Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers & Students,
Last Friday students from Yr 3 to Yr 7 participated in the SMCSA Softball/T-Ball Carnival at South Johnstone. Two junior teams and two seniors teams enjoyed some friendly rivalry on the diamond as they hit homers in glorious conditions. Once again, our students were impeccably behaved! Thank you to Mrs Maley for transporting the extras who could not fit on Mrs Casey’s bus.

Congratulations to the many Year 7 students who have successfully completed their enrolment process at Good Counsel College. Parents are reminded that St John’s is the preferred pathway as a feeder school to Good Counsel College.

A substantial amount of time and money is invested in professional development of staff at St John’s to enhance the educational opportunities for our students. Recently, I received feedback from parents who have acknowledged the terrific improvement in their children’s level of achievement in reading and writing. Obviously, our small class cohorts provide more opportunities for students to receive one on one support from classroom teachers and school officers. In addition, differentiated teaching programs customise learning opportunities for individuals within the classroom environment which directly equates to enhanced outcomes.

Last year Sharon County from the Curriculum Team in Cairns conducted an audit of our teachers’ planning. She was very happy with the standard of planning at St John’s and, as a result, Mrs Daly and Ms Harisson were asked to spend 3 days writing Geography Units last week. These units will be used by teachers across all of our 26 schools and will cover the entire National Curriculum – Geography content for students from Prep through to Year 10. Ultimately, our students will benefit greatly from this exercise, as our teachers will have access to high quality units of work to teach Geography at St. John’s next year.

It is wonderful that our small school can contribute to increasing standards across all schools in the Diocese.

The Education Act 2006 requires schools to produce an annual report. An integral component of the report is Parent Satisfaction Surveys. Parents have the opportunity to complete the survey before 20th September at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ParentStJohnsSilkwood

Yours sincerely,
Andrew Maley
Principal, M Ed (ICT), B Ed, Dip T
The year 6/7 class is enjoying an eventful term. On Friday they attended the Silkwood/Mena Creek softball day, where they displayed excellent sportsmanship and skills on the field. They have also recently experienced a Mini Vinnie’s sleep out which was well supported and enjoyed. The students were fantastic with their conduct on the night and reflections in class have indicated that a lot was learnt about people in the community who are not as fortunate as others.

In the classroom, assessment has been the highest priority with all learning areas coming to the end of their respective units. Slide shows, posters, ballads, Venn diagrams, investigations, poetry readings and science experiments are just some of the things being undertaken presently. In maths, students have been focusing on ‘real world’ maths concepts including the buying and selling of shares, credit cards, interest rates and budgeting. Investigations will be completed in the next couple of weeks that will give students an opportunity to show how clever they can be with the borrowing and investing of money. In English, students have written ballads and learnt stories and reflected on some popular Australian poems such as ‘Clancy of the Overflow’.

Amongst all these activities students are busy preparing for the variety night skit. This is top secret and people will have to be there on the night to see the talented 6/7 students strut their stuff!  

Mr Stuart Russell, Year 6/7

Tips for moderating media use at home
Teach children to moderate their use of technology in the same way you teach them to eat healthily: offer good choices and set rules about what, when and how much. Good habits don’t just happen. They require intentional training, consistent enforcement and hard work.

Be clear that you own the device and you allow them to use it. The same goes for Wi-Fi access; make rules simple and clear and be a good role model.

Remember to protect their sleep as a priority. Quality sleep is essential not only for learning but also for wellbeing!

First Aid Course
Staff will be updating their First Aid qualifications next Tuesday 10th September from 3.00pm to 6.00pm.

3 Way Conferences - 16th to 18th September
A reminder to send your preferred appointment times into the school office for three-way conference interviews. A note confirming times will be sent home next week.

Mini Vinnies Charity Concert
Don’t forget the date - Friday 13th September for a dose of light heartedness! The Mini Vinnies Charity Concert is shaping up to be an interesting night. (Staff will also be performing an item on the night.) Donations of sweets or savouries are requested to sell with tea and coffee on the night. There will also be sausage rolls, chips, ice-cream, chocolates and drinks on sale at the tuckshop during interval time only.

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Social Emotional Learning Awards
Organisation
Connor - Learning to be organised in the morning to change your books.

Persistence
Nicholas - Working hard to complete tasks on time.
Kent - Working consistently to improve writing accuracy.
Amelia - A determined effort in your ballad. Well done.

Inquiry and Reflective Learners Awards
Quality Producer
Kyle - Amazing sentence writing with correct spelling.
TJ – Using good listening skills to ensure tasks are completed correctly.
Chad - Efficiently producing a quality anthology.
Callan - Super effort in your history slide show.

Reading Awards
75 nights - Kelsey, Joshua, Amelia
100 nights - Lyanna
150 nights - Dimi Jared, Kent, Amy
125 nights - Kyle, Pavel, Hank, Jarred, Adam, Darcy, Nicholas F, Jye
175 nights - Locklan, Tegan, Evan, Alex, Gina, Paul, Jennifer
200 nights - Lauren, James, Paul, Jack
225 nights - Christian, Emma

Sight words awards
Locklan, Kyle

Pelican Waterhole Swimming Pool & Gym
Swimming lessons for all ages and abilities will be available during the September school holidays and into term 4. Please call Alex to arrange an assessment for Learn to Swim classes for all levels, as well as parent/infant water awareness, or book in for Stroke Correction and swim fitness sessions. Term Swim Fit classes will also include an introduction to gym and dry-land training, including circuit training, boxing, yoga and Pilates.
Phone Alex Glasson 0428 571 363
Email: pelicanwaterhole@bigpond.com
851 Murdoching Point Rd, Kurrimine Bch Qld. 4871

St. John’s School Silwood Invites all to attend our Mini Vinnies Charity Concert
Where: St. John’s School, Harold St, Silkwood
When: Friday 13th September 2013
Guest Artist: Sam Pappalardo,
St. John’s Students, Staff
Plus local talented Artists
Come along for a night of fun
Snack foods & drinks available
Doors open 6.15pm for a 7.00pm start
Cost: Adults $5-00,
Students & Pensioners $2-00
(Children under 5 Free)
or Family passes $12-00
Tickets include Lucky Door Prize
Tickets can be pre-purchased from St. John’s School Office, Silkwood, or on the night.
Phone 40652193

Promote your business to local school families through this unique opportunity

St. John’s School Silwood Silwood Silwood Silwood Silwood
Happy Birthday!

Students of the Week

September

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225 nights - Christian, Emma

Sight words awards
Locklan, Kyle

2nd - Amelia

Black Duck Wisdom by Maggie Dent
Wisdom
Practise healthy detachment in your life
Water runs off a duck’s back. It does not stick or stay - it simply runs off and disappears.
Humans often get worn out and overwhelmed in life because they carry other people’s stuff - worries, problems and concerns. By only carrying your own stuff, you will enjoy your journey more because you will travel lighter. Let other people’s stuff run off like the water off a duck’s back.