



St John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



"We are not what we know, but what we are willing to learn!" Anon Term 2 Week 6 – 22nd May, 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have celebrated many incredible events over the past weeks, and they are a testament to the fantastic community that we are. I begin with the **Feast of the Three Saints**. The feast brings together many people from near and far in a celebration of faith and culture and, in my opinion, the best fireworks display in Australia. For our school community, we join together to serve the patrons of the feast. In doing so, we model to our children how communities work together and raise money to benefit all St John's students. On behalf of the P&F executive, I thank parents and staff members for their support at the feast and for pre-selling tickets in our much sought-after raffle.



Our **Mother's Day** morning was a wonderful community celebration. It was terrific to have so many mothers, and those who are like mothers to us, join us. I thank the students and staff for the part they took to ensure that all present enjoyed their morning. Many in attendance have thanked me; I assure you, it was **my absolute pleasure**. As I said on the morning, mothering is undoubtedly the most challenging job and those who are mothers or like mothers to us deserve to be honoured!

Last Friday, our Prep/Year 1/Year 2 students joined our Playgroup and Kindy friends to celebrate **Under 8's** day. Thank you to Miss Cheryl and her team for hosting the morning to the families of Silkwood and surrounding communities. This event is always well received by the children. Activities on offer were amazing and included face painting and decorating their own patty cake before eating it.

Earlier this year students in years 5 and 6, parents and staff participated in a survey to ascertain the Gospel Values that were most important to them. As a result **FAITH, COMMUNITY, COMPASSION**, and **RESPECT** will be the Gospel values that will guide teachings at St John's. Staff has begun creating a behaviour matrix guided by these values. This process creates a comprehensive framework to support the engagement of students and has proven to reap rewards in our sister and brother schools. We will begin unpacking the values with students next term.

Next week is **National Reconciliation Week**, a time for us to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. Please see overleaf for details about our whole school liturgy. St John's will pray for reconciliation as a school on Monday morning.

On a sad note, we have been informed that Father Hilary will not be returning to Silkwood to reside, (see insert). Father Hilary always asked after the students, especially in regard to their sporting endeavours and he was eager to join us for as many school events as his schedule would allow him. We will miss having him around. We are hoping to hold a formal farewell for him later in the year.

I hope to see you at the Parish/School Mass on Saturday night.

Peace be with you, Linda Gaia, Principal.

Diary Dates

Thursday 23rd May

- ♦ School photo day

Friday 24th May

- ♦ Assembly 8.45am Hall

Saturday 25th May

- ♦ Silkwood Parish Mass Hosted by Year 3/4

Monday 27th May

- ♦ National Reconciliation Week liturgy 8.45am

Tuesday 4th June

- ♦ State of Origin Game 1 - Wear blue or maroon

Thursday 6th June

- ♦ Reader's cup - selected students

Friday 7th June

- ♦ Assembly 8.45am Hall
- ♦ Feedback survey closes

Saturday 8th June

- ♦ Mass at Silkwood 6pm
- ♦ Mandubarra Community Awareness Day

Thursday 13th June

- ♦ Interhouse athletics 800m & ball games

Tuesday 18th June

- ♦ Interhouse athletics

CONTACT DETAILS

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www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au
www.facebook.com/StJohnsSilkwood

APRE News

Parish School Mass

Remember to come along to Mass this Saturday 25th May at 6pm. The Year 3/4 class will be hosting Mass and all families are welcome to attend. We will have a cuppa and a shared plate following Mass. Parish/School Masses are a great opportunity for us to come together as a community of faith and allow students to enjoy the experience.

This Mass is special as it coincides with the Feast of the Holy Trinity, a central belief for Catholics that our God is three parts comprising of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.



Reconciliation Week

Next week is National Reconciliation Week. To mark this event St John's will hold a liturgy at 8:45am on Monday morning in the hall. We would love parents to join us.

NAIDOC Week

This year NAIDOC Week falls on the first week of Term 3. We are currently in the process of organising an 'on country' experience with the Mandubarra rangers. More details to follow.

Deborah Daly – Assistant Principal Religious Education

Premier's Reading Challenge

This challenge has commenced, and all students have been registered on the Premier's Reading Challenge website. The challenge is an exciting opportunity to promote reading in our students. To complete the challenge students can read books they have at home, have borrowed from the library or even listened to online. Please remember to log any additional reading your child does on their reading challenge log.



Sports Update

Our Interhouse Athletics Carnival is coming up at the end of this term. On **Thursday 13th June**, 9 to 12 year olds will run their 800m race. This event will begin at 12:00pm. At 1:45pm, all students will gather for Ball Games. Students have been practising and are becoming very proficient at their games!

Our full day of sport will be on **Tuesday 18th June**, from 9:00am. The schedule for this day is as follows:

9:00am - 10:45am ~ Track events

11:15am - 1:15 pm ~ Field events

1:45pm - 2:15pm ~ Field events, continued

2:15pm - 2:45pm ~ Presentations

We look forward to welcoming family and friends.



After School Club

After School Club continues to grow in popularity. Students are engaged in a variety of activities including art, craft, sport, board games, card games, chess and STEM. It's also proven a life-saver for working parents that are grateful to have their children engaged and safe whilst they are completing their work day. After School Club operates Monday to Thursday 3pm to 5pm school weeks.

Note to Parents - "Watch Out - Cane Trains About"

The 2024 cane crushing season will commence next month and it's time to remind children about the dangers of playing on or near cane trains and tracks.

Remind your children to be aware, to stay safe and remember:

- ◆ Stay away from locomotives and cane bins.
- ◆ Don't play round railway lines.
- ◆ Never walk between cane bins.
- ◆ Never go onto a cane railway bridge.
- ◆ Never walk behind a train - the driver will not see you.
- ◆ If you have to cross the railway tracks, **STOP**, look both ways, **LISTEN** and only cross when it is safe.
- ◆ **OBEY** Flashing Light signals and Give Way signage at road crossings.



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

The rainy weather has been relentless and along with that comes an increase of inside activities. This can include prolong times on our screens. To support healthy screen management please find the below information shared by fellow School Counsellor Toni Icatone from St Josephs Primary School Atherton:



Screen time and technology - This is always a difficult topic in a world where children are growing up around screens. While most recommendations talk about maintaining healthy screen use. The Physical Activity and Exercise Guidelines for all Australians (Department of Health and Aged Care, 2021), suggest that children 5–17 year-olds should have **no more** than 2 hours screen time per day.

How screen time and digital technology use affects sleep - Your child needs enough good-quality sleep to play, learn, and concentrate.

Screen time and digital technology use **can affect how quickly your child falls asleep and how long your child sleeps**. This happens for several reasons:

- Screen time in the hour before bed can stimulate your child.
- [Blue light](#) from TV, computer, phones & tablets might suppress [melatonin](#) levels and delay sleepiness.
- Your child might be tempted to stay up late to chat to friends or play games.
- Your child might be disturbed in the night by notifications, messages, or calls.

Reducing the effects of screen time and digital technology use on sleep. Here are ways you can reduce the negative effects of screen time on your child's sleep:

- Avoid digital technology use in the hour before bedtime, including mobile phones, tablets, computer screens and TV. Encourage reading or quiet play instead.
- Limit & monitor violent content at any time of day as it can affect sleep.
- Encourage your child to connect with friends during the day rather than late in the evening.
- Encourage your child to replace daytime screen time with outdoor physical activity.
- Have a family rule that mobile phones and other devices are left in a family room overnight.

Warm regards, Miss Jo

Kindy News

The Festival of the Three Saints gives our Kindergarten group lots to think about and explore. While the festival was being set up, we learnt the story of the Three Saints and how the statues came to be here at Silkwood. From this story we created our own Three Saints book. We explored Italy and Sicily – creating beautiful collages inspired by the Italian flag and making some delicious fresh pasta. On our walk over to the school to see the Three Saints shrine we saw the volcano painted on the floor of the shrine, which led to some learning about volcanoes and how they work. Of course, we then had to create our own volcanoes in the sandpit and became scientists as we combined vinegar and bicarb soda to create the lava!

On Friday 17th of May we were so pleased to welcome our community into our Kinder for Under 8's day! We had school children, siblings and new friends from the wider community come in for a morning of cupcake decorating, face painting, dreamcatcher making and of course lots of play! Regards, Ms Cheryl and Mrs Greco

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



Under 8's Day



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COLOUR FRENZY'S COLOUR BLAST

Mourilyan Kindy Colour Blast
Sunday June 2nd
9:20am - Castor Park Mourilyan
<https://www.ticketebo.com.au/mkcolourblast>
Ticket sales close May 13th
Donation/Sponsor Link
<https://colourblast.com.au/sponsor-page/?event=SponsorPageMourilyanKindyColourBlast&child-id=MTcWNTU=>
Come and join us for some colour fun!!!
Enjoy a sausage sizzle and refreshments available on the day.
Phone: Mourilyan Kindy 4063 2485

play matters Affiliated

Join us at Playgroup
Where: Community Kindergarten Silkwood
When: Every Wednesday (School weeks)
Time: 9:00am to 11:00am
Tea/Coffee provided
Please bring morning tea for your child/en

COMMUNITY

Mandubarra Community Awareness Day
Saturday 8th June 2024
Cowley Beach Community Hall
1 Barakaaan Road, Cowley Beach, QLD 4871
10am - 2:30pm
Cultural Activities
BBQ Lunch Provided
All Welcome to attend

Promote Awareness of
TUMRA, LAND AND SEA RANGERS,
JUNIOR RANGERS, BIOSECURITY,
BIRDLIFE MONITORING,
SEA COUNTRY
CULTURAL VALUES,
TURTLE CAMPAIGN and much more...

EVERY FAMILY

ONLINE WORKSHOP!

DEVELOPING BEDTIME ROUTINES

This Triple P Positive Parenting Seminar covers:

- Learn strategies to prevent bedtime problems
- Meet and share ideas with other parents/carers about managing bedtime challenges
- Develop a plan for your family to foster good bedtime routines

Monday 3 June
10:00 - 11:30am
Online - ZOOM
FREE for families on the Cassowary Coast, Atherton Tablelands & Mareeba

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT KATE
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Find us on @EveryFamilyCassowaryCoast

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