

PRINCIPAL NEWS

Dear Parents / Carers,

Limited numbers for gatherings and celebrations can create a sense of disconnection for us as the pandemic ebbs and flows. Not having parents on site for drop off and pick up can contribute to a community sense of disconnection. In the end, it is up to us to find opportunities in the situation we are in – to find a positive mindset. In terms of school connection, I encourage you look for ways to be involved your child's learning; in knowing what they learning at the moment and maybe how you could complement or encourage it. Taking a genuine interest in what they are learning can lift engagement and achievement levels for your child. Let's face it, it's less demanding than coordinating HBL at home!

This Friday, you will receive your child's **Semester 1 Report** which, because of interruptions this year, is different from previous reports. The exception is for Kindergarten children who are receiving their very first report. Their next report will look quite different. An accompanying letter will be sent with the report to explain changes including achievement and effort rankings and information on what the teachers are using as their assessments for Religion, English and Maths. Report time presents an opportunity to have a conversation with your child about learning, what to celebrate and what to improve during Terms 3 and 4. Two stars and a wish is a helpful guiding principle for the discussion.

On Saturday evening last weekend, the P&F organised our **'Christmas in July online Trivia Evening'.** The idea was to provide an opportunity for the community to get together to have a little fund COVID style. A big thank you to the families and groups who Zoomed in. A big thank you, also, to our P&F for organising it.

Our Term 3 P&F Meeting will be held at **7:00 pm Tuesday, August 11th** via **Zoom** and you are welcome to attend. The Zoom invitation will be sent next week. For attendees accepting the invitation to the meeting we ask that video cameras be switched on and sound muted unless contributing to a discussion or idea. Details regarding agenda will appear in the newsletter the week prior to the meeting.

Progress on school facility improvement continues. Further improvements have been made to St John's hall with audio visual facilities and a new portable stage installed. Both features can be used immediately by classes and grade groups and will prove to be an extremely useful resource into the future for our community. The audio visual equipment comes thanks to the generosity of our families and the fundraising organised by our Parents and Friends' Association. You will see the new facilities in action via our Facebook feeds this week and moving forward. I look forward to being able to host an official opening of the hall once we emerge from the pandemic.



In other news, next Thursday, August 6th, we begin the first of 5 one hour <u>LEAP into Learning</u> sessions for children beginning school in 2021. Children enrolled in next year's Kindergarten and anyone with children ready to begin school next year are welcome to attend but registration is required. Each of the sessions has a different focus including Literature, Fine Motor, Science and Fun with Shapes; all run by our Kindergarten Teachers. More information and registration can be found at <u>https://www.sjandbb.catholic.edu.au/is-your-child-ready-for-kindy-in-2021/</u> This event will have COVID safe procedures in place.

Have a great week,

Mark Bateman - Principal

Bookings required for the following Leap into learning – for Kindy 2021 <u>https://www.sjandbb.catholic.edu.au/is-your-child-ready-for-kindy-in-2021/</u> Thurs 6th Aug 9.30am-10.30am Book loving bears (Literacy: Read & Retelling)

DIARY

Week 3 Term 3	Week 3 Term 3	Week 3 Term 3	Week 3 Term 3	Week 3 Term 3	Week 1 Term 3
Mon 3 Aug	Tues 4 Aug	Wed 5 Aug	Thurs 6 Aug	Fri 7 Aug	Sat/Sun 8/9
Kindergarten Prayer Assembly Online SRC Presentation Video Online			Leap into Learning 9.30am-10.30am Booking required		Saturday Feast of St Mary of the Cross Mary Mackillop
Week 3 Term 4	Week 3 Term 4	Week 3 Term 4	Week 3 Term 4	Week 3 Term 4	Week 1 Term 4
Mon 10 Aug	Tues 11 Aug	Wed 12 Aug	Thurs 13 Aug	Fri 14 Aug	Sat/Sun 15/16
SCHOOL PHOTOS Year 4 Prayer Assembly Online					Saturday Feast of the Assumption

AWARDS

Awards are presented on Friday:

K-6 awards presentation will be available to view on our <u>Facebook page</u> at 8.30am Friday morning.

Strength & Gentleness		s	Asha F (5B)					
кв кw	Piper D Zahlia N Molly C Caterina C	3B 3W	Lucas J Arkie T India G Charlie P	5W 6B	Marcus H Elysia L Christian C Rose Mc	Library Bailey D (KB) Nelson D (6B)		
18	Klay G Toby O Sebastian R	4B	Thomas B Sasha C	6W	Cherise E Ruby N	Creative Arts Oscar G (KB) Hannah F (2B)		
2B	Teya H James S	4W	Matthew C Jake F	5/6F	Alex S	Sports Aidan P (3W)		
2W	Gabriella A Tom W	5B	Lennox D Isabella S			Coddie D (4W)		

CREATION FROM A - Z

Well, more like Creation from Kindergarten to Year 6.

It's lovely to look at the development of the children over their seven years at St John's and the ways in which they understand and interact with their faith (in both "head/knowledge" and "heart/belief" ways).

Later this term, Kindergarten will be learning that "God is our Creator". They will be given opportunities to explore and develop an appreciation for the wonders of God's creation and will begin to build a sense of spiritual connectedness. At their intuitive stage of faith development in which young children exhibit egocentric thinking, this spiritual journey will be constructed out of their own experiences of the natural world. Students will explore the story of creation using varied sensory experiences. They will be invited to recognise, enjoy and celebrate aspects of the natural world around them and to make a connection between the gifts of nature and their responsibility to care for creation.

At the other end of the school, Stage 3 (Year 5 & 6) are working on the question: "How can we be cooperators in God's Gracious Act of Creation?". The first week was just unpacking the language! Choosing a word to most appropriately describe our responsibility to creation – co-operators, co-creators or stewards – was hotly debated, with powerful justifications for and against each option. At this level, students will be encouraged to experience creation as a primary revelation of God (or way we come to know God) and to consider how we participate in the act of creation every day. The aim is to develop a more mature

understanding of our place in creation and how we belong to God's community of interactive members united by selfsharing and thus are called to participate in an active renewal of creation every day.

In a sense, God is unknowable and infinite, but he is revealed to us in finite ways, the only ways that we understand. It is through the finite experience of creation and of human relationships that we come to know our gracious God.

SCHOOL NEWS

SEMESTER 2 – STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected by their teachers and classmates for Semester 2.

The children will receive their SRC badges on Friday afternoon and the video will be available on Monday.

KB	Evie T	KW	Molly C	1B	Eliza B
2B	Теуа Н	2W	Evie B	3B	Lilah R
3W	Lucy E	4B	David M	4W	Ellison T
5B	Carys P	5W	Abbie D	6B	Alex M
6W	Liam C	5/6F	Oscar J		







Don't forget our St John's School Photo day is coming up in just over a week! See attached information in this week's newsletter and check Compass for organising payment straight to MSP Photography.

Children should be dressed in full winter uniform, looking spic and span and nice and neat!

Calling paper plane experts!

Welcome to the 'COVID safe' 2020 STANSW YOUNG SCIENTIST PAPER PLANE CHALLENGE. VIDEO your throw from home and upload your entry by midnight FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST 2020. All details can be found at the following website: www.paperplanes.youngscientist.com.au You also may be interested in the 'Young Scientist of the Year Award', with over 150 awards for Scientific Investigations, Inventions & Innovative Devices, Mathematical Investigations, Software and ICT applications and Robotic projects. Details can be found at: http://www.youngscientist.com.au/

Mrs Gillett :)

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back to Term 3 in the library. This term the students will be getting ready for Book Week. Like many thing at the moment Book Week celebrations have been postponed until October 17-23 2020.

This year's Book Week theme is *Curious Creatures, Wild Minds*. We will spend this term exploring the Book Week theme, reading <u>the books nominated</u> for the Children's Book Council of Australia's (CBCA) awards and discussing the success criteria for the Father Vogt Writing Competition (more information about this to come out in the next Newsletter).

During Book Week October 17-23 2020 we will have our Book Week Parade, where

students and staff come to school dressed as a book character, announce the winners of the Father Vogt Writing competition and have a Book Fair, where families will have a chance to purchase from a quality range of books. If you are already starting to think about costumes for the parade this <u>link</u> has some great suggestions. https://www.bountyparents.com.au/expert-advice/20-easy-book-week-costumes/

Road Safety

Keeping your children safe when dropping off and picking up at school. Everyone is reminded of the need for caution and safety in school zones.

You are asked to:

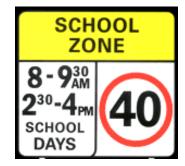
1. Slow down and stick to the 40km/h speed limit in a school zone and look out for children who may be about.

2. Talk to your children about being alert in the road environment, remind them to **STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! THINK!** Every time they cross the road, driveways or carparks.

- 3. Never double park as it puts children at risk.
- 4. Look for oncoming vehicles, bikes and pedestrians.
- 5. Remember that school zones carry heavy fines for breach of road rules.
- 6. DO NOT pull into the school driveway or church driveway before or after school. Watch out kids' about!









Parent Engagement Workshops – 1-2-3 Magic and Emotion Coaching

This week we achieved another Parent Engagement milestone at St. John's. For the first time, we offered 1, 2, 3 Magic and Emotion Coaching to our parents and local community as a **Zoom** workshop. The response was fantastic, with over 50 participants joining the first session. The feedback has been overwhelming that parents are loving this type of forum and enjoying the freedom to dial in from the comfort of their own home. Based on this feedback, we are planning to run other parent Zoom workshops later in the year. In particular, **The Resilient Child** workshop to help parents build skills to support their children's resilience is in the planning. Dates to follow soon.

Expressions of interest via an email to: Jeanie.mcdonnell@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Casserole Club is empty – meals needed now

Thank you to all the families that have donated home-cooked meals to our casserole club. These meals are sent home to our families at times when they are most vulnerable and often very stressed. A meal from the casserole club is not just a practical way of helping community members but it is also a way of showing that we care.



If you are able to donate a meal to us to be passed on to a family in need within our school and parish community it would be gratefully received. Containers for meals can be picked up from the school office. Meal sizes can vary from family sized meals to single or double portions. Popular meals are usually anything that children will eat such as pasta meatballs, bolognaise, schnitzel, sausage & mash, soups and casseroles. All meals are frozen and should be labelled with contents.

Thank you for your donation.





COVID-19 PROCEDURES

Our priority is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our schools and their students, our employees and the wider community.

Mindful of the current situation MSP Photography will be initiating a new safe process when taking school photos during COVID-19. This new process has been designed in accordance with the most recent hygiene and social distancing guidelines. Helping MSP Photographers, teachers and students to stay 1.5m apart and no physical contact with students to prepare them for their photo. The sample product on the right is the product your school has chosen.



ohoťography

How to Order Online via the Compass Portal

Orders are accepted until midnight on Monday 10 August 2020.

Orders received after this date will incur an archive fee of \$20

CONNECT: Log into your Compass Portal @ sjandbb-nsw.compass.education to place your order.

ORDER: Place your order and you will be emailed a confirmation receipt.

IMPORTANT

- 1. ALL PAYMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE ONLY
- 2. For Family Orders this is available online when purchasing your individual photos, <u>Payment needs to be</u> made midnight prior to photo day.
- 3. WE DO NOT ACCEPT CASH OR CHEQUES







Compass Quick Guides - Parents Accessing Reports

In order to access your children's Semester reports, you will need to:

Browser View

- Log into your account.
 Locate <u>View Academic Record</u> listed in your child's profile.
- 3. Select the Semester Report you'd like to view
- 1. Log into your account and find View Academic Record listed under your child's name.

Welcome to the	Ompass	Solic Schools
Portal	My News	
Use the links listed for each of your children to explore the portal. Please keep your mobile phone number and email address up to date (Tools > Update My Details). The school will use this to contact you regarding attendance, events, news and more.		4
2 Profile (Attendance, Schedule, Reports)		
	ademic Reports listed under	your child's name
Book Parent Student Teacher Conference	e page.	

2. Select the Semester Report you would like to view.

Reports					
Reporting Cy	cle				
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- Seme	ster One 📃 🤻	2 wish to	view		
- Seme	ster Two	WISHIC	overe w.		
- Seme	ster One				

App View

- **1-** Click on your child's profile tile.
- 2- Select Reports in the menu.
- 3- Select the Semester Report you would like to view.