



# The Evangelist

St. John's Primary School, Riverstone

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**Term 2 Week 7**  
**Wednesday 2nd June 2021**

*Dear Parents/Carers,*

This week marks Reconciliation Australia. National **Reconciliation Week** (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving **reconciliation** in **Australia**.

Reconciliation Australia's theme for 2021 is, [\*More than a word. Reconciliation takes action.\*](#)

Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians – as individuals, families, communities, organisations and importantly as a nation. At the heart of this journey are relationships between the broader Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation, and in playing our part we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, cultures, and futures.

2021 marks twenty years of Reconciliation Australia and almost three decades of Australia's formal reconciliation process.

On Thursday the children and staff will participate in a prayer service to recognise this significant week and in class will explore Indigenous story and artwork.

## **Prayer for Reconciliation**

*God of all creation, as we journey together in this Great Southern Land, we pray for healing, forgiveness and unity, creating a path of good will, with justice and compassion.*

*Jesus, through the power of your love, you have given us the courage, wisdom and strength to share our gifts and talents in humility. In peace and understanding we reconcile with each other.*

*Creator Spirit, we come together in prayer and thanksgiving for the many blessings we have received. Allow your Spirit to wash over us and give us strength to walk together as one.*

***This Reconciliation Church prayer was written by a small group of Aboriginal Elder women and Reconciliation Church staff members in 2014.***





## Changes to Kiss and Drop

The new arrangements for [Kiss and Drop](#) are working quite well. For most it has been a relatively smooth transition. Parents/carers and students have adapted very quickly to the changes and have made adjustments to their own routines in order to address identified safety concerns. Johanna Cordina and Jahna Urizar (CEDP WHS Officers) will be at St John's again on Friday to review the changes to our procedures and to assess the impact our changes have had on improving community safety and the efficient flow of traffic on our site. Thank you to our parents/carers and students for your support in this matter. I am confident of receiving a good WHS report on Friday.

## Showcasing Learning

Last Friday Stage One had the opportunity to showcase aspects of their learning during assembly time. All our Stage One children showed their colourful artwork of the Australian bottle brush and some students were able to explain the techniques used in their paintings. Other children shared their information reports which they have been learning to construct during daily 'writing' lessons. The audience learnt many interesting facts about chickens and sheep. Thank you to the Stage One parents / carers who were able to attend the assembly and for adhering to St John's COVID safe plan.

## Update on St John's building project

The architectural plans for the refurbishment of the student toilet block, the canteen and the Stage 3 outdoor learning space has gone to tender. It is hoped that the work will commence in the July holidays. This refurbishment will improve student facilities and enhance the school site.

*We ask you to continue to pray for our friends, colleagues and community members who are ill and or grieving at this time. May God bless them and shine his light on them.*

*God Bless Patricia*



Please mark these dates on your calendar and make alternate arrangements

**Staff Development Days Coming Up**  
**Tuesday 20th July 2021**  
**Monday 13th September**

**No Students to attend school on these days**



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## First Reconciliation

Congratulations to the following students that received the sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday 29th May 2021 at St John's Church

Giovanni Galati, Rubie Searle,  
Jamie Hartz, Matilda Keating,  
Marlee Symes, Jelena Filipovic,  
Breanna Xerri, Mersadiez Symes,  
Sienna Maggio, Makenna Murray,  
Ainah Lazatin, Manny DeGuzman,  
Elizabeth O'Neill, Liam Bartolo,  
Rony Park, Oliver Lopez, Shane Tolmie,  
Reyden Fernandez, Tyga Sale-Czipri,  
Antonio Maggio, Kreios Luna,  
Gilleen Eisma and Austyn Murray



## Athletics Carnival Permission Notes



Thank you to the Parents and Carers that have returned their child's permission note to attend the Athletics Carnival.

All Permission/Code of Conduct forms are due by this Friday 4th June 2021

Thank you for your support.



*God our Father, we lift up all those who are facing illness in our community.*

*We ask that you would bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies.*

*Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of your love. In Jesus' name. Amen.*



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## SCHOOL DROP OFF AND PICK UP

**The following changes will come into effect on Monday 24th May 2021**

There are two options to enter the school in the morning for all students A to Z.

**1) Via Kiss and Drop**– refer to procedure below

**2) Front gate (Gate 1)** for students walking to school or being dropped off by their parents not using the kiss and drop zone. These parents / carers must park their vehicle in McCulloch Street or nearby roads and walk the child to the front gate McCulloch Street (**gate 1**). **Parents / carers are no longer permitted to park in the parish carpark to walk their child/ren over to the school entrance.**

### Kiss and Drop procedure

- Parents / carers must remain in their car when dropping children off using the designated drop-off lane in the parish carpark. This lane will be created using bollards.
- Children sitting in the back seat when being dropped off must alight from the driver side rear door.
- Parents / carers must remain in their vehicle.
- Parents / carers must always drive with caution when on site.
- Parents / carers using kiss and drop must enter the site via the McCulloch Street entrance and exit the site via the Garfield Road exit.
- Children's school bags should be in the car for easy access. **Students are not permitted to go to the boot of a vehicle to remove a school bag.**
- **Parents/carers and children must not enter the school site on foot at the McCulloch Street driveway or the Garfield Road entrance and walk through the parish carpark to the top gate. This practice is unsafe.**

**At this stage there isn't any changes to afternoon dismissal; it remains the same. A-K Parish Carpark (Gate 3), L-Z Front Gate McCulloch Street (Gate 1). However, parents / carers are reminded to use the family name sign that was distributed last term. If you have misplaced your name sign, please contact the school office for a new one.**

**Any students that arrive late will need to be dropped off at the pedestrian gate on McCulloch Street (Gate 1) and be 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](mailto:stjohns10@bigpond)

**Parish Priest: Father Zakaria Gayed**

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