



St John's School & Catholic Community Kindergarten



"Knowledge will bring you the opportunity to make a difference."

Claire Fagan

Term 3 Week 2 – 23rd July 2025

Dear community members,

Welcome to term 3. As always, it was wonderful to have the students back at school. We have all settled in to the start of the term with a strong focus on high expectations and purposeful learning. I look forward to what the term has in stall.

This term, we have introduced a new **whole school reward system**. The purpose of the system is to promote and reward positive behaviour aligned with school values, fostering a respectful, inclusive, and motivated school culture. When on play duty, teachers and school officers are on the lookout for 'playground saints'; students who are demonstrating a core school value (Faith, Community, Compassion, Respect). A token will be awarded and recognition will be given by the student's teacher and class. Students will then be given a value card to bring home to show their family. There has been a wide range of students from all classes receiving a token, and I congratulate them all. More rewards will morph from the token system later in the term, and I am looking forward to the excitement these rewards will bring. Thank you to Mrs Parisi and Miss Tammy who have done the bulk of the work to get our whole school reward system up and running.

We welcome our new students, Saxon, Connor and Thishi, and their families to our community. We hope you create many wonderful memories in our beautiful school.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the **Interhouse Athletics Carnival** last term. Our age champions are listed overleaf. Selected students will represent St John's at the Cassowary Coast Southern Zone Athletics Carnival on the 8th August. I wish all students the best of luck at this event.

Next week, we celebrate Catholic Education Week, which is an opportunity for all Catholic schools in Queensland to celebrate and promote their distinctive mission and ethos. The theme for the week is **"Communities of Faith, Hope and Love,"** the essence of what it means to be part of a Catholic school community. Next Tuesday, students and staff will travel to Good Counsel Primary to join Catholic schools in our southern cluster to participate in a combined Mass followed by activities. The students always enjoy this day, particularly the interactions with students from our sister schools.

I draw your attention to the **Parish/School Mass** to be held on **Saturday 9th August at 6:00 pm**. It will have been a year since **Father Hilary's** passing so we will take the opportunity at this mass to remember and pray for him. Father Hilary still holds a special place in many of our hearts. He was kind in his approach to all people, never judging based on where someone was in their faith journey. He loved being with people, enjoying a cup of tea and a good chat. He was special to many of our students, too. He loved to watch their sporting endeavours, and sometimes joined running races himself. I encourage you to prioritise this mass.

I remind you that this Friday is **Tully Show Holiday**. The school will be closed. I hope you enjoy the show, if you are attending. I will pray for fine weather for you.

Peace be with you, Linda Gaia, Principal.



Diary Dates

Wednesday 23rd July

- ♦ P & F Meeting 5pm

Thursday 24th July

- ♦ Teddy Bear's Picnic P/1/2 and kindy
- ♦ Assembly 2:15pm

Friday 25th July

- ♦ Tully Show Holiday

Monday 28th - Friday 1st

- ♦ Catholic Education Week

Tuesday 29th July

- ♦ Whole School in Innisfail for Mass and activities

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



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www.stjohnssilkwood.qld.edu.au
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APRE News

Recently, during mass we listened to the **parable of the Good Samaritan**. Jesus uses this parable to teach "who is our Neighbour". This is relevant to St John's School, as one of our values is that of Compassion. The Good Samaritan helps the stranger on the road, not because he knew him, or because he was part of his cultural group, but because he cared regardless. We encourage our students to show compassion to all students, not just their own class or friends.

Last term, we showed compassion to those in need in our community, by **contributing to the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal**. Our donations were gratefully received by the St. Vincent de Paul's Society in Tully during the holidays, and we received a gracious email of thanks.



Following our very successful for Day for **St John the Evangelist** last term, we have allocated **Thursday 7th August** for a day to celebrate **St Mary McKillop of the Cross**. Students can look forward to a day of fun and learning about St Mary McKillop, Australia's very own saint.

We have our **Parish School Mass** on Saturday 9th of August. Please come along and join us as we remember and pray for Fr Hilary who's anniversary occurs around this time. We will have a shared plate and a cuppa following the mass.

Deborah Daly, APRE. Leader of Learning & Teaching

Class in Focus - P-2

Before the holidays students in P/1/2 each made a pet rock which they took home for the holidays. The children came back to school with lots of great stories about how they spent their time with their pet. Some pet rocks went on holiday to Townsville and Magnetic Island. Some learnt farm skills like driving tractors, four wheelers and getting out of a bog! Most of the children enjoyed playing with and reading to their pet, too. When they returned to school the students wrote about their adventures with their new friend.

The Prep/1/2 students enjoyed starting the term with celebrating 100 days of learning with the whole school. Lots of fun activities focused on the number 100 were held across the school.

Tomorrow, we will celebrate Teddy Bears' Picnic day with the Kindy children. We will have a picnic and fun activities with our friends and our teddies. We can't wait!



Letter from Tully branch of St Vincent de Paul Society.
On behalf of St Clare's Conference Tully, I want to thank you for your continuing support of the St Vincent de Paul Society. Our

thanks go to the students, especially the Justice Squad, the staff, the parents and the wider community for their support. You should all be congratulated on your concern for those who struggle daily in our community. Our connection with St John's goes back many years and it's heartening to know that connection is still strong.

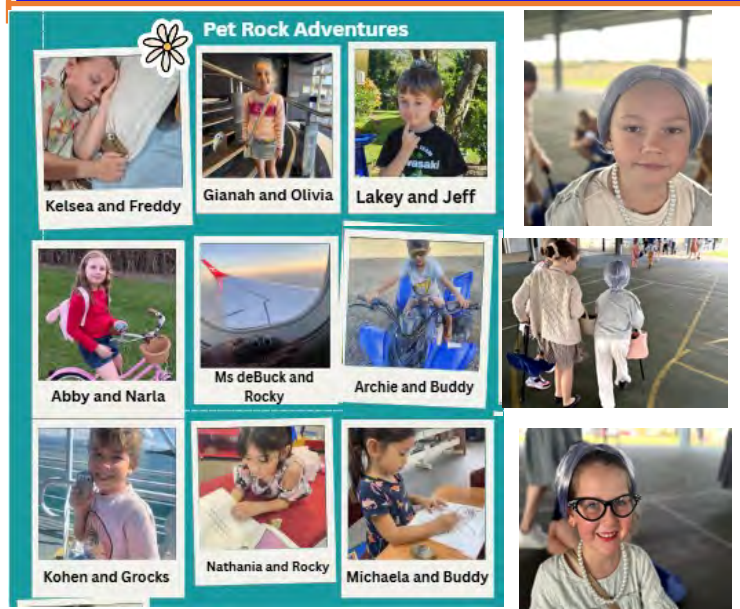
May God bless you all for all your generous support.

Lou Crema, President.

Interhouse Athletics

Our Interhouse Athletics carnival was held on the last day of term 2. The students had a great day competing against each other and earning points for their team. MacKillop were point winners on the day, and Francis brought home the War Cry trophy.

The age champions were:
5 Years - Clancy, Michaela
6 Years - Matteo, Ellie
7 Years - Kelsey
8 Years - Jake, Nathania
9 Years - Rhyder
10 Years - George, Gabriella
11 Years - Benson, Erin
12 Years - James, Tilly



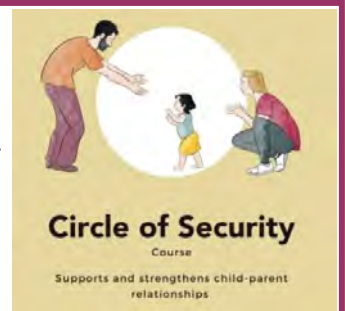
From your School Counsellor.....Miss Jess.

Routines, school drop offs and maintaining connection with our children as they progress through the school year assists in building resilience in our children. When children feel securely attached to their caregivers, they develop a strong foundation of trust and confidence. Here are some **ways to nurture this connection**:

- 1. Be Present:** Take moments throughout the day to engage with your child fully. Whether it's during playtime, mealtimes, or bedtime routines, offer your undivided attention and attunement to their needs.
- 2. Validate Emotions:** Help your child navigate their feelings by acknowledging and validating them. Let them know that all emotions are acceptable and provide a safe space for expression.
- 3. Set Boundaries with Love:** Establishing boundaries is essential for a child's sense of security. Communicate rules and expectations calmly and respectfully, ensuring that they understand the reasons behind them.
- 4. Follow through with consequences both positive and negative:** Avoid bribery for compliance but ensure your child understands they can rely on you to do what you say you are going to do. If you say you will check on them, go check on them, even if they are asleep. This builds trust and reinforces connection so they can rely on you to feel safe. It is important to not make flippant threats when feeling overstimulated as these are harder to follow through with and the consequence should match the behaviour. Child safety and trust is always the most crucial element of connection.
- 5. Encourage Independence:** Foster your child's autonomy by allowing them to make age-appropriate choices and decisions. Simple choices such as what flavour yoghurt to pack in their lunch and apple or banana provides opportunities for autonomy without our children coming to school with a lunchbox filled with chips. Celebrate their accomplishments and opinions, no matter how small, to instil confidence in their abilities and thoughts.
- 6. Embrace Mistakes as Learning Opportunities:** Encourage a growth mindset by reframing mistakes as valuable learning experiences. Offer support and encouragement as they navigate challenges, emphasizing effort and perseverance over perfection. This also facilitates resilience and the joy of the endeavour rather than the outcome.

The Community Support Centre Innisfail has free [Circle of Security Parenting](#) training commencing on the 25th July for parents/carers interested in understanding their children, emotions, connection, and needs further. Call 40438 400 to enquire or register.

Regards, Miss Jess



Kindy News

Welcome back to Kindergarten for Term 3. We are starting our term with a dress up day in support of the Pyjama Foundation, who raise awareness and support for the needs of children in foster care. On Thursday this week (24th February) come to Kindergarten in your Pyjamas and get ready for a cozy day. On this day, we also have been invited to a Teddy Bear's Picnic at the school so each child will also need their favourite cuddly teddy to bring into Kindergarten with them.

Our Term Calendar has been added to OWNA. Please make sure you check in on this from time to time to keep abreast of what we are doing during the term. Something to think about now is our Book Week dress up day where the children come dressed as a character from a book.

We are also having our **Kindergarten Open morning on the 5th September** from 9am – 11am. Any families interested in coming in for a play and to look around our Kindergarten and meet the staff are welcome!

We look forward to a fun and busy term. *Regards Ms Cheryl & Mrs Greco*

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





Last Friday students and teachers celebrated 100 days of learning.

The students dressed up as 100 year old learners and participated in activities based on the theme. What a great morning!



100 Days of Learning

Consider Joining Us

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF YOUR CHILD TOGETHER



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International Academy Australia

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Learn to play 'The Liverpool Way' in a FREE 30min training session delivered by our team of accredited coaches!

SATURDAY 26 JULY 2025

- Participate in drills, skills and mini games
- Embody our core values and feel inspired
- All Genders
- All Abilities

GOOD COUNSEL COLLEGE
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FREE COMMUNITY DAY!



Official Partner School
66 Owen St
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www.gcc.qld.edu.au

This event offers students and families from across the region the chance to experience The Liverpool Way through a **FREE 30-minute training clinic delivered by accredited Liverpool FC coaches.**

Saturday 26th July at Good Counsel College

Families can register their preferred session by scanning the QR code.

Session Times:

- Pre-Academy (6–8 years): 9:30am & 12:30pm
- Foundation Phase (9–11 years): 10:30am & 1:30pm
- Youth Development (12–16 years): 11:30am & 2:30pm