Dear Parents/Guardians,

I must commend the students for the wonderful way they have committed themselves to achieving their personal, academic, sporting and social goals during the course of 2012. A special thanks is also extended to our very dedicated staff who have managed to successfully transition to the Australian Curriculum with many enhancements in our classroom pedagogy.

I look forward to seeing our parents and friends at tonight’s presentation evening which is planned to commence at 5:45pm. Students are welcome to wear Christmas clothes. This year we have decided to deviate from the normal nativity focus of our presentation evening. We hope you enjoy the students’ very creative presentations which are linked to curriculum outcomes. I remind parents that tonight is our end of year celebration and encourage the supervision of non school children. Students will be required to remain seated with their class during the presentation.

After spending another enjoyable year as Principal of St John’s, my determination for the school to progress as a quality educational institution has been reaffirmed. The daily challenges that arise are negated by the terrific support the local community has extended to me and my family. Consequently, I am eager to continue my professional journey with the staff, students, parents and friends at St John’s School Silkwood in 2013.

The last few weeks have presented many events that demonstrate the true character of our school community and the calibre of the young people and adults who constitute it. The St John’s staff wish our parents, friends and students a happy and safe Christmas holiday.

Please remember to wear your seat belts and think safety if travelling on the road during this busy time. School will recommence on Tuesday 29th January 2013.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Maley
M Ed (ICT), B Ed, Dip T,
Principal

“Your primary schooling may be over, but remember that your education still continues!”

Author: Unknown

Term Dates 2013
Term 1 - 29th Jan - 28th Mar
Term 2 - 15th Mar - 21st June
Term 3 - 9th July - 20th Sept
Term 4 - 8th Oct - 6th Dec

Always Reaching for New Heights

Term Dates To Remember
6th December
• Presentation night
7th December
• End of year liturgy at 11.15am
• School closes 12.00noon
22nd - 25th January
• Teachers at PD
28th January
• Australia Day Holiday
29th January
• School & Kindy resumes
Thanks
As the school year draws close it is extremely important to thank the many parents and community members that make valuable contributions to our school community each week. Special thanks to our tuckshop rostered volunteers, Mrs Cassandra Scopelliti our tuckshop co-ordinator, Mrs Gloria Casey our tuckshop facilitator, Mrs Robyn Taifalos our Book Club co-ordinator and Mrs Chrissie Babsek our Uniform coordinator, Mrs Kathy James our school and kindy volunteer, and Mrs Sally Maley, Mrs Kirsten Brooks, Miss Ainsley Balke, Mrs Renate Habermann & Mrs Andrea Corby as our Intensive Swimming Program facilitators and also the many parent swimming spotters. Thank you also, to the many parents who have contributed this year in classroom activities. These volunteers provide vital extra curricula support for our children. St John’s values your contribution and thanks you for your efforts.

Farewell
We farewell our Year 7 students - Jake, Candice, Hamish, Manreet, Jade, Skye, Alex and Athena who will be leaving St. John’s to attend secondary schooling. Farewell also to the Darwen, Nutting, McGuinness & Taifalos families who will be leaving our St. John’s community. Though these families may be moving to new schools, our St. John’s community will always welcome them here.

Uniform Shop
The uniform shop will be open for parents wishing to purchase new uniforms for students enrolling at St. John’s in 2013 or existing parents who require more uniforms for their children. The uniform shop will open: Friday 25th January 9:00am - 10:00am
Tuesday 29th January 8.00am - 10.00am
You can contact Chrissie on 40656 251. A price list has been included with the newsletter so correct payment can be made at time of purchase.

Thursday 6th December
♦ Presentation Night at the Undercover area commencing 5:45pm. Children are required to begin arriving around 5.30pm. Parents are requested to please bring a plate to share for supper.
♦ Kindy Pupil Free Day
Friday 7th December
♦ Kindy Pupil Free Day
♦ End of year Liturgy at 11.15am. Please join us in celebrating the end of the 2012 school year and acknowledge our Year Seven graduating students.
Parents are requested to please make arrangements for students to be collected at or before midday to avail staff to make arrangements for 2013 and conduct transition meetings. Teachers will return to school early next year (Tuesday 22nd January) to participate in several days of professional development whilst students are on holidays.

Condolences
Our sincere condolences to the Rosendahl family on the sad passing of their daughter Jessica. Jess was a past student of St. John’s.

2013 Book packs
2013 bookpacks will be ordered next week. This year all staff would like student bookpacks to be available in bulk for teacher distribution at the beginning of the year, therefore the packs will remain at school. Payment of $45.00 per student book pack is required in the first week of school if you have not already prepaid.

Mini Vinnies News
As 2012 draws to an end we are very pleased to report that our St John’s Mini Vinnies Team has had another amazing year. In 2012 we raised $534.40. These funds have been used to cover fund raising costs, the Winter Appeal, making the blanket/rug and travel to Tully Nursing Home. Finally, on Friday we will hand over our Christmas food hampers to the Innisfail St. Vincent de Paul Society and a cheque for the balance of our fundraising efforts. I wish to thank our Executive members for all their contributions and especially giving up their time to making our team so successful. A special thank you goes out to our Staff, Parents and Friends of our community for all their support in helping us to achieve our goals.

Wanted Used Stationery Items
As part of St. John’s Mini Vinnies activities for 2012 / 2013 we are collecting unwanted used stationery. Over the holidays if you have any unwanted items like used glue, pencils, writing books, rulers, pencil cases, sharpeners, reading books etc., don’t throw them out! We are collecting all these items to pass on to other boys and girls who may not have the privilege of easy access to these items. All items can be left at our school office.

Mrs DeBrincat, Team Coordinator

Christmas Mass Times
Christmas Eve: Tully 6.00pm
Silkwood 8.00pm
Mission Beach 7.00am
Cardwell 9.00am

December
7th - Manreet
8th - Nicholaus
17th - Hank
25th - Skye & Jade
Pelican Waterhole Kurrimine Beach
School Holidays Swim Camp
6—16 years (All swim levels)
On 21st - 24th January, 2013 (10am to 3pm)
$25 per day or $90 for the (4 day) course
This day will include learn to swim, stroke correction, fitness swimming, introduction to gym and dry-land training, (including circuit training, boxing, yoga and Pilates), nutrition and goal settings, as well as obstacle courses, water games and play.
For more information and bookings phone Alex 0428 571 363 or email: pellicanwaterhole@bigpond.com

MISSION BEACH ARTISTS
Children’s Workshops - 10.00 am to 12.00 noon - $12/session
Refreshments and Materials included
Workshops held at Mission Arts, Marcos Park, Mission Bch

Tuesday, 18th December – CHRISTMAS FUN – Make cards & decorations. We have the materials and some ideas for you.
Friday, 21st December – BONSAI CHRISTMAS TREES & WREATHS with Sally.
Tuesday, 8th January – PINCH AND PLAY WITH CLAY.
Tuesday, 22nd January – Reserved for the PINCH & PLAY WITH CLAY students to come back & glaze their Pinch Pots.

All bookings to Jan Critchell on 4068 8470. Workshops are for children of 6 years and over.