



St. John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



*"If the future seems overwhelming, remember
that it comes one moment at a time!" Anon*

Term 3 Week 2 – 22nd July, 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 3 and I hope you enjoyed the break. The newsletter in Term 3 will look a little different as we are trialling a new format. It is great to see the students ready to get back to learning as they are all engaging well with school activities. Thank you parents for presenting your child with correct uniform requirements. While students have been on break, teachers have been preparing for the term and I look forward to speaking to the kids about their new learnings.

This week the **staff have Professional Development** sessions focussed on our School Annual Improvement Plan Goal 1 – Catholic Identity. Staff will develop their religious literacy and knowledge to ensure religious education content is relevant, meaningful and equips our students with life long discernment skills.

Our **COVID-19 protocols are continuing** and will be reviewed again at the end of the month. Students who have flu like symptoms are to be kept away from school. Notify the office of absence by the phone messaging service or the absence tile on the Parent Portal.

Next Tuesday we celebrate **Catholic Education Week Celebrations**. This year's theme is 'In This Together'. Students will enjoy a fun afternoon of liturgy, activities and smoko. This week is very important to us as it is an opportunity for all Catholic Schools in Queensland to celebrate and promote our distinctive mission and ethos. Catholic schools do a great job in forming character. They are Christ-centred communities based on Gospel values. These values are instilled now and it is our privilege to teach and work in partnership with parents.

This term we **commence our enrolment processes 2021**, so I ask parents to encourage families who are interested in enrolling at St. John's to ring the school office. You need to secure your child's spot as places do fill quickly. Farewell to Demetrius who has relocated.

Thank you to our P&F who funded new seating in our lunch area so all students can sit social distanced whilst still enjoying each others' company. **Congratulations to our position holders for 2020;**

Brett Gaia - President

Michelle Giarrappa - Vice President,

Helen Belbin - Secretary

Anna Santariga - Treasurer.

On behalf of Brett and myself we would like to thank the wonderful parents of St. John's for always supporting our school.

May The Grace of God Be With You,

Mrs Bryan

"Educating the mind, without educating the heart, is not education at all." - Aristotle

Always Reaching For New Heights



Diary Dates

24th July

- ♦ Tully Show Holiday.
School and Kindy closed.

- ♦ Bookclub due

26th July - 1st August

- ♦ Catholic Education Week

28th July

- ♦ CEW celebrations "In This Together" 1:45pm-2:55pm

29th July

- ♦ Playgroup recommences 9.00 - 11.00am at the Kindy building. COVID-19 rules to adhere to

31st July

- ♦ Executive Director visiting St. John's

15th—23d August

- ♦ National Science Week

20th August

- ♦ Science Celebrations Theme - "Oceans"





Welcome back to Term 3. Next week we celebrate **Catholic Education Week**.



Catholic Education strives to make a difference in the lives of those in our schools and the wider community by challenging young people to live out the message of Jesus and to reach their full potential as compassionate, contributing, life-giving members of society. Because of the COVID-19 restrictions, the normal celebrations for Catholic Education Week have been cancelled across the state. We will not be joining our fellow Catholic schools in Innisfail as we have done over past years. Rather, we will celebrate in our own school community on Tuesday afternoon with a liturgy and some fun activities.



CELEBRATING
**CATHOLIC
EDUCATION**
IN QUEENSLAND

Please keep an eye on Facebook for posts of the afternoon.

"Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion is to look out to the world.

Yours are the feet with which Christ is to go about doing good.

Yours are the hands through which Christ is to bless all people now.

Christ has no body now on earth but yours."

St. Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

Term 3 Sport

Welcome back to Term 3 and most excitedly we will be **rebooting sport**, but be patient as we must have strict COVID-19 measures in place. We begin next week with after school sport on Thursday afternoons. Students aged 9-12yrs interested in representing St. John's in **Rugby League and Netball** are asked to attend training every Thursday 3pm-4pm. Mr Russell will train Rugby League and Mrs Bryan Netball. Training will finish at 4pm. Mr Russell and Mrs Bryan will then take the students and wait with them at the Stop, Drop and Go at the front of the church for pick up at 4:10pm. This training is in preparation for the Rugby League and Netball Carnivals at the end of Term 3. Details will be in the Parent Flyer, so place on your fridge not to miss any training sessions or carnival dates. Students are also focussing on their fitness and coordination in preparation for St. John's Cross Country and ball games morning - date to be announced. So, ensure to do extra running/jogging at home and practise ball skills such as catching and throwing. We also hope to have an Athletics carnival, but no date has been advised. Students are working on track and field skills as well. They are also enjoying Rugby League at lunch times and always look forward to Mr Hallie's visit for League Tag each fortnight.

Tuckshop

School and Kindy tuckshop will recommence in Week 4 **Friday 7th August**. A menu will be sent home with the parent flyer in Week 4.

Parent Flyer

A reminder that a copy of all things going on for the week is sent home and emailed to parents every Monday. It is essential this parent flyer is put in a prominent place in your home (such as the fridge) so parents and students can refer to it each morning.

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following:

July 23rd - Ashly



Second Step Superstars

Second Step Awards



Benson - Working tough learning phonemes.

Jace - Working tough learning phonemes.

Audrey - Using her skills of resilience in the classroom.

Clayton - Using his skills of resilience in the classroom

Sam W - Always displaying a willingness for learning

Montana - Working hard to problem solve in Maths

Talia - Working tough to complete your handwriting.

Jayden - Focused attention when completing set tasks.

50 nights Reading

Sean, Finnley, Stevie, Cameron

100 Nights Reading

Clayton, Sam R, Danni, Rylee, Jayden

150 Nights Reading

Emily M, Baylen, Lincon, Emily P, Charlotte, Porsha, Ellie W, Keira, Rose



Magic Words

Magic 100 - Navtaj, Emily M

Magic 200 - Navtaj, Emily P

Magic 300 - Charlotte

Guess what?
Playgroup is Back!



*Playgroup is coming back!
The wait is over!
Next **Wednesday 29th July**
our St. John's Playgroup will
re-open for parents/carers
and kiddies. There will be
COVID rules to maintain*

*such as social distancing, sanitising and
register sign in details. Parents/carers will also
be reminded at the gate that if they or their
children are feeling unwell not to enter onto the
grounds. **See you soon!***

The P&F general meeting was held on Monday afternoon following the AGM. This year has been an unusual year for the P&F for fundraising and parent engagement. However, planning is underway for the Pie Drive in Term 3 and a Term 4 Lamington Drive. Stay posted for details in the parent flyer and future newsletters. We still have cookbooks for sale for \$15.



The next P & F meeting will be held on Monday 24th August at 2:00pm. All are welcome to attend - either by computer google hangout link or in person at the Parish Centre.
Thanks for your support. *Brett Gaia*, President.

Kindy News

It is always wonderful to welcome our Kindergarten Group back after holidays. Everyone is always eager to share stories of the things they have been up to in the holidays, and get back to serious play!

We'd like to welcome two new friends to our Kindergarten family. Welcome to Kisara and Ella, and their families. We look forward to getting to know you all better!

This term we will be working hard on writing our names; with the children practising by signing themselves in every day, as well as labelling their artwork. We have children in our group who are interested in writing their friends' and families' names, as well as other words, so we will have lots of writing stimulus cards available over the term to encourage this further. It is fantastic to see the literacy understanding amongst the Kindergarten group, which is a great foundation for their work next year when they move into Prep.

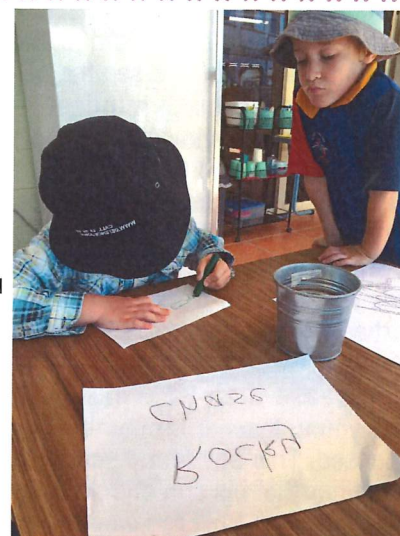
We are also continuing with sustainable practices, as the children were very engaged with this exploration at the end of last term. While everyone is so good at putting rubbish in the bins, this term we will try to reduce our

waste
even
further.

We have
lots of
special
events on

over the next few months, including trips over to St John's for a science class, library visit, as well as great fun at the Nature Playground. Please make sure that you check your Term Calendars, as well as emails and texts, for reminders as to what is on each Kindy week.

Ms Cheryl & Mrs Greco



Enquires call: 40 52 5755

Email: kindy.silkwood@cclc.catholic.org.au

Web: www.cclc.catholic.org.au/community-kindergarten/silkwood/

PARENTING IDEAS - Helping children who struggle with learning *By Michael Grose*

Parenting is easy when you have a child who is talented and finds learning relatively easy. You can marvel at their performance and feel some measure of parental pride. On the other hand it's frustrating and, at times, heartbreaking to watch your child struggle to attain even mediocre levels of success at school, in sport or in leisure activities. When your child has difficulty at school, your approach as a parent makes huge difference to their self-esteem, the relationship with their teachers and their attitude to learning. Here are some ideas to keep in mind if you are parenting a child for whom success at school, or other areas such as sport, just doesn't come naturally.

1. Avoid using other children as benchmarks

Benchmarking your child's progress against that of other children is not a wise parenting strategy. Each child has his or her own developmental clock which is nearly impossible to alter. There are slow bloomers, early developers, bright sparks and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom. It's the first group that can cause the most concern for parents who habitually compare the slow bloomer to siblings, friends' kids and even themselves when they were in school. The trick is to focus on your child's improvement and effort and use their results as a benchmark of progress and development. *"Your spelling is better today than it was a little while ago"* is a better measure of progress.

2. Focus on your child's talents

Be mindful that many successful people including Bill Gates, Richard Branson and Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg struggled at school. Traditional learning wasn't for them. However they each had supportive adults in their lives who helped them find their interests and fostered their talents. Help your child see beyond any limits they put on themselves (*"I'm hopeless at school"*) to see the many other talents and strengths they have.

3. Develop a growth mindset

Recent research shows that people who believe they can increase their intelligence through effort and challenge actually do get smarter and do better in school, work and life over time. Communicate a growth mindset to your kids by focusing your praise more on their level of effort rather than on their natural abilities of talents. Praise the strategies they use and look for opportunities to stretch their capabilities.

4. Be your child's cheerleader

Kids who have to work really hard to achieve need someone in their lives who is able to boost their self-confidence, particularly when they are struggling. Make a fuss over small successes so your child can puff up their chest every now and then.

5. Increase their time in activities where they experience success

As a young teacher I remember when a father banned his son from playing football as his school results were poor. I was incensed. This boy found school learning very difficult and football was one area where he was able to shine. I suggested to the father that his son should spend more time, not less, playing football, as this was the activity where he experienced the most success. Children who struggle at school benefit from spending more time in environments where they feel confident and capable, as those feelings can eventually transfer over to other areas – including the classroom.

6. Be mindful that persistence pays off

Children who have to work hard and persist, learn an important life lesson: that success in most endeavours takes effort. Those kids who sail through their childhoods without raising a sweat can struggle when eventually they do have to work long and hard to succeed.

Raising kids who find life a breeze is easy. However, parenting kids who take longer to mature, or kids that must put in a 110% effort to achieve, is challenging for any parent!

2021 Enrolments

Contemporary Catholic schools are places which welcome all who genuinely seek to be part of the life of the school and wish to share in a vibrant, well-resourced learning environment, based on Catholic faith and values.

All Queensland children are eligible to attend full-time Prep from the beginning of the school year in which they will reach the age of 5 years by 30th June. The Prep program promotes the development of independence and acknowledges that children arrive at school as competent and capable learners who have been learning since birth. The year builds on your child's learning at home and in other places like kindergarten and child care.

Catholic schools are committed to the growth of the whole child by offering developmentally appropriate programs which address children's needs—spiritual, intellectual, physical, cultural, social, and emotional.

Planning for next year has commenced. If you have a child or know of someone who is interested in enrolling their child at St John's for 2021 in Prep or another class, please contact the school office on 4065 9530. Alternatively, an online enrolment form or expression of interest can be found on our school website www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au

Now
Enrolling!

