



St. John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



"A mother is she who can take the place of all others, but whose place no one else can take!" Cardinal Mermillod

Term 2 Week 2 – 28th April, 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a very wet start to the term. Fortunately, the rain has not dampened our kids' spirit. They are positively engaged and **ready for learning and activities**. I had one student comment to me on how much fun our fitness exercises were last week. This same student, after checking in with me on the cross country date, told me that their hope was for rain on that day. (Mmm..... A muddy cross country!) Finally, the child invited me to their Year 4 excursion planned this Thursday. I thought to myself, wouldn't you just love to be back at school!

On the final day of last term, the whole school performed an **Easter Play** and I **highly commend the students** for an amazing and insightful performance. We almost had a full house. I thank the parents for coming along. The students always get a buzz seeing you at school.

Well done to our ANZAC representatives who marched on Sunday, recited poetry and sung in our choir. The Parade Commander - Lieutenant Commander Mellick praised our students highly.

Year 4 students are off to the musical 'Matilda' performed by our brother and sister schools, St. Augustine's and St. Monica's, in Cairns tomorrow. Roald Dahl's 'Matilda' is a much loved book, movie and musical. The story of a girl who dreams of a better life and the children she inspires will have the audience empathising with the 'revolting children' all the way to the end. With high energy dance numbers and catchy songs, 'Matilda', is an uplifting hour long show that everyone will enjoy. Taking students to Cairns to see a quality musical production is a wonderful learning opportunity and I say a **BIG THANK YOU to the St. John's P&F for making this experience possible**.

On Friday morning, I will be hosting the Cairns Diocese Primary Principals' Association Meeting at St. John's. It is an honour to do so, as I am personally so proud of all that we do, offer and achieve at our small, sensational school. Please be aware that parking for assembly may be tricky on Friday.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, our Three Saints festival will not be going ahead as per normal. For new parents, this religious festival, the largest in the country, is held on St John's School grounds every first Sunday in May, on the long weekend. This year, the Three Saints committee is **livestreaming the Mass on Sunday 2nd May at 9am-11am**. The link is: <https://youtu.be/2wXEZa6Uzdc>. (or visit www.feastofthethreesaints.com.au to click on the link). *Viva St. Alfio!*

Governing school bodies always stress the **importance of attendance**. St. John's school students are tracking extremely well, so keep up the great work. Also, thank you for your diligence in **contacting the school when your child is absent**.

I look forward to **an exciting two weeks ahead**. I hope to see you at the Cross Country next Tuesday or Mother's Day Morning next Friday.

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

Always Reaching For New Heights



Diary Dates

Thursday 29th April

- ◆ Year 4 Excursion to Cairns to watch Matilda

Sunday 2nd May

- ◆ Three Saints Mass livestreamed

Monday 3rd May

- ◆ Labour Day Holiday

Tuesday 4th May

- ◆ St. John's Interhouse Cross Country

Wednesday 5th May

- ◆ Playgroup 9am - 11am

Friday 7th May

- ◆ Mothers' Day morning commencing 9am

Tuesday 11th May

- ◆ NAPLAN - Writing Year 3 and 5
- ◆ Rugby drills with Mr Leon

Wednesday 12th May

- ◆ Playgroup 9am - 11am

Thursday 13th May

- ◆ NAPLAN - Reading & COL Year 3 and 5

Friday 14th May

- ◆ NAPLAN - Numeracy Year 3 & Year 5
- ◆ Little Athletics on site

CONTACT DETAILS

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www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au

www.facebook.com/StJohnsSilkwood



Happy Easter! Did you know the Easter season is more than just one day or one weekend? It extends for 50 days after Easter, ending on Pentecost Sunday. Masses of the Easter season are celebrated with festive joy and unlike the rest of the liturgical year, all the readings are taken from the New Testament. The whole season is a time of deep reflection on the mysteries of faith. Jesus is risen! Alleluia!

APRE
News



Project Compassion

A big thank you for supporting Project Compassion this year. We raised a total of \$220.95. This is enough to provide one family in Indonesia with materials to build their own toilet and to buy fabric to make up to 1000 face masks to protect against COVID-19 in the Solomon Islands.

Sacramental Program

Students from Year 4 and above are invited to participate in this year's Sacramental program of First Reconciliation, Confirmation and Communion. There will be a combined Parent Meeting and the Children's Reconciliation lesson on **Monday 24th May at 5:30pm** at St. John's School, Harold Street, Silkwood. This is for all parents and students wishing to participate. Please notify Mrs. Gaia (lgaia@cns.catholic.edu.au) to acknowledge your participation in the program.

Know your Saint — The Three Saints



Alfio, Filadelfo and Cirino were three brothers who lived in the third century in Italy. They were martyred because they refused to renounce their faith. Their deaths were rather gruesome; Alfio had his tongue torn out, Filadelfo was burned on a gridiron and Cirino was thrown into a cauldron of boiling oil.

Interhouse Cross Country

When: Tuesday 4th May.
Where: St. John's School oval.
Time: 9am to 11am.



What a great way to start next week! The students have been busily training to improve their stamina. Which house will bring home the points trophy? This year students are encouraged to come to school dressed in their house colour:- white t-shirt for MacKillop house and blue t-shirt for Francis house. Students are asked to bring their school uniform with them, also a towel and change of shoes in their bag so they are able to change back into their uniform if the track is muddy and wet. Parents and carers are invited to spectate and cheer on the children. Please sign in at the school office and follow our COVID-19 rules.

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Go MacKillop!

Go Francis!

Queensland Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge is an annual state-wide initiative for all Queensland students from Prep to Year 9, as well as children (aged up to 5 years) enrolled in an early childhood centre.



The Premier's Reading Challenge aims to improve literacy and encourage children to read for pleasure and learning. It is not a competition, but a way to encourage students to develop a love of reading for life. For a student to successfully complete the Challenge they are required to read or experience the number of books indicated:

- ◆ Prep to Year 2 - read or experience 20 books.
- ◆ Years 3 & 4 - Read 20 books.
- ◆ Years 5 & 6 - Read 15 books.

Students who complete the challenge will receive a Certificate of Achievement signed by the Premier of Queensland

Term 2 School Fees

Term 2 school fee statements have been generated and sent out. Due date for payment of these fees (if paying in full) is Tuesday 4th May. If you have not received your account, please contact the office.



P & F News

Thank you to the families that supported the ANZAC march and in particular our inaugural sausage sizzle at Taifalos Park. It was great to see so many families battle the, not so kind weather conditions to show your support.

Brett Gaia, President

May

Happy Birthday to
Cooper and Sam R



Second Step Superstars



Zara - Focused attention in literacy groups
Gabby - Focused attention in literacy groups
Isis - Focused attention when writing stories
Flynn - Giving effort in maths
Ned - Resourceful consolidation of learning.
Danni - Focused attention
Cooper - Understanding different perspectives

Principal's Award

Danni, Tayla, Jada, Jake, Scarlett, Audrey, Tilly - Focused attention and being proud to be a St. John's student.

50 Nights Reading - Danni, Sharlyn, Sam W, Jada, Sam R, Finnley, Clayton, Scarlett, Tayla, Noori, Rohan, Flynn, Zara, Jace, Benson.

Justice Squad News

Following the Cross Country run next Tuesday 4th May the Justice Squad team will be selling frozen cups for 50 cents during the first lunch break. All proceeds will go towards this year's Vinnies Winter Appeal.
Montana, Justice Squad Media Report

**Icy Cups
50 cents**

Easter Presentation



2022 Enrolments

Our enrolment process for 2022 has begun. If you have a child or know of someone who is interested in enrolling their child at

St John's for **2022** in Prep (child born between 1/7/2016 and 30/6/2017) 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**

St John's School is an **inclusive community** of people who are accepting and forgiving. We promote forgiveness and reconciliation. We **encourage positivity and resilience**. Our motto depicts that we are continually striving to reach new heights. This involves the social, emotional, psychological and cognitive development of our children. Overall, St John's is a **caring, co-operative, safe, stimulating and nurturing environment for families**. The children are provided with a quality and fulfilling education.

This year our enrolment process will be elevated to Term 2 and 3 to line up with Catholic schools in the Diocese and our CES commitments and deadlines.

Kindy News

Welcome to Term 2 at Kindergarten!
We hope everyone had a lovely Easter and holiday break.

This term we will be exploring letters and the sounds they make – an interest emerging in our group and great knowledge to begin to develop before the children head off to school next year! We are starting with the letters that are most meaningful to us – those in our names!



We have also started off the term with ANZAC day activities. Reading ANZAC stories, painting poppies, listening to 'The last post' on our Interactive Whiteboard, baking ANZAC biscuits and creating a beautiful wreath together. It is really important for us to share these stories and activities with the Kindergarten children, to begin to instil the importance of this day with them.

The weather has also been affecting our learning – with the heavy rain clouds over our heads we wondered how do the clouds work? We did a fun experiment with shaving cream and watercolours – dropping water onto the shaving cream clouds until they were full and began to 'rain' down! We then watched a clip on the whiteboard to learn exactly how this process works in real life, and listened to the dreamtime story 'The first rain cloud' to finish up our explorations.

Kindergarten is very much about creating curious and enthusiastic learners, which we aim to do with our learning environments and the experiences like these that we offer.

Thanks, Ms Cheryl and Mrs Greco.



Enquires call: 42 52 5755

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

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

**Places
available**

Invitation to Playgroup / Kindy / School Mums
to join us for a special morning of fun.

Date: Friday 7th May, 2021

Time: 9:00am - 11:00am

Place: St John's School
Undercovered area



*Wishing all Mums /
Grandmas a very Happy
Mothers' Day
Sunday 9th May.*

Wonderful Mother
God made a wonderful mother,
A mother who never grows old;
He made her smile of the sunshine,
And He molded her heart of pure gold;
In her eyes He placed bright shining stars,
In her cheeks fair roses you see;
God made a wonderful mother,
And He gave that dear mother to me.
(Pat O'Reilly)

And Grandma's too...
While we honor all our mothers
with words of love and praise.
While we tell about their goodness
and their kind and loving ways.
We should also think of Grandma,
she's a mother too, you see....
For she mothered my dear mother
as my mother mothers me.
Author Unknown

ANZAC 2021 - Lest We Forget

