



# St John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



*"Small steps in the right direction can turn out to be the biggest step of your life!" anon.*

Term 4 Week 5 – 2nd November, 2022

Dear Parents,

This week we **welcome Mr Darcy Hermann** to St John's. Darcy is currently studying to become a primary teacher at Australian Catholic University - Brisbane campus and is in his 3rd year of studies. He will be based in the Year 3/4 class.

**Thank you** for your messages of gratitude for World Teachers' Day. An important part of our Catholic Social Teaching is: *"Every child is made in the image and likeness of God."* Therefore, our kids deserve the very best from staff as exemplified by the Franciscan religious order that established this school. All who have gone before us, including present staff strive **"to offer every student a world class education enriched by their lived encounter with the Catholic faith"**.

In the second week of term we had Part 2 of our 5 year school review with experienced reviewer Mr David McNeale. Mr McNeale validated our processes and compliance measures. He commented, **"St. John's School lifted my spirit, and I am thrilled to say this is a great little school, a hidden gem, with a lot to be proud of as affirmations from parents, staff and students validate excellent operations and the togetherness of community."**

Outstanding areas identified in the 5 Year review include:

- ◆ Culture is welcoming
- ◆ Student focussed
- ◆ Genuine care for kids
- ◆ Commitment of staff
- ◆ Excellent leadership which facilitates great respect and trust
- ◆ Excellent communication to all stakeholders
- ◆ Positive student behaviour where all staff are responsible for behaviour
- ◆ All parents, staff and students have a voice and are heard with excellent follow up from teachers and leadership

5 Year commendations (areas of excellence) include:

- ◆ *The embedding of Catholic values and beliefs as evidenced in documentation, in decision making, iconography, and in the behaviour and language.*
- ◆ *The development and embedding of a school culture in which all community members are committed to supporting each other.*

Finally, **memorable moments** were created with our Year 3/4 day excursion joining our sister school Good Counsel Primary for a Shakespeare performance by the Sydney based theatre company, Bell Shakespeare. We also had a **fabulous time** making new friends, playing sport and analysing our competition for the GOOD COUNSEL v ST JOHN'S chess competition! (Mr Russell came over for a visit too.)

**Thank you** to the many helpers at the swimming carnival - an awesome day! Well done to our Prep/1 students who shone on Saturday night playing host at the Saturday night Mass in Silkwood.

Looking forward to a SENSATIONAL end of year. Ensure to mark dates in your calendar and for new families, please ring office if unsure of details.

Regards, Mrs Peta Bryan, Principal.

*Always Reaching For New Heights* 



## Diary Dates

### Friday 4th November

- ◆ Lamington orders due

### Monday 5th November

- ◆ P&F mtg / Book Fair

### Wednesday 9th November

- ◆ Pic up lamingtons

### Friday 11th November

- ◆ Book Week dress up

### Friday 18th November

- ◆ Billy Slater League Tag

### Thursday 24th November

- ◆ Chess Championship at Good Counsel
- ◆ Graduation Dinner

### Friday 25th November

- ◆ Special Award Assembly 8:35am
- ◆ Pre-Prep transition & Bump-up morning

### Monday 28th November

- ◆ P&F Reading rewards shop

### Tuesday 29th November

- ◆ Kindy/Prep/Year 1 Christmas party 9am
- ◆ Music Concert with Miss Natasha

### Wednesday 30th November

- ◆ End of Year Mass 9am
- ◆ P&F Thank you morning tea 10:15am

### Thursday 1st December

- ◆ Christmas Concert 9am
- ◆ Handball Grand Final

### Friday 2nd December

- ◆ School concludes 12pm

## CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: 07 4065 9530

Mobile: 0418 888 672

Harold St, Silkwood, Q. 4856

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

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



## Religious Education News

Two very significant days are celebrated in November. **All Saints' Day (1st November)** – in which we recognise all those who have been recognised Saints, both officially and unofficially.

We also recognise our own calling to be

saintlike in our words and actions to

others. **All Souls' Day (2nd November)**

is also significant where we pray for all who have passed from this world.

### Eternal Rest Prayer for the Dead

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

*May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*



Many thanks to everyone who have supported Catholic Missions and our Soctober appeal last week, through the purchase of icy cups or contributing directly to the website. To contribute:



[www.socktober.org.au/fundraisers/stjohnsschoolsilkwood](http://www.socktober.org.au/fundraisers/stjohnsschoolsilkwood)



Believe it or not Christmas is just around the corner, so we now begin working to support those in need in our communities through

our Annual St Vincent de Paul **Christmas Hamper Appeal**. Our Justice Squad will be **accepting donations of tinned food, Christmas items and toiletries**. All goods need to be non-perishable and not out of date. These can be brought in directly to classrooms and placed in our hamper baskets.

Father Kerry Crowley led our Prep/Year 1 School & Parish Mass on Saturday night. He was **very impressed with the children's reading and participation** in the Mass. Many thanks to all families who supported this very real sacramental experience.

## Interhouse Swimming Carnival

Wow! What a fantastic day of swimming fun. Congratulations to all students who participated to support and earn points for their house. MacKillop House was successful in taking out the points trophy whilst the War Cry Trophy was tied between the two houses. Our Age Champions and "Super Effort" ribbon winners are as follows:

5 Years - **Harlee (SE), Piper (SE), Alessia (SE), Cody**

6 Years - **Tess, Rhyder (SE)**

7 Years - **Charlotte, Tyler**

8 Years - **Emily P, Baylen**

9 Years - **Tilly, Taj, Ashly**

10 Years - **Audrey, Zack**

11 Years - **Scarlett, Max**

12 Years - **Finn E**

(Swimming photos are displayed on the back page)



## Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to students (and parents) for the awesome

effort on completing this year's

Premier's Challenge! Your efforts have definitely paid off with the Qld Government sending St. John's School a **\$300 book voucher from Booktopia** for completing this challenge with merit. Well done families!



Next Friday, 11th November is **Remembrance Day**. On this day we remember the courageous men and women who gave their lives in wartime and peace keeping duties. As we remember the lives that have been lost, let us **pray for a world of peace and tolerance, where our differences are not a threat that have to be conquered**, but rather a gateway to extraordinary possibilities.

### The Ode

They shall grow not old,  
As we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.

## P & F News

**Thank you** to the parents of St John's who work collaboratively with staff to support the school in many ways. Our term 4 lamington drive fundraiser will be raising vital funds that will go towards soft furnishings for our new Nature Play space. **Final orders for the lamington drive are due this Friday 4th November** with the working bee scheduled for Wednesday 9th November. As always, **St John's is extremely thankful for those who volunteer their time to support the needs of the school.**

## Day for Daniel

Last Friday we stopped to remember Daniel Morcombe. This day is a time for all - parents, carers and educators to **have a conversation about personal safety and educate all children on child safety issues.**

Visit [www.danielmorcombe.com.au](http://www.danielmorcombe.com.au) for more information.



## Book Fair is here next week!.....

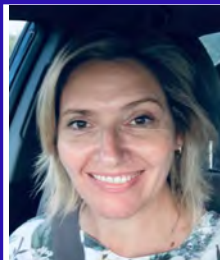
The theme this year is **"Dreaming with eyes open"**. Book Fair commences next Monday in the school hall and will be on display all week. This is always a great opportunity to shop for Christmas gifts for the kids. Students will visit the Fair with their classes. Parent times to visit the Fair will be available on next week's Parent Flyer. Friday is Dress Up Day.

## Uniform Dates

Uniform dates for our pre-prep and existing families are:

- ◆ **Thursday 1st December 8am to 9am**
- ◆ **Friday 20th January, 9am to 11am**
- ◆ **Tuesday 24th January, 8:30am to 9:30am**





## From your School Counsellor.....Miss Jo.

### Transition Preparedness

Primary and Secondary schools are preparing for new entrants by offering student transition days and parent information sessions. Now is the time to be attending these sessions, enrolling and preparing your child for this unavoidable transition.



Triple P Founder, Matt Sanders, tells us that the move from primary to secondary school can be a big scary step for many kids (and parents). It marks the transition from childhood to adolescence and heralds the teenage years. While some children might be excited about going to secondary school, it's common for them to also feel apprehensive. The unknown can be daunting – things like a new and bigger school, new teachers and new friends can play on kids' minds.



It's important to be aware of what they might be worried about so you can talk about it and, together, come up with solutions or strategies to cope. As a parent it's totally normal to feel the same excitement or apprehension as your child. But it won't take long for your child to adjust and you'll wonder what you were ever worried about. But as a rule of thumb – kids are less anxious about big changes when their parents are confident in their ability to rise to the occasion. So if you seem calm and confident in them, they will pick up on that.

You can help make transition easier by being involved in the preparations but give them space once they are there. Take an interest in your child's day and find out about the school's standards and expectations for things like homework and uniforms. But don't do everything for them. It's important to establish a good homework routine. A good example is: come home from school, have an afternoon snack, and then do homework (before playing or watching TV). At the same time it's good for kids to have a school-life balance that includes things like sport, music and arts. Everyone will be happier for it.

Parenting Tip: If your child has an older sibling at the school that older sibling will have protective instincts. But it's important for the younger sibling to learn to stand on their own feet. Only ask older siblings to keep an eye out for younger siblings if you think something is wrong.

For further information or support, please speak with your class teacher or counsellor.

Warm regards, Miss Jo

## Kindy News

Our term is flying by with lots of fun and learning taking place. Over the last few weeks we have had a visit by the Ambulance. Our Kindergarten group

consistently enjoy medical role play in our dramatic play area, and having Brian the paramedic visit was a great way to extend on their knowledge, discuss ways to keep safe and to explore the Ambulance vehicle. This visit will help the children become comfortable with Paramedics and the Ambulance so in the event that they do need help they feel confident and comfortable.



We have been talking about the transition for some of us to Prep next year and discussing what the children know about school and what they want to know. The children know that at 'big school' they must listen to the teachers, do work like the ABC, they will use an iPad, they will have homework and they'll do craft and play! Some questions that have arisen have been if they can play soccer, can they bring a birthday cake and what will they do all day? We will ask our buddies in Prep/1 these questions next time we meet up. Our visits and discussions are aimed at helping the transition to school to be as easy as possible!



We have just seen the announcement by the government called 'Kindy for all' which is a new funding scheme with the aim to make Kindergarten affordable for all. There is an online calculator you can use to see how this will affect your Kindergarten fees on the Queensland Government website – look for Kindy Savings, or email Kindergarten for the link. Families that are returning to Kindergarten in 2023 please re-enrol on our OWNA app! It is a simple process of checking your emergency contacts and permissions. Ms Cheryl and Mrs Greco

2023  
Kindergarten  
Enrolments



Enquires call: 42 52 5755

Email: [kindy.silkwood@cclc.catholic.org.au](mailto:kindy.silkwood@cclc.catholic.org.au)

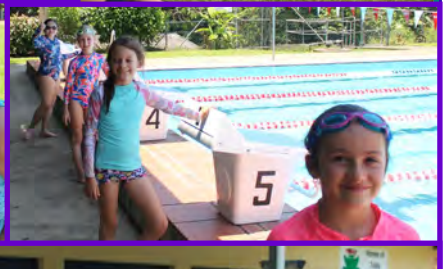
Web: [www.cclc.catholic.org.au/community-kindergarten-silkwood/](http://www.cclc.catholic.org.au/community-kindergarten-silkwood/)







Year 3/4 Excursion



Interhouse Swimming Carnival



## DID YOU KNOW?

That 100% of parents agreed: **"At St John's School (Silkwood), each child is encouraged to achieve to the best of their ability."**

**Enrol Now For 2023**

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

