Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers & Students,

St John’s Parents and Friends have met for the final meeting of the year. On behalf of St John’s School, I would like to thank the 2013 P & F Executive Committee (President & Uniforms - Chrissie Babsek, Vice President - Kristy Anderson, Secretary - Debbie Daly, Treasurer - Kylie Azzopardi, Diocesan P & F Delegate - Kirsten Brooks, Book Club Coordinator - Robyn Taifalos, Tuckshop Convenor - Angelique Scarpignato, Grants Officer - Renate Habermann) for their outstanding commitment to St John’s. While we are acknowledging the efforts of our current executive, I invite parents that are interested in playing a greater role at St John’s to contact anyone of the above for knowledge and advice in preparation for 2014. Please consider attending the P & F end of year dinner next Friday evening!

The 2013 NAPLAN Outcomes Report has been published and can be found on the QSA website. This report shows Queensland student achievement in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 NAPLAN tests on a school-by-school basis. The report shows the percentage of students achieving above the minimum standard in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy. When we compare St John’s results with other schools in our area (both Catholic and State) we are pleased to report that St John’s has outstanding results. Similarly, Good Counsel College Year 9 results are the best when compared with other high schools in this district.

Teachers have been busy finalising student assessment tasks as we approach the end of the year. Semester two student reports will be sent home on Tuesday in week nine. Student reports provide parents with feedback on their child’s progress in the Key Learning Areas.

I must again commend our students on their dedicated participation in the 2013 Intensive Swimming Program. Parents are still required to assist at the Swimming Carnival tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Maley
Principal, M Ed (ICT), B Ed, Dip T
What's Happening in Prep/One

As the end of the year is drawing closer, Prep/Year 1 students are finishing off their work and assessment so we can start Christmas activities! This week we have been polishing our narratives and creating thrilling and interesting stories. Kyle wrote about a cheetah who had a sore tummy, Connor wrote about a space monster, Braith wrote about Jan and Gran getting chased by a sea snake whilst Kelsey wrote about some explorers in a castle. Students have used their imaginations to create unique and engaging stories. We have been talking in class about the elements of stories and how they make it more exciting. An author thinks about the characters, setting and plot before they start writing, which is what we have been practising. Students write and draw their ideas in a graphic organiser to help them think of their characters, setting and plot. We have some wild imaginations in Prep/Year 1!  

Mrs Elise Harisson

2014 Grounds Person
St John’s will require a new grounds person in 2014. The position includes mowing, weed spraying and other general yard duties for 4 hours a week. Please contact the school office if you are interested by Thursday 28th November.

2014 Cleaning Position
The opportunity exists for 13 hours of cleaning at St John’s during the first half of the school year. The position includes general cleaning duties, vacuuming, mopping etc. Please contact the school office if you are interested by Thursday 28th November.

Typhoon Haiyan Appeal
Donations for the Philippines Typhoon Appeal can be made payable to St Clare’s Parish, clearly marked “Typhoon Victims Special Collection”, and dropped off at St John’s School.

Christmas Hamper
Keep your donations of non perishable goods coming for our Christmas Hamper. Items are required before Thursday 5th December. Thank you to the great response from Prep/Year 1 families.

Library Books/Home Readers Return
Families are reminded to return all library books next week for shelving and all home readers so an end of year stocktake can be done.

Kindy Sausage Sizzle next Friday
Next Friday 29th November, the Kindergarten will be hosting a Sausage Sizzle for school and kindergarten children. Cost: $4.00 meal deal - 2 sausages on bread and a fruit juice popper. Orders to be written on a brown paper bag (correct change is appreciated) and returned to the office.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Congratulations to all students who completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge this year. This summer during the holidays we encourage students to participate in the 2013 Summer Reading Club which will run from 1st December, 2013 to 31st January, 2014. Registration is free and there are lots of online activities with some really terrific prizes. To register visit http://www.summerreadingclub.org.au/  

D Daly, Curriculum Support Teacher

The Break-up morning on Tuesday 3rd December will be the final Kindy day for 2013. Thursday 5th and Friday 6th December are pupil free days at the Kindy. Staff will be finishing the cleaning and preparing for Kindy in 2014. The first day of Kindy for 2014 will be Tuesday 28th January.

Families are encouraged to help with cleaning and disinfecting the Kindy equipment in Week 8 and 9. Please add your name to the roster at the sign in area. A reminder that the final Combined Assembly for 2013 is on next Friday 29th November at 9.00am in the school library.

Telieisha will host a linen party at playgroup on Monday 25th November at 9.00am. Morning tea will be provided so come along if you are interested in looking at the Lorraine Lea Linen range.

Cheers, Robyn & Denise.
P & F Dinner Buffet Menu
Roast pork & apple sauce
Pan fried fish with herb butter
Roast lamb & mint sauce
Vegetable medley, Roast Pumpkin
Potato bake with bacon & cheese, Bread rolls
Red & green coleslaw, Tossed garden salad
Dessert - New York baked cheese cake
Pannacotta & berry coulis, Trifle, Fresh fruit salad
Tea / coffee, Xmas treats

$30.00/ head. Children Under 12 years $12.00
Also available - chips, nuggets & crumbed fish

Where: El Arish Tavern
When: Friday, 29th November, 2013
Bookings to Vera at the school office 40652193

IGA Loyalty Cards
IGA in Tully are commencing a loyalty card scheme. St John’s School would be grateful if families that shop at IGA in Tully nominate our school as their charity so the we can accrue points for our school.

Swimming Carnival Tomorrow
Parents are reminded to apply sunscreen to children before they leave home. If you are transporting your child directly to the pool, please note that your child will require supervision until teachers arrive at around 9:00am. If your child requires to be transported by bus, the first bus will be leaving school at 8.35am then return to school to collect more students. Thanks to Tracey & Corey who are kindly donating a sausage sizzle for the students at lunchtime. They have also indicated they are happy if families wish to stay on for an hour following the carnival to enjoy an extended swim.

Go MacKillop! Go Francis!

Swimming

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:50am</td>
<td>100m Freestyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:10am - 10:20am</td>
<td>50m, 25m &amp; 7m Freestyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:20am – 10:35am</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:35am – 12:00pm</td>
<td>25m &amp; 7m Backstroke / Breaststroke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm - 12:30pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30pm - 12:50pm</td>
<td>4 x 25m Medley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:50pm – 1:15pm</td>
<td>25m &amp; 7m Butterfly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15pm – 2:00pm</td>
<td>Freestyle Relays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15pm</td>
<td>Bus trips back to school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Black Duck Wisdom by Maggie Dent
11th Wisdom
Silence, stillness and being calmer are essential for good health & wellbeing!
Ducks enjoy silence, stillness and moments of inactivity. They seek places where this magic occurs - often.
Many humans live very hectic, busy lives that contain little silence and stillness. Living life without calmness can make people physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually sick. It can also make you hard to live with - and this does add to relationship conflict. This can cause further frustration and stress. SLOW DOWN. PAUSE. STOP. Smell the roses and enjoy the little things in life.

FUNDRAISER FOR JADE
Saturday
30th November
El Arish Tavern

Sausage Sizzle @ 11.30am
Followed By Afternoon Tea @ 1.00pm
Raffles will be drawn throughout the day
ALL WELCOME

The El Arish community is raising funds to support a young local girl, Jade Atkinson who is suffering from a terminal illness. On Saturday 30th November a BBQ & Cake stall at 11.30am has been organised at the El Arish Tavern to support Jade and her family.
If you are unable to attend, donations of homemade crafts, jams, pickles, cakes, fresh produce would be greatly appreciated or you may prefer to donate a non-perishable grocery item.
It would be appreciated if baked goods were wrapped ready to sell and delivered to the Tavern by Friday 29th.
Thank you. Paula. Fundraising Group. 0428 341 727

The last Kurrimine Kuppa for 2013 will be held on Friday 29th November at 10.00 a.m. at the Progress Hall, Kurrimine Beach. Wear your Christmas gear and join in the fun and food. A gold coin donation would be appreciated.

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