

St. John's Primary School, Riverstone Ph: (02) 9854 3200

E: riverstone@parra.catholic.edu.au

W: www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au

Term 1 Week 4

Wednesday 19th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Bushfire Fundraising Appeal

All Catholic Schools in the Parramatta Diocese are holding fundraising events to support bushfire-affected communities. Money raised from these events / activities will support the Vinnies' bushfire appeal. Parents and caregivers wishing to donate individually can donate through school and we will add donations to the amount raised by students in their 'Cake Stall' activity which will be held this Friday 21st February. Parents and caregivers are reminded to bring their cake donations to the 'Snack Shack' on Friday morning. Thank you to those who have already contributed to support affected communities.

We are also called to pray for those affected, especially those who have lost loved ones, for those still fighting the fires and for an end to the ongoing crisis. Prayers and other resources, including how to support people affected by bushfires within the Diocese of Parramatta, can be found at www.parracatholic.org/bushfires.

Beginning of Year Reminders



It is timely at the beginning of the school year to gently remind our parents and carers about some of St John's protocols, policies and procedures that have been established to maintain a safe, happy and orderly community and to promote a sense of pride in ourselves and our school. Parents and carers are reminded of the following:

- The school gates open at 8.20am when supervision commences
- Collect children after school at 2.50pm when they are dismissed by the teacher on duty. **Parents / carers are asked to be on time**
 - · Remind children daily if they are to attend after school care
 - Be extra vigilant when using the parish car park during St John's renovations
 - Ensure that children understand and adhere to the school uniform policy

The uniform policy which is accessible on St John's website under uniforms describes the correct uniform and expectations in regards to the wearing of jewellery, sport shoes and socks and acceptable hairstyles

- Read and respond to all relevant communication (sckoolbag, invitations, FaceBook, flyers etc)
 - · Raise any concerns directly with class teachers, leadership team and or principal



School Attendance



School attendance plays a critical role in enhancing the lives of students in schools. Every day of attendance adds to a student's academic achievement and success at school.

Schools in partnership with parents/carers are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents/carers are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff as part of their duty of care play a vital role in promoting daily attendance, recording and monitoring absences and preventing the establishment of absenteeism. A shared approach to school attendance between students, parents/carers, schools, system learning and CEDP will maximise the opportunity for every learner every day.

In keeping with legislative and CEDP / school policies and procedures attendance rates for all students will continue to be closely monitored at St John's. Please refer to this week's attendance levels for K – 6 for weeks 2 - 4 for this term.

The target level for all schools in the Parramatta Diocese is above 90% attendance rate.

School Community Group

Students and staff have received great support in the past from St John's Community Group.

The **SCG** is a vital part of our community. Through the generosity of our parent volunteers we have been able to enjoy a number of community / school events and celebrations, for example Mother's Day, Cookbook Fundraiser and Family Photographs. These events would not be possible without the support and ongoing commitment of our SCG. In the last few years, due to the busyness of life, there has been a decline in the number of parents / carers who have committed to the School Community Group. I ask that our parent community consider volunteering some time to commit to being part of the wonderful group who organise community and special activities that benefit all our students. The committee would love to have some extra 'helping hands' this year. The children and staff are very appreciate of the ongoing support from our School Community Group.

In the next couple of weeks we will be having our first **St John's School Community Group** meeting. I would like to invite you to come along to meet with the **SCG** and perhaps share your ideas with other parents / carers. An invitation will be sent home in due course.

Snack Shack and Secondhand Uniform Shop

Again, this year I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Mrs Belinda Murray for coordinating the canteen roster for this term and for having the **snack shack** open for the students. Mrs Murray does a fabulous job both in the snack shack and as coordinator of our **second-hand uniform shop**. I ask if you have some time to spare please consider volunteering in the snack shack; you will be put on a roster. You are invited to contact the school and register your interest in supporting the snack shack or alternatively you can speak with Mrs Murray who will be able to answer any questions you may have.

This week our parents and caregivers had the opportunity to engage with their child's teachers during 'St John's Parent Information Sessions'. It was wonderful to see so many parents / carers take up the invitation to attend these vital information sessions. As we recognize parents as the first educators of their children it is important that parents, caregivers are involved in the education of their children. Therefore, at the beginning of the school year we commence a parent engagement process by outlining aspects of the key learning areas that is relevant to your child's particular stage of learning.

This term we have been fortunate to be included in the **CEDP Captivate Program**. Margaret Lopez (Artist in Residence) will be working with our students to create a Mural that will capture the 'essence' of St John's Learning Community. The mural will be painted on marine ply and mounted on the Stage One wall near the parish car park entrance.

I look forward to a great year ahead for our school community!

God Bless Patricia

Cashless Schools

This year CEDP has implemented new policies around the taking of payment within CEDP Schools and have asked that cash payments be eliminated

As a result we have incorporated most of the students regular planned activities for the year within the school based fees for 2020

While this doesn't apply to fundraising events, snack shack or our second hand uniform shop we ask that you pay for these items with the correct denominations whenever possible as change may not be available

EFTPOS facilities are available to parents and carers at the school office and over the phone (not available for snack shack purchases)

We thank you for your cooperation.



SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

St John's Primary Riverstone
School Photography Date: 18/03/2020
SCHOOL PHOTO ORDER CODE: TMX EXY KJ8

SCHOOL PHOTO ORDER LINK:



https://www.advancedimage.com.au/keycode/keycodefinder.aspx?keycode=TMXEXYKJ8

Dear Parents and Carers,

School photography day is coming up very soon. Group and portrait photographs can be purchased by following the link above or by using the envelope provided. (Envelopes will be sent home soon)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- School photos purchased online DO NOT require envelopes returned to school
- Don't forget to order your sibling photos now, if your school is offering sibling photos*
- Late fees/additional charges will be applied for purchases after photo day
- Photos will be returned to your school for distribution approximately six weeks after photos are taken
- Past years' photographs including sports, co-curricular and representative groups available at school's *advancedorder* site (follow the link above) and your child's *advancedyou* photo site

*Sibling photographs must be ordered either online or by order envelope prior to the day of photography. A photograph will not be taken without an order. Sibling photographs can only be taken of children enrolled at the school. **Please note:** Sibling photographs are not offered at all schools.

advancedlife would like to express our appreciation to St John's Primary Riverstone for placing your trust in us. Please remember we offer a 100% money-back guarantee on our products, for your peace of mind, and are also here to resolve any issues you may experience to ensure your satisfaction. If you have any questions, comments or feedback relating to your advancedlife experience, please contact us at: enquiries@advancedlife.com.au

BEGINNING OF YEAR MASS

Due to the electrical issues experienced by the Parish last week the Beginning of Year Mass had to be postponed. The Mass will now be held this Friday at 12 noon in the church. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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

What's Coming Up

21st Feb Beginning of Year Mass 12 noon in the Church

21st Feb BUSHFIRE APPEAL CAKE STALL FUNDRAISER

25th Feb Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day

24th Feb Y6 Visit SJP2 'A School Learning Experience'

26th Feb Ash Wednesday Liturgy 11am in the Hall

2nd Mar - 6th Mar Catholic Schools Week

4th Mar OPEN DAY 9.30-10.30AM and 4.30-5.30PM

13th Mar Cross Country

18th Mar WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTO DAY



St John's will be holding a **Cake Stall Fundraiser** for the **Bush Fire Appeal** this **Friday 21st February 2020** at recess, lunch and after school for those parents/carers who would like to purchase any items and support this worthy cause.

We are asking for donations of Cakes, Slices, Cupcakes etc to make this event a success.

All donations can be brought into school on Friday 21st February 2020. Please drop them off at the canteen in the morning by 10am.

If any parents/carers would like to donate directly to the appeal, they can bring in their donation to the school office and we will forward it on to the CEDP.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Together we can make a difference, St John's the Heart of the Community



ST JOHN'S

Primary School Riverstone







How you can help your child with maths at home

Maths is a learned skill that improves with practice. It is helpful to talk positively about maths and encourage your child to persevere even if they find some concepts challenging. Remind them that maths involves hard thinking! Talk about how everyone can do well at mathematics. ABC Education has some helpful tips for parents. They include:

Using Maths Everyday

Relating everyday activities to maths assists with understanding. You can help by discussing how you use percentages while shopping, distance in driving, keeping score in sports games and telling the time. Asking questions: What shape can be made by unfolding a carton? How many apples can be packed into the fruit tray? What shape is that box? Have a chat while you prepare food about shapes, sizes and quantities.. You could say, for example, "I need five large carrots" and one small potato" or "I am cutting our sandwiches in 4 triangles today."

For younger children count things with your child every day. Perhaps you can get together and sort different objects by size, shape or colour, like blocks, clothing, toys and pegs. For children of all ages playing with puzzles is another great activity that can help your child develop their maths skills. Explore spatial games, board games, build something with Lego, card games, jigsaw puzzles and logic puzzles.

Encouraging Mental Maths

Encourage children to solve simple maths problems in their head. How many pieces do you need to cut the birthday cake into so that everyone has a slice? What's the cost of items on sale e.g. 25 per cent off \$20? It's 4:15 pm now and it will take 30 minutes to get home: what time will we arrive? If your child struggles to work it out, suggest they show you on paper or talk you through how they're trying to work it out so you can help them.

Using maths in everyday situations and encouraging mental maths supports the mathematics learning at school.

Judith Murphy Assistant Principal





dnesdav

Beginning of Year School Mass

Our Opening School Mass and Commissioning of Leaders will be celebrated this Friday at 12.00pm in the Church.

At this Mass we also welcome new members to our community including our new Early Stage 1 students.

All parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Cake Day for the Bushfire Appeal

The Catholic Education Office has asked all Schools in the Parramatta Diocese to undertake a fundraiser to aid people in New South Wales who were affected by the Bush Fires in January this Year. The cakes will be sold for either \$1 or \$2 depending on their size. They will be sold at both recess and lunchtime and also in the afternoon after assembly if there are any cakes leftover.

Ash Wednesday Liturgy

Next Wednesday 26 February is Ash Wednesday. We will be having a Liturgy in the Hall at 11.30am where the students will receive ashes. All parents are welcome to attend this Liturgy. Ash Wednesday is the start of Lent. The season of Lent is 40 days. It is a time as Catholics that we fast, think about the choices we have made, asking for forgiveness and attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation and alms giving - giving to Project Compassion.

Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)

Next Tuesday 25 February is Pancake day. This is the day before the Church's season of Lent begins and one of our traditions in our Catholic Faith that we rid of homes of luxury items in preparation for fasting in Lent. With this in mind, we will be having Pancake day on Tuesday at Recess time. The Pancakes with maple syrup will be \$2.00.

We need parent helpers for this to take place both in the form of setting up and donating flapjacks/pancakes already cooked. We would also require bottles of maple syrup. Could you please look for the note sent home yesterday and return the cut off slip if you can help on the day either with donations or preparations.





God Bless Kim Roffman REC

Stage One

In Stage 1 we have been learning about how to be a good friend like Jesus was. We have been talking about Random Acts of Kindness. Each of us brainstormed a list of things we could do to be kind to each other. Matilda is going to help her mum cook dinner and Riley is going to help people when they have been hurt on the playground. Some other things we thought we could do were to give compliments, help with our learning, listen to each other and share our love.

Jesus asked us to love one another in the same way He loved us.

In Stage 1 we are trying our very best to be good friends and show kindness and love.











Thank you to those students who returned all their overdue books at the end of last year.

We still have some books that are overdue and they need to be returned asap.

As our building project continues and the Administration Office is now located in the library, please be advised that the Library will be closed for borrowing until further notice.

We appreciate your understanding

Mrs Abbott

during this time.

SUMMER UNIFORM REMINDER

Girls Boys

Blue check dress with tab tie

Black traditional style school shoes which can be polished

Plain sky-blue ankle length socks with fold over top (not anklet)

Maroon hat with school emblem

(available from the school office)

Sky blue short sleeve shirt. Grey school shorts

Black traditional style school shoes which can be polished

Grey with school stripes ankle length socks with fold over top (not anklets)

Maroon hat with school emblem

(available from the school office)

Maroon jacket with zip and school emblem Maroon jacket with zip and school emblem

PLEASE NOTE ALL SCHOOL SHOES SHOULD BE BLACK TRADITIONAL STYLE LEATHER

THAT CAN BE POLISHED





ST JOHN'S



SCHOOL FEES

Accounts will be generated by CEDP approx Mid March.

Any questions or concerns please contact Natalie in the school office on 02 9854 3200

SCHOOL FEES SIBLING DISCOUNTS

RECONCILIATIONS TO EXTERNAL SIBLING DISCOUNTS ARE CONDUCTED BY CEDP. IF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE IN REGARDS TO SIBLING DISCOUNTS PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD RESULT IN A INCREASE IN FEES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND YOUR CURRENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENT MAY NOT COVER THE BALANCE OF YOUR ACCOUNT.

ADVICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF ENROLMENT

Please note that under the School Fees Policy as set out by the Catholic Education Office Parramatta:

"A term's notice (10 school weeks) in writing must be given to the Principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable.

One exception is that notice in writing will be accepted at any time during Term 4 in relation to the following year's enrolment, that is, the notice period of 10 weeks will be waived in this circumstance."





AWARDS

Values Award

Term 1 Weeks 1 & 2





Ruby O'Loughlin ES1, Erina Zulkhisri & Marlee Syme Stage 1, Baylie Savage & Xygelle Aguila Stage 2, Sofia Zulkhisri & Christian Hanna Stage 3

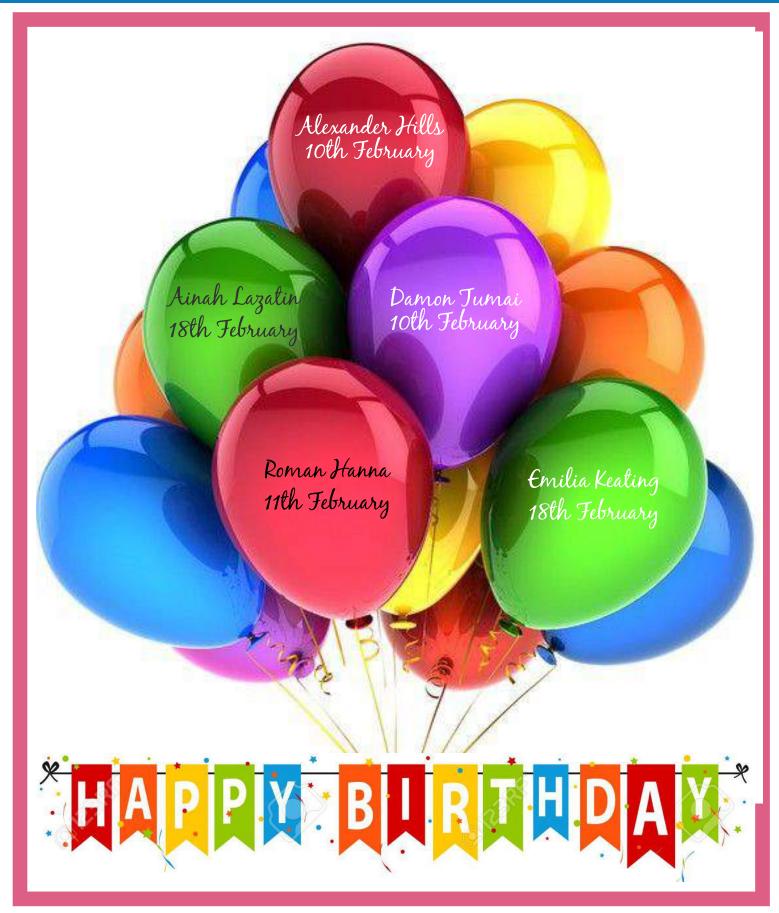
Merit Award

Levi Savage ES1, Leo DeGuzman & Mithun Kumar Stage 1, Elizabeth O'Neill & Jacob Bennett Stage 2, Eleanor Sharp & Marcella Galati Stage 3

Principals Award

Nathia Fernandez ES1, Ethan Lin Stage 1, Sienna Luppino Stage 2 & Cooper Stone Stage 3





St John Paul II Catholic College



OPEN EVENING

9 MARCH 4PM - 6:30PM

SCHOFIELDS CAMPUS

Meet our welcoming College community & explore our educational opportunities!

Year 7 2021/2022 enrolment information, Years 7-10 subject stalls, tours, free BBQ, entertainment & more.

Can't make it to the event?

Call to book a personal tour at any time, Monday to Friday, or view our virtual tours of both campuses on our website!

Discover ...

- A well developed primary to high school transition program
- A strong support system in place for students and parents to ensure your child's wellbeing and quality education
- Professional, contemporary teaching staff and a broad curriculum to support the spiritual, academic, sporting, creative and musical interests of students
- Purpose-built classrooms outfitted with the latest technology and wireless connectivity
- Unique opportunities for students in Years 10-12 with Western Sydney University and TAFE as part of the Nirimba Education Precinct, plus access to other courses from Australian Catholic & Notre Dame Universities
- State of the art, air-conditioned facilities across two campuses including science and technological labs, a performing arts centre, cooperative learning space and libraries
- Multiple school sporting opportunities and facilities
- Additional learning enrichment program to support and challenge students

and more!

SCHOFIELDS CAMPUS (YEARS 7-10) 85 HAMBLEDON ROAD, SCHOFIELDS

NIRIMBA CAMPUS (YEARS 11-12) EASTERN ROAD, QUAKERS HILL

www.stjohnpaul2.catholic.edu.au



St John Paul II Catholic College

Year 6



St John's Primary School Riverstone

School Attendance Level %

77.8

Scholastic Year	School Year Attendance Level %
Kindergarten	90.5%
Year 1	75.0%
Year 2	74.1%
Year 3	89.3%
Year 4	6.8%
Year 5	60.0%

In NSW school attendance is compulsory for children over the age of six years until the minimum school leaving age of 17 years.

83.3%

What if my child has to be away from school?

If your child has to be absent from school, you must advise the school and provide a reason for your child's absence. To explain an absence parents and carers may: • send a note or email the school • telephone the school, or

- visit the school and complete an absent form at the office.
- A small number of absences may be justified if your child:
- has to attend a special religious ceremony is required to attend to a serious and/or urgent family situation (e.g. a funeral) • is too sick to go to school or has an infectious illness

Children need to arrive to school and class on time

Lateness to school or leaving early from school must be recorded as a partial absence.

EVERY LEARNER EVERY DAY

SCHOOL OPAL CARDS FOR BUS TRAVEL

ALL STUDENTS TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SCHOOL BY BUS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE A VALID OPAL CARD



(either a School or Child/Youth Opal Card)

Place remind your shild/shildren to





TAP ON and TAP OFF

every time they get on and off the bus

For more information and to apply for a School Opal Card call 131 500 or apply online at www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/





















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

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

UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES

LETTERS ARE SENT HOME TO
PARENTS/CARERS ON A REGULAR
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.

This is a legal requirement.



KISS AND DROP

SAFETY TIPS

- Always drop-off at the designated drop-off zone and follow the schools procedures.
- Drivers must remain in their vehicles at all times.
- Make sure all children exit the vehicle from the drivers side passenger door only, (door closest to the teacher on duty).
- No student should be walking behind or in-front of their vehicle.
- Make sure the handbrake is applied when the vehicle is stationery.
- All children 12 years and under are not permitted to sit in the front seat of the vehicle unless the back seats are fully occupied.
- Avoid dangerous maneuvers such as u-turns and 3 point turns.
- All passengers under 7 must be in an approved child restraint.
- To ensure correct and safe installation of your child car seat, contact an Authorised Restraint Fitting Station.

THE SAFETY OF ALL OUR STUDENTS, STAFF
AND COMMUNITY IS PARAMOUNT

COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

lf, 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

SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP NEW TRADING HOURS

MONDAYS - CLOSED

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

OPENED from 2.30PM-2.50PM

Please see Belinda Murray in the under-croft.



Lunch orders are available on Monday's and Friday's from Sam's 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 RED lunch order baskets located in the under-croft.

Orders need to be in the boxes by 8.50am

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY 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



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.

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



STAY IN THE LOO SUBSCRIBE TO THE NEWSLETTER

Take a look at our website and you can subscribe to receive our fortnightly newsletter, event reminders and news www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au

SCHOOL DROP OFF AND PICK UP

REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS

MORNING DROP OFF

MORNING SUPERVISION COMMENCES AT 8.20 AM.

PARENTS AND CARERS ARE ASKED TO REMAIN WITH THEIR CHILD/CHILDREN UNTIL THIS TIME AND NOT TO LEAVE THEM UNATTENDED WAITING AT THE SCHOOL GATES.

WE ALSO ASK THAT PARENTS DO NOT PARK OR WALK THROUGH THE STAFF CAR PARK.

AFTERNOON PICK UP

PARENTS ARE ASKED TO WAIT IN THE UNDER CROFT BETWEEN THE CANTEEN AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICE TO COLLECT THEIR CHILD/CHILDREN FOR AFTERNOON PICK UP.

STUDENTS ARE DISMISSED FROM THE BLUE AREA IN FRONT OF THE HALL AT 2.50PM.

IN THE CASE OF AN EMERGENCY PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU WILL BE LATE FOR PICK UP.

IF WORK COMMITMENTS PREVENT YOU FROM PICKING YOUR CHILD UP ON TIME, PLEASE MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE.

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