



The Evangelist

St. John's Primary School, Riverstone

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Term 4 Week 11

Wednesday 15th December 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,



This week we leave behind another school year. A school year that I think we would all acknowledge was in many ways quite challenging. In the Year 6 Valedictory graduation speech our school captains (Amelia Makin and Alex Hills) acknowledged "It has been hard over the past two years due to coronavirus; but we made it through Year 5 and Year 6 as we all worked together to build a stronger bond." In their speech our captains made special mention of pride in their achievements; the importance of friendship and the 'awesome' "privilege in leading the student community in a respectful manner that would inspire others to do the same." On behalf of the whole school community I thank all our school leaders for their support of St John's over the years and for their leadership this year. We are very proud of them as we are of all our St John's students.

Year 6 Graduation

Last Thursday (9th December) the Year 6 Graduation Ceremony and celebratory lunch took place. The graduation event was a wonderful way to celebrate the end of the children's primary education and to reflect on their development and achievements while at St John's. I would like to thank Mrs Roffmann, Miss Jeffery, Mrs Galati, Mrs McCarter and Mrs Ferndinands for making this a special day for Year 6. I also acknowledge the commitment of Mrs and Cremona and Miss Hurst for their assistance in organising the beautiful celebration lunch. Further, Mrs Stone and Mrs Makin (Year 6 parent volunteers) did a fabulous job decorating the hall for the celebration; we appreciated your efforts. The table settings and decorations looked cheerful.

Year 6 Funday

Our Year 6 students really enjoyed their fun day last Tuesday (7th December). It certainly was a full day: movie and treats; McDonalds for lunch; and an activities afternoon facilitated by Dance Fever. The children had a wonderful time creating many more fond memories of time shared with their classmates to take with them.





Whole School Fun Day and BBQ

Our whole school fun day and BBQ on the 4th December was a fantastic day. To witness the joy of the children and to hear their laughter and chatter was very special. Our students had a great deal of fun and were very appreciative of the activities provided by their teachers; Christmas art activities and movies in class, outdoor novelty and sport activities and who could ever forget the excitement of the water slide which proved to be very, very popular with all the children. Although teachers could not enjoy a ride on the slide somehow they managed to get wet; some more than others. Our heartfelt thanks to Mrs Tolhurst and Mrs Galati who sat at the top of the slide to supervise the children. We were indebted to Mrs Maggio, Mrs Beazley and Mrs Stone for giving up their valuable time to cook the BBQ and serve the children and staff during the fun day. We enjoyed the sausage sandwiches and ice cream / candy cane treats. I was very pleased to hear our parent volunteers were very impressed with our newly renovated canteen. It was a great opportunity to 'show it off.'

Gentle Reminder

A reminder to parents and caregivers to please book a Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI) for your child to commence 2022. Instructions on how to do this was sent home with the Semester Two report. The 2022 resource sheet was also sent home with the report.



On behalf of the children, staff and parents of St John's I would like to express our appreciation of Father Zac for his ongoing care and support of the school and families in our parish.

Students and parents I know you will join with me in thanking our teachers and teacher aides for their dedication and commitment to providing the best possible learning experiences for the students of St John's. I am always inspired by their passion and love of and for learning. We are always grateful to our auxiliary staff for all they do to support the students and teachers each and every day.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to our whole school community for working with us again this year in keeping our school community safe in these most challenging of times. I am particularly grateful to you for responding in a positive manner to the rules, restrictions and health guidelines that were put in place and that we successfully managed for the good of all in our community.

Next year the school community welcomes Mrs Jane Misek, the new principal leader and Mr Philip Margerison the new Religious Education Coordinator. The staff of 2022 look forward to working with our community through what promises to be an exciting year.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and holy New Year. May you and your family experience God's many blessings this Christmas Season.



God Bless, Patricia



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Parish

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Parish Priest: Father Zakaria Gayed

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