



The Evangelist

St. John's Primary School, Riverstone

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Term 1 Week 7

Thursday 9th March 2023

A message from the Principal

Dear St John's Families,

This week we are really looking forward to being able to come together for our community night and disco. This is a great opportunity for us to celebrate all that is wonderful about our Catholic School Community here at St John's and to meet and socialise with other families.

I would also like to extend an invitation to parents to come along to a **cuppa and chat** with the principal on **Tuesday 28 March at 9am**. This is an opportunity for anyone who is available to come along and ask any questions and hear about what is happening at St Johns.

It is very important as a learning community that we are connected with our parents in as many ways as possible. **Building a connected school community enhances learning outcomes and support, collaboration and wellbeing for the entire school.** Learning environments that are working together have many benefits for students, teachers, parents and the wider school. We value any suggestions you may have for how we can continue to build connections with our parent community so please come along. Early next term we will offer an evening opportunity for those who are unable to make it during the day.

Parent Helpers Needed: If you have some time available to help put together some bead strings either at home or at school. Please email the school if you are able to assist.

*Help me be patient on my Lenten
journey and open to the grace that will
help me recognise opportunities to reach
out to others.*

St. Jude, pray for us.

Jane Misek

Principal





A message from the Assistant Principal

NUMERACY NEWS

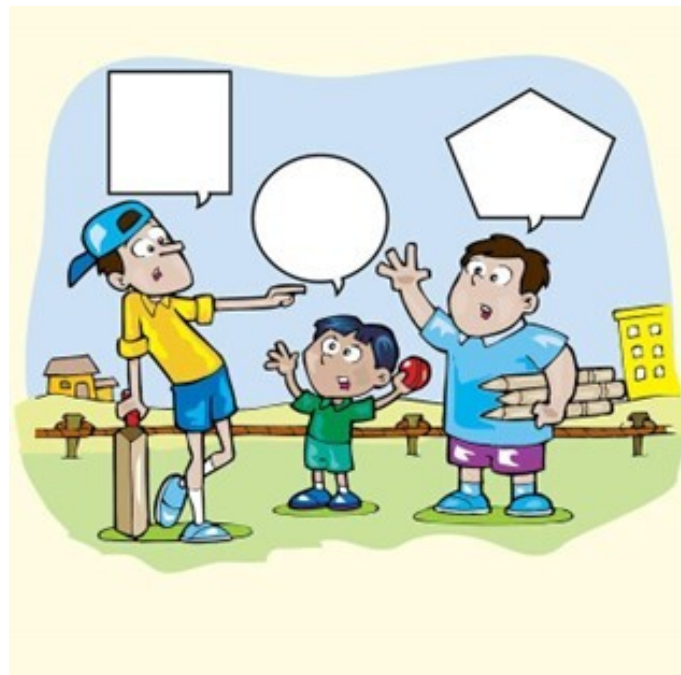


Helping your child feel good about Maths

Maths expert and parent, Associate Professor Janette Bobis from the University of Sydney, gives her top tips on how young kids can become confident in maths.

At a glance

- Talk positively about Maths so your child also values it.
- Play games with your child, which involve adding dice or numbers, to show them that maths matters. Add the numbers on car number plates !
- Ask your child how they work out Maths problems; it helps build their knowledge and boosts their confidence.
- Help your child to group objects by asking them to set the table or put the cutlery away correctly.
- Point out Maths in everyday life with your child whenever you can.



Judith Murphy

Assistant Principal



A message from the Religious Education Coordinator



Catholic Schools Week is a special time in the year when we celebrate and give thanks for Catholic Schools. The first Catholic school in this country opened in Parramatta in 1820. A layman, George Marley, became the first teacher working with the support of one of the first Catholic priests, Fr John Therry. Together, they made school possible for the most disadvantaged. Later, the work of lay teachers would be supported and grown through the service of so many religious women and men. This work, this service, this belief in the role and place of Catholic education in the lives of young people and their families, is now our work. In this Liturgy we give thanks for the wonderful learning and teaching that takes place each day in every classroom at St. John's.

In our Catholic schools, we share in God's great story. We grow in communion with God and with one another. In our liturgy on Monday, we acknowledged and thanked God for all who work together in the service of Catholic Education.

This year's theme is **Teachers Make the Difference**. Our teachers at St John's make every child feel seen, make them aware of their potential, and help them realise it.

Having a teacher in your corner makes all the difference. It helps children flourish, be confident being themselves and ultimately become good citizens who give back to their community. That's why we're focused on making sure there are outstanding, passionate teachers in our classrooms – those who feel called to teach.

Our teachers make the difference.

Angela Rowley

Religious Education Coordinator

A message from the Leader of Learning

Writing Tips To Support your Child's Writing at Home.

(Excerpt taken from greatschools.org)

Create a Writing Center Or Box

Stock the "writing center" with supplies such as paper, pencils and crayons. You can also gather family photos and magazines in the center that can be used as story starters.

Read, read, read

The best activity to improve writing is reading. If your child reads good books, they will be a better writer. Reading exposes students to general vocabulary, word study and content-specific vocabulary. Through reading, students see a variety of authors' techniques that they can use in their own writing.





Encourage your child to keep a reflective journal

This is excellent writing practice, as well as a good outlet for venting feelings. Encourage your child to write about things that happen at home and school. This reflective journal can be used to develop the “senses” of writing. Have your child write about what they saw, heard or felt on a trip or adventure. Especially encourage your child to write about personal feelings — pleasures as well as disappointments.

Provide authentic writing opportunities for your child

Have your child write his own thank-you notes, party invitations and letters to family. Let your child make the grocery list. Finding a pen pal for your child would make writing “real.” Helping children make the connection between writing and the “real” world will increase an interest in writing.

Be a writing role model

Make sure your child sees you as a writer. Point out times that you use writing to communicate with others. Discuss authentic writing in the community such as articles and letters in the newspaper, on billboards or in written advertisements.

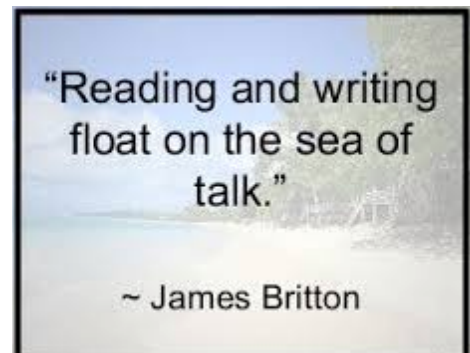
Start a vocabulary notebook

Teach your child new words each week and encourage them to use them. Make it into a game and give points for using the new words. Your child can keep a vocabulary notebook and get rewarded for the number of new words learned. The words will begin to appear like magic in their oral language and writing.

Ask questions

Always ask your child questions when they write. Ask specific questions about your child’s writing such as: “How did that happen?” “How did that make you feel?” “Can you tell me more about that...?” “What are some other words you could use to describe...?”

Remember :



Pauline Berry

Leader of Learning



Message from the Wellbeing Counsellor

the Resilient Parent

Free – Parenting Webinar By Dr Justin Coulson

We all know the importance of raising children to be strong and resilient, but what about becoming a resilient parent?

Evidence tells us that parenting may be harder than it's ever been before, leading to parental burnout.

In this free webinar, Dr Justin Coulson (co-host and parenting expert on Channel 9's "Parental Guidance", the founder of happyfamilies.com.au, and one of Australia's most trusted parenting experts), explores the secrets to resilience as a parent.

In this free webinar, you'll discover:

- How to be a more resilient parent
- Why and how parents feel burn out
- How to show up in a way that is good for you and for your kids
- How to model resilience for your kids so they can better weather the storms of life
- How to sustain connection with your child when you feel like you're going under

Date: Thursday, 9th March

Time: 8:00 pm to 8:30 pm AEST

Register via: <https://happyfamiliesfamilyeducation.ac-page.com/the-resilient-parent>

Ekta Balu

Wellbeing Counsellor

Easter Raffle Donations

Help support our school by donating Easter Eggs. School will then use these donations to make Easter Egg baskets to raffle. The more donation we get the more prizes we will have. We will also donate some baskets to St Vincent De Paul for families in need.

All children who donate Easter eggs will receive 1 ticket in the raffle. Raffle tickets will be available from Monday 13/3/2023 for \$1 each and can be purchase through the Qkr! App.

All tickets purchase through the Qkr! App will go into the draw to be held on

Friday 31st March 2023 at the Easter Hat Parade at 9.30am

There will be prizes for each grade as well as the whole school

Please send Easter egg donation to school with your child's name and class clearly labelled

The last day for donations will be Wednesday 29th March 2023

Thank you for your continued support



EASTER HAT PARADE



St John's will be having an Easter Hat Parade on
Friday 31st March 9.30am

All students are invited to participate by making an Easter Hat at home and bringing it in on the day of the parade.

Everyone is welcome to attend!



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN STAGE ONE

Mathematics

We have been learning to play 3 In A Row Bingo which focuses on comparing numbers and the place value of digits on the number line.



Science and Literacy

Stage 1, have also been investigating and observing the life cycle of a bean. They have recorded their findings with sentences and diagrams.





ENROLMENTS 2024

IF YOU HAVE A CHILD READY TO START SCHOOL IN 2024 NOW IS THE TIME TO SUBMIT A COMPLETED ENROLMENT APPLICATION WITH ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO DOWNLOAD THE ENROLMENT APPLICATION FORM A, FORM B AND FORM C.

www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au ENROL > HOW TO ENROL

YOU WILL FIND A LIST OF ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED IN THE ENROLMENT INSTRUCTIONS OR CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE AND WE CAN ARRANGE FOR AN ENROLMENT PACK TO BE SENT TO YOU.

DON'T FORGET OUR COMMUNITY NIGHT AND DISCO PARTY THIS FRIDAY 10TH MARCH 5.30 - 7.30PM

BYO PICNIC

Cakes for Your Hartz will be selling drinks and some sweet and savoury treats.

Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Chai Tea, Water, Pop Tops and some soft drinks will be available.

Vegetarian Arancini
Three layer mousse cake (slices)
Triple chocolate brownie
Cupcakes

ALL WELCOME

(At least one parent must remain on site to supervise if children are attending the disco as this is a community night.)





END OF YEAR DATES

Term 4/2023

The last day for students in 2023 is Friday 15th December

The 18th & 19th December will be Staff Development Days

SPORTS DAYS

Kindergarten - Wednesday's & Thursday's

Years 1 & Year 2 - Tuesday's & Thursday's

Years 3 & 4 - Wednesday's & Thursday's

Years 5 & 6 - Tuesday's & Thursday's

- **5th - 10th March** - Catholic Schools Week
- **Friday 10th March** - Cross Country
- **Friday 10th March** - Welcome Picnic & Disco 5.30pm - 7.30pm
- **15th, 16th 17th & 18th March** - Naplan (Years 3 & 5)
- **Friday 17th March** - St Patrick's Day - wear a touch of green
- **Tuesday 28th March** - Cuppa & Chat with the Principal 9am
- **Monday 3rd - Thursday 6th April - HOLY WEEK**
- **Monday 3rd April** - Palm Sunday Liturgy 9am
- **Tuesday 4th April** - Holy Thursday Liturgy 9am
- **Wednesday 5th April** - Garden of Gethsemane Liturgy 9am
- **Thursday 6th April** - Good Friday Liturgy 2.15pm
- **Thursday 6th April** - Last day of Term 1
- **Monday 24th April** - First day of Term 2/Resurrection Liturgy 9am
- **Tuesday 25th April** - Anzac Day Public Holiday
- **Wednesday 26th April** - Anzac Day Service 9am
- **Thursday 4th May** - School Photo Day



Mark your
Calendar





The Evangelist

Secondhand Uniform Shop

The secondhand uniform shop is open every Wednesday morning from 8.20am to 9am. Please see the staff member on duty at the gates. We thank our parent volunteers Mrs Belinda Murray and Mrs Jessica Stone for their support in offering this service for our St John's families. Payment for all secondhand uniform items are made via the Qkr! App.

Snack Shack (school canteen)



We are very appreciative of our parent volunteers who offer this service to our students twice a week on Monday and Wednesday at recess and lunch times.

Please note: in accordance with CEDP guidelines our Snack Shack is cashless and we are using a school issued **prepaid card** purchased via the QKR app.

Students will be able to purchase a variety of items at the snack shack in the price range of 50c - \$2.00 using a school issued prepaid card that can be purchased via Qkr!

Parents can purchase either a \$5 or \$10 card. This card will be punched at the snack shack each time a student purchases an item according to its cost.

Lunch Orders

Lunch orders can be placed via the Spriggy Schools App on Monday's and Friday's

Sam's Gourmet Café has partnered with Spriggy Schools to manage our canteen ordering system. Spriggy Schools is very user friendly and available for child caregivers to use on an iPhone, Android and desktop.

Please see the instructions below on how to download the Spriggy Schools App.

The cut-off time to order lunch for students will be 9am on Monday & Friday. If for any reason it is past the cut-off time, caregivers can contact Sam on 02 9627 1634 and if there is reasonable time to prep the order, Sam can place the order for the student via the back end of the Spriggy Schools app. Sam will be requesting sufficient details to ensure the correct student account is being charged. Caregivers can request a refund and cancel the order via the app prior to 9am, if it is past 9am, the caregiver must contact Sam and if the order hasn't been made, Sam will issue a refund back onto the students account.

If the caregiver has any questions regarding the app and its functionality, please direct them firstly to the customer support popup on the bottom right hand of the Spriggy Schools app, alternatively you can direct them to Sam and we will help to the best of our ability or pass the question onto our Spriggy Schools account manager.

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