Dear Parents/Guardians, Staff & Students,

Next Monday, teachers will attend the 2014 Consistency of Teacher Judgement day at Good Counsel College in Innisfail. (This is a Pupil Free Day at St. John’s School.) The day will provide teachers with the opportunity to network with other teachers from the Southern Deanery. The moderation process will promote conformity between teacher judgements across the Diocese and ensure that St John’s teachers make accurate judgements about their students’ levels of achievement.

Our first P & F meeting for Term four was held on Monday. Agenda items incorporated many diverse topics such as; School Camp, Intensive Swimming Program, End of Year P & F Dinner, Year 7 Graduation and Homework Reading Rewards. Whilst these items occupied a significant portion of the meeting, the most important topic focused on the Undercover Walkway and Bus Shelter. At present this capital development is on hold whilst a more affordable alternative design is explored. I reiterate that St John’s really is a special school blessed with a highly effective collaborative community.

The Prep to Year 3 Geography Excursion will take place on Thursday 13th November. Students will visit Gaia’s Banana Farm, Gerald Appo’s Didgeridoo making enterprise and Andrijevic’s prawn farm before continuing onto Kurrimine Beach for lunch and a beach flora and fauna exploration walk.

Parents are reminded to please follow the safety procedures for the drop off and pick up of students. It has been brought to my attention that a few parents are remaining in their cars instead of walking to the school front gate and escorting their children to a motor vehicle. In addition, parents are reminded that students should not traverse the car park unaccompanied by an adult. In accordance with the St John’s Safe Schools’ initiative, I have ordered the black powder coated pool fencing to be constructed between the veranda posts adjacent to the walkway from the junior classrooms to the Three Saints Office. Volunteer Warren will commence the installation of the safety barrier next week.

Next week I will attend the Term 4 Principals’ meeting on Thursday and Friday. Once again the agenda is extremely busy and promises to engage and challenge school leaders in preparation for 2015.

Yours sincerely,

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

“Never stop doing your best just because someone doesn’t give you credit!”  Anon

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Term 4 Week 2 – 16th October, 2014

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>16/10/14</td>
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Open Morning
Our School and Kindy Open Morning will be held on **Tuesday 21st October from 9am - 10.30am.** Please spread the word in the community. Encourage parents and children that may be interested in exploring what we have to offer to attend.

Music lesson dates
This term music lessons will happen on either a Monday or Friday depending on pupil free days and sport days. The dates will be as follows:

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<tr>
<td>Friday 13th October</td>
<td>Friday 24th October</td>
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<td>Monday 27th October</td>
<td>Friday 7th November</td>
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<td>Friday 14th November</td>
<td>Friday 21st November</td>
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<td>Monday 24th November</td>
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Year 4 - 7 Camp
Camp fees are due by **Friday 24th October.** The cost of camp is $190 /student and $75 /parent. Parents will be invoiced today and this will appear on your next term invoice.

School fees
These were generated yesterday and emailed and/or printed out and sent home to families. This term there is a $14 per student swimming levy that has been charged to help cover the cost of the bus. Music fees and camp fees have been generated and sent home today.

Mini Vinnies ‘Blanket of Love’
Our “blanket of love” is coming together beautifully with much thanks to Mrs Jenny Williamson and all our talented students, families and friends who have sent in knitted squares. The giving of your time and thoughtfulness reflects in the creation of this gift which will be given to a special member of the school community in the coming weeks.

Mrs DeBrincat, Mini Vinnies Coordinator

Welcome to Charlie and his family. Charlie commenced Kindy on Tuesday. We now have 21 children enrolled at the Kindy. The Kindy is running the Toy Catalogue Fundraisers with 20% of all sales being returned to the Kindy in the form of vouchers to spend on resources. Please support the Kindy and start Christmas shopping early this year. Catalogues have been sent home to all Kindy/Prep/1 families and further copies are available at the Kindy. During the first weeks of this term we will be consolidating the children’s knowledge of the numbers to 5, colours, concepts of print and writing their names.

A reminder also that the **Kindy will be having our Open Morning on Tuesday from 9am - 10.30am.** If you know of families interested in attending the Kindy next year, please invite them to attend.

Regards
Robyn & Denise
w2

This week Steven Page from QLD Rugby Union conducted a rugby skills workshop. Steven will return for a follow-up session in two weeks time. Students enjoyed the huge inflatable passing castle!
What's Happening in Prep/One

Prep/Year One students have commenced term four off with a bang! Students have come back from holidays eager to learn and participate in the busy term ahead.

This term in English Prep/One students are focusing on persuasive writing and learning to provide valid reasons as to why they do and don’t like certain items or statements. Throughout the unit, students engage in activities that help to develop their critical and creative thinking. In Religion students will be provided with the opportunity to express their feelings and experiences of prayers and rituals to communicate understandings of their own spirituality.

Throughout Mathematics students are learning to compare and describe objects based upon size, weight and volume, whilst learning to answer yes and no questions and sort information into a graph. Prep students are investigating why things continuously move and change in Science, whilst Year One students are focusing on the use of light and sound surrounding us and how they affect what we think and do, and how we feel. This term in Geography, Prep students are learning about special places and what makes them special, while Year One students are investigating the changes of seasons and rearranging different spaces for various purposes.

Finally, Health this term will consist of students identifying and describing themselves, their relationships and their growth. They will also participating in the intensive swimming program throughout weeks six and seven in preparation for the swimming carnival.

Miss Caitlin O’Meara, Prep/One teacher

Bookclub - Due date Thursday 23rd October

Working towards eliminating the “I can’t do it” thinking!

With the various tasks that children undertake toward the end of the year, it is common for some students to develop a negative, pessimistic type of thinking.

To combat this type of thinking, explain to your child that he/she has a choice in how to think about things that have happened and about things in the future. Explain that when something bad happens, such as getting a bad grade or being rejected or teased by a classmate, your child can think negative thoughts or positive thoughts.

**Examples of Negative** "I can’t do it” thoughts: “I can’t do this. No one likes me. I’m not good at anything. It’s all my fault. Things will never change. I’ll always be hopeless with friends/in my work.”

**Examples of Positive** “I can do it” thoughts: “next time things will be different. Maybe I did not try hard enough or behaved inappropriately. I know that if I do things differently, including trying harder, the next time I am more likely to be successful.”

Explain to your child that an “I can’t do it” type of thinking leads him/her to feeling very down when bad things happen and can cause him/her to stop trying and withdraw.

Other suggestions for eliminating a child’s negative type of thinking called “I can’t do it” include the following:

⇒ Encourage your child when faced with difficult work to think of the last time he/she was successful at doing something he/she did not think they could do. Then, encourage your child to think: “I did it before, I can do it again.”

⇒ Evaluate your child’s progress based on the amount he/she has learned rather than comparisons with other children.

⇒ Praise your child at those times when he/she continues working towards achieving goals or finishing work after experiencing difficulty or setbacks.

⇒ Remind your child before commencing a difficult task of eliminating the “I can’t do it” thinking and developing the mindset that “I will probably be successful”.

⇒ Model for your child the two types of thinking about doing something different.

School hall roller door for sale. It is 5m wide and 3.5m high with remote control access. It is cyclone rated. Enquiries to Andrew or Vera on 4065 2193.