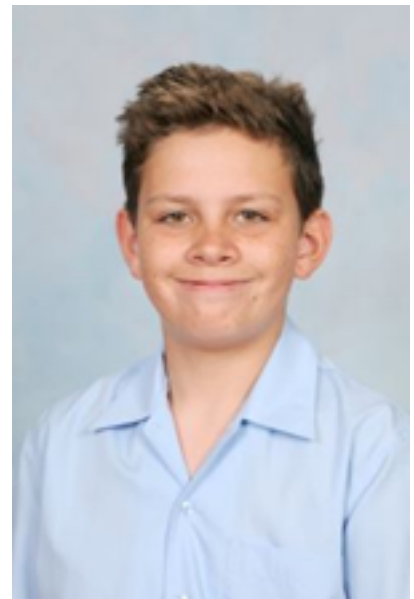


The Evangelist



I really like this school even though there were some difficulties. I had fun and I learned new things and also made new friends. I will miss St John's. **Vishal**

"I am tall so I am mightier than Liam."
So glad I got to come to St John's and make some very good friends for my last year of primary school. **Landen**

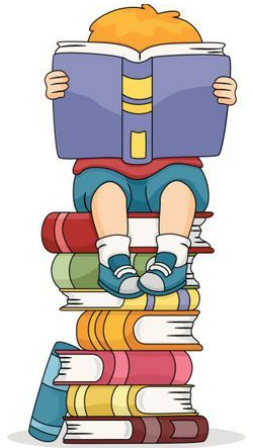


I am ready for high school and happy with the friends I met at St John's. Goodbye to all my friends. **Rami**

2020 Class of
CONGRATULATIONS!



The Evangelist



Return of School Library Books and resources

Could all families please have a good check at home for any ST John's Library books, in particularly Guided Readers.

Guided readers are used for group sessions with, 6-8 books per pack. When a copy is not returned it limits our resources and the amount of children that can work in a group.

We have about 100 sets of Guided Readers that are missing 1 or 2 books. Maybe you still have the resources pack that was sent home when we were doing at home learning. ***Your assistance checking whether you have any school resources at home is greatly appreciated.***

PRC - Premier's Reading Challenge

We are just awaiting the delivery of the Gold and Platinum Certificates for 2020. Once these are received all certificates will be distributed to the children who have completed this challenge.

The 2021 challenge has already started, so now is a great time to start particularly with the hot summer days coming up. You will not be able to log any books in the PRC site till it is open, so just keep a record of what you have read and you can log them once it opens.



We all know the importance of reading and how a great book can spark the imagination and creativity too. These summer holidays, we are encouraging all students to take the reading challenge and read, read, read!

For more information, on How to enter, prizes and accessing SORA follow the link below

<https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/2020EDRC>

I look forward to welcome all our students back into the Library in 2021

Mrs Abbott



AWARDS



Student of the Week

Term 4 Week 7

Sophia Kim ES1, Samuel Li Year 1, Makenna Murray Year 2, Sia Tahiliani Year 3,
Sofia Maggio Year 4, Cooper Stone Year 5 and Marcella Galati Year 6.

Term 4 Week 8

Evaleigh Kimes ES1, Jonathan Yeo Year 1, Matilda Keating Year 2, Manny DeGuzman
Year 3, Danica Vaz Year 4, Olivia Thorpe Year 5 and Esha Menon Year 6.





The Evangelist





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





Part-Time Work

1x Permanent part time position –St John’s Primary School – Riverstone - 7139

Help protect our vibrant school communities

Become a School Crossing Supervisor!

- Keep our kids, parents and teachers safe on the road
 - Be a second pair of eyes for our local motorists
- Earn an income and still have time to live your life to the fullest

School crossings require 20 hours of supervising per fortnight.

Shifts fall between 8.20am – 9.20am and 2.30pm – 3.30pm, Monday to Friday during the school term.

Does this sound like you?

- Reliable in good or bad weather
- Good communication skills
 - Community spirit
 - Positive energy

If it does, visit

jobs.transport.nsw.gov.au to apply today!

Applications close Sunday 13th December 2020



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

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