



# The Evangelist

St. John's Primary School, Riverstone

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## Term 1 Week 7

### Wednesday 10th March 2021



*Dear Parents/Carers,*

### Catholic Schools Week

This week we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Catholic Schools week is a special time in the year when we celebrate and give thanks for Catholic Schools, especially our own school St John's Primary, Riverstone. This year is an extra special time because we are also celebrating 200 Years of Catholic Education. CSW is a time to express our gratitude for all those in our schools who contribute to developing and providing exemplary learning and teaching experiences within our learning communities.

In our prayer today, we acknowledge and thank all who work in collaboration in the service of Catholic Education.



### *Catholic Schools Week Prayer*

*Lord Jesus, You came among us as teacher, to reveal to us the Father's endless love and mercy.*

*Our Catholic schools continue to give witness to your compassion and wisdom, seeking always to ensure that we are all welcome no matter who we are.*

*May our Catholic Schools continue to be places of inclusiveness and sources of hope and inspiration for our young people and their families.*

*May the work of our Catholic Schools always be guided by the grace and love of your Spirit.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.*

### **Below is the timetable for St John's CSW activities**

- **Tuesday:** CSW Liturgy of the Word; Gold coin mufti day (fundraising for Caritas Australia)
- **Wednesday:** Open Day (Session One 9.30 - 10.30; Session Two 4.30 - 5.30pm)
- **Thursday:** Outdoor fun activities; Movie; Sausage Sizzle



## School Community Group

Thank you to the parents and carers who returned the tear-off slip indicating their interest to join St John's School Community Group. A survey note was sent home last week to gauge community preference for meeting times. The results of this survey is as follows:

- 13 respondents
- 8 respondents selected Thursday morning at 8.30 am
- 2 respondents selected Friday afternoon at 3.30 pm
- 3 respondents selected alternating Thursday and Friday



We will trial the Thursday morning time slot for our first school community group meeting. **The first School Community Group Meeting will be held on Thursday 1st April at 8.30 am in the school library.** Please be advised that 'anyone attending a school site must continue to comply with the gathering limits prescribed by the Public Health Orders, and physical distancing and hygiene measures.' Please use the intercom at the front gate before entering the office and sign in using the visitors kiosk and check in using the Service NSW app.

The School Community Group was formed as a committee to work in partnership with the school to organise and or coordinate some fundraising activities at St John's and for assisting in the organisation of social events. The School Community Group meets when required throughout the year. Notification of these meetings will be sent home to all parents / carers at appropriate times. Meeting times will vary – morning (8.30 am), afternoon (3.30 pm).

*Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend any of the SCG meetings. The children, staff and wider school community would appreciate your involvement to work in partnership for our children in supporting social and fundraising activities and providing additional education resources.*

## Snack Shack Manager



A reminder to parents and carers: Mrs Belinda Murray volunteered to take up the position of 'snack shack' coordinator; for which we are grateful. Belinda is responsible for the day-to-day organisation of the snack shack and coordinating special fund raising 'treat' days. Please notify Belinda or the school if you are able to assist Belinda in these fundraising events. All volunteers must complete the Building Child Safe Communities Undertaking form and Training Module at <https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/> go to **About Us/Building Child Safe Communities**, from the volunteers area, select **Start Now**.

## New Enrolments

St John's official enrolment process commenced today Wednesday with our Open Day. Our enrolment promotional initiatives began last term and attracted some interest and enquiries. We have already received 10 completed enrolment application 2022. Over 20 families have registered for our Open Day tomorrow and we look forward to showcasing our beautiful school. Our campaign will continue throughout the remainder of the year.





I thank our school community for all their support in preparing our school for the tours; our site looked impressive. Again I would like to acknowledge Andrew Jenkin's (maintenance manager) for all his hard work and effort in ensuring that our outdoor areas are attractively presented. It is a pleasure walking around our site with parents / carers. If you have the opportunity, you might like to commend Andrew on his continued support of St John's. I am appreciative of the ongoing work of Mrs Cremona in her attention to our enrolment initiatives and her work to grow our enrolment numbers. I also thank Mrs Abbott and Ms Hurst for their support in preparing for the day.

Due to COVID-19 protocols our Open Day was a little different this year. Visitors were not permitted to tour classrooms. However, we were able to bring small groups of visitors around our site. Prospective parents registered their expression of interest and they were required to follow sign-in procedures. For the first session (9.30 - 10.30) teachers opened window blinds so visitors could see into learning spaces. Students were discouraged from going to the toilet block during this time. For prospective parents who may not be able to visit the school in person to find out more about St Johns an alternative opportunity will be provided, eg. a virtual tour. The second session (4.30 - 5.30pm) followed the same format.



## Cross Country



We will be holding our Cross Country Event on Wednesday 24th March. We are praying for 'fine weather' for our carnival to go ahead. It will be a great morning for the children to run around, and enjoy the benefits of sunshine and exercise. Further details will be coming home with your child/children today.

## Car Park Safety Concerns

It has been brought to my attention that some parents are entering the school/parish via the exit gate on Garfield Road and also speeding through the car park. Parents and Carers must enter the kiss and drop/parking area from the gates on McCulloch Street. There have been a number of near misses with students nearly being hit and vehicles coming in the Garfield Road gate while another vehicle was trying to exit. Please drive slowly and exercise extreme caution at all times for the safety of all.

## EXTREME HAIRCUTS

As per the School Uniform Policy please be advised that

**Hair colour, radical hairstyles and excessive hair product are not permitted**

It has been noted that some boys have their hair shaved at the back and sides and longer on top with distinct lines. This is considered an extreme haircut.

Thank you for your support regarding this matter

*God Bless Patricia*



## AT ST JOHN'S

### What will my child learn at school ?

At St John's the curriculum consists of Key Learning Areas including Religious Education. NSW Education Standards Authority - NESA sets the learning requirements for each stage of primary school. Kindergarten to Year 6 includes four Stages of learning:



Key Learning Areas (KLAs) describe broad areas of learning. In Kindergarten to Year 6, Catholic schools are required to have educational programs for the following key learning areas:

Religious Education

English - (literacy)

Mathematics- (numeracy)

Science and Technology

Human Society and its Environment (HSIE)-History and Geography

Creative Arts - (Visual Arts, Dance, Music and Drama)

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education-

(Gymnastics / Dance Fever (alternate years); swimming program - Term 4; swimming and athletics Carnivals; Other Sports Gala days may include: Touch Football, Netball, Basketball and Soccer.



## **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

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