



St John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you!"
Mother Teresa

Term 4 Week 8 - 24th November, 2021

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the St. John's School and Parish community I congratulate the Prep/Year 1 students for hosting the combined School/Parish Mass on Saturday evening. We all had a fabulous time, with art and sport activities, and a delicious selection of sweet and savoury dishes following Mass. We have received our certificates from the Premier for the annual Reading Challenge. Well done students, and thank you to parents for your support in encouraging your child to meet their reading goals! Check out our facebook page.



We have had a wonderful year at St. John's. We now draw our attention to the end of year events, so be sure to mark these on your calendar and please join us! For new parents who are not familiar with operations in the final week of school, contact your class teacher or refer to the weekly parent flyer. Students love to see their parents watching them perform. If possible set time aside to attend the Christmas Concert on Thursday morning 2nd December 9:30am-10:45am. We will also farewell families who are leaving our school community. Following a short half hour break after the Christmas Concert we then transition into the Christmas Fair which is being run by our students. The students are passionate about holding a Christmas Fair this year. They will be selling inexpensive items to raise money for the local St. Vincent De Paul Society in Tully.

Another very important event is our end of year School Mass on Friday 3rd December at 9:00am-10:00am. This is a beautiful experience, as we acknowledge and farewell our Year 6 students; Montana, Ella, Stevie, Sharlyn, Ellie, Kiki, Danni, Isaac and Dave. Representatives of the St. Vincent De Paul Society will also be in attendance to accept our Christmas hampers. We will also have a representative from the Tully Nursing Home attend this year's Mass. The students have decided they would like to present a special hamper to the elderly and residents of the home. A reminder to parents to continue to send any hamper items of non-perishables items into school.

In conclusion, I would like to communicate to the school community that it has been a pleasure working together with families to provide the best possible educational opportunities for your child/ren. I look forward to seeing most of you at the Interhouse Swimming Carnival tomorrow in Tully or the Christmas concert, or perhaps the Silkwood Christmas Eve Mass at 6:00pm on Saturday night.

School recommences on **Tuesday 25th January 2022**. Please note Monday 24th January is a Pupil Free day and Wednesday 26th January is the Australia Day Public Holiday. Week 1 will consist of 3 attendance days.

In the final two weeks of school, we wind up the Christmas spirit with the students. Christmas trees and decorations are up in classrooms. Here are our top 10 favourite religious Christmas songs which capture the spirit of the season: O Holy Night, Silent Night, Joy to the World, Little Drummer Boy, The First Noel, O Come All Ye Faithful, Do You Hear What I Hear?, Away in the Manger, Angels We Have Heard on High, Hark, The Herald Angels Sing. Happy holidays!

"See the greatness and the beauty of God's mysterious ways." - St. Mary MacKillop.

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

Always Reaching For New Heights 

Diary Dates

Thursday 25th November

- ◆ Interhouse swimming carnival 9:30am

Friday 26th November

- ◆ Return home readers and library books
- ◆ Assembly 8:35am
- ◆ Pre-prep transition morning 8:45am

Saturday 27th November

- ◆ Parish Christmas function 6:00pm

Monday 29th November

- ◆ Music concert by Mrs Natasha's students 2:00pm

Tuesday 30th November

- ◆ Playgroup/Kindy/Prep/1 Christmas party 1:00pm
- ◆ Year 6 Graduation

Wednesday 1 December

- ◆ P&F reading reward shop
- ◆ P & F Thank you afternoon tea 2:00pm

Thursday 2nd December

- ◆ Christmas Concert 9:30am
- ◆ Christmas Fair 11:30am

Friday 3rd December

- ◆ End of Year Mass 9:00am
- ◆ Term 4 concludes 12:00noon

Tuesday 25th January

- ◆ School resumes

CONTACT DETAILS

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www.facebook.com/StJohnsSilkwood

End of Year / Farewell Mass

Our final Mass for the year will be celebrated on **Friday 3rd December at 9:00am** in the undercover area. This is an opportunity for us to gather and thank God for the past year, and to farewell our Year 6 graduates. Please join us for this celebration.



Advent

On Sunday we enter the season of Advent. Advent is a time of preparation, not just for Christmas celebrations and holidays, but for the great feast of the Incarnation (God being made human).



Justice Squad News

Christmas Fair - All students (including our Kindy friends) have been very busy making beautiful items to sell at our **St. John's Justice Squad Christmas Fair**.



We invite all families to stay on after the Christmas Concert and join us for this **festive season shopping spree**. The Fair will run between **11.30am to 12.30pm**. There are many items on sale such as handcrafts, candles, Christmas treats, decorations, ornaments, plants and much more. All proceeds will go towards SVDP and Tully Nursing Home donations.

Sausage Sizzle - Following the Christmas Concert the students will be hosting a sausage sizzle stall as part of our Christmas Fair for parents and students. Sausages will sell for \$2.50, Cordial \$0.50, and softdrinks (parents only) or water \$2.00.

Christmas Appeal - Our Christmas hampers are filling up and we sincerely thank all families and staff for your generous donations. The food hampers will be handed over to members of SVDP Society Tully, at our end of year School Mass. These gifts will be distributed to families in our local community at Christmas time to bring lots of joy and love.

This year we have once again been unable to visit the Tully Nursing Home due to visiting restrictions. However, our team members have decided to donate a hamper full of Christmas goodies for all the residents to enjoy.

We sincerely wish to thank every member of our school and parish community for all your valued support during 2021 and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Justice Squad Team

P & F Reading Rewards Shop

This is a favourite event for the students! Students receive money tokens which equate to how many nights they have read over this year. The more home reading nights they have done equates to more tokens, hence purchasing more trinkets or an expensive trinket. Mrs De Brincat will collate final student tally up to Thursday 25th November. **Reading books must be returned by Friday 26th November.** Thank you parents for your diligence in ensuring your child reads every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday night, which is our school rule. Students who have read on Friday night, weekends and school holidays which is optional, are able to gain further rewards. Thanks to our school officers who have been collating weekly reading packs and to teachers who have diligently tested reading abilities to ensure correct packs are issued according to your child's ability. We also thank the P&F for purchasing items to fill the shop with trinket items to reward our home readers. Thank you to Anna S and Maria R for coordinating this event for the children.

Happy Birthday to
November:
Scarlett, Flynn, Evie B, Jake
December: Max, Tayla, Porsha,
Isaac, Eve T, Dave, Isis, Wyatt, Benson



ACADEMIC AWARDS 2021

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved academic excellence in 2021

Prep - **Ruby F**
Year 1 - **Emily P**
Year 2 - **Tilly G**
Year 3 - **Marly & Wyatt**
Year 4 - **Max & Sean**
Year 5 - **Finn**



Second Step Superstars

Charlotte - Being organised and ready to learn.

Jace - Always paying attention.

Benson - Terrific progress with reading.

Rohan - Listening respectfully in class.

Myllinda - Being a good friend and showing compassion.

Tayla - Identifying feelings.

Dave - Excellent effort at League Tag.

Cooper - Working with focus in Visual Arts.

Principal's Award

Emily P, Charlotte, Baylen, Mary, Dominic, Wyatt,

Emily M - Excellent home reading efforts.

300 MAGIC WORDS: **Jorji**

READING AWARDS:

100 Nights Reading - **Gabriella, Amanat**

150 Nights Reading - **Finnley, Rohan**

200 Nights Reading - **Erin, Scarlett, Noori, Jake, Clayton**

250 Nights Reading - **Jada, Lincon, Ruby M**



At this time of the year we reflect on, and are grateful for, our volunteers who have given their time to making our school so special.

Thank you to Ramandeep and Harpal who have served our children with all their tuckshop requirements every Friday with a great smile!

This year **Maria R** has continued her service in the uniform shop. We **say thank you** for helping to keep our students looking good.

Our **P & F executive committee - Brett, Kevin, Helen and Anna**. We say a **big thank you** for your continuing service. This diligent group of parents give their time to ensure our kids' needs are met by providing St. John's with the many extra opportunities that would not be possible without their support.

Finally, to all the parents who have donated of their time to help fundraise for our school this year. Without each and every one of you helping to contribute, St. John's would not be able to shine. May you all enjoy a restful holiday break away from school routines. Merry Christmas and once again thank you!



P & F Afternoon Tea

A thank you afternoon tea will be held for all P & F volunteers next Wednesday 1st December at 2:00pm in the library. All are welcome to attend.



Interhouse Swimming Carnival

On Thursday 25th November the whole school will travel to and from the Tully Pool to compete in our annual Interhouse Swimming Carnival. This is always a fun day, with students participating in a variety of events.

Like previous years our P & F will generously be hosting a sausage sizzle and watermelon lunch for the students and parents at the pool.

Playgroup/Kindy/Prep/One Christmas Party

This is always such a special event! We invite families to come and join in on the fun on Tuesday afternoon, **30th November at 1:00pm at the Kindy**. We will also have a special guest visiting. If extra children are attending, please remember to bring an extra something for Santa to handout

Uniform Dates

Dates to purchase school uniforms:

- **Wednesday 1st December 8:30am - 9:30am**
- **Thursday 20th January 9:00am - 12:00noon**
- **Tuesday 25th January 8:15am - 9:15am**

We ask parents to send any preloved uniforms to school please. Next year the uniform shop will be selling interhouse sport shirts that can be worn on interhouse carnival days. White - Mackillop, Blue - Francis. A reminder that our uniform shop only accepts cash or cheques.

Kindy News

We have embraced the spirit of Christmas at Kindergarten! This is such a fun, family oriented time of the year

that the children love to celebrate. We began by decorating our class Christmas tree together. The children worked together to unpack the decorations and hang them on the tree, while also having a little dance to some Christmas music. It was lovely to see them share special decorations they came across with each other, and our decorated tree is a product of everyone's hard work on it.

In the spirit of giving and sharing our love at Christmas time we have set up our writing area as a space for the children to write cards to one another, and to their families. We have words there that they can copy onto their cards or they can draw a beautiful picture. Our craft trolley is also set up for present creations with lots of Christmas themed items added to it so that the children can make an individual, creative present for others and to decorate their home.

We had our annual excursion to Splash 'n Dunk at Mission Beach. This is always a lovely, fun time to spend together and tied in nicely with our explorations of our Community, as the children looked out of the bus window on the trip to Mission Beach and talked about what they were seeing and all the things they know in their community. Thank you to the parents that came along and helped supervise.

Don't forget the timetable for our last two weeks of Kindy.

- ♦ **Friday 26th** – Pre Kinder come and play morning 8:45am – 10:45am.
- ♦ **Tuesday 30th** – Playgroup/Kindy/Prep/Year 1 combined Christmas Party! Please see the invitation for details on what to bring! 1:00pm – 3:00pm.
- ♦ **Thursday 2nd** – Our last day of Kindy! Graduation/goodbye event 1:45pm – 3:00pm.

Enquires call: 42 52 5755

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

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

Merry Christmas and Happy holidays!
Ms Cheryl and Mrs Greco





Happy holidays to all families!



Christmas Prayer for Families

Loving God,

During this holy season of Christmas, we ask for your blessing on all families.

Let Mary's openness to your wondrous ways be an inspiration to place all trust in you.

Let Joseph's courage provide hope during times of anxiety and uncertainty.

Let Jesus' life ignite all families with a spirit of light and love.

May the grace that encircled the Holy Family widen to embrace all families.

For this we pray.

Amen.

Share Catholic
www.sharecatholic.com



*School
resumes
Tuesday 25th
January 2022*



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve - 24th December

Innisfail Vigil: 6:30pm

Midnight Mass (Christmas Carols 11:30pm)

Silkwood Vigil: 6:00pm

Tully: 6:00pm

Christmas Day - Saturday 25th December

Sth Johnstone: 7:00am

Mission Beach: 7:00am

Babinda: 8:00am

Innisfail: 9:00am

Cardwell: 9:30am

El Arish: 10:00am

Sunday 26th December -

Feast of the Holy Family

Babinda 7:00am

Mourilyan 7:00am

Innisfail: 9:00am

El Arish: 10:00am



Silkwood & El Arish Parish Christmas GATHERING

Saturday 27th November

Please bring a meal to share

Tea and Coffee provided

Time: Following 6pm Mass

St Alfio's Hall Silkwood

(Air conditioned)