Dear Parents/Guardians, Staff & Students,

As the sun glowed a golden yellow on the outback plains and the heat forced our camp hardened parents, staff and students to retreat to the shade of a coolabah tree for some temporary relief, our students experienced the true essence of the Aussie outback and its rich culture. Nuggets of gold in pans tantalised the fossicking desires of our camp crew at Charters Towers, whilst students waltzed Matilda at Winton and discovered Kronosaurus and hundreds of other Dinosaur fossils at Richmond.

I am extremely grateful to the parents (Andrew Hogg, Stephen Camilleri, Danny Hogan and Fred Elliott), who committed their time away from families and work to attend the 2014 Year 4 - 7 camp. Of course a good time was had by all, but the students in particular thrived in the business of camping along the Dinosaur Trail in Outback Queensland. Whilst the camp is programmed as an educational opportunity to develop cultural knowledge, build teamwork and relationships, everyone in attendance will verify that our students were faultless in their behaviour. I congratulate our students and acknowledge the commitment of our staff working 24/7 for 4 days as we conclude yet another very successful camp at our special school.

Whilst Mrs Sinton is enjoying her maternity leave with Ben, Elise and her husband Dean, St John’s is busy making plans for 2015. I am pleased to announce that Miss Caitlin O’Meara has been appointed to replace Mrs Sinton from January to July in 2015. Caitlin will have the opportunity to maintain current programs and initiatives in the prep classroom. I acknowledge Caitlin’s enduring contribution to our school and look forward to another successful tenure with our little treasures.

Parents are reminded that our intensive swimming program commences on Monday of Week 7. Parental supervisors and facilitators are required to support the program. Swimming sessions run from 1:30 - 2:30pm Monday to Thursday.

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

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**What’s Happening in Year 2/3**

This term the Year 2/3 class has been lucky to have Miss Kimberley Pascoe facilitate the class to complete her James Cook University Final Year Professional Experience and quite an experience it has been!

Miss Pascoe has had a lot of fun teaching the children about ‘push and pull’ and how heat can be produced and moved in Science lessons. Geography has been very interesting with Year 2 learning about how and why we travel. In fact they planned a trip for a teddy to take around the world. Year 3 have focused more on Australia’s states and territories, however both grades benefited from parents donating their time to talk about their experiences of different countries. Wavey’s mum, Mrs Alex Glasson, visited the class to talk about the United States of America. Mrs Norelyn Nielsen, Adam’s mum, gave a talk on the Philippines and Mr Greg Anderson, Deja’s Dad, came to tell the students all about Papua New Guinea.

Miss Pascoe has learnt how to plan and teach effective literacy and maths lessons whilst the students have also enjoyed fun P.E. lessons. In addition, students have learnt how to write their own music using basic notation.

Year 2/3 wish Miss Pascoe all the best in her future career!

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**St John’s Combined School and Parish Mass**

The students will participate in a school/parish Mass on **Saturday 15th November at 6.00pm.** Please make an effort to come along and support our students.

**P & F Meeting**

The final P & F meeting will be held next **Monday 10th November at 3.00pm** in the meeting room. Items for discussion include: book rewards, end of year concert, pizza night.

**Intensive Swimming**

There will be two swimming groups: Years 4 -7 and P-3, with lessons commencing at 1:30pm each day and concluding at 2:30pm. The timetable is as follows:

**School Week 7**
- Prep/1 and Years 2/3 - Mon 17th & Wed 19th Nov
- Years 4/5 and Years 6/7 - Tue 18th & Thu 20th Nov

**School Week 8**
- Prep/1 and Years 2/3 - Mon 24th & Wed 26h Nov
- Years 4/5 and Years 6/7 - Tue 25th & Thu 27th Nov.

The school swimming carnival will be held on **Friday 28th November.** (Parental assistance is required.)

**St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal 2014**

St John’s has commenced collecting donations of non perishable goods such as sweet/savoury biscuits, nuts, tinned vegetables/ham, sweets etc. to donate to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. A collection basket will be located in each classroom. Items are required before **4th December** and will be presented to a St Vincent de Paul Society representative at our end of year Mass on Friday 5th December.

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**Kindy Corner**

A combined School/Kindy Assembly will be held in Week 7, **Friday 21st November** in the 2/3 classroom. All families are encouraged to attend to support the children. The Kindy will also be hosting a Hot Dog Day for school and Kindy students on this day.

A list of Working Bee jobs has been added to the sign in area. As this is the only Working Bee we have had this year each family is encouraged to take on a task. Many hands make light work.

This week we have started on our Christmas activities and preparations for the end of the Kindy year. We plan to decorate the room with the craft and put up the Nativity scene.

The children have been working in small groups during our inside session. The block corner group has been making very complex kingdoms with castles and roads. The home corner group have been making shops and going on picnics and the teacher-directed group has been working on puzzles and sorting.

**On Tuesday St John’s School surprised Ann Strasberger with a special morning tea to thank her for 35 years of service to our school. The Mini Vinnies team also made a special presentation to Ann with a “Blanket of Love” the students have knitted throughout this term. Ann was very overwhelmed by their gratitude.**
Rhee Taekwondo
Fitness-Self Defence-Australia-New Zealand

RHEE TAEKWONDO
Aims at achieving
- Fitness & good health
- Self—Defence
- Self—Control
- Self—Discipline
- Self—Confidence
- Perseverance
- Integrity

WHO CAN LEARN RHEE TAEKWONDO ?
- Anyone can learn and enjoy Rhee Taekwondo.
- Male or female, large or small, strong or weak, child, teenager or adult.....
- All can be taught the dynamic techniques of Rhee Taekwondo

SILKWOOD STATE SCHOOL
JAP POON ROAD SILKWOOD
Trialing Wednesdays: 6:00pm - 7:30 pm
Commencing Wednesday 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th of November
Families, Beginners & all ages welcome
Instructors have more than 32 years experience
For more information Phone: 0458505818, 0455273907

Master Chong Chul Rhee sends out an invitation to all who wish to enjoy fitness and at the same time possess the ability to defend themselves effectively against many modern day situations.

October

Happy Birthday!

30th - Pavel
31st - Billy

Students of the Week
Social Emotional Learning Awards
Confidence
Talia - A confident presentation on “Why Frozen is my favourite movie”.

Getting Along
Pavel - Being tolerant of others and helping your classmates.

Emotional Resilience
Dylan - Making good choices to stay on task to complete the morning activities.

Emotional Resilience
Lyanna - Exercising the ability to easily adjust to change of routine.

Getting Along
Lachlan H - Being a cooperative, friendly camper last week on school camp.

Inquiry and Reflective Learners Awards
Quality Producer
Hannah - Producing a wonderful persuasive text on why dogs are the best pets.

Quality Producer
Liam - Applying the theory learnt when writing your News Report.

Community Contributor
Bradley - Displaying excellent leadership skills on camp to get jobs done.

READING AWARDS will only be presented at assembly for 50, 100, 150, 200 etc.
25 nights - Bostyn
100 nights - Callan
150 nights - Saskia, Rylee, Jayden, Amelie, Adam N, Jared, Amelia Lachlan H,
200 nights - Jacob
250 nights - Nikita, Bethany, Ryan
275 nights - Deja, Matthew, Jennifer

St John’s School
St John’s School is a Christian and specifically Catholic primary school community where people support each other in promoting values, knowledge, skills and attitudes which contribute to the total development of each learner. Our purpose is to provide an educational climate that allows students to learn together to achieve their personal best in a united, caring and Christ-centred environment.

You don’t have to be Catholic to send your children to St John’s School

Call: 4065 2193 for more details

St Johns Parents and Friends welcome you all to the end of year P & F Pizza Party!

When: Friday 21st November at 6.30pm
Where: St Johns School Silkwood
What to do: Place your order before the 18th November.
Order forms have been sent home today with your child

BYO drinks and a dessert to share.

RSVP: All orders and money to be returned to the office by Tuesday 18th November

That's Amore!