Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers & Students,

The St John’s Interhouse Athletics Carnival will be held this term on Friday in week 9. This will effectively alleviate the pressure of organising the carnival during the implementation phase of the new software packages Eminerva, SIS and SRS. The School Information Systems suite of integrated software applications will be delivered by Catholic Education Services to schools in the Cairns Diocese. St John’s will be implementing the new system from Monday 21st July to Friday 1st August, 2014. Mrs Sendra is currently preparing data to ensure the smooth and accurate transition of student and family information to the new system.

Yesterday, Principals and curriculum support teachers from the Southern Deanery gathered at St John’s for a combined meeting. Discussion ranged from the Australian Curriculum to consistency of teacher judgement. Many of the visitors commented on the magnificent state of our school facilities and the school grounds. I would like to acknowledge Santo Pagano (groundsmen), Norelyn Nielsen (cleaner), Warren Larkin (school handyman & volunteer) and Kathy James (school volunteer) for their tireless efforts in maintaining our school.

Today, a healthy number of parents, parishioners and staff participated in the 2014 Australia’s Biggest Morning tea at St John’s. Staff catered for the event and were happy to share their food and some colourful yellow costumes to promote cancer awareness. In addition, we raised some valuable funds towards cancer research, prevention and support services. Unfortunately too many of our families and friends have battled with the deleterious outcomes of cancer during recent times.

My dream of NSW banishing the QLD toads to the rainforest and swamps of Queensland may finally eventuate this year after 8 long years. I am encouraged by the selection of some tough and honest playmakers who will instil fear into the hearts of many overconfident QLD supporters. Go the mighty blues in game 1 next Wednesday!

Yours sincerely,

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

“"The difference between stumbling blocks and stepping stones is how you use them!” Unknown

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE
I was a stranger and you welcomed me  
(Matthew 25:35)

The Catholic Church teaches that anyone whose life is threatened has the right to protection, whether because of persecution, armed conflicts, natural disasters, or economic conditions that threaten their lives or physical integrity. It is the element of persecution, threat or danger, or being forcibly displaced that gives rise to a right to seek asylum rather than to migrate through ordinary channels. The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office, on behalf of the Australian Catholic Bishops, have produced a short pamphlet on what the Catholic Church teaches on asylum and migration. This pamphlet summarises the vast and long-standing social teaching of the Catholic Church following the Gospel commandment to welcome the stranger. The pamphlet is available at St John’s School Office.

Mary Help of Christians
Saturday, 24th May marks the Feast Day of Mary Help of Christians, one of the many titles of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Even though Mary is the help of all Christians, she is the patron of Australia and the one to whom we turn to for help and protection of our nation.

School/Kindy/Music Fees Due Dates:
School Fees due Tuesday 20th May (OVERDUE)
Kindy Fees due Friday 23rd May.
If you wish to discuss any concerns regarding these fees, please feel free to contact the school office to make an appointment with Mr Maley.

Young Performers Competition
Next Wednesday students from St. John’s will be participating in the Young Performers Choral Speaking competition. Prep to Year 3 will be performing at approximately 9.15am whilst Year 4 to 7 will be performing at approximately 9.45am.

STUDENTS ARE TO WEAR THEIR PIN STRIPED UNIFORM ON WEDNESDAY.
Parents are always welcome to attend and watch their children, however they will be required to pay at the door.
All permission notes must be returned by tomorrow.
Good luck St John’s School!
Best of luck to the individual performers who will be competing in the competition this coming week.

Today the Kindergarten children participated in the National Simultaneous Storytime at St. John’s School library. Teacher/librarian Mrs Edwards read the storybook to the children and then they explored the themed activities set up in the library.

Next week is the Book Fair at St. John’s and Kindy families are welcome to browse the books on sale. Proceeds from sales are used to purchase books for the School and Kindy library. This is a great opportunity to purchase reasonably priced books for your children.

Regards Robyn & Denise

It’s here again!  
Book Fair is at St. John’s!
As May is National Family Reading Month, St. John’s School is hosting a Scholastic Book Fair to celebrate. Scholastic Book Fairs are committed to helping our school inspire a lifelong love of reading in all children. This year, Scholastic is giving away over $10,000 worth of prizes to families, classrooms and schools that read in May. St John’s School will be taking part in a National Family Reading Month. Each child will be registered by their teacher and their total reading minutes logged for the month of May. Prizes to be won include $250 worth of book vouchers, and/or $400 worth of books for the school library. One school in each state will win $600 worth of books PLUS a perpetual trophy.

Book Fair will be open today until next Friday 30th May in the school hall. Come in and browse with your children at the selection.

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22nd - Bethany

Students of the Week

Social Emotional Learning Awards

Getting Along

Kade - Making the right choices and looking out for your classmates.

Persistence

Connor - Working so hard on your information report about Japan. Keep up the great work!

Confidence

Ryan - Being willing to give hard work a ‘red hot go’!

Persistence

Jye - Always looking out for your peers and working well during group activities.

Inquiry and Reflective Learners Awards

Quality Producer

Adam N - Always using a neat handwriting style.
Keep up the great work.

Quality Producer

Lauren - setting goals and challenges and working hard to achieve these. Keep up the great work!

Quality Producer

Matthew - A super effort with your technology task. Well done.

Quality Producer

Quality Producer

Reading Awards will only be presented at assembly for 50, 100, 150, 200 etc.

50 nights - Kelsey, Hannah, Jarred, Arvind, Jemma, Liam

75 nights - Amy, Kent, Gina

100 nights - Leanne, Lauren

Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea was held at St. John’s this morning raising $185 for cancer research.

On Friday 30th May, Kurrimine Kuppa is combining with the Kurrimine Beach Progress Association to take part in the Biggest Morning Tea in aid of the Cancer Council. Come and enjoy an entertaining morning from 10.00am to 11.30 am at the Kurrimine Beach Progress Hall, Murdering Point Road, Kurrimine Beach, for an entry fee of $5.00 which includes a delicious morning tea and a chance to win the lucky door prize.

There will also be raffles. All proceeds from the morning will go to the Cancer Council.

May

Happy Birthday!

Silkwood Junior Soccer Draw
24th May, 2014

U6 - 1.45pm U 8 - 2pm
U9 - 1.00pm U10 - Atherton
U11/12 - Atherton U13/14/15 - Atherton

This week St. John’s celebrated National Simultaneous Storytime, reading “Too Many Elephants in This House” by Ursula Dubosarsky. Students enjoyed listening to the story via Storyboxlibrary.com, an Australian online story site. To celebrate this great book, classes then made elephant masks and paper elephants and they all entered a competition to guess “How Many Elephants in this Picture?” A winner will be drawn next week to receive a prize from the library prize box. We discovered there were 15 elephants in the Kindy, 18 elephants in the Prep/1 classroom, 16 elephants in the Year 2/3 room and Years 4-7 made lots of paper elephants to contribute to our display.

National Simultaneous Story Time is part of National Library and Information Week, where we celebrate the great learning that occurs in libraries all across Australia, including our very own school library. Mrs Chris Edwards

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