



# St. John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



*"May your troubles be less and your blessings be more and nothing but happiness come through your door" Irish Blessing*

**Term 1 Week 8 – 17th March, 2021**

Dear Parents,

The school is **buzzing with excitement** at the moment **after our Chess Club launch party last week**. I am witnessing engaged happy students in all areas of school life.

Recently, I was so **proud of our school leaders** who represented St. John's in the Strategic Leadership forum with a consulting company to gain the perspective of a student as to 'What skills does your school give you to prepare you for secondary school and your chosen career?'. School leaders stated the following:

<b>Manners</b>	<b>Respecting Others</b>	<b>Speaking in public</b>
<b>Working as a team</b>	<b>Prayer</b>	<b>Setting Goals</b>
<b>Technology skills</b>	<b>Leadership skills</b>	<b>Problem solving</b>

*'The world has a habit of making room for those who know where they are going.'*

Make sure to **book your parent teacher interview this week**. Meetings will be **conducted in Week 9 & 10**. Teachers look forward to spending this time with you to celebrate successes and review areas of improvement. We pride ourselves at St. John's on working in partnership with parents to help achieve success for your child/ren.

Well done to the **St. John's Justice Squad** for their **St. Patrick Day** initiative to raise funds for Project Compassion. Being part of the Project Compassion journey provides students with the opportunity to be part of an incredible community and help to put an end to poverty and injustice in our world. This community believes that these are **simple actions** we can all take to **"be more" for our world and local community**.

Great effort to the students attending **Touch Football** training every Tuesday and Thursday. These afternoons develop skill competence and bone/muscle strength. However there is so much more learnings! Through team sports students learn important values; build character; build relationships; learn to deal with setbacks; increase discipline, learn respect and develop social skills.

Yesterday we **farewelled Counsellor Larissa** who has been redeployed to another Catholic school in Cairns. We also **welcomed Counsellor Wendy** to St. John's to take up this position.

We are **continuing our exciting journey in learning our new Maths program** of Essential Assessment to target maths development for each student. Teachers will also be heading off to a **Diocesan eLearning seminar** to share and gain the latest insights in the digital learning space to increase student engagement.

**Music students with Ms Natasha** have commenced the school music year with great enthusiasm and I look forward to sitting in on these lessons.

Also, I say again, **thank you parents** for presenting your child so well in their school uniform. Finally, make sure to **keep up the great effort with home reading**.

I look forward to a sensational week!

*"Aspire not to have more, but to be more." - Saint Oscar Romero*

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

*Always Reaching For New Heights*



## Diary Dates

### Wednesday 17th March

#### ♦ St. Patrick's Day

- ♦ 9 - 11am Playgroup

### Thursday 18th March

- ♦ Bookclub orders due
- ♦ Touch Football training 3:00 - 4:00pm

### Friday 19th March

- ♦ Assembly 8:45am
- ♦ Kindy visiting Prep/One for Harmony Day
- ♦ Music with Natasha

### Sunday 21st March

- ♦ P & F Diocesan mtg

### Tuesday 23rd March

- ♦ Touch Football Training 3:00 - 4:00pm

### Wednesday 24th March

- ♦ Prep Vision Screening
- ♦ NAPLAN practice
- ♦ Playgroup 9 - 11am

### Thursday 25th March

- ♦ Year 5/6 Reef Guardians project

### Friday 26th March

- ♦ Touch Football Gala Day - Tully High Schl

### Sunday 28th March

- ♦ Palm Sunday



## CONTACT DETAILS

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[www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au](http://www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au)

[www.facebook.com/StJohnsSilkwood](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsSilkwood)

## Project Compassion

As we near the end of term, I ask you to return the Project Compassion boxes sent home at the beginning of Lent. We thank you for your kind contribution.



**Happy St. Patrick's Day**

### Know Your Saint – St Patrick

Did you know that, at the age of 14, St Patrick was captured by bandits and sold as a slave in Ireland. For 6 years he tended sheep in the hills and learned the Irish language and culture. He managed to escape when he was 20. One of the miracles he performed in Ireland as a bishop was to banish all the snakes from the land. Today, there are no snakes native to Ireland.

## Social Justice Issues

Today is St. Patrick's Day and we had a Free Dress Day based around the colour 'Green' for a gold coin donation. Also, for a bit of fun we sold green icy cups for 50 cents each during the second lunch break. All funds raised are donated to Project Compassion which goes to Caritas, helping those in need. See photos on the back page of this newsletter.



Montana, Media Reporter

## Sport Update

Our current sport focus is touch football and cross country. Next **Friday 26th March** selected students will be heading to Tully State High School for the Cassowary Coast South Touch Football Gala Day. Parents are welcome to attend. Training days, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons will continue this week and next in the lead-up to the carnival. Our first Interhouse carnival for 2021 - St. John's **Cross Country** is fast approaching and will be held in Week 2, Term 2 **Thursday 29th April**. Children have begun preparing for this in PE classes and during morning lap running. The two-week Easter holidays may cause students to lose some of their running fitness we are developing, so in order for your child to be in peak fitness I recommend some running over the break. The distances children will be running are as follows:

- ◆ 5 and 6 year olds - 700metres
- ◆ 7 and 8 year olds - 900metres
- ◆ 9 and 10 year olds - 1 km
- ◆ 11,12, and 13 year olds - 2 kms

Mr Russell, PE Teacher

## Uniforms

Our stock has arrived! **School hats** will be showcasing a new look logo and are selling for \$18.00. **Girls' skorts** will also be available for purchase next Tuesday. The **uniform shop is open every Tuesday** morning from 8:15am to 8:45am for your convenience.



### P & F AGM

Our Annual General Meeting is set for **Monday 29th March at 3:15pm** in the library. At this meeting all executive positions will become vacant and nominations will be called to fill these positions. The AGM is followed by the General meeting. All are welcome to attend to show your support and work in partnership with the Principal and staff to encourage a community spirit with a Christian ethos.

## Parent Teacher Online Bookings (PTO)



These meetings offer an opportunity to learn more about your child's progress, share information or resolve social and learning challenges. All parents/carers are encouraged to book a timeslot with your child's class teacher. **Parent portal help using this system will be available tomorrow** with Mrs Belbin by calling the school office on 4065 9530.

## National Day Against Bullying - Friday 19th March

**Taking Action Together** Join the national conversation to help address bullying.

Working together with the school is the best way to help your child resolve issues. Responding to incidents in a constructive, supportive and timely manner is critical. The primary aim is to restore a positive learning environment for all students.

Fact sheets can be downloaded on <https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/resources/fact-sheets/fact-sheets-for-families>



## Harmony Day

**Sunday 21st March**

celebrates our country's multi-culturalism, and the successful integration of migrants into our community.

**Harmony week is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians**, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values. We celebrate this diversity as our greatest strengths and it's what makes Australia a great place to live.



Happy Birthday to March:

2nd - Ellie K, Lillianna  
9th - Sharlyn  
18th - Ailie

**Birthdays**



## Second Step Superstars

**Charlotte** - Focused attention on Maths.

**Lincon** - Always using lovely manners.

**Navtaj** - Focused attention during morning routines and mathematics lessons.

**Ashly** - Giving effort and making progress in reading.

**Audrey** - Accepting a public speaking challenge.

**Finnley** - Working tough in Maths.

**Ellie W** - Focused attention in all learning areas.





## Chess Club

What great fun was had at the launch of our Chess Club! The students are extremely excited and eager to accept the challenges in the Chess world. Who will become our 2021 Chess Champion at St. John's? Students keep practising and learning strategies for now..... Thank you to our two guest chess players Mr Belbin and Mr Couper-Smith for sharing your skills with our students.



## Mass times for Easter

### Holy Week - Thursday 1st April

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 6:00pm Tully  
Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:30pm Innisfail

### Good Friday - 2nd April

Stations of the Cross—10:00am Tully /10:30am Innisfail  
The Lord's Passion - 3:00pm  
Silkwood or Tully or Mission Beach

### Holy Saturday - 3rd April

Easter Vigil - 6:00pm Silkwood or Tully

### Easter Sunday - 4th April

7:00am South Johnstone  
7:00am Mission Beach  
10:00am El Arish

HOLY WEEK &  
*Easter*  
MASS TIMES

**INVITATION**

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS QLD  
DIOCESE OF CAIRNS

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

GUEST SPEAKER  
Mrs Carmel Nash OAM  
Executive Director Catholic School Parents Qld

**ON SUNDAY 21 MARCH 2021  
10AM START**

School hall - St Joseph's School, Parramatta Park  
and also available via Zoom \*

**ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND - MORNING TEA PROVIDED**

Kindly RSVP to Mary-Anne Stokes  
cairms.dc@cspq.catholic.edu.au by Tuesday 16 March  
\* Please indicate if you would like to attend via Zoom and a link will be emailed to you



## Kindy News

We have had a busy few weeks with incursions and excursions for our Kindergarten children.

Last week we were very fortunate to be able to see Katisha Adelaide – a violinist and musician perform at Silkwood State School. Katisha was a fantastic one woman band – using the loop technique to record various instruments and sounds she made, as well as singing over the top! The Kindergarten group listened and watched her attentively and got to get up for a dance along to which was lots of fun. It is always great to be out in our community seeing something different. Experiencing live music by a wonderful musician was an absolute treat!

This week we had an incursion, with Zoo to You coming in and sharing some amazing animals with us. Our Kindergarten group love all things to do with animals and nature, so they were absolutely captivated by Jodie and her animals, and asked and answered lots of question.

We have continued to tend our garden, and have found that we are so good at planting and watering our seeds that we have lots of seedlings popping up. Some have grown so much we have been able to re-plant them in our vegie garden, and also in pots around the Kindergarten yard. The group are very keen to plant out seeds, so any donations of the woollies seedlings that you do not want for home are well used here at Kindy.

Thanks, Ms Cheryl and Mrs Greco.





## An Irish Prayer

May God give you...  
For every storm, a rainbow,  
For every tear, a smile,  
For every care, a promise,  
And a blessing in each trial,  
For every problem life sends,  
A faithful friend to share,  
For every sigh, a sweet song,  
And an answer for each prayer.



Invites you to

## "Come and Try"

1<sup>st</sup> training for the 2021 Junior Soccer season

(season commences Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May

at Castor Park Mourilyan)

**DATE: THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

**VENUE: Kim Carroll Sporting Fields**

**ADDRESS: Anderson Street, TULLY**

**TIME: 5.15pm to 6pm**

**Ages : 4 – 11 year old**

**Girls and Boys welcome!!**

**Registration information will be available**

Email: [tullyflames@yahoo.com.au](mailto:tullyflames@yahoo.com.au)

**REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!!!**

[www.playfootball.com.au](http://www.playfootball.com.au)

## RASN ROADTRIP WORKSHOP

Would you like to spend a weekend in Cairns, take part in a Minecraft workshop and go to the **Cairns Children's Festival**, all for free?

Cairns Minecraft would like to bring ten players from our neighbouring councils to Cairns to share their skills and passion for Minecraft. With the help of the **Regional Arts Services Network** an initiative of the Qld Gov. through Arts Qld, we can now offer free accommodation for ten players and their families, and cover fuel costs.

### When is the workshop?

Saturday afternoon 15 May at the **Cairns Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre**. Participants are invited to watch the Cairns Minecraft live build battle held at the Cairns Children's Festival at the same venue on the following day, Sunday 16 May as part of the Cairns Children's Festival. Accommodation is paid for Saturday night in the Cairns CBD.

### Who can take part?

Minecrafters from Cassowary Coast, Douglas, Etheridge and Tablelands council areas.

### How do I get involved?

Firstly, you need to become a **member** of Cairns Minecraft, its free and easy to do. Once you have access to the servers, head to the spawn point on the Creative server and find the portal to the **RASN ROADSHOW REGIONAL WORKSHOP COMP**. Grab yourself a plot and build something amazing, that's all you need to do. Impress the judges with your creativity and you could be joining us at the workshop. Only ten places at the workshop are available. You can build as many entries as you like.

### How do I know if I'm successful?

Winners will be emailed & posting their usernames on [www.cairnsminecraft.com](http://www.cairnsminecraft.com) and on our **Discord** channel. For more info head to [www.cairnsminecraft.com](http://www.cairnsminecraft.com) or phone Mark Edwards at Cairns Reg. Council on 4044 3266 or email [m.edwards4@cairns.qld.gov.au](mailto:m.edwards4@cairns.qld.gov.au).