



ST JOHN'S NEWS

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Issue No 1– 1st February 2018

PRINCIPAL NEWS

Dear Parents,

Beginning the New Year is like turning to the first page of a new notebook. There's a tinge of anticipation about making those first marks on the page and about how the book will finish up. Some of it will hold really important information; other pages will contain unfinished thoughts or ideas; other times it will provide the chance to ponder a thought or an observation which leads to a change for the better. Just like the year ahead, we won't really know how it will turn out but we relish the opportunity to start afresh; to do things better or differently and hopefully enjoy the process along the way.

In terms of our faith, the idea of a new start can apply to our relationship with God. The same anticipation and reflection can be used in motivating us to build a stronger relationship with him which is the main focus of the approaching Lenten season.

I was reading an article this week by Parent Educator, Michael Grose, who offers some really helpful ideas to parents in helping children to have a positive fresh start. The following points were mentioned:

1. **Be positive about school.** Children take their cues from their parents. Being confident and positive with them increases the likelihood of them feeling more confident in their approach to school.
2. **Develop your child's independence.** Children with age-appropriate self-sufficiency skills generally find a new situation easier to handle than those that have had everything done for them. Home responsibilities and expecting that they can do things to help others is really important here.
3. **Teach social etiquette.** School is about making friends and working with others. Children learn these skills through activities like play dates, family gatherings and family mealtimes and through parent modelling. Insisting on the use of good manners and respectful behaviour teaches children to value this attitude in life.
4. **Be aware of what is happening at school.** Take the time to know what is happening at school through the communications offered, so that you are able to take an interest in your child's school life and be engaged where you can. If you convey that being connected to the life of our school is important, your child will see this as important too.

(Adapted from 'Helping children make a bright start to school' in INSIGHTS, www.parentingideas.com.au Michael Grose).

In other news, we have made some changes and to our meeting arrangements with parents for 2018. Please check your email and Flexibuzz communications about Parent Information Evenings and the associated link to other changes which aim at building stronger home, school connections.

Once again, welcome back, especially to any new staff and new families in our school. Kindergarten had a great start this morning. The staff and I look forward to working with you during 2018.

Sincerely,

Mark Bateman – Principal

Parent Information Nights:

A letter explaining the structure of our Parent Information Evenings was sent out via Flexibuzz today. If you haven't updated your Flexibuzz as yet, there is a link to the letter on the front page of the Weebly.

(<https://stjohnsnarraweena.weebly.com/>)

Each meeting presents a useful opportunity to connect with our school.

DIARY

Week 2 Term 1 Mon 5 Feb	Week 2 Term 1 Tues 6 Feb	Week 2 Term 1 Wed 7 Feb	Week 2 Term 1 Thurs 8 Feb	Week 2 Term 1 Fri 9 Feb	Week 2 Term 1 Sat/Sun 10/11
Kinder – First Full Day			Yr 1 Class Parent Meeting 6.30-7:15pm	Welcome Liturgy 2pm	Family Mass Yr 3 & 4 Everyone is welcome
Week 3 Term 1 Mon 12 Feb	Week 3 Term 1 Tues 13 Feb	Week 3 Term 1 Wed 14 Feb	Week 3 Term 1 Thurs 15 Feb	Week 3 Term 1 Fri 16 Feb	Week 3 Term 1 Sat/Sun 17/18
Swimming Carnival Yr 6 Class Parent Meeting 6.30-8pm	Yr 4 Class Parent Meeting 6.30-7:15 Yr 5 Class Parent Meeting 7:15-8pm	Ash Wednesday 3-6 Mass 9:15 K-2 Liturgy 11.15	Reconciliation Parent Info Night 7pm		

Term Dates 2018

- Term 1** 30th January – Friday 13th April
- Term 2** 30th April – Friday 6th July
- Term 3** 23rd July – Friday 28th September
- Term 4** 15th October – Friday 21st December

Staff Development Days 2017

Tuesday 3rd April

URGENT – SWIMMING CARNIVAL – Monday 12th Wk 3

Thank you to those families who have completed the [google form](#) for the upcoming swimming carnival but we still have many forms outstanding.

We are preparing the program and finalising buses at the beginning of next week and need details for all children Years 1-6. Thank you for your assistance in completing the form:

<https://goo.gl/forms/BLaBvJwzW9EPgIIIF2>

COMMUNICATION UPDATES FOR 2018

To ensure effective communication we ask for families to please remember to download and use Flexibuzz and Qkr.

FLEXIBUZZ

- UPDATE YOUR CHILDREN'S YEAR GROUP FOR 2018**

- We suggest you also select 'Whole School' in addition to your individual child's class

QKR – for canteen ordering, school fee and other payments.

Refer to school website (<https://www.sjandbb.catholic.edu.au/news-events/150/p/>) or Weebly

(<https://stjohnsnarraweena.weebly.com/parent.html>) for information on each app



FEAST OF ST BRIGID – 1ST FEBRUARY

Today, each class remembered the feast of St Brigid. It's actually an Irish feast day but she's important to St John's as we are a Brigidine school. Back in 1962, the Brigidine nuns founded our school, bringing with them the Brigidine motto of "Strength and Gentleness" and the Brigidine cross which hangs in each of our classrooms.



Our Captains began our School Year yesterday with a prayer to St Brigid:

Father, we ask you to fill us with the spirit of St Brigid, so that we may follow your Son in the way we treat others in our world. As we begin this new school year, may we always show strength and gentleness to all people as well as to the rest of creation around us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SCHOOL PARISH MASS – SATURDAY 10TH FEBRUARY

Our **Year 3** and **Year 4** students will be hosting Mass on **Saturday 10th February** at 5pm. Everyone is welcome to join us for this celebration of our faith. There will be a sausage sizzle after Mass.

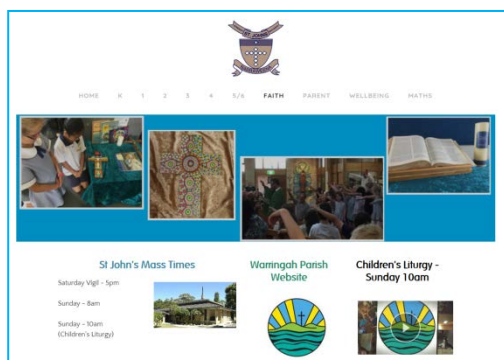
Although Year 3 and 4 are carrying out ministries at the Mass, everyone is welcome to attend. If you are going to join us and you do not have a child in Year 3 or Year 4 – just go to <https://goo.gl/forms/TH07hJhBqhZqWgdI2> and let us know how many sausage sandwiches your family would like.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation

The Parent Information Evening for Reconciliation will take place **Thursday 15th February** at 7pm in St John's Church. Reconciliation is open to all children in Year 3 and above who have received the sacrament of Confirmation. There are further details available on the Faith page of the Weebly (see below).



You can keep in touch with Faith ideas and information in the *Faith* page on our St John's Weebly:

<https://stjohnsnarraweena.weebly.com>

KINDERGARTEN 2018 WELCOME PICNIC

The Kindergarten Welcome Picnic is on this Sunday 4th February after the 10am Mass (11 – 1).

BYO rug, food and drink!

In the event of bad weather, a Flexibuzz will be sent to Kindergarten parents on Sunday morning.

HOW WAS YOUR DAY?

If you are one of the many parents who receive a monosyllabic response to this question, why not try some more specific questions? We recently came across a list of “50 questions to ask your kids”. Below is a snapshot – the full list can be found at <https://herviewfromhome.com/50-questions-to-ask-your-kids-instead-of-asking-how-was-your-day/>. Try printing them out, cutting them up and getting your child to pull a question out of the box each day.

- ✓ What made you smile today?
- ✓ Can you tell me an example of kindness you saw/showed?
- ✓ What did you do that was creative?
- ✓ Was anyone in your class away today?
- ✓ What was the hardest rule to follow today?
- ✓ What made your teacher smile?
- ✓ Who did you help today? Who helped you?
- ✓ What questions did you ask at school today?



LIBRARY DAYS AND SPORTS DAYS

Library Days – bring your library bag and books you wish to return

Tuesdays – 2N, 2R

Wednesdays – 1B, 3B, 3R, 3N, 5D, 5NF, 6DI

Thursdays – KG, KC, 1G, 4SC, 4B



PE Sports Days

Wednesday – 3R, 3B, 3O, 4SC, 5D, 5NF, 6DI

Thursday – KG, KC, 1B, 1G, 2R, 2N, 4B

Class sport days are being finalised and will be communicated via Flexibuzz over the coming days. (Don't forget to update your Flexibuzz.)



SCHOOL NEWS

SCHOOL BUS

- **Students will now require an Opal card which you can apply for online via**
<http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students>
- **School Bus route**
<http://www.sydneybuses.info/news/new-bus-route-numbers-for-school-special-bus-services-in-2016>

PROCEDURE FOR PICKING UP AND DROPPING OFF CHILDREN ON WARATAH PARADE

A reminder that each family must register to use Walkers, in order to receive a laminated family name card. Drivers will place one of these name cards in the windscreen on the passenger side to allow the teachers to see which children need to be ready to get into cars.

The procedure for Walkers is attached to the newsletter.

NEW CLASS PARENTS NEEDED FOR 2018

Our class parents are an important role for our school and our children. Having a strong school community and support network assists our children to thrive at St Johns.

If you would like get to know people, contribute to the school and your child's development we need volunteers for 2018. An official request will come out shortly...start thinking about it!

CANTEEN

IMPORTANT NOTE: The Canteen is CLOSED every THURSDAY

W3 Term 1 Mon 6 FEB	W3 Term 1 Tues 7 FEB	W3 Term 1 Wed 8 FEB	W3 Term 1 Thurs 9 FEB	W3 Term 1 Fri 10 FEB	
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	
W4 Term 1 Mon 13 FEB	W4 Term 1 Tues 14 FEB	W4 Term 1 Wed 15 FEB	W4 Term 1 Thurs 16 FEB	W4 Term 1 Fri 17 FEB	
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	

Tuesday is School Banking Day...

What's School Banking?

The School Banking program provides a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good saving habits.

School Banking encourages children to regularly deposit money into their Youthsaver account and earn silver Dollarmites tokens, which can then be redeemed for an exciting reward through our School Banking Rewards Program.

School Banking also provides fundraising support to schools through our School Banking Contributions Program.

2018 reward items

As part of our Super Savers theme, the following rewards are a great way to keep children motivated and demonstrate the value of saving. The rewards are released throughout the year.

Twister Power Handball – Released Term 1

Secret Scratch Notepad – Released Term 1

Glow Light – Released Term 2

Sparkle Glitter Pens – Released Term 2

Mighty Boom Handball – Released Term 3

Heat Reactor Pencils – Released Term 3

Slushie Maker Cup – Released Term 4

Zoom Flying Disc – Released Term 4

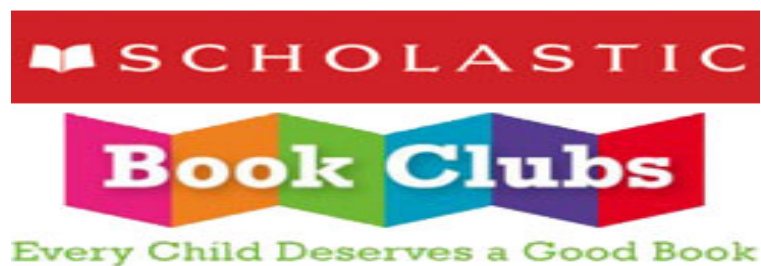


To redeem a reward, students must cut out the corresponding coupon from the Rewards Card and hand it in at school along with their 10 silver Dollarmites tokens.



Col's Music House
Piano Lessons
At St. Johns School
Tuesday Morning Before School
First Lesson Free

ENQUIRIES: 9972 2311 0412897737



Welcome back to Book Club for 2018

Issue 1 will come this week with your child. The current year details are in the process of being upgraded. This should be completed by Monday 5th February ready for you to order.

For on line ordering please follow the link

<https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/>

Unfortunately, we cannot accept cash or cheque orders.

Remember to collect your orders from the office if you request a “gift” order

Book club orders for Issue 1 are due no later than

Friday 16 February



**Beacon
Hill
Football
Club**

Why not use your \$100 ActiveKids Rebate to get your child playing and learning the worlds most popular sport.

Registration for the 2018 Soccer Season for all Junior and Youth Players will open on 3rd February. All registration must be done through www.myfootballclub.com.au and parents should apply for the ActiveKids Voucher at ServiceNSW before registering. Further information can be found on our website:

www.beaconhillfc.com

Teams start from Under 6 in the Saturday mixed competition and Under 8 in the Sunday Girls Competition.

The club is also seeking any mums who would like to try something new whilst having fun and getting fit.

Please contact Marianne Hardy on 0418 427 261 or chalmershardy@bigpond.com.au for further information.



Come Play Netball at Beacon Hill



* Registered Active Kids Program provider

2018 WINTER SEASON REGO

For players turning 8yrs and over in 2018!

Seniors \$202
Juniors \$187



REGISTER ONLINE @

www.beaconhillnetball.com.au

20th Jan - 2nd Feb 2018

Interested in playing hockey in 2018?



Manly Junior Hockey welcomes players from 5 years and up, boys and girls.

Specially modified games for our younger age groups so that you can learn the game!

Friendly grass competition at Curl Curl each Saturday.

Fast and furious turf competition played at grounds across Sydney.



'Come and try' sessions to be held in Feb
All newcomers welcome.

Registrations open early Feb!

For further information visit our website:
www.revolutionise.com.au/manlyhockey or
contact us at **manlyjuniorhockey@gmail.com**

Waratah Parade Procedures



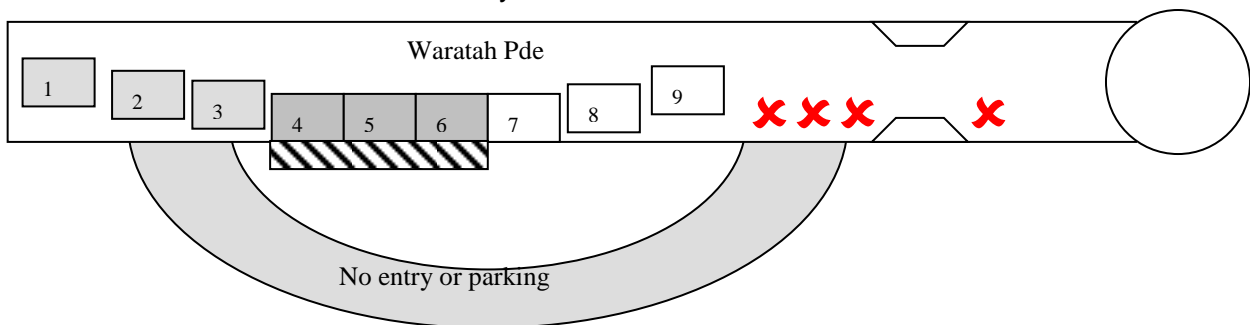
Please follow the instructions below for **dropping off** and **picking up** children in Waratah Parade. It is imperative for the safety of all children that all parents and carers use the correct procedures. If you have others (eg. grandparents) using this entrance it is your responsibility to train them to use this area safely.

- The zone runs between the two driveways of the church in Waratah Parade. It is a small area and holds only 6 cars at a time.
- Do not PARK in this zone – morning or afternoon. It is a 5 minute zone for loading and unloading passengers. If you wish to walk into the school please **DO NOT** park here!

In the morning - pull into the zone, let your children out and drive off. You should not need to get out of your car. **DO NOT** drive into the church driveway or park in the church grounds.

In the afternoon – children are escorted to “walkers” by 3:10pm.

- If the zone is full – you need to drive around the block or park somewhere else. **DO NOT** line up over the church driveway or pedestrian crossing! This is illegal and you may be fined.
- When the children arrive at Waratah Parade, they will sit down while teachers organise them to be loaded into the waiting cars.
- Children will only be allowed to get into the **first three cars** in the line up. Once these cars are loaded and leave the pick up area, the line of cars will move forward and the next three will be loaded. The three cars being loaded must move away in that order (eg. in the picture below, car 6 can not pull away before cars 4 or 5).
- Under no circumstances should you block Waratah Parade.



- Each family must register to use Walkers and receive a laminated family name card. Drivers will place one of these name cards in the windscreen on the passenger side to allow the teachers to see which children need to be ready to get into cars.

Registration for St John's Afternoon Walkers

- ☐ I have read the revised procedures for the afternoon Walkers system and will abide by them.
- ☐ I have advised all caregivers for my children of these procedures:

Surname: _____ Eldest Child's Class: _____ Signs Required: # _____

These name tags will be placed in the windscreen (passenger side) to assist with the efficient loading of children.

Signed: _____