



Week 1 at St. John's!



St. John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



"Life is a gift, and it offers us the privilege, opportunity and responsibility to give something back by becoming more!" Anon

Term 1 Week 2 – 3rd February, 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to St. John's! Well done to all students who have settled in very well by working hard in class and having a great time at play time. We have had a wonderful first week!

A special welcome to our new families. St. John's is a 'small school with great spirit; and we are delighted that you have joined us. We welcome our new students; Ruby, Kisara, Skyla, Mary, Zara, Flynn, Marly, Zack, Indianna and Jada-Lee.



Another special **welcome to our priest in residence Fr. Hilary.** Father Hilary visited the students this week which they thoroughly enjoyed. Father commented how respectful the students were and how insightful their questions were about God. We look forward to celebrating our **Beginning of Year Mass with Father next Tuesday at 9:00am in the undercover area followed by a cuppa.** Please note the change of date, as this was previously scheduled for this Friday, however Fr. Hilary has been called away for another important commitment. All parents and relatives are welcome. At this Mass, we will also induct our Year 6 students as school leaders. This is a very special ceremony.

On Monday, parents, myself, staff and students in Years 4 to 6 had the privilege of listening to our school leaders give their Captain speeches to be elected for school and house captains. Well done to all students as these speeches were sincere, passionate and had the theme of serving others.

Congratulations to Ella who was elected School Captain, Danni elected Francis Captain and Stevie elected as MacKillop Captain.

A reflection point for our school leaders based on my Navy Military experience, "The most important thing I learned as a Military Officer is that soldiers/sailors watch what their leaders do. You can give them classes and lecture them forever, but it is your personal example they will follow." I know our **school leaders of 2021 will set an excellent example for the younger students to follow.**

I conclude, by saying it is a pleasure to return to St. John's where the positive vibes are so strong amongst all and on behalf on the staff we look forward to providing the best **possible educational opportunities for your child/ren.** I remind you if you have questions and thoughts about your child, please email their class teacher as soon as possible, or you are welcome to call the school office.

There are so many exciting events occurring in school life at present; sports training, eSafe kid focus, reef guardian webinar and our parent information sessions. **I look forward to seeing you next Tuesday at Mass and also at the Parent Information Sessions.**

- ◆ **Year 4** - Tuesday 9th February - 3:10pm
- ◆ **Year 5/6** - Tuesday 9th February - 3:40pm
- ◆ **Prep/1** - Thursday 11th February - 3:10pm
- ◆ **Year 2/3** - Thursday 11th February - 3:40pm

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

Always Reaching For New Heights

Diary Dates

Wednesday 3rd Feb.

- ◆ Playgroup 9 - 11am
- ◆ Newspaper photo P/1 and Year 6

Friday 5th February

- ◆ Tuckshop commences

Tuesday 9th February

- ◆ Opening School Mass 9am followed by a cuppa
- ◆ Uniform shop 8.15am
- ◆ Safe Internet Day "Be an esafe Kid!" Yr 4-6
- ◆ Parent Info Session Year 4 - 3:10pm
- ◆ Parent Info Session Year 5/6 - 3:40pm
- ◆ Rugby League & Netball training 3-4pm

Thursday 11th February

- ◆ Reef Guardian Webinar Year 5/6
- ◆ Parent Info Session Prep/Year 1 - 3:10pm
- ◆ Parent Info Session Year 2/3 - 3:40pm

Friday 12th February

- ◆ P/1 class to visit Kindy

Tuesday 16th February

- ◆ Pancake Tuesday
- ◆ Rugby League training with Mr Russell 3 - 4pm

CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: 07 4065 9530

Mobile: 0418 888 672

Harold St, Silkwood, Q. 4856

www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au

www.facebook.com/StJohnsSilkwood

Beginning of Year School Mass

Our first school Mass for 2021 will be held on **Tuesday, 9th February at 9:00am**. Please join us as we pray for God's blessings this school year and commission our 2021 school leaders.



Parish/School Mass

Our first Parish/School Mass will be held on **Saturday 20th February at 6pm**. The Mass will be hosted by our Year 5/6 students and all are welcome. Please add this event to your calendars.

Know Your Saint

St Valentine was a Roman priest and martyr. When the Emperor had banned weddings, he was arrested for hiding Christians and for marrying couples. Legend says while he was in prison awaiting execution, he cured the jailer's daughter of blindness. On the eve of his death he wrote her a letter signing it 'from your Valentine'. (Source: livingwellmedia)



Tuckshop

Thank you to Ramandeep and Harpal for taking on tuckshop duties again. Tuckshop will operate every Friday first lunch. Students can drop their orders off at the tuckshop on Friday mornings **BEFORE school commences**. For our new families, tuckshop is only for the first break. If you would like your child to order something in the second break, they will collect all of their tuckshop at first break. Remember to also pack a fruit snack. If you have any questions, give the office a call.



Uniform Shop

The Uniform shop will be open every **Tuesday morning by Maria from 8.15am to 8.45am for uniform requirements**. Maria's mobile number is 0407 178 714. The uniform shop is located across from the school admin building on the bottom floor of the Missionary Franciscan Centre.

Second Hand Uniforms - We ask families who have second hand uniforms that are no longer being used to consider adding them to our second-hand clothing pool. Thanking you for your continued support.

Student Care Insurance

All students at St. John's School are covered by Student Care Insurance for an accident or injury at school or in any school related activity such as inter-school sport or a school camp. It covers expenses such as medical costs, emergency transport, travel, home tuition and school fee relief.

P & F 2021

The first P & F meeting will be held on **Monday 22nd February** (week 5 of term) in the **school library from 3:15pm to 4:15pm**. We are trailing this time as it may be more convenient for parents to attend. Our meetings are friendly and informative, so I'm sure you will enjoy attending.



Change of Personal Details

Each year, parents are reminded to update their personal details with any changes of address, telephone numbers or emergency contact numbers or media consent. **It is vital that this information is kept up-to-date in the event of an emergency at school.** Children will not be released to any adult unless they have been marked on your enrolment form as a contact name, so please ensure these names remain current.

Student Absences

It is a requirement that families contact the school to communicate student absences. This can be done via parent portal, phone or email. Please send email to secretary.silkwood@cns.catholic.edu.au. Teachers record student attendance electronically at two times during the school day, 9.00am and 1.00pm. This highlights the importance of parents contacting St John's to register absences **before the school day**.

El Arish Mission/Beach Bus Fare Assistance

NGSTAS BFAP weekly threshold for Semester 1 2021 will be \$30 per week for all families utilising this service. Travel forms were sent home today for parents to complete and return to school.

Term 1 Sport Overview

Welcome back to another exciting and busy sports year at St. John's. This term will see our students participate in a number of sports.



The first event will be the **Cassowary Coast district swimming carnival**. Information was sent home yesterday to students selected to represent St. John's at this carnival being held on Friday, 19th February and run after school and into the evening. Further carnival information will be sent out when it is made available.

Students from Year 4 - 6 will be attending the **District Rugby League and Netball carnivals** at Tully State School and St. Clare's on the 26th February. Training for these events will usually take place on Tuesday or Thursday afternoons. Parents please be diligent in checking the weekly parent flyer for training times.

Our first **interhouse carnival is cross country** and will be on Tuesday 27th April at St. John's.

Mr Russell

Happy Birthday to

January

8th - Tyler

12th - Ella

24th - Ned

28th - Sophia

29th - Erin

Birthdays



Commitment to Student Safety and Wellbeing

St. John's School is committed to being a safe and nurturing community of care, where the rights and dignity of all children and young people are upheld and protected, and where all students have a right to expect that our school will always act to protect them from any kind of harm.

All adults have a responsibility to care for children and young people, to positively promote their welfare, and to protect them from any kind of harm. The interactions of Catholic Education staff with students take place in the context of the employee being in a position of trust arising from the nature of their role.

Staff receive annual and ongoing training in the area of child protection. Parents and students should talk to the Student Protection Contacts **Mrs Bryan & Mrs Daly** or the class teacher if there are any concerns about the safety and wellbeing of any student or concerns about the behaviour of a staff member or volunteer which they feel is inappropriate. We take all reports seriously.



Kindy News

Hello and welcome back to Kindergarten!! We are so happy to have the children back playing and learning in our beautiful space. We have had a great first week together. To begin the term we will focus on getting to know each other, and for our new friends, getting to know our routine and general practices, and becoming comfortable here at Kindergarten. The Early Years Learning Framework has three basic concepts that children's lives are characterised by - Being, Belonging and Becoming. Settling into Kindy, finding our place within the group and our community, building relationships and developing confidence in ourselves and our peers all meet these concepts and are so important as we start the year off together.

Most families have found their way onto our new sharing platform - the OWNA app. This is a space where we can share all of the things we are doing at Kindy, both as a group and those individual goals. It is a fantastic way for families to see what we do here, in their own time. If you haven't already, I highly recommend that you download and use the app - let us know if you need help with this.

We will also continue using our floor book for documentation and programming records as this allows the children a space to contribute and reflect. This is available at all

times for everyone to view. We will have our Term Calendar available at the end of the week with some exciting events like a visit from the Prep and Year 1's from St John's, and a visit from Zootoyou!

Ms Cheryl & Mrs Greco

