



St. John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



"No duty is too little to be done well!"

Mary MacKillop 1873

Term 3 Week 6 – 19th August, 2020

Dear Parents,

It is just so wonderful to see how the students are enjoying their learning and school life. Immense fun was had in the early years recently **celebrating 100 days of learning**. The Prep/1 students have told me *"they are so smart and that they will get even smarter, just wait till the end of the year!"*

Remember to **come in free dress with an 'Ocean' theme or as a Scientist/Engineer on Thursday**. The kids are so excited about Science Week celebrations tomorrow!

Next **Tuesday 25th August** St. John's is very excited to be hosting our **Cross Country and Ball Games morning for Upper school students 9-12 years**. Following this carnival, on **Tuesday 1st September**, the Cross Country and Ball Games morning will be **run for the Lower school students 5-8 years**. To ensure St. John's is strictly following our COVID-19 Plan for Sports Days, parents/carers will be required to sign in at a designated area and sanitise your hands. A staff member will be present at the sign in location and will ensure that you are aware of the rules of entry.

In the last 14 days have you:

1. Had flu like symptoms or have otherwise been unwell?;
2. Been overseas?;
3. Been in close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case?; or
4. Been to a declared hotspot?

If answering YES to any of these questions you cannot attend this event.

Parents will be delegated to the outside basketball court area for the Cross Country. I would suggest bringing an umbrella for shade and your own chair. A marquee will be erected, however due to social distancing, it may not shade all spectators. **When we move to Ball Games, a spectator area will be marked out for parents. Parents onsite will not be able to mingle amongst the students or staff.** Parking of vehicles will be along Harold Street.

Event Timetable

- 8:45am - Visitor access
- 9:00am - Students assemble, Cross Country
- 10:00am - Ball Games
- 10:30am - Presentation of Cross Country medals
- 10:45am - Visitors depart the grounds

Camps and excursion will be proceeding this semester with additional paperwork, COVID-19 plans and restrictions.

Kindy, Prep & Year 1 Mums and Dads - please mark in your diary **Thursday 3rd September**. St. John's will be having a special morning for our Dads to celebrate Father's Day and combining this with our belated Mother's Day celebrations. It will be a lovely morning, so come along and see your child perform for your pleasure. There will also be lucky door prizes. A formal invitation will be coming home soon. **'We do not remember days, we remember moments'** so don't miss out on this moment.

May The Grace of God Be With You, Mrs Bryan, Principal

Always Reaching For New Heights



www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au
www.facebook.com/StJohnsSilkwood



Diary Dates

19th August

- ♦ Playgroup 9 - 11 am at Kindy grounds

20th August

- ♦ Science Celebrations Theme - "Oceans"

24th August

- ♦ P & F meeting 2:00pm

25th August

- ♦ Upper school 9-12yrs Cross Country & Ball Games

26th August

- ♦ Playgroup 9 - 11 am at Kindy grounds

28th August

- ♦ Premier's Reading Challenge concludes

1st September

- ♦ Lower school Cross Country & Ball Games

3rd September

- ♦ Fathers & Mothers Morning K/P/1

4th September

- ♦ Pupil Free Day

8th September

- ♦ School & Kindy Open Morning



CONTACT DETAILS

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Harold St, Silkwood, Q. 4856



Last Sunday's Gospel tells the story of a Canaanite woman (not a Jew) who asks Jesus to cure her sick daughter. Jesus was reluctant to help saying "I have been sent only to the lost sheep of Israel" (the Jews). Despite his knock backs the woman persisted. Eventually, Jesus



answered, "Woman, you have great faith!" and her daughter was well again.

What can this woman's persistence teach us? She refused to give up, even when Jesus tried to turn her away. Many people lose faith in God when things go badly in their life. Sometimes they even blame him. Jesus does not promise that we will never suffer if we believe in him, only that we will never suffer alone. He promises to walk beside us even in our darkest hour. Are you persistent enough to put your faith in him?

Image source: https://cathfamily.org/woj-ordinary-time-20-year-a/?utm_source=mailpoet&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=cathfamily-jul-9-15-enjoy-your-week-with-god



Carpark Safety

Please adhere to the **stop, drop, go** protocol when taking your child/ren to school - keeping left at all times along the front of the school. Drop off for all children coming to school via a vehicle is at the side of the church. There is a **school officer on duty from 8:20am to collect the students** from cars and direct them into school. If for some reason, parents/carers need to park there are three visitor carparks in front of the school office designed for this purpose. Also, at afternoon pickup, please **ensure your child is secured** into their appropriate age car seat before driving off. **Safety is everyone's responsibility!**



Pupil Free Day

Friday 4th September is a Pupil Free Day for St. John's School and other Catholic schools in the southern area.

Staff will be participating in professional development. The Kindergarten will still be open.

School fee Statements

All schools in the Catholic Diocese will soon release an update to our accounts system which will result in the term fee statements, invoices and receipts being emailed to each Account Holder where there is joint and several fee responsibility. The fee statement will be emailed to the email address that St. John's holds for each account holder. Please ensure the school holds your most current email address. **Contact Vera if you have any queries.**

Outstanding School Fees

Term 3 school fees **were due for payment on or before 17th August.** Please endeavour to settle your account if your usual payment of account is every term.

P & F News

Pie order form sheets were sent home on Monday to all families. Please support this fundraiser. There are many varieties to choose from. These pies have always been of great quality and are excellent value for money. Extra order forms are available at the school office. Don't forget to ask your relatives and neighbours if they would like some too. All funds raised go towards providing opportunities for our kids. **Thank you for your support.** Brett Gaia President

Sport Update

It's great to report that school sport is slowly getting back up and running and I have some actual events to report on. **Congratulations to Indah and Ella J** who competed in the NQ Catholic Schools Cross Country placing 4th and 9th respectively in the Under12 3km event! On Friday, **Kade will be representing the Cassowary Coast South** side to play Cassowary Coast North in the U12 Cricket selection game. Good luck Kade. As a school we will move to our cross country and ball games house carnivals over the next 2 weeks. Students have been busy preparing during PE lessons and morning fitness. The standard and effort from our Prep students learning ball games is awesome. **Well done to our little champion preppies!**

Yours in Sport, Mr Russell

Birthdays

August 25th

Happy Birthday to Taj



Second Step Superstars

Second Step Awards

Lincon - Working tough when reading.
Sophia - Focusing on learning sight words.
Isis - Focused attention when reading.
Max - Focused attention and giving effort in Maths.
Claire - Focused attention and giving effort in Morning Routines.
Sunny - Understanding staying focused.
Kiki - Consistently remaining focused.
Amelie - Working with focus in HASS.
Jacob - Working with focus in Religion.



50 nights Reading

Oliver

100 Nights Reading

Savannah, Ella N, Jakob, Ella J

150 Nights Reading

Savannah, Mylinda, Jorji, Indah

Magic 100 - Sophia

Magic 300 - Navtaj





Kindy News

This week we welcomed Eliana to our group! It is so great to have you join our Kindergarten family Eliana and we look forward to getting to know you and your family better.

Over the fortnight we have been very busy in our sand kitchen, cooking up lots of yummy treats. This is a fun area for creative physical play, with opportunities to explore volume as the children fill up various containers with water and sand. The children also remembered the story 'Wombat Stew' by Marcia Vaughan, where a Dingo is tricked by other animals into making a very yucky stew. After reading the book together again, the children imitated the story and sung the rhyme as they played here.

Incorporating literacy into play is a wonderfully inclusive way to build on our early literacy skills.

We have been out and about exploring our community; from Nature Play at St Johns, all the way to a teddy bears picnic at Silkwood State School. Our observant kindergarten group take note of the things they see when we leave kindy, and have started developing a map of our community. We first drew roads, train tracks, kindy and school on the map. Then the children drew, cut out and pasted their own observations and knowledge of our community. They have added their houses, cane trains, tractors, rainbow lorikeets, trees and flowers! This is an ongoing project for us this term, with our next goal to explore the people in our community. Understanding the world around us, and the people and environment we live in is important for our sense of self and belonging!

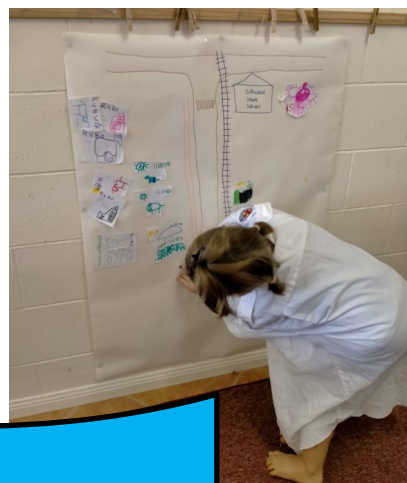
Can all families ensure they are sending their children to Kindy with a sun smart wide brim or legionnaire hat. We ask the children not to wear caps as they do not provide adequate protection from the sun.

Thank you, 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/



Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns is committed to student protection, offering safe, inclusive learning environments for all of their students.

Protecting our children and promoting their safety is everyone's business. It's a national priority in which we all have a role to play. Student safety and their best interest is at the core of the operation and purpose of Catholic Education.

All schools in the Diocese of Cairns recognise safe, supportive, inclusive and a positive environment is so important for your child's capacity for learning and maximises their potential for personal and social development, ultimately enhancing wellbeing and life opportunities.

Not every concern is going to be about child abuse. Children can be upset and affected by many things occurring in their life: a change in family circumstances, a family pet dying. Staff in Catholic schools are trained and encouraged to identify when something is not quite right and offer support to these students.

Schools run parent sessions on topics such as online safety, and disperse information and resources in newsletters. It's important parents are equipped with knowledge and skills to talk to their kids about student protection.

Safe school communities: Catholic schools prioritise child safety by -

- ⇒ Taking a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety
- ⇒ Implementing child safety policies and procedures that support ongoing assessment of risks.
- ⇒ Valuing and empowering children to participate in decisions that affect their lives.
- ⇒ Fostering a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children.
- ⇒ Providing written guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children.
- ⇒ Engaging only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development.
- ⇒ Ensuring children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues.
- ⇒ Reporting suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities.
- ⇒ Sharing information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk.



**Safeguarding
Children**
CAIRNS CATHOLIC EDUCATION

WHAT DOES Welcoming to All LOOK LIKE IN OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS?

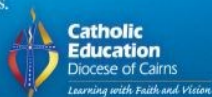
The 'average' student is anything but average. Every individual is unique, with their own God-given gifts and talents and the potential to be the best that they can be.



What do they have in common?

They are all loved equally by God. They all deserve access to a quality education to achieve to their potential. They are all part of our safe and caring communities. And they are all welcome in our schools.

INCLUSIVE • DIVERSE • WELCOMING
Be part of a Catholic school community!



The Catholic School Difference

by Fr Richard Leonard SJ

If you're considering enrolling your child in a Catholic school, you may be wondering what to expect. Catholic schools pride themselves on academic excellence and a faith and values-based learning environment but, there is so much more!

Welcoming & Inclusive - Parents should expect a community that treats people with dignity and respect. The way we talk about, talk to, and talk of the world is life affirming and world affirming.

Quality Learning & Teaching - First-class learning environments and academic excellence are part of the Catholic education ethos, but setting students up for a lifetime of learning is what allows students to shine beyond the schooling years—putting their gifts and talents at the service of others.

Making a Difference - Catholic schools are Christ-centred communities based on Gospel values. Catholic education strives to make a difference in the lives of our kids and in the wider community by challenging young people through God, to find meaning and value in their lives. They are taught to develop compassion and integrity.

A life to the full - Catholic schools emphasise personal and social development as fundamental ensuring values and requirements in an ever-changing world. This holistic approach provides an educational foundation for life by educating the whole person - intellectually, spiritually, socially, emotionally and physically.

"The final thing parents should expect in a Catholic school is watching your child being empowered to achieve their full potential. Every child has gifts and talents. Empowerment and education go hand in hand!"