



St John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you....yes it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand!- Mother Teresa

Term 4 Week 10
3rd December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our recent **disco** was amazing. We had a great turnout and the fluro outfits were very...well....fluro! The children danced non-stop. Their energy and enthusiasm were infectious. I'd like to give a special thank-you to Carmen Camilleri and Marie Speziali. These ladies were the drivers behind the disco and they did a great job. Thank you also to **Tully Sugar Mill**, who donated the very generous lucky door prizes. The winners of these prizes were very lucky.

Congratulations to our Chess team - Wyatt, Erin, Tilly and Taj - who brought home the champions trophy last Monday. These students competed against students from St Rita's South Johnstone and, while they were formidable opponents, St John's had the goods to bring the trophy home. Thank you to Miss Tammy for helping our students refine their chess skills during lunch breaks and for being with them on competition day. Thank you also to Mrs Belbin and to Graham, Wyatt's granddad, who both gave of their time to share their expertise.

What a magnificent morning we had at our **Christmas Concert** last Thursday morning. The students performed "**Straw and Order**", set in a courtroom in the middle of Bethlehem. The plaintiff were disgruntled cows who feel pushed out of their stable and want it back. The defendant were donkeys accused of inviting over a host of people, including a baby. Judge Grumps encountered bickering innkeepers, self-important wise men, cool shepherds, some dancing sheep and a spectacular angel choir. When the judge visited the stable and laid eyes on Jesus, he is was humbled. The cows and donkeys become aware of the peace and love this special baby brought to the world. This play was an absolute crowd pleaser.

With the school year drawing to an end, it is time to farewell our Year 6 students: **Wyatt, Olly, Elfie and Charlotte** as they move onto secondary school next year. We formally farewelled the Year 6 students at our End-of-Year/Graduation Mass yesterday morning, then at Graduation Dinner last night where they were joined by their parents and staff. We wish our graduates the very best for the future. We also farewell the Jensen family who will be leaving our school community. I remind you all that, although you are journeying to a new school, you are always welcome at St John's.

Tomorrow, we will have our **swimming carnival** as a culmination to our water confidence lessons. Held at the Tully pool from 9:30am to 2:00pm, all families are welcome to come along and cheer our swimmers on. Thank you to our P&F for providing a sausage sizzle on the day.

In 2025, our **class structure** will continue as it has been this year. Mrs Parisi and Mrs deBuck will continue in Prep/1/2, Mrs Daly in 3/4 and Miss Bruschi in 5/6. Mrs Williamson will teach one day in Year 5/6, however she will be taking leave for Term 1 and a replacement is being sought. Mrs Vujcich has resigned from her position at St John's, but I'm sure we will see her back as a relief teacher. A position for two days a week to co-teach with Mrs Daly is yet to be filled. I am confident this will be filled by the end of the year and parents will be notified when this occurs.

As the year draws to a close, I wish to express my **heartfelt gratitude** to all who have made 2024 a wonderful success: students, staff, parents and community members. I **wish you all a blessed Christmas**, and look forward to seeing in in the New Year.

Peace be with you, Linda Gaia, Principal.

Always Reaching For New Heights



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



Diary Dates

Tuesday 3rd December

- ◆ Bump up morning 9am
- ◆ Reading Rewards 2pm

Wednesday 4th December

- ◆ Whole school swimming carnival

Thursday 5th December

- ◆ Uniform Shop open 9am to 10:30am

Friday 6th December

- ◆ Handball Competition
- ◆ School concludes at 12:00noon.

Friday 24th January, 2025

- ◆ Uniform Shop Open 9am to 11am

Tuesday 28th January

- ◆ Pupil Free Day

Wednesday 29th January

- ◆ Term 1 commences for all students

The best gift

AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE



is the presence of
FAMILY
wrapped in love

CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: 07 4065 9530

Mobile: 0418 888 672

Harold St, Silkwood, Q. 4856

APRE News

Although the word "Christmas" is never used in scripture, the word itself means "Christ's Mass," a day (and season) to remember the birth of Jesus. When we look at typical artwork of the birth of Jesus it is interesting to know that this scene is a combination of two different stories. Only the Gospels of Matthew (1:18-2:23) and Luke (1:26-2:40) offer narratives regarding the birth of Jesus, and when we compare these two stories, we can clearly see they are written with a different purpose in mind. We most often, at Christmas, read the story of Jesus' birth from the Gospel of Luke. In that account we encounter Mary and Joseph, the trip to Bethlehem, the manger scene, and the angels and shepherds. Only in the Gospel of Matthew do we find the Magi (Wisemen/Kings) who followed the star.

Matthew's Gospel has an emphasis on Jesus' ancestry and reflects his desire to show Jesus as the fulfillment of Israel's story. He highlights Jesus as the new David with his birthplace in Bethlehem and his links as a direct descendent. Joseph hears from angels through Old Testament prophecies that are shown to be fulfilled in Jesus. Indeed the whole account is littered with references to the Old Testament, again highlighting Jesus' Jewish roots. By contrast Luke's focus is on showing how Jesus is different from John the Baptist. The author goes to great pains to explain John's identity as one *'to make ready a people prepared for the Lord'* and a *'prophet of the Most High'*. This is pointedly contrasted to Jesus who *'will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High'*. The shepherds are told a *'Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord'*. If readers are still in any doubt of Jesus' identity, Luke finishes his nativity account with the visit to Simeon who described Jesus as God's *'salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations'*.

Like all authors, Matthew and Luke wrote with specific purposes and audiences in mind. Each wanted to tell Jesus' story in his own way - to highlight themes of Jesus' ministry, and to emphasise parallels between Jesus' ministry and Old Testament history. Thus, the Christmas story as we know it is not to be taken literally but to be regarded as a sacred myth, explaining who Jesus was for people at that time.

I wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and on behalf of the Justice Squad I would like to thank all families for their generous donations to our fundraising efforts this year.

Deborah Daly,
APRE, Leader of
Learning and
Teacher



Interschool Chess Winners

Congratulations to **Erin, Tilly, Taj, and Wyatt** for bringing home our Interschool Chess trophy for another year! These four students had stiff competition against St Rita's, South Johnstone, however they managed to come out victorious!



Congratulations Academic Award Recipients!



Congratulations
to Wyatt for
being awarded
the Senior
Academic
Excellence
Award 2024



Kindy News

As we near the end of our Kindergarten year we want to say

how much we have enjoyed the year with this confident, physical, engaged group of Kindergarten children. We wish those who are moving onto primary school next year all the best. We know you will all do amazing things.

We have started celebrating the end of the year with lots of Christmas fun happening in our Kindergarten. Decorations, songs and crafts – Kindy is in the Christmas spirit!

We have just been on our end of year excursion to the Splash Pad. As always this was a really enjoyable morning – from the bus ride to and from Mission Beach, to the fun had at the water park. Thank you to the families who could attend with us, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

To finish off the year we had the St John's and Kindergarten combined Christmas Party last Friday. On our very last day of Kindergarten, Thursday 5th December, we will celebrate with our Graduation party. This commences at 1:45pm and includes the children performing a few songs, watching memories of their year together and sharing a last afternoon tea. Have a safe and merry Christmas.

Regards, Ms Cheryl and Mrs Greco



Enquires call: 42 52 5755 Mobile: 0439 924 736

Email: kindy.silkwood@cclc.catholic.org.au

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



Supporting for young people and parents

COMMUNITY NEWS

Confidential Helplines, Webchats, & other useful stuff

Child and Youth Mental Health Service : CYMHS

Cairns 4228 2700 Atherton 4091 0213 Mareeba 40929171 Innisfail 4016 1327

1300 MH CALL 1300 64 2255

24 hour specialist mental health care and access to acute phone support

 Support and advice in a personal crisis (all ages) 13 11 14 www.lifeline.org.au	 To talk to someone about anything that's going on in your life (5 to 25 years) (24hrs 7 days) 1800 55 1800 www.kidshelpline.com.au	 Providing information and support for anxiety, depression and suicide prevention for everyone in Australia 1300 22 4636 www.beyondblue.org.au	 Support if you, or someone you know, is suicidal (15 years and over) 1300 65 94 67 1800 650 890	 A free confidential phone, webchat & messenger service for 12-25 year olds to access mental health support from 8.00am-12.00am, 7 days a week. 1800 650 890	 Focussing on supporting anyone who has been bereaved or impacted by suicide at any stage in their life 1300 727 247
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INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS

Australian Government Mobile Service Centre

Serving Regional Australia

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

Information about Department of Veterans' Affairs programs and support services for veterans and their families will also be available. Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

Thursday, 19 December 2024

9:00 am to 1:30 pm

Near Silkwood Hotel, Silkwood Japoon Road

SILKWOOD

For more information, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice



Australian Government Mobile Service Centre - Thursday 19th December 2024 - 9am to 1:30pm.

A mobile Service Centre will be visiting Silkwood and setting up near the Silkwood Hotel in Silkwood. Staff can assist people with Centrelink and Medicare payments and services. Information about Department of Veterans' Affairs programs and support services for veterans and their families is also available.

The Mobile service has disabled access and customer Wi-Fi to assist in creating myGov accounts and accessing online services. For more information visit Website: servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice

Wishing families a safe holiday with many Christmas blessings surrounded by those we love.
(Let us remember the true meaning of Christmas!)



Come join us ENROL ONLINE

FOR 2025



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

Continued school fee reductions for 2025
\$150/Term

www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au

QUALITY
AFFORDABLE
EDUCATION FOR
YOUR CHILD

Call 4065 9530



St John's is a **welcoming community** committed to providing **every student** with a **world class education** enriched by a **lived encounter with the Catholic faith**. We provide an environment which enables students to succeed now , for the future.

St John's is **affordable for all families!** Our **fees of \$150 per term in 2025**, will ensure all families wishing to access a Catholic Education will be catered for.

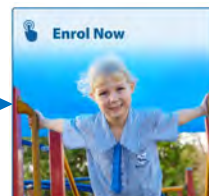
Buses collect children from Mission Beach, El Arish, Kurrimine Beach, Silkwood, No. 4 Branch and Walter Lever Estate areas.

Not Catholic? Don't worry, **you don't have to be Catholic to access a Catholic Education**.

Come in and see what St John's has to offer!

Call 4065 9530 or visit our website to complete an online enrolment.

Look for this button on
our website .



www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au/enrol

Silkwood Bowls Club

Goose Raffle

BBQ & Bowls Night

Friday 13th December 2024

BBQ \$12 / Bowls free

8pm Raffle Drawn

\$1 per ticket
available on the night

Please register your interest for catering purposes

Ph. 0475 759 808

NO EFTPOS Available

STARTS 6PM

Silkwood Clay target club together with
Silkwood Ambulance committee Presents

Silkwood Christmas Carols

Silkwood Clay Target Club

Sat 7th Dec
Gates open at 5pm
Santa 🎅 arrives at 6pm

Bring a
chair or a
rug

Food and drinks
available to
purchase
Cash only - No
EFTPOS

Christmas Mass Times 2024

Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24 December

Innisfail ~ Vigil 6.30pm;
Midnight Mass (Christmas Carols 11.30pm)

Silkwood ~ Vigil 6.00pm

**Christmas Day -
Wednesday 25 December**

South Johnstone ~ 7am; Babinda ~ 7am;
Innisfail ~ 9.00am; El Arish ~ 10am