



# St John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



*"You are never too old to set another goal or dream a new dream."* Les Brown, Author **Term 2 Week 10 – 19th June, 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday, great sportsmanship, stiff competition and ear-splitting war cries were on the menu for our Interhouse Athletics Carnival. **Congratulations to MacKillop Sports House**, taking out the overall championship. On carnival day, I always man the high jump station. It never ceases to amaze me how little bodies can bound so high. Congratulations to all students for their efforts in all the events. Of course, the excitement of sports day is amplified by the presence of parents and other family members. The attendance of parents at such events demonstrates the importance they place on education and attending school. Attending school events, research shows, can **positively impact your child's learning outcomes**.

I am very proud of the **academic progress** of our students. As the semester draws to a close, teachers have taken time to reflect on the past five months of learning and, using data collected, made balanced judgment on students' performance against the relevant achievement standards of the Australian Curriculum. Parents/carers are reminded that a "Sound" (Years 1-3) and a "C" (Years 4-6) indicates a student is meeting the expected outcome at their year level. Report cards will be released today. If you have any questions or concerns, make an appointment to meet with your child's teacher.

Yesterday, I received the results of the Feedback Survey and the results are **extremely pleasing**. Director of School Effectiveness, Mrs Lea Martin, who works closely with me, reiterated at a Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns director's meeting on Monday, **"St John's punches above it's weight"**. Next term, time will be spent examining this data closely to consider and implement changes for improvement.

Earlier this term, it was wonderful to receive the news that a new bishop has been appointed to the Cairns Diocese. **Bishop elect, Fr Joe Caddy** will be ordained later this year. We also received the news this week that **Mr Diarmuid O'Riordan** will replace Mr Bill Dixon as Executive Director of Catholic Education when Mr Dixon retires in December this year. Mr O'Riordan, who joins us from Brisbane, is no stranger to our diocese, having worked here from 2014 to 2016.

A line of **amazing events** are in the pipeline for Term 3. We will begin with an **On-Country experience** in Week 1 (see Mrs Daly's section overleaf), which will be closely followed by a day in Innisfail for **Catholic Education Week** in Week 3. We will also hold our **Dance night** towards the end of the term. For parents, Miss Jo will hold the Triple P - Positive Parenting program, **Fear-less**. Dates coming next term.

I wish you a happy and safe holiday. School resumes Monday, 8th July.

Peace be with you,  
Linda Gaia, Principal.



## Diary Dates

### Thursday 20th June

- ◆ Pick up pies

### Friday 21st June

- ◆ Assembly 8:45am
- ◆ Last day of term

### Saturday 22nd June

- ◆ Mass at Silkwood 6pm

### Monday 8th July

- ◆ Term 3 commences

### Tuesday 9th July

- ◆ NAIDOC on - country experience

### Friday 12th July

- ◆ Innisfail Show day holiday - Not St John's School

### Friday 19th July

- ◆ Cassowary Coast Southern Zone Athletics Carnival - selected students

### Sunday 21st July to Saturday 27th July

- ◆ Catholic Education Week

### Tuesday 23rd July

- ◆ Whole school at Catholic Education Week celebrations in Innisfail

### Friday 26th July

- ◆ Tully Show day holiday

## CONTACT DETAILS

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

## APRE News NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC Week is the first week of T3, which is very exciting for us, as normally NAIDOC week occurs during the holidays. We are in the process of organising an 'on country' experience with the Mandubarra Rangers at Cowley Beach for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July. The students will participate in a range of activities including a river tour, beach tour, art activities and spear throwing.



**Deborah Daly – Assistant Principal Religious Education**

## Catholic Education Week

Catholic Education Week will be held from 21-27 July 2024. The theme will be **Communities of Faith, Hope & Love**. The official launch event and presentation of the annual Spirit of Catholic Education Awards will be held in the Diocese of Cairns.

On Tuesday of Week 3, we will travel as a whole school to Innisfail to participate in the Catholic Education Week celebrations held at Good Counsel Primary School. This year, as a special treat, our P-4 students will enjoy an Andrew Chinn concert.



## Premier's Reading Challenge

This challenge is well underway, and the school holidays is a perfect opportunity for students to do some of the extra reading required to meet the challenge. They can re-read books they have at home, read online, or borrow from their local library. Remember to keep filling in the Premier's Reading Challenge log sheet.

**Deb Daly, Leader of Learning and Teaching**

## P & F Spotlight

Remember to collect your pies tomorrow afternoon at 2:40pm at school. Thank you to all families, parishioners and community members for supporting this fundraiser. Your support is greatly appreciated by our school.



# ST JOHN'S SCHOOL SILKWOOD

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After School Club is an invaluable initiative at St John's and operates Monday to Thursday 3pm to 5pm for our school families. It has 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 is a hub for well-being as children build invaluable relationships through play and working together.

**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/ren

For further details call Vera/Tammy on 40659530 or the Kindergarten on 42525755





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

As the end of term two approaches, students and families will be anticipating a well-earned break from a long 10-week term. Enjoy the cooler weather, sunshine and the health benefits from being outside. By now students will be familiar with the rhythm of school and a time of growth and confidence follows.



This is a great time to nurture independence.

Giving 'our little people' the gift of independence lets them know that we value them so that they grow up with a strong sense of self-belief that they can do anything they put their mind to. Not only does this help our children grow and develop, but it also fosters them to be confident and competent communicators, curious and resilient explorers, and creative thinkers.

### Independence is important because...

- ◆ It promotes confidence and self-esteem as well as motivation and perseverance in school.
- ◆ It fosters self-reliance, allowing your child to feel they have control over their life.
- ◆ It gives your child a sense of importance and belonging which is essential for building social relationships and for contributing to the world.
- ◆ It develops their levels of self-awareness and sensitivity towards others which teaches them to help those around them.
- ◆ It teaches them self-motivation as they have the freedom to find their own reasons to achieve.
- ◆ It provides them with the belief that they are competent and capable of taking care of themselves which makes them resilient to external challenges.
- ◆ It allows them to become good decision-makers as they have the freedom to consider various options before choosing the one they feel is best.
- ◆ It develops other vital qualities such as patience, concentration, self-help, cooperation, self-discipline and self-trust.
- ◆ It gives them the freedom to experience life fully and learn its many important lessons.
- ◆ It makes them happy and healthy as they feel a great sense of achievement and success as a direct result of their own actions.

So next time you are heading off or coming home, let them take charge, let them carry their own bag, put their own stuff away and watch their confidence grow from nurturing independence.

Wishing you a safe and happy two-week break.

*Warm regards, Miss Jo*

## Kindy News



Over the last few weeks our Kindergarten children have been engaging in science experiments.

Science is everywhere for Kindergarten children; they are investigators and explorers naturally in their play. We gave them a little more to think about with experiments based on colour mixing and the way that water moves along paper and plants. We set up and observed a 'walking water' experiment and successfully saw different coloured water move from one cup to another, up and along paper towel. The colours mixed and created new ones. We had some fun consolidating our learning by doing colour mixing craft where the children could experiment more independently. We then thought about how the water might move in a

similar way in plants, and set up the experiment again, this

time with white flowers. Before long the coloured water had again 'walked' up the plants and our flowers were changing colour. We used this knowledge as we worked in our vegetable garden and discussed how our herbs and vegetables grow.

We have also been learning very important lessons on feelings and how our actions or words can affect others. We use the book 'Have you filled a bucket today' and encouraged the children to think about the kind actions that they can do to help others feel good – the book calls this 'bucket filling'.

With the term break coming up, we hope everyone engages in some bucket filling fun with their children, and we look forward to seeing you all back for Term 3. Kindergarten starts back July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Regards, Ms Cheryl and Mrs Greco

**Enquires call: 42 52 5755 Mobile: 0439 924 736**

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







### Age Champions

- 5 year old girl—Skigh
- 5 year old boy—Matteo
- 6 year old girl—Rachael
- 6 year old boy—William
- 7 year old girl—Sarnoor
- 7 year old boy—Cody
- 8 year old girl—Isabelle
- 8 year old boy—Rhyder
- 9 year old girl—Charlotte
- 9 year old boy—Tyler
- 10 year old girl—Sophia
- 10 year old boy—Benson
- 11 year old girl—Porsha
- 11 year old boy—James
- 12 year old boy—Olly