



The Evangelist

St. John's Primary School, Riverstone

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Term 1 Week 5

Wednesday 24th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the last few weeks, it has been evident that St John's has an extremely supportive community. I am very grateful to everyone who assisted in many ways to ensure a smooth start to the beginning of the school year. Our beginning of year Mass last Friday was a wonderful Eucharistic celebration to mark the beginning of the school year.

In our Mass we offered up a number of prayers –

We prayed for those who are new to our school,

We prayed for God's blessing on every member of our community,

We prayed for our wonderful parish priest Father Zac

We prayed for those in our community who are sick or in need of special prayer.

And in the commissioning ceremony during the Mass our student leaders made a commitment to support St John's learning community and to uphold and model Christian values that are integral to the way we interact and go about our daily work.

Introducing our 2021 School leadership team - *Alexander Hills, Amelia Makin, Jacob Sinka, Ankita Thande, Isabella Hartz, Amelia Bennett and Cooper Stone*. Congratulations!!





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On **Shrove Tuesday** our students enjoyed pancakes for their recess. Our students and staff are indebted to Mrs Belinda Murray and Mrs Lisa Maggio for giving up their time to cook the pancakes. There was a large number of pancakes to be cooked and individually packaged. It was a mammoth effort! Thank you so much for what you do.

At our school assembly this Friday the **SRC representatives** from each grade will be presented with their badges. *Congratulations to: Amerie Lazatin (ES1); Cayden O'Connor (Year 1); Ryan Wenselowski (Year 2); Oliver Lopez (Year 3); Jamie Hartz (Year 4); Sienna Luppino (Year 5); Jacob Sinks and Ankita Thande (Year 6.)*

Introducing our Early Stage One for 2021



Welcome to our learning community
Enjoy the beginning of your journey here at St John's



School Improvements

During the Christmas school holidays some work was undertaken to improve St John's site. The old assistant principal's office was refurbished and is now the teacher's learning hub. A new office for the assistant principal was part of the 2019 / 2020 building project. The teacher hub, coordinator's office and the undercroft were painted during the holidays.

In a previous newsletter I informed our community that in 2020 I applied for another 'Minor Projects Grant' and the application was successful. I met with the project team last week to discuss the preliminary details of the brief for the project. The building project includes the following work:

- Renovation of the student toilet block (male and female)
- Renovation of the school canteen
- Finish the refurbishment of the Stage 3 outdoor learning space
- Paint: staffroom, staff toilets and printroom
- External painting of Block B (houses stage 3, offices, staffroom)

An architect has been engaged to draw up the plans. I will keep the community informed as the project progresses.

The grant from the CEDP covers 40% of the overall cost of the project. The school will contribute 60% to the building project.

Late last year we purchased a number of new devices to increase our technology capacity. Miss Jeffery (LTST) has now finalised the accessioning of the new devices and has distributed to the classrooms. We purchased 20 Lenovo 100e chromebooks for Stage 2, 20 x 300e chromebooks (360° camera) for Stage 3; 10 ipads and 7 ipad pencils.

On the 31st March the students from K – 6 will take part in an In-school live performance of a **Meerkat Production 'Mr Huff.'** This production will support our work this year on developing a growth mindset. Mr Huff, an adaptation of Anna Walker's award winning book enables children to identify emotions and learn how to deal with them. Key themes explored in the performance include resilience and understanding emotions, anxiety, and dealing with a bad day. Meerkat performances have constant direct interaction with students and include a Q & A session with the performers.

School Community Group

In previous newsletters I informed our community about the contributions made by St John's School Community Group and encouraged parents / carers to consider joining this group. I would like to organise a School Community Group meeting following Covid-19 procedures. Please look for the separate note coming home with you child today and return the tear-off slip indicating your expression of interest and preferred date/time.

God Bless Patricia



LEARNING AT ST JOHN'S

10 What Questions to Develop a Growth Mindset in Children

1. What did you do today that made you think hard?
2. What happened today that made you keep on going?
3. What can you learn from this?
4. What mistake did you make that taught you something?
5. What did you try hard at today?
6. What strategy are you going to try now?
7. What will you do to challenge yourself today?
8. What will you do to improve your work?
9. What will you do to improve your talent?
10. What will you do to solve this problem?



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SCHOOL DROP OFF AND PICK UP TERM 1

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 the Front Gate (McCulloch Street)
and L - Z Back Gate (Parish Carpark)***

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

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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