



# St John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



*"If you want to live a happy life, tie it to a goal,  
not people or things!" Albert Einstein*

**Term 1 Week 4 – 15th February, 2023**

Dear Parents,

Thank you to parents for attending the Parent Information sessions last week. At St John's, we recognised parents as the first teachers of their children, an understanding of how your child's classroom operates and the expectations around behaviour, class learning, homework and reading will enable you to set your child up for success at school. Our teachers pride themselves on building strong partnerships with parents and I encourage you to communicate with them. Teachers can be contacted via email, or by leaving a message at the office. We look forward to Parent/Teacher Interviews in Weeks 9 & 10 of this term when you will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress.

In Week 2, I had the privilege of listening to the Year 6 students as they delivered their leadership speeches. I was beyond impressed with the standard of the speeches and the delivery of them. The speeches were clear and well-paced, and their stance communicated confidence. All students are to be congratulated for their efforts and willingness to put themselves forward for a captain role. I acknowledge the elected captains: **Max** (School Captain), **Tayla** (Vice School Captain), **Clayton** (MacKillop House Captain), **Scarlett** (MacKillop Vice House Captain), **Sean** (Francis House Captain) and **Jake** (Francis Vice House Captain).

The committee members for our 2023 Justice Squad have also been announced. For this committee, students nominated themselves and Mrs DeBrincat, Mrs deBuck and I appoint them to positions. I congratulate **Audrey** (President), **Ned** (Vice President), **Luke** (Treasurer), **Claire** and **Noori** (Fundraising Officers) and **Oakley** and **Billy** (Committee Members).

Last Wednesday, we joined as a school community for our Opening School Mass and Commissioning of our school leaders. The celebration brought me great joy. The reverence and participation of all students was a strong indicator of the importance of the event. I thank the parents and parishioners who joined us for the Mass.

Congratulations to Oakley (Year 6), who was selected in the Cassowary Coast District Cricket team. Good luck Oakley in the Peninsula trials being held on Sunday and Monday.

I look forward to the **Year 5/6 students hosting our School/Parish Mass on Saturday evening at 6:00pm**. This Mass will be an extra special celebration as **Mrs Parisi** is received in **Full Communion with the Catholic Church**. Mrs Parisi has been working towards this for many years and it has been humbling to be a part of her spiritual journey. I know that her reception taking place at a combined school and parish event means a lot to her. I hope you are able to join the celebrations. We will have a cuppa and shared supper following the Mass. Please bring a plate. I look forward to seeing you there.

May God's blessings be with you,  
Linda Gaia,  
Acting Principal.

*Always Reaching For New Heights* 



## Diary Dates

**Wednesday 15th  
February**

- ◆ Playgroup at Kindy

**Thursday 16th  
February**

- ◆ School assembly in the hall at 2:15pm

**Friday 17th February**

- ◆ Netball and Rugby League carnival in Tully Class 4-6

**Saturday 18th February**

- ◆ School/Parish Mass at 6pm followed by a shared supper

**Tuesday 21st February**

- ◆ Pancake Tuesday

**Wednesday 22nd  
February**

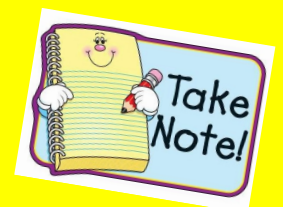
- ◆ Ash Wednesday Mass 9:00am
- ◆ Playgroup at Kindy

**Monday 27th February**

- ◆ P&F AGM 1:00pm followed by general mtg

**Wednesday 1st March**

- ◆ Innisfail Sports Spectacular Class 4-6



## CONTACT DETAILS

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Mobile: 0418 888 672

Harold St, Silkwood, Q. 4856

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



Dear Parents and Caregivers,  
**Lent**

Next week we are beginning the Church's Lenten season. Students will enjoy pancakes on Tuesday, and we will have a Mass on Ash Wednesday (22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023). At the Mass, students will receive the ashes as a sign of the cross on their foreheads, as a reminder to turn our hearts towards God.



### **Project Compassion**

Each year, Lent offers us the opportunity to share what we have with those who have less. At St John's, we work together to support Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. This is a major fundraising project for our school. Money raised for Project Compassion allows Caritas Australia to work with communities locally and around the world to **alleviate poverty, hunger, oppression and injustice for future generations**.

Each family will receive a donation box for home. Consider popping your loose change in the box at the end of each week. Every little bit helps. The donation box can be returned at the end of this term or as soon as you are ready to send it in to the office. If you would like more information about this project, see <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/>



### **Sacramental Program**

A reminder that the **Sacramental Program** is due to commence this term, and this is specifically for all children in Grade 4 and above. Please telephone the school or email me to enrol your child in this the program and please spread the word to others in our parish community who may be interested. ([ddaly@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ddaly@cns.catholic.edu.au)).

*Debbie Daly, Acting APRE*

### **Interhouse Cross Country**

The date is set! **Friday 31st March** (last day of this term) has been marked for our Interhouse Cross Country Carnival. Students will be competing for a points and war-cry trophy for their respective houses. Now is the time to begin training, to build up stamina.

### **Tuckshop**

Can you spare a few hours once or twice a term? The tuckshop requires two people every Friday morning to operate. **Call the school office** on 4065 9530 to put your name on the tuckshop roster. The kids love to see their parents at school.

### **P & F 2023 AGM**

A reminder that our **AGM is planned for Monday afternoon, 27th February in the school library at 1:00pm**. This will be followed by a general meeting.

### **School Fees**

Term 1 school fees have been generated and emailed out on Monday to all families. Fees are due on or before Monday 27th February. They incorporate the cost of student backpacks and student textbooks that were distributed to students at the beginning of this term. Fees can be paid by EFT, Bpay, direct debit, cash or cheque. The direct debit option where fees are split into weekly, fortnightly or monthly amounts is most popular amongst families. For more information on this option, please call Vera on 4065 9530.



All Catholic School Parents/Carers & School staff, please join us for a **FREE WEBINAR** on **Thursday 23 February | 7PM - 8PM**



**ROBYN ROSENGRAVE**

Director, Department of Education and Training Curriculum, Teaching, Leadership, Rural and Remote

Robyn is an experienced educator who will give an overview of what is in this curriculum and guide us through the 'Respectful Relationships Education Hub' website, particularly what is available for parents. For example 'The importance of respect' and 'Talking to your child about respectful relationships, consent and sexuality'.

Click on the link to register:

<https://www.eventcreate.com/e/respectful-relationships>

*Birthdays*

*Charlotte D, Clayton,  
Oakley, Audrey*



## **Second Step Awards**

The social-emotional well-being of all St John's students is a high priority. Each week, **student learn skills** to help them get along with peers, manage emotions, and succeed in school and throughout their lives. Students who display these skills are recognised through our second step awards.

**Prep - Kelsea, Gianah**

**Year 1/2 - Ruby, Mila**

**Year 3/4 - Emily P, Mylinda**

**Year 5/6 - Max, Clayton**



**YOU ARE A  
second  
step  
SUPERSTAR!**



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

### KIDS NEED BOUNDARIES – by Professor Matt Sanders

Many parents today are confused about how to discipline their children, or even whether or not they should! But children need discipline, just like adults need rules and boundaries so that society can function smoothly.

Good discipline is simply about **helping children** learn that their behaviour leads to consistent consequences that are always enforced within a predictable, loving environment. It's important that parents are empowered to make informed decisions about raising their kids, and what values and beliefs they want their children to grow up with.

We now know that the most effective method of changing children's behaviour is to be more "pro social" with your children by **changing the ratio of negative and positive attention**, shifting the balance toward more positives. Give children much more positive attention for the things they do right and teach them the skills to handle difficult situations in appropriate ways. For example, if your children are fighting over a toy, instead of just telling them to stop fighting, teach them about the importance of sharing and then show them how to go about sharing.

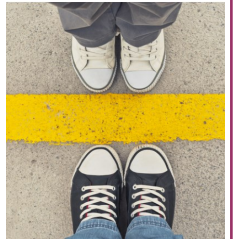
And what if a child is testing the limits by deliberately breaking the rules or refusing to cooperate? As a clinical psychologist specialising in family concerns, and a parent and grandparent myself, the best single piece of advice I can give is to always try and remain calm. Don't let things escalate into a full-scale battle of wills between child and parent.

Plan ahead. Discipline for children must involve clear, fair, age-appropriate rules and consequences carried out in a predictable way, within an environment that's generally positive. And you have to be consistent. It's no good changing tactics one day because you don't feel up to the challenge.

When your child breaks a rule they know about, there should be an effective consequence. Removing a favourite toy, cancelling a trip to the park, or turning off the TV or computer are all valid consequences of misbehaviour.

There are other strategies you can use too, in combination with the above. Research shows that parents attending Triple P Positive Parenting Program are much less likely to use smacking to discipline their children, are less stressed and more confident in their parenting. It's about giving parents practical, proven skills that lead to happier, healthier, more stable families.

For more information on local Triple P groups or online options, please contact your school counsellor Miss Jo.



## Kindy News

Did you know one of the strongest parts of our Kindergarten philosophy is **relationship building** with families and community, but most importantly with the children in our care? We know that when children feel safe, secure and comfortable in a space, they will explore and engage in play and learning opportunities, and develop skills as they do this. Part of our relationship building is helping our new Kindergarten friends to settle in.

While parting from mum, dad or grandma might be tricky for them, we know they will adjust to this new routine as our relationships strengthen. Generally, the children settle quickly and have happy days. If children do not settle, parents can be assured that we will contact them because this too, helps to build relationships.

Over the last few weeks, we have been exploring the Māori culture of New Zealand as Monday 6<sup>th</sup> was Waitangi Day. Over the year we will introduce various ways to say a greeting in different languages, so for this event, we learnt to say 'Kia Ora'. We also looked at traditional Māori woven cloaks called 'Korowai' and discussed how they were often worn by leaders who had an obligation to care for people and the environment. Over the week we worked together to craft a card and paper version of a Korowai which we will hang on our wall. At Kindy we are all responsible to look after ourselves, each other and our environment, and our beautifully crafted Korowai will serve as a reminder of this.

Next week on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> we welcome the St John's prep class for a visit. It is always exciting getting together with our prep

friends, and is a wonderful way to connect with the school. Once our Kindergarten class have settled in we will also plan visits to St John's.

*Ms Cheryl.*



**Kindy for all**

**Making kindy cheaper from 2023**

From 1 January 2023, the Queensland Government will introduce new kindy funding to give every child a great start. Kindy will be cheaper for many families and for some it could be free – it doesn't matter if your child attends a sessional kindy or a kindy program in a long day care.

**Find out how much you can save**

- 1 See if you're eligible for Kindy plus – Kindy may be free!
- 2 Are you receiving Family Tax Benefit? Kindy is cheaper!
- 3 Jump online to learn about kindy savings. Find your nearest kindy and confirm eligibility upon enrolment.

**Discover cheaper kindy!**

What is kindy and when can my child start?  
Kindergarten is a Queensland Government approved program for children who are at least four years of age by 30 June. The Queensland Government kindy funding is for children who attend a kindy program for at least 5 hours a week or 30 hours a fortnight over 40 weeks a year.



# Join us at Playgroup

Where: Community Kindergarten Silkwood  
 When: Every Wednesday (School Weeks)  
 Time: 9:00am to 11:00am



Please bring morning tea and a hat for your child/ren.  
 Coffee/tea provided for parents/carers.

For more information contact Vera / Helen: 4065 9530 or  
 the Kindergarten on: 42 52 5755

Share your experiences! Make new friends.

Have fun with your children!

Come Play!!



2023

TRANSFORMATION

MODE ON

Get fit // Have fun  
 St John's School Silkwood

Move + Groove Fitness Class  
 TUES 3:30-4:30PM

Adults \$10 / Kids join in FREE



Register Now!

**6-8 YEARS** Starts TERM 2 - Mon 24/4/23 4:30-5:20pm  
 8 Week Net Set Go Program • Girls & Boys

**9-10 YEARS** Monday's 4:00-5:20pm  
 Skills & modified game play • Girls & Boys  
 Individual registration - players placed in teams

**11-12 YEARS** Monday's 4:00-5:20pm  
 Skills & weekly fixtures • Girls & Boys  
 Individual registration - players placed in teams

**DIVISION 2** Monday's 5:30pm onwards  
 Social netball • Females high school+  
 Team nomination with Individual player registration

**DIVISION 1** Monday's 6:30pm onwards  
 Open netball • Females high school+  
 Team nomination with Individual player registration

6-8yrs Net Set Go \$110 Starts Monday 6/3/2023  
 9-17yrs \$160 Tully High School MPC  
 18+ yrs \$180 season ends 11/9/2023

Use your QLD Fair Play Vouchers with us!

Registration links and more info on Tully Netball Facebook page For more information contact tullynetball@hotmail.com



# COMMUNITY NEWS



SJF Club MEETING  
 6pm Wed 15th FEB 2023

All people, players, potential coaches or anyone with interest encouraged to attend.

# JOIN THE FUN AT TULLY ATHLETICS



AGES 5-16

Family, Fun & Fitness

# 2023 SIGN ON DAY!

WHEN: FRIDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY AT 3.30PM  
 WHERE: TULLY STATE HIGH SCHOOL OVAL (SOUTHERN END)  
 COME AND TRY! WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO COME ALONG AND HAVE A GO. THE FIRST TWO MEETS ARE FREE AND IF YOUR CHILD DECIDES TO JOIN, OUR REGISTRATION FEE IS ONLY \$100 FOR THE SEASON : MARCH - OCTOBER



# BACK TO SCHOOL LUNCH BOX IDEAS



A FREE WORKSHOP TO GIVE PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS THE KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE TO PROVIDE A HEALTHY AND FUN LUNCHBOX FOR THEIR CHILD.

Register for one of the following:

Thursday 16th February at 1pm to 2:30pm

Where: Community Support Centre Innisfail  
 13-17 Donald Street, Innisfail

Call 4043 8400 to Register



GET IN THE GAME

# COME & TRY AFL

SUNDAY  
 19th FEBRUARY 2023

AT CAZALYS FROM 9AM - 12PM BOYS & GIRLS FROM AGES 5 - 12



AFLCAIRNS.COM.AU Ph: 07 40423000

