



St John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



Never let the things you want make you forget the things you have!" — Sanchita Pandey

Term 1 Week 10 – 2nd April 2025

Dear community members,

Today, I must begin with a reflection of our amazing **Glow Show and Movie** night. What a wonderful success! The excitement was palpable all evening. The popcorn and lollies were a great crowd pleaser and when the lights went on for the Glow Show at the movie's intermission....WOW! The delight of children and adults alike was a joy to behold. I thank all in the school community who contributed to the success of the evening and to all for coming together and creating amazing memories.

Last week, Mrs Daly, Mrs Parisi and I engaged in a **DIBELS Data Analysis** professional learning day. We spent time deepening our understanding of how to act and respond to the data we collect through the reading screener. Analysing the data helps us identify what isn't working and what is working in our teaching instruction and therefore what we need to change and what we can keep doing. Our focus is always our students and improving their educational outcomes. It was pleasing to see much of what we are doing is working. We have a **strong support system** in place for students who find learning to read challenging. We also identified a change we can make to our instruction, and I look forward to working with teachers to ensure this becomes a regular feature of our newly implemented literacy blocks.

On Friday, our Year 6 students travelled to Good Counsel College for the Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns **Student Voice Forum**. The students, together with students from Good Counsel Primary, St Rita's South Johnstone and St Rita's Babinda discussed what it means to be a student in a Catholic school today and building positive student-teacher relationships. The diocese understands that students deserve to be represented in discussions and decisions and the forum allowed students to do this. In term 3, the students will have an opportunity to gather in Cairns with students from across the diocese for another forum.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the **Cross Country** today. Our preparation leading into the event was not ideal because of the persistent rain, but everyone gave it their best effort regardless. Results can be found overleaf. Selected students will represent St John's at the Cassowary Coast Cross Country early next term. Thank you to all who came along to support the children and make the event special for them.

Tomorrow, our Year 4 to 6 students will travel to Tully for a **Touch Football Gala Day**. I wish them a fun day and all the best in their games.

Earlier this term our Parents & Friends committee for 2025 was elected. I congratulate

Brett Gaia (President), **Kevin Tanti** (Vice President), **Tammy Faulks** (Secretary), and **Ainsley Tanti** (Treasurer), and thank them for leading the association. The committee have begun preparations for the **Feast of the Three Saints** raffle and food stall on **Sunday 4th May**. The feast is a great opportunity for parents and carers to work together to benefit all our students. Thank you to those who have already added their name to the roster. Community members looking to purchase raffle tickets can do so from a school family or by visiting the school office.

Finally, I wish you all a **safe holiday** and a **blessed Easter**. I look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday, 22nd April. Peace be with you,
Linda Gaia, Principal.



Diary Dates

Thursday 3rd April

- ◆ Touch Football carnival at Tully SHS

Friday 4th April

- ◆ Assembly and Easter Presentation
- ◆ Last Day of School

Tuesday 22nd April

- ◆ School Resumes

Friday 25th April

- ◆ ANZAC Day - St John's students marching at Kurrimine Beach

Wednesday 30th April

- ◆ Return raffle tickets

Thursday 1st May

- ◆ Andrew Chinn in concert

Friday 2nd May

- ◆ Cassowary Coast Cross Country

Sunday 4th May

- ◆ Viva St. Alfio! - Feast of the Three Saints celebrating 75 years!

Monday 5th May

- ◆ Labour Day holiday

Friday 9th May

- ◆ Mother's Day Morning Tea

Wednesday 21st May

- ◆ Simultaneous Story Time



CONTACT DETAILS

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Always Reaching For New Heights



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APRE News

Justice Squad News

This term the Justice Squad have been very busy raising money for Project Compassion. We sold pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, Green Pancakes & Green Frozie cups for St Patrick's Day and glow sticks at the Glow Show night. The Project Compassion boxes have been coming in and the library windows are rapidly becoming covered in water drops and taps to represent our total. Our fundraising efforts are focused on **helping to provide clean rain or bore water to those communities that otherwise must walk a long way to collect their water that is often contaminated.** Our Water Walk relay race on Cross Country day is a fun way to highlight how difficult it is to carry water a distance.

Easter Presentation

Our classes are very busy rehearsing for our Easter Presentation, and we look forward to our performance on Friday after assembly.

NAPLAN

This term, we were so impressed by our Year 3 and Year 5 students' attendance and effort during the NAPLAN testing period. We were very happy to get through this quickly and look forward to the results arriving.

Literacy Blocks

Our teachers have reported that daily Structured Literacy Blocks are progressing well in all classrooms. Every class has a set structure of differentiated learning which includes all element of English. The students benefit from routine and repetition as they continue to develop their literacy skills.

Have a wonderful Easter – God Bless

Deborah Daly, APRE. Leader of Learning & Teaching

Interhouse Cross Country Winner

Congratulations to the winning house **Mackillop**. They were also fortunate enough to take out the Warcry trophy as well. Well done Mackillop



Justice Squad raising funds for Project Compassion by selling green pancakes on St. Patrick's Day!



Project Compassion helps bring clean, safe water to people around the world.



Interhouse Cross Country Age Champions.

5 Year old girls: Michaela	5 Year old boys: Clancy
6 Year old girls: Ellie	6 Year old boys: Matteo
7 Year old girls: Kelsea	
8 Year old girls: Gianah	8 Year old boys: Jake
	9 Year old boys: Rhyder
10 Year old girls: Gabby	10 Year old boys: George
11 Year old girls: Erin	11 Year old boys: Benson
12 Year old girls: Porsha	12 Year old boys: James





From your School Counsellor.....

What a wonderful first term to 2025. Students have settled in well to the rhythm of learning and I watched with joy our older St John's student's role modelling respect, community and kindness at play yesterday with the younger

grades. The fun, laughter and sense of belonging was a beautiful witness. For those educators and parents who have engaged in relational professional development with me (Circle of Security), it was inspiring to see healthy connection in action; and that has stemmed from you – great work!

Wishing every family and educator joy and peace this Easter Break. I'll leave you with some attachment reminders from our Circle of Security learnings:

CONNECTED PARENTING THE BIG PICTURE



Always: be Bigger Stronger, Wiser and Kind
Whenever possible: Follow our children's need
Whenever necessary: Take charge

- ⇒ **If we want our kids to have good self-esteem:** Play together. Laugh together. Talk together. Love them unconditionally. Let them know they are special
- ⇒ **Be strong:** Recognise when they are upset, sad or angry. Help talk about and manage feelings together. Love them. Protect them.
- ⇒ **Be able to trust:** Set clear limits. Be committed. Be bigger, stronger, wiser and kind.
- ⇒ **And to show respect:** Listen to them. See things through their eyes and teach empathy.

(Cooper, Hoffman, Marvin and Powell, 2015)

Warm regards, Miss Jo Working Thursday and Fridays.

Kindy News

Over the last few weeks our Kindy group have explored real life situations in role play, which have supported development of early literacy and numeracy skills, as well as social interactions, relationship building and fine motor skills.

Our home corner was turned into a bustling shop, selling fruit, vegetables, eggs and marshmallows! The children had to take turns being the shopkeeper and the customers and showed their understanding of how shopping works as they asked; "What would you like from the shop today?", bagged up shopping items and exchanged money.

We have also had interest amongst the group in creating notes for one another, and so our writing/drawing area was enhanced to include letter writing and post provocations, with paper, envelopes, name cards and posting pockets with each child's name and photo on them. This has been another busy area with lots of writing and drawing occurring and lots of care taken to create notes for each other.

We would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to Mrs De Buck, Mrs Parisi, Mrs Zammit and the P/1/2 class for welcoming our Kindergarten group on Harmony Day. The Kindergarten children had a lot of fun coming over to the school for the morning and joining in with songs, activities and play.

We wish everyone a safe and fun two weeks break, and we will see you all back for Term 2 at Kindergarten on Tuesday 22nd April. *Regards, Ms Cheryl and Mrs Greco.*

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Glow Show and Movie Night



ST JOHN'S SCHOOL P&F RAFFLE 2025

Paronella Park

Capra

The Crystal Caves

birdworld kuranda

KOALA GARDEN

mamu tropical SKYWALK

BOAT & JETSKI LICENSING

HISTORIC VILLAGE

CAIRNS AQUARIUM

St John's P&F Association Raffle

1st Prize: Boat & Jet Ski Licensing P/W - Boat & Jet Ski License Value \$800

2nd Prize: Paronella Park Family Pass Value \$174

3rd Prize: Hartleys Creek Family Pass Value \$155.80

4th Prize: Herberton Historic Village Family Pass Value \$206

5th Prize: Kuranda Koala Gardens and Birdworld Family Pass Value \$109

6th Prize: Mamu Skywalk Family Pass Value \$94

7th Prize: Cairns Aquarium 1 adult & 1 child pass Value \$80

8th Prize: Wildlife Habitat Port Douglas Jambini & 1 child Value \$74

9th Prize: Crystal Caves Family Pass Value \$60

10th Prize: Sapore Di Italia Value \$45

PLUS other prizes from Mungali Biodynamic Farmhouse Cafe, Murdering Point Winery, and The Pocket El Arish.

\$2.00 ticket Drawn May 4th at Three Saints Festival

All Welcome

AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL FESTIVAL

FEAST OF THE THREE SAINTS

Sunday 4th May 2025 Harold Street, Silkwood, North Queensland

Traditional Italian Food

Music & Dancing till 9 pm

Sunday 5th May

Holy Week

HOLY THURSDAY – 17 APRIL

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 6.00pm Babinda
Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7.30pm Innisfail

GOOD FRIDAY – 18 APRIL

Stations of the Cross	10.30am Innisfail
Reconciliation	11.30am Innisfail
The Lord's Passion	3.00pm Innisfail
The Lord's Passion	3.00pm Babinda
The Lord's Passion	3.00pm Silkwood

HOLY SATURDAY – 19 APRIL

Reconciliation - 11.30am Innisfail
Easter Vigil - 6.00pm Silkwood
Easter Vigil - 6.30pm Innisfail

EASTER SUNDAY – 20 APRIL

7.00am Babinda
7.00am South Johnstone
9.00am Innisfail
10.00am El Arish

Schedule of Events

<p>5^{pm} Spaghetti Eating Junior & Senior Competitions Prize Money Junior \$200 Senior \$500.</p> <p>FREE ENTRY</p> <p>EFTPOS AVAILABLE</p>	<p>10 am ITALIAN MASS: Concelebrated by Apostolic Nuncio Balvo & Bishop Joe Caddy & Fr. Kerry Crowley. Unveiling of the Three Saints. Eulogy of the Three Saints. Hymns by Saint Alfio Choir.</p> <p>12 noon Entertainment, Barbecue, Italian Sausage, Ravioli, Arancini, Pizza, Chestnuts, Granita, Gelati, Italian Biscuits, Sweets, Tea & Barista Made Coffee.</p> <p>2 pm Three Saints positioned on Vara, followed by Solemn Procession. Rosary and Hymns. Procession accompanied by Cairns Municipal Band.</p> <p>3 pm ENGLISH MASS: Concelebrated by Apostolic Nuncio Balvo & Bishop Joe Caddy & Fr. Kerry Crowley, followed by the Blessing and Veneration of the Relics of the Three Saints.</p> <p>4 pm Cannoli stall opens, Entertainment & Festival Foods Continue.</p> <p>7 pm - Major Prize Drawn, Dynamic Fireworks Display - Music and Dancing till 9pm</p>	<p>1st Dancers from Louise's Dance Works Academy</p> <p>Entertainment by: Domenico & The Latin Mafia</p> <p>Jumping Castles for the Children</p>
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www.feastofthethreesaints.com.au

