



St John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



Encourage kids to be creative without worrying about being perfect.
Dav Pilkey

Term 2 Week 10 – 25th June 2025

Dear community members,

We have reached the end of term 2, which on reflection, whizzed past. The public holidays and events at the beginning of the term set the scene for a term that seemed to fly by. I am looking forward to a calmer start to next term.

This week we welcome Gabrielle Costa to St John's. Gabby is a Year 10 student at Good Counsel College and she has joined us for work experience. At St John's, we embrace the opportunity to support those working towards qualifications in education or considering a career in education. I look forward to working with Gabby this week.

I wish to inform all in our community that we have recently installed **CCTV cameras** around our school. While the school grounds are private property and should not be accessed without permission, there are times when people come on-site without authorisation. Not only will the cameras provide surveillance to help protect our school facilities from damage, they will assist with the monitoring of activities and prevent potential risks associated with unauthorised visits.

Today, Mrs Daly and I met with directors from Catholic Education Services to reflect on the overall well-being of our school. Overall, the data was extremely positive with many improvements on last year's data noted. This was gratifying, confirming the successes of work completed over the past year. We also dissected the data to identity areas of improvement. The input from each director both confirmed and challenged our thinking. Further review and follow-up will take place next term.

Report cards are now available on the Parent Portal or via the MyCE app. The preparation of report cards is an extensive process which includes intense moderation via peer and principal reviews. Report cards give an overview of students' progress. Student portfolios, which will be sent home with students, contain assessment pieces completed by students during the semester. When viewing and discussing reports and portfolios with your child, make their strengths the first point of reference before moving on to areas for improvement. I remind you to follow-up with your child's teacher if you have any wonderings about your child's report card.

NAIDOC Week will be celebrated during the school holidays. The theme this year is *The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy*, which celebrates the achievements of the past and the bright future ahead, empowered by the strength of young leaders, the vision of communities and the legacy of ancestors. St John's will hold a celebration in term 3.

The **Innisfail Show** also falls during the school holidays (10th & 11th July). I urge you to take the time to visit our school display in the pavilion. We are proud to showcase the wonderful work students have completed over the semester. **A reminder that St John's gazetted public show holiday is aligned with the Tully Show Holiday on Friday 25th July.** A school display will also be available for viewing at the Tully Show.

I look forward to seeing you at the Interhouse Athletics Carnival on Friday and I wish you a restful and safe holiday break. School resumes Monday, 14th July.

Peace be with you, Linda Gaia, Principal.



Diary Dates

Thursday 26th June

- ◆ Assembly 8.45am

Friday 27th June

- ◆ Interhouse Athletics Carnival.

- ◆ Last Day of Term 2

Friday 11th July

- ◆ Innisfail Show Holiday

Monday 14th July

- ◆ School Resumes

Wednesday 23rd July

- ◆ P&F Meeting

Friday 25th July

- ◆ Tully Show Holiday

Monday 28th - Friday 1st

- ◆ Catholic Education Week

Friday 1st August

- ◆ School Photo Day

Friday 8th August

- ◆ Cassowary Coast Southern Zone Athletics Carnival - selected students Yrs 4-6

Saturday 9th August

- ◆ Parish/School Mass remembering and praying for Fr Hilary - 6pm

Friday 5th September

- ◆ Pupil Free Day



CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: 07 4065 9530

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



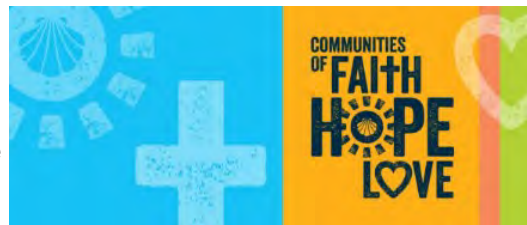
Sacramental Program

Last weekend we celebrated with Ryan, Ruby, Benson and Lincon as they completed the sacrament of First Holy Communion. This is the final sacrament for these candidates following Reconciliation and Confirmation. Thank you to everyone who supported these children.



Catholic Education Week

One of the key focus celebrations of each year, Catholic Education Week will take place in Week 3 of Term 3. This year's theme is Communities of Faith, Hope, Love in line with the theme of this Jubilee Year, calling on us to become Pilgrims of Hope. This year also marks the 175th anniversary of the first Catholic school in Queensland.



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.

Deborah Daly, APRE.
Leader of Learning & Teaching

Kindy News

A really important part of Kindergarten is learning and developing social and emotional skills. This term we have been

considering how our actions can affect other's feelings by reading the book *"Have you filled a bucket today?"* and thinking about how our actions fill, or empty, others' invisible buckets and hearts. Learning to be considerate and thoughtful towards others takes time, but our kindergarten group are working hard at this and becoming such positive social beings as they do.

We also wanted the children to understand that they can and should fill their own buckets and so we thought about all the things that make our hearts happy, made a list of these and drew them. Some ideas included: spending time with mum and dad; going to the beach with my sister; riding on the road; having a lollypop at the park and throwing sticks for the dog! It is never too early to learn self-care and we hope our Kinder kids begin to really appreciate the fun, happy things in their lives.

This is our last week of Term 2. We hope everyone has a wonderful term break. The Innisfail Show takes place during the holidays and our Kindergarten always has a display. Make sure you take a look for your child's work.

Kindergarten resumes Tuesday 15th July.

Regards Ms Cheryl and Mrs Greco



Mobile: 0439 924 736

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

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

From your School
Counsellor.....Miss Jess.

Building confidence and digital intelligence in children



As discussed in the previous newsletter, our children's increasing use of online applications to learn, interact, play, and engage, assists them in understanding the world around them. We all remember having role models growing up, whether they were athletes, musicians, world leaders, or people within our local communities. Children continue to look up to these individuals, however with the inclusion of the internet, social media platforms, and marketing, they now have access to these people on a deeper and more intimate level. The thoughts, morals, lifestyles, and occasionally, the social indiscretions, of these 'role models' are being viewed and followed by our young people, with effects on how they view themselves, empathy for others, and opinions on what is right and wrong in society. Additionally, the introduction of 'influencers,' 'gamers,' and 'Youtubers,' means that our children are becoming fans of ordinary individuals, with perhaps no particular skillset, or moral integrity, but rather, purely entertaining content, designed at gaining an audience. The effects of this on children are differing and vast, including disillusioned world views, body image issues, and online bullying, to name a few.

These effects can be combatted by building digital intelligence as well as your child's confidence and encouraging positive ways of thinking. Intrinsic confidence rather than external validation is essential for children to be able to interpret, understand, and think critically of the content they are exposed to online. A simple way to foster this self-belief could be when your child shows you something they have created or made, before we immediately give them praise or simply say "Wow, that's amazing!" ask them "What do you think about it?" "What was the most challenging part of creating it?" "What are you most proud of?" These questions prompt the child to think and reflect internally and builds their confidence in their own opinions and self-efficacy. [Raising connected kids](#) has further information and strategies on growing your child's self-belief and resilience. The Esafety Commissioner has wonderful information on [building digital Intelligence](#):

Promote respectful communication

- ◆ Encourage your child to use the same positive manners and behaviour they would use offline, understanding that others may have different cultures, backgrounds or points of view. If it is not OK to say or do something face to face, it is not OK online.

Encourage empathy

- ◆ Help your child to imagine being in someone else's shoes, so they can relate to diverse opinions and understand what might make people behave in different ways.

Teach them to question

- ◆ Encourage your child to think critically about what they see online.
- ◆ Remind them to be careful when making new friends online as people may not be who they say they are. Refer to the Esafety commissioner's advice on avoiding [grooming and unwanted contact](#).

Encourage safe and responsible behaviour

- ◆ Work on achieving a healthy balance in your child's online and offline activities and set boundaries for digital device use in your home. Find out how in [screen time](#).
- ◆ Remind your child of the importance of safeguarding personal information that can be used to identify or locate them. Find more advice in [privacy and your child](#).

Help them build resilience

- ◆ If they have a negative online experience, find out how they are feeling about it, offer support and encourage them to keep things in perspective at the same time. For example, you might say: 'What that person has done is not OK. They must be feeling pretty bad about themselves to treat you like this. How are you feeling? Let's block them to stop their messages coming through.'

If you require further assistance the [Kidshelpline](#), Community Support Centre Innisfail, [Raising connected kids](#), and [esafety websites](#) have an extensive amount of information for both children and families.

Regards, Miss Jess

Babinda PICTURE THEATRE

FUTURE SCREENINGS

Fri 27, Sat 28, Sun 29 Jun	7.30pm Adults at Kids Price	M
Materialists		More Information
Fri 4, Sat 5, Sun 6 Jul	7.30pm Adults at Kids price	PG
How to Train Your Dragon		More Information
Sat 5 Jul	MATINEE 2.00PM	PG
How to Train Your Dragon		More Information

WOODFORDIA INC. PRESENTS

Coming to a Small Town Near You

Festival of Small Halls

Winter Tour 2025

THE CON THEATRE, INNISFAIL
SUNDAY 6 JULY 2025, 4.00PM START
DOORS OPEN 3.30PM. TICKETS \$25 - ONLINE
festivalofsmallhalls.com.au - select Innisfail
OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK NOW

2nd July - 27th July 2025
Coastal Queensland
WWW.FESTIVALOFSMALLHALLS.COM

WOODFORDIA INC. Queensland Government

Professional Standards and Safeguarding Office

As part of our commitment to safeguarding children the **Professional Standards and Safeguarding Office** is offering a choice of three Maggie Dent webinars to the Diocesan community including carers/parents and staff. There are limited numbers available. Each webinar will have a special link to access free of charge.

The three webinar topics are listed below:

When Parenting Gets Really Hard
A MASTERCLASS WITH MAGGIE DENT AND DR BILLY GARVEY

https://commonsenseparenting.com.au/p/when-parenting-gets-really-hard?coupon_code=CESCWP&product_id=5463587

When Parenting Gets Really Hard
A course for parents of kids birth-18 exploring everything from school refusal to sibling rivalry.

Calming TEEN STRESS & ANXIETY
RESOURCING OUR ADOLESCENTS FOR CHALLENGING TIMES
A MASTERCLASS WITH MAGGIE DENT

https://commonsenseparenting.com.au/p/calming-teen-stress-anxiety?coupon_code=CESCCTSA&product_id=4589408

Calming Teen Stress and Anxiety
Resourcing our adolescents for challenging times. A webinar with Maggie Dent.

Plugged In & Tuned Out
WHEN GAMING AND SCREEN USE BECOMES A PROBLEM
A MASTERCLASS WITH MAGGIE DENT AND BRAD MARSHALL
WEDNESDAY 9TH JULY 4PM & 5.30PM (EDUCATION AUSTRALIAN TIMES)

https://commonsenseparenting.com.au/p/plugged-in-tuned-out?coupon_code=CESCIPITO&product_id=4832982

Plugged In & Tuned Out: When gaming and screen use becomes a...
A masterclass with Maggie Dent and Brad Marshall

For further information please contact the Professional Standards and Safeguarding Office on 40509765

centacare Nurturing your joy

Safeguarding Children

DRONES & PROGRAMMING

Our Drones & Programming workshop takes STEM learning to new heights! Students learn drone flight principles, safety protocols, and basic Scratch programming concepts to control drones autonomously through various challenges. This workshop combines the excitement of flight with practical coding applications, inspiring future innovators in aerospace and robotics.

This program is suitable for Primary School age students.

Innisfail Library
Thursday 3 July
2.00pm - 3.30pm
Bookings Essential

RED DIRT ROBOTICS

LAUNCH Y(E)P TROPICAL INNOVATION FESTIVAL

What's on at your library?
1300 366 616
cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/libraries

Queensland Government Cassowary Coast LIBRARY & MUSEUM SERVICES

School Holiday Activities

June - July 2025

JUL 01 Tutankhaten: Story & Craft
MISSION BEACH LIBRARY 10.00am Dress up encouraged, Egyptian style!

JUL 01 Tutankhaten: Story & Craft
INNISFAIL LIBRARY 2.00pm Dress up encouraged, Egyptian style!

JUL 02 Design & Create: BADGES
CARDWELL LIBRARY 10.00am

JUL 03 Drones & Programming
TULLY LIBRARY 10.00am - 12.00PM Secondary School Students

JUL 03 Drones & Programming
INNISFAIL LIBRARY 2.00pm - 3.30pm Primary School Students

JUL 10 Tutankhaten: Story & Craft
CARDWELL LIBRARY 10.00am Dress up encouraged, Egyptian style!

JUL 10 Tutankhaten: Story & Craft
TULLY LIBRARY 2.15pm Dress up encouraged, Egyptian style!

Book now

What's on at your library?
1300 366 616
cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/libraries

Cassowary Coast LIBRARY & MUSEUM SERVICES