



The Evangelist

St. John's Primary School, Riverstone

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Term 2 Week 10

Thursday 30th June 2022

A message from the Principal

Dear St Johns Families,

It is hard to believe another term has come to an end - the first half of the year has disappeared so quickly. As a mum I am holding onto every day of this school year as my son is in Year 12 and while my days of ironing uniforms and packing lunches are numbered, so too are our school holidays together. School holidays are always a time where we can reconnect and have some family time - even if it is just time at home.

While the first two terms brought us some challenges, we have also all learnt and grown together and we are grateful for all the opportunities we have had together as a school community.

Thank you to all the families who have taken up the opportunity to meet with the teachers this week. This is an important opportunity to talk about your child's learning this year, the challenges and the successes. A big thank you also to the teachers for the hard work and preparation that goes into writing the reports and meeting with the families. We will be in contact with any families who had to have their appointments cancelled. These will be rescheduled early next term.

Next term we look forward to many exciting school events. Please see below for two 'Save the Dates'

Grandparents Day Picnic and Liturgy Friday 29th July, more information will be coming home next term.

Cuppa and Chat with the Principal Thursday 21st July at 2pm, please complete the form sent out via skoolbag.

I wish all of our staff, children and families a very relaxing and healthy holiday. Unfortunately we still have many families and staff members who are affected by COVID each week and I sincerely hope that if you are taking a break during the holidays you are able to get away and that everyone stays well.

Dear Lord

Be with us as we spend our time with family and friends. Give us strength and courage to do what is right; to be witnesses of our faith. Help us to appreciate what others do for us, to give time and effort to help others, to be peacemakers in our family. Keep us safe in our activities; give us good rest and good fun. Bring us back refreshed and ready for a new term. We thank you for our classmates, teachers, parents and a community that cares for us. May we always be conscious of you in our lives.

Amen

Have a blessed week.

Jane Misk **Principal.**





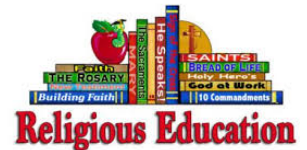
Tell Them From me survey - Have you completed this yet? Please take the time to complete the survey before Friday. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at St John's. You are able to access the parent survey on your computer or mobile device by using the URL below:

<https://tellthemfromme.com/survey/splash/stjohnsriverstone1>



Kindergarten Enrolments - This year we had over 50 applications for kindergarten 2023. We had a large number of siblings as well as many new families. Our Kindergarten class for next year is now full and we have a waiting list for any new applications. We look forward to meeting with all of these new children later in the year when we have our kindergarten orientation (Dates - TBA).

A message from the Religious Education Coordinator



Thank you to all of our families who generously contributed to our Sacred Heart Winter Vinnies Appeal last week. It was great to see all the children and teachers get into the spirit of the day and come to school in their Pyjamas.



Our donations were collected on Wednesday by our local St Vincent De Paul branch who extend their thanks for your generosity.

Sacramental Program - First Holy Communion

A reminder that enrollment for the Parish Sacramental Program for First Holy Communion closes on 1st July. If your child is in Year 4 or above and has been Baptised and made their First Reconciliation and you wish them to make their First Holy Communion, you will need to contact the parish office urgently.

Philip Margerison

Religious Education Coordinator



A Message from the Sports Coordinator

SPORTS **NEWS**

It has been so good to have our sporting events coming back after two years of disruptions. During Term 2 we have had a small team of students represent St John's at the Diocesan Cross Country, had our annual Athletics Carnival and this week are sending a Stage Three boys team to a soccer gala day.

Here is a little update about these sporting events.

Congratulations to the following students who participated in the Diocesan Cross Country on Tuesday 3 May at Eastern Creek.

Jaxx, Makenna, Rubie, Tyga, Giovanni, Breanna, Danica and Shritik.

A big thank you to Mr Margerison and Mrs Hocothee who attended the day with the students. Their report from the day was that all students participated with pride in themselves and for our school and tried their very best.

Our annual Athletics Carnival was able to go ahead in Week 6 and while it wasn't a sunny day it thankfully wasn't raining as it has been the weather that has been the challenge for sport in 2022. The day started a little ominously with clouds forming and grey skies about, but with some re-organization and luck, we were able to proceed with most of the activities for all the students on the day. The smiles on the students' faces and the buzzing atmosphere as they participated was so great to see and it was a most enjoyable day for both the teachers and the students.

A huge thank you to the parents who volunteered their time on the day to act as timekeepers and help run the long jump event. We really appreciate your assistance and without you our day could not have gone ahead.

Congratulations to the following students who are our Athletics Age Champions for 2022.

Junior Boys Champion (8, 9, 10 yrs) - **Jaxx and Tyga**

11yr Boys Champion - **Giovanni**

Senior Boys Champion - **Jacob**

Junior Girls Champion (8, 9, 10 yrs) - **Rubie**

11yr Girls Champion - **Breanna**

Senior Girls Champion - **Danica**



After combining all points from the students participation in the track and field events along with the tabloid events the winning house for 2022 is...

'EAGLES'



Parramatta Diocese Catholic Primary School Sports Council (PDCPSSC)

The Parramatta Diocese Catholic Primary School Sports Council (PDCPSSC) is responsible for the provision of opportunities for primary students to participate in representative teams in a range of sports.

Nominations are opening up soon for 2023 to students who are currently in Year 4 and Year 5 who display an above average ability in their chosen sport. The sports that students are eligible to participate and represent in are:

- AFL
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Diving
- Football (Soccer)
- Golf
- Hockey
- Netball
- Rugby League
- Rugby Union
- Softball
- Tennis
- Touch Football

Representation is facilitated through the following pathway for these team sports: Diocese (Parramatta), Region (MacKillop), State (NSW PSSA)

This culminates with the opportunity for talented students aged 10 -12 Years to participate in School Sport Australia in both individual and team sports.

If you would like your current Year 4 or Year 5 child to be considered for nomination in any of the above sports for 2023 please email Mrs Tolhurst rfrew@parra.catholic.edu.au with an expression of interest including a detailed list of your child's achievements in their chosen sport as well as their current representative experience/team.

In sad news, the S2 Boys and Girls Soccer Gala Day has had to be cancelled for this year. With ground conditions and the continuing rain we have had, this has been a tough decision for the Parramatta Diocese Primary Sports team to make. We hope that next year our Stage Two students will be able to participate in the soccer gala day again.

Stay tuned for more news about sport in Term 3.

Yours in sport,

Rebecca Tolhurst

Sports Coordinator



Attendance

Throughout most of the first half of the year our overall attendance rate has been close to 90 percent and while this may sound high we are always aiming to have attendance rates above 95 percent - that is 95 percent of children at school 95 percent of the time.

We understand that we ask you to keep children at home if they are unwell and that children have had to isolate due to family illness. However, if children are well and can be at school then they should be at school. Please consider your reasons for keeping children at home. It is easy to fall into a pattern of non attendance when children are allowed to stay home regularly when they are not sick.

Every day missed makes it harder for children to catch up and can lead to gaps in learning and social connections. Two days off a term adds up to four weeks a year, which over the the course of schooling from Kindergarten to Year 12 adds up to a full year missed.



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Staff Development Days 2022

TERM THREE - Friday 23 September 2022

TERM FOUR - **Monday 10th October**, Monday 19th December and Tuesday 20th December 2022

Please note that we will be having an additional Staff Development Day on Monday 10th October 2022. This day has been allocated to support the implementation of the new syllabus in 2023.

Term Dates 2022

- Last Day Term 2 - Friday 1st July 2022
- First Day Term 3 - Monday 18th July 2022
- Last Day Term 3 - Thursday 22nd September 2022
- First Day Term 4 - Tuesday 11th October 2022
- Last day of Term 4 Friday 16th December 2022



- **School Photo Catch-up Date - Tuesday 19th July 2022**
- **Principal Cuppa & Chat - Thursday 21st July 2022 at 2pm**
- **Stage 3 visit St John Paul II - Thursday 21st July 2022**
Creative Arts Matinee 'Colour My World'
- **Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day - Friday 22nd July 2022**
- **Grandparents Day - Friday 29th July 2022**
- **Stage 3 Overnight Excursion to Canberra 18th & 19 August 2022**

Snack Shack Volunteers - Next term we would like to be able to open the Snack Shack for children to be able to purchase snacks at recess and lunch time. We rely on volunteers to enable these days to operate. If you are available to assist and have completed the BCSC Undertaking for Volunteers form and training module, please complete the form that was posted on Skoolbag on 23/06/2022. Depending on availability you may only be need a few times a term. *Thank you to those parents that have already expressed their interest but more volunteers are needed. Your support is very much appreciated.* The Snack Shack will be cashless with vouchers purchased via QKR! There will be more information about this at the start of Term 3

Lunch Orders - Commencing Monday 18th October 2022/Term 3 all lunch orders will need to be ordered via the **Spriggy Schools App**. Please refer to the Skoolbag post published on the 10th May with instructions on how to download the Spriggy Schools App. **No paper bag cash orders will be accepted.**

Second hand Uniform Shop - The uniform shop will open each **Wednesday from 8.30am to 9am**, please come to the front gate GATE 1 - McCulloch Street and see the staff member on duty. Donations of secondhand uniform items are welcome, we thank you for your continued support.



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Work Health and Safety Reminders

Kiss and Drop Safety

A reminder that where possible children should be exiting the car via the driver's side and stepping into the yellow zone once they are safely out of the car and have closed the door. We are encouraging all children to close their own car door - please practise with your child how to close the car door safely.

If your child needs to exit from the passenger side they must walk to the front of your vehicle and cross in front of you rather than behind where other cars are driving into the Kiss and Drop Zone.

Children must also remain seated and with their seat belt on until you come to a complete stop.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our students and staff safe.

COVID 19 Back to School Safety

A reminder that if your child tests positive to COVID-19, it's important to let the school know as soon as possible and to notify NSW Health through the Service NSW App. For safety, schools will also be monitoring students' health and asking families to collect students who display COVID-19 symptoms. If they display any symptoms they should take a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) or a PCR test. If the test is negative but symptoms continue, your child MUST stay home and take another RAT or PCR test in 24 hours. Please note that if there is a case of COVID-19 in your child's class, year or other grouping, your child can continue to attend school if they have no symptoms, in line with NSW Health advice.

Please let the school know of the absence and when it is expected they will be able to return.

Parish News

St John's Eagles Indoor Soccer

Wednesday 6 July 2022

Indoor Sports Centre Cnr Hamilton St & Garfield Rd Riverstone

9.30am to 2.30pm



Please refer to the skoolbag notification posted on Tuesday 14/6/2022 or contact the Parish Office for more information on 02 9627 1176

School

5 McCulloch St Riverstone 2765

Tel: 9854 3200 Email: riverstone@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Jane Misek

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