



# St John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



*"To acquire knowledge, one must study;  
but to acquire wisdom, one must observe!" Anon*

**Term 3 Week 2 – 17th July, 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to term 3! It was wonderful to welcome the children back to school last week. We kicked week 1 off with an excursion to Kurrimine Beach for **NAIDOC Week**. We joined in many activities organised by the Mandubarra Rangers. Students enjoyed a beach walk where they learnt about the work the rangers do to protect native wildlife and vegetation. A river tour gave us an understanding of the importance of mangroves and some groups were lucky enough to see a croc sunning itself on the bank of the river. Spear throwing, a sea turtle game and art and craft activities were also on offer, and a sausage sizzle topped the day off. It was an amazing day enjoyed by students and staff alike. I am extremely grateful to **Miss Priscilla** and the **Mandubarra Rangers** for their efforts in ensuring the day was a success.

Today we had a visit from Harold and Sang, seminarians from Brisbane who are visiting our parish. Harold and Sang visited each class, sharing their stories and answering questions. I was proud of the **respect** the students showed Harold and Sang and of the **thoughtful questions** they asked. Thank you to Harold and Sang for taking the time to share with us.

The results of the **Feedback Survey**, available for parents, students and staff to complete in term 2, have been received. I am delighted by these. They are indicative of the dedication our school team has for the students in our care. We have a **shared focus** on providing the **best education opportunities** for our students. The survey results will be examined closely over the coming weeks to identify how we can make improvements in the future. Thank you to all who took the time to complete the survey.

We have a very special event in our parish on Saturday night as we celebrate **Father Hilary's 60-year ordination** and concurrently bid him **farewell**. Father Hilary has been in our parish since 2021 and has become a trusted friend to many. There will be a shared supper after the Mass on Saturday. Please join us for this celebration.

Next week is **Catholic Education Week**. Celebrated annually in week 3 of term 3, Catholic Education Week is an opportunity for Catholic schools to celebrate and promote their distinctive mission and ethos. This year, the official launch of Catholic Education Week will take place in Cairns with a Mass. Our school leaders, Wyatt and Olly, along with Mrs Daly and myself will travel to Cairns on Monday to attend this significant event. On Tuesday, all students will travel to Innisfail to celebrate Catholic Education Week along with St Clare's Tully, St Rita's South Johnstone, St Rita's Babinda, Good Counsel Primary School and Good Counsel College, Innisfail. This day is always much anticipated by students. Mrs Daly has written about the activities the children will engage in overleaf.

I wish the students competing in the **Cassowary Coast Southern Zone Athletics** carnival this week the very best of luck. I will be cheering for you all.

Peace be with you, Linda Gaia, Principal.



## Diary Dates

### Thursday 18th July

- ◆ Assembly 2:15pm
- ◆ 100 days of learning activities and celebration

### Friday 19th July

- ◆ Cassowary Coast Southern Zone Athletics Carnival - selected students

### Saturday 20th July

- ◆ Silkwood Parish Mass and supper for Fr. Hilary 6:00pm. Please bring a plate to share

### Tuesday 23rd July

- ◆ Catholic Education Week - whole school excursion to Innisfail

### Wednesday 24th July

- ◆ P & F meeting 6:00pm

### Friday 26th July

- ◆ Tully Show Day Holiday (School and Kindergarten closed)

### Friday 1st August

- ◆ Assembly 8.45am

### Saturday 3rd August

- ◆ Silkwood Parish School Mass hosted by P/1/2 followed by supper. Please bring a plate to share.

## CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: 07 4065 9530

Mobile: 0418 888 672

Harold St, Silkwood, Q. 4856

*Always Reaching For New Heights*



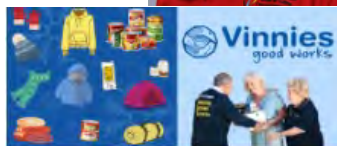
[www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au](http://www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au)  
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## APRE News

### Justice Squad - Winter appeal

The Justice Squad is collecting items to donate to St Vincent de Paul's Winter Appeal. Please send donations of clothing, blankets and non-perishable food items into the office, or students can put them into the collection boxes in each classroom.



### Parish School Mass

Please join us on Saturday 3rd August for our Parish School Mass which will be hosted by the P-2 class, assisted by some of our older students. We will have activities and a shared supper afterwards.

### Catholic Education Week

Catholic Education Week is next week. The theme is **Communities of Faith, Hope & Love**. We are looking forward to our day out in Innisfail on Tuesday. The day will commence with a Mass in Mother of Good Counsel Church, followed by activities at the primary school and an Andrew Chinn concert for P-4 while our 5/6 students experience a taste of what Good Counsel College is like.



### Science Week

This year, St John's will have a science theme for our assembly in Week 6. Classes will present what they have been learning - either during Science Week or something from their current unit. There will be no student dress up for Science Week.

### Book Week

Book Week this year is Week 7, and we will have a dress up day on Friday 23rd August. The theme is **"Reading is Magic"** which I'm sure will bring forth some fabulous costumes.



### Premier's Reading Challenge

This challenge concludes next month, so remember to keep filling in the Premier Reading Challenge log sheet please.

***Deborah Daly, APRE, Leader of Learning and Teacher***

**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

**ST JOHN'S SCHOOL SILKWOOD**

WITH ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY KINDERGARTEN ONSITE



**QUALITY, AFFORDABLE EDUCATION FOR YOUR CHILD**



Buses from Mission Beach, El Arish, Kurrimine Beach, Silkwood & Japoonvale



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www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au

## **After School Club Fun!**







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

### Encouraging Kids to Take the Perspective of Others

Most children are not renowned for empathy. When it comes to seeing another child's perspective or understanding their feelings, a very young child's ability to empathise is yet to develop. By the time they are at primary school, understanding that others have thoughts, perceptions and feelings that are separate from their own, along with the ability to explicitly infer these mental states in others, are important developmental milestones for kids to nurture. Researchers at the University of Western Australia undertook a study which found parents who more regularly take the cognitive (thinking) perspective of others are more likely to encourage their child to do the same, and this facilitates a child's ability to take the cognitive perspective of others. The development of cognitive empathy skills enables children to become more responsive to cues about the thoughts and feelings of others, and this heightened sensitivity facilitates sympathy, which motivates prosocial behaviour and positive relationships at school. Things you can do to foster empathy and prosocial skills:

- ◆ Discuss book or media stories as opportunities for kids to practise recognising the perspective of others— what do the characters in the story think, believe, want, or feel?
- ◆ Play games where you the parent pulls a face or acts in a certain way so that kids can identify and empathise with the emotion or body language being displayed. Then give the kids a turn and you do the guessing.
- ◆ Role model tolerance and acceptance of diversity.
- ◆ Talk about how beliefs, thoughts, desires, and emotions can motivate behaviour.
- ◆ Be selective with terminology when assessing inappropriate behaviour of others.
- ◆ Initiate discussions about other kids living with disadvantage and disability.
- ◆ Help your kids to understand that the world doesn't revolve around them – encourage chores and helping around the house.
- ◆ Encourage talk around the 'how would you feel' theme by helping kids discover what they have in common with other people. Encourage them to tell you how they would feel if they were that person being victimised, bullied, or ignored.
- ◆ Raise awareness of ways that kids can help other kids - simple acts of sharing, caring helping and co-operating.
- ◆ Help kids develop an A-Z of feeling words.

Farrant, et al., Infant and Child Development 21 : 175188 (2012).

For further information on nurturing empathy and prosocial skills with your children please refer to the You Can Do It parent newsletter which is available at the school office.

*Warm regards, Miss Jo*

## Kindy News

Welcome back to Kindergarten!



We look forward to another busy and fun term with our Kindergarten group. A term calendar has been emailed out to all families and added to our OWNA app. Please have a look at it and take note of the special things we are doing over the Term which include: two dress up days (Pajama day and Book Week); Science fun with St John's for Science Week; A Jitta Art visit and our Open Day for 2025 enrolments.

This Term we would love to have the children share their family cultures with us. If your family stems from a different country or if you have a special tradition or event you participate in, please let us know so we can incorporate it over the term. After meeting a very cute puppy with a Maori inspired name we are going to start off looking at the New Zealand culture. Ki Ora!



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

**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/)**

*Regards, Ms Cheryl and Mrs Greco*





# NAIDOC WEEK EXCURSION

## EVERY FAMILY CASSOWARY COAST

TERM 3, 2024 SCHEDULE

**Responding to Behaviour - ZOOM**  
Tuesday 23rd July 5:30pm - 7pm

**Bringing Up Great Kids - Innisfail**  
6x Mondays 29th July - 2nd Sept 9:30am - 11am

**Bringing Up Great Kids - ZOOM**  
6x Thursdays 1st August - 12th Sept 9:30am - 11am

**Bringing Up Great Kids First 1000 Days - ZOOM**  
3x Tuesdays 6th & 20th Aug & 3rd Sept 12noon - 2:30pm

**Under 8's Day - Tully**  
Wednesday 21st August 9am - 11am

**Little People Big Worries - ZOOM**  
Tuesday 6th August 10am - 11:30am

**Navigating Screen Time - ZOOM**  
Friday 16th August 1pm - 2:30pm

**Bedtime Routines - Cardwell**  
Tuesday 27th August 10am - 11:30am

Find us on @EveryFamilyCassowaryCoast

FREE FOR ALL PARENTS/CARERS WITH CHILDREN AGED 0-12

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL: 0488 321 605 KATE@VPGINC.COM.AU

An Australian Government funded children and parenting initiative by VPG

www.vpginc.com.au/everyfamily

### FREE Empowerment class for women in the Cassowary Coast

**ULYSSES TRAINING ROOM**

WHERE: 54 Bryant St Tully

WHEN: 4 Consecutive Saturdays in August  
3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th

TIME: 9am—10am

**ONLY 15 PLACES AVAILABLE**

WHAT TO BRING —loose clothing, sneakers, water bottle

Register your interest today!

Contact Maxine at the Tully Support Centre on 4068 1004 to book your place, or email your contact details to maxine@tullysupportcentre.com.au

## BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS

TERM 3 2024

**6 WEEK PROGRAM**

Thursdays August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 & Sept 12

9:30 - 11am

Online - zoom

**FREE** for families on the Cassowary Coast, Atherton Tablelands & Mareeba

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**  
Contact Kate to RSVP:  
 kate@vpginc.com.au  
 0488 321 605

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## COMMUNITY NEWS