

St John's Parish

Primary School



July 17, 2017 No. 17

COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

JULY	18	Tuesday	Parent Association Meeting, 7.00pm
	20	Thursday	Year 5 Parent Faith Formation, 7.30pm
	22	Saturday	First Eucharist Mass, 6.00pm
	24	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am
	25	Tuesday	Education board Meeting, 7.00pm
	28	Friday	Confirmation, 7.30pm
	29	Saturday	Confirmation, 7.30pm
	27	Thursday	Whole School Incursion, "Young Mary" - Based on Mary McKillops Life Confirmation Practice Day

Click here to access St John's [Parish Newsletter](#)

Dear Parents,

Welcome back for term 3! I hope you have all enjoyed a restful break with your family. We are looking forward to another big term with plenty in store.

Term 3

It is another great term for learning as well as celebrating Confirmation with our Year 6 students and continuing our First Eucharist celebrations. Our year 5/6 students will participate in a public speaking skills program next week and we have a whole school incursion coming up called "Young Mary" which is based on the life of Mary MacKillop. Our extra curricular activities of Marathon Club, Choir and Code Club will continue and senior students will have the opportunity to participate in the Tournament of Minds and the Australian Maths Competition. Literacy and Numeracy week will be later in the term and of course we have our wonderful school performance, "A Grimm Night for Hans", to look forward to.

Welcome

We are pleased to welcome the Joshy family to St John's School community today. Christo is in year 3/4RF, Ashlyn 1/2BM and Gerald 1/2VP.

Kidsmatter surveys

Each year we collect information from our school community to monitor our progress with Kidsmatter and guide our continued direction in supporting the wellbeing of our students. It would be great if we could get as many responses as possible to help with this information. Please use the link for this survey to complete it before Friday 28th of July <https://secure.peoplepulse.com.au/survey.php?mid=140124ef0657b439330>.

Thank you for your feedback!

UNIFORM SHOP

Open first Tuesday of each month
8.30 -9.00am Multi Purpose Room

CO-ORDINATOR

Kathleen Spicer

LUNCH ORDERS

Every Tuesday Lunchtime
To order register online:
www.flexischools.com.au

CAMP AUSTRALIA

Before & After School Care 1300 105 343

CO-ORDINATOR

Cherry Manapol

HOURS: 7.00 -8.30 am
3.20 -6.15 pm

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Monday -Friday, 8.30am -4.00pm

PARISH CONTACTS:

PH: 9873 1341

PARISH PRIEST

Father Dispin John

PARISH SECRETARIES

Mrs. Elisa Kelesidis
Mrs. Martine Giles

PASTORAL ASSOCIATES

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Education in Faith News

Our Gospel Challenge this week is to: *Listen attentively to others*

Congratulations to Leah, Maeve, Kane, Aidan, Kieran, Christopher, Gracen, Ebony and Jessica who celebrated their First Eucharist at weekend parish masses.

The Gospel this weekend was the parable of The Sower (Matthew 13:1 - 9). The parable would have had a great appeal to the rural population living on the fertile land around the Sea of Galilee. There, the gentle undulating hills are green and verdant. This is a sharp contrast to the desert wilderness of the southern part of the province of Judea around Jerusalem. In the longer version of today's gospel, Jesus explains the meaning of the parable of the sower. The different soils represent different human responses to hearing the word of God. The message is that, despite some failures, the sower's work ultimately succeeds. Not everyone is open to receiving the word and acting on it but there is encouragement for those who allow the word to take root and bear fruit.



- Can you remember a time when the Word of God really spoke to your experience, took root in your heart? What was the experience that it spoke to?
- What are the rocks and thorns in our world which may cause the word of God to choke and wither? In the modern world, what are the things which make it difficult for the word of God to take root and flourish? How can believers 'cultivate their soil' to help the seed of faith grow?
- Jesus uses the image of the seed to help his follower understand something about the word of God. First, it is alive and active and capable of growth and productivity. Second, it requires us to be open to receive it and we must not allow it to be crowded out of our lives by other concerns or stolen away by those indifferent or hostile to Christ. Finally, we must cultivate the soil of our lives so that the seed can take root and bear rich fruits.
- Try to be rich soil this week, not just for the word of God but also for those around you. Listen attentively to your family and work colleagues. Try to discern what God is saying to you in the events of everyday life.
(Summit 2017)

Have an enjoyable week,
Monica

Important Dates to Remember:

July	18	Tuesday	Cooper, Tristan, Lucas and Erin's Home Mass 6:30pm.
	20	Thursday	Year 5 Faith Formation Parent Night, 7.30pm
	22	Saturday	Cooper, Tristan, Lucas and Erin celebrate their First Eucharist 6pm
	27	Thursday	Whole School Incursion, "Young Mary" - Based on Mary McKillops Life Confirmation Practice Day
	28	Friday	Confirmation Ceremony, 7.30pm
	29	Saturday	Confirmation Ceremony, 7.30pm

Instrumental Music Lessons At School

ROCKiSKOOL is now accepting new enrolments for instrumental music lessons at school.

Tuition is available for Singing, Piano, Ukulele, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drums, Tin Whistle, Recorder, Flute, Clarinet, Clarineo, Saxophone, Trumpet and Trombone. Lessons are in small groups or for serious Musicians, solo lessons are available as well.

For more information on the program and to enroll, please visit our website at **www.rockiskool.com**.
Or call Anthony Merchant on 0425 738 420

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is having a stocktake sale this week and some prices will be reduced. Please get your order in by this Friday morning (before school) if you are interested in purchasing new uniform.



we make kids smile

Welcome to Term 3!

I hope everybody had a good rest and an enjoyable break over the 2 week holiday period. To recap Term 2, take a look at a few activities that the kids have done during the last week of the term.

Toilet roll fire-breathing dragons:



We used paper, red & pink streamers and pom-poms. The idea is to blow into the dragon sending the 'fire' flying into the air.

Well done to all of the kids who have given their time and effort to complete our Winter wall! Especially to the year 6 girls who carefully worked together decorating and placing white fluff all around as snow.



BIRTHDAYS

Welcome back and congratulations to Kevin Zhao, Mackenzie Troup and Aidan Doherty who will be celebrating their birthday this week.

We hope you all have a "Happy Day!"



Please return your money for the Cadbury Chocolate fundraiser NOW!

If you would like to sell an extra box you are welcome to ask at the school office and we will be happy to oblige!

Thank you to all those that have already sold their box and returned the money.



**Why fit in
when you were born to
stand out?**

Dr. Seuss

SAVE THE DATE!



SAVE THE DATE!

ST JOHN'S MAJOR SOCIAL FUNDRAISER 2017

This year, let's try something new for our Major Social Fundraiser: a Saturday night in October!

Make sure you keep Saturday 14th October free in your calendar

Organise a babysitter and get ready for a wonderful night out.

More information will follow in term three but for any questions in the meantime, email yourpa.sjm@gmail.com

Prep term 3 newsletter

Prep 2017

Naomi Curtis ncurtis@simitcham.catholic.edu.au

Welcome back to term 3. I hope you are well rested and are ready for another brilliant term of learning in Prep NC. This term there are some great learning opportunities coming up including our whole school production of 'A Grimm Night for Hans' in week 8. I'm sure you are all very excited for our 100 days of school which is coming up very soon on Thursday 27th July.



Literacy

We will continue our Reading Groups each morning followed by Writing. Thank you to those parents who have offered their time in our Reading Groups. It is greatly appreciated. If you are able to assist us, even if it is irregularly or a once off, please let me know. This term we will be looking closer into texts and their purpose. We will explore more strategies for reading unknown words and will have a big focus on reading comprehension. This involves predicting what will happen and retelling what has happened. We will continue to read and write recount texts and will begin to learn about other types of texts. Please continue to read with your child every day with an emphasis on talking about what they read.

maths

This term we will continue to count the days of school. Each day we discuss the number and other numbers around the one we are up to (one more, one less, ten more, ten less etc). Discussing the relationships between numbers and counting everything we can is important for developing connections and our understanding of place value. This term we will also focus on 5 specific units as well as our daily counting and place value activities.

Addition – adding collections together and breaking up numbers in many ways. We will also work on our speed with addition facts.

Subtraction – taking away from collections and looking at the 'difference' between collections. In subtraction we learn there are many words that mean the same thing as take away.

Sharing – sharing equally between groups (early division concepts).

Length – using informal units and comparing lengths. We will be introduced to measuring and will learn how to explain our reasoning for the comparisons we make.

2D Shape and 3D objects – sorting, describing and comparing 2D shapes and 3D objects in our environment.



Inquiry and religious education

This term our Inquiry focus will fall under the 'Geography' domain of the curriculum. We will again be linking our Inquiry unit with Religious Education and will explore local places, our neighbourhood and the wonderful world around us. Our Inquiry unit is directed by the students, what they know already and what they want to investigate. This is part of Inquiry-based learning and allows for personal growth and exploration. As part of a separate unit in Religious Education the students will also learn about the Church, its symbols and rituals and the responses used as part of liturgies. Students will learn about the importance of the Bible as a sacred text and listen to various stories of God's people.



Social and Emotional Learning

This term our social and emotional learning focus will be on Social Awareness. We will continue to build our understanding of resilience and positive strengths from last term. We will also learn more about positive coping and begin some new topics related to understanding how others feel and how we behave in social situations.



We hope you all had a splendid holiday and are excited to be back at school. We can't wait to hear all about your holidays and get back into a wonderful term of learning. This term will see our whole school production of 'A Grimm Night for Hans' in week 8 and Literacy and Numeracy Week in the last week of term. We hope you enjoyed looking at your child's portfolios over the break. It would be fantastic if you could start bringing these back so we can add new rich pieces of learning.

Literacy

Help wanted! We still require support in our Reading Groups. We run these groups four times a week, with one day being a spelling focus. If you can help us, even if it is just one day, that would be greatly appreciated. In the Breezeway we will have a timetable up and it would be fantastic if you could put your name down next to a date so we can organise a group for you in the morning. The focus of these groups will be on: vocabulary building, inferencing skills, making connections, finding key information in a text and retelling events or in a text orally, in writing or digitally.

Every Friday morning we will have a handwriting focus. We will focus on a letter in each session and learn how each letter is constructed including where to start and the direction to follow. Consistent sizing of letters, correct posture and correct pencil grip will be continually reinforced. In our spelling focus we will continue to look at words with regular (eg. cat) and irregular spelling patterns (eg. one) and explore syllable clapping in order to hear separate sounds.

In writing we will spend a number of weeks learning about narrative writing. We will explore a range of traditional tales and discuss features of the plot (orientation, complication, resolution), characters and setting.



Mathematics

In Maths we will be consolidating our numeracy skills in a number of areas, revisiting topics and learning new concepts. This term we will be learning more about the five following areas:

Location - exploring the position of objects and providing directions or coordinate points.

Subtraction - taking away from a collection using part to part and part to whole separations, linking in closely with addition.

Multiplication - link to repeated addition and concept of equal groups.

Mass - use informal and formal means to determine what is heavier.

Fractions and Decimals - recognising and interpreting equal parts of a whole and relating the number of parts to the size of a fraction.

We will also be continuing to begin our maths sessions with skip counting. We are learning how to skip count by 2s, 5s and 10s forwards and backwards and from various starting points and will begin exploring counting by 3s and 4s. Students will also be taking part in place value activities such as choosing a number from the hundreds chart and asking what is 1 more than this number? 1 less? 10 more? 20 less? 100 more? It is very important that your child continues to complete the assigned tasks on Mathematics, as it is reinforcement for what is being taught in the classroom.



Inquiry & Religious Education

This term our inquiry focus is based on the Geography domain of the Humanities curriculum. We will begin this unit by identifying what we already know about Australia. We will then be exploring the continents of the world. After the students have some understanding of the continents, they will choose one continent and become an expert, researching special landmarks, animals and weather/seasons in that continent. This inquiry links with our RE unit 'God's Creation' where students will learn about the goodness and beauty of God reflected in creation. They will also contemplate their connection with the environment and plan for ways to care for it.



As some of our students are making their First Eucharist and Confirmation is coming up, students will be learning about a separate RE unit called 'Sacraments'. Students will learn about the symbols of these two sacraments and what they represent and learn how the Holy Spirit helps people to make good decisions and to use their gifts to be like Jesus.

Social & Emotional Learning



This term we will be focusing on Social Awareness. We will begin this unit by continuing our learning on resilience and exploring strategies we can use to bounce back from difficult situations. Social Awareness is learning about different points of view and understanding relationships. Students will listen to other's ideas and recognise that others might see things differently. We will explore ways in which we can interact and care for others. We will also learn how to show respect for others perspectives and understand the needs of others in order to interact positively with our friends.

Digital Technologies

This term we will begin with a big focus on being safe and responsible users of digital technologies. We will explore a number of resources which will focus on cyberbullying, sharing passwords and protecting personal information.

Students will also have the opportunity to learn how to use a number of Google tools such as Drive, Docs, Forms and Sheets.



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3/4 Term 3 Newsletter

Explore— Looking at connections to help us

In Inquiry this term we will be focusing on Geography with a focus on how we are connected to the world around us. Our unit will include the following:

- Research maps and looking at the location of Australia, it's neighboring countries, African and South American countries.
- Working with a small group to create a travel brochure on an Australian state or territory, highlighting its location on a map, climate, manmade and natural features and wildlife.
- Extending this knowledge to create a travel brochure or booklet on an African, South American or Asian country. Students will highlight the location, climate, manmade and natural features, wildlife and cultural elements.



Religious Education

Parts of the Mass and Liturgies

Through exploration of the Church's calendar, students will identify the seasons of the Church. Furthermore, students will identify and participate in parts of the Mass (Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, Communion Rites and Concluding Rites).

Bible Stories

This term, we will be exploring narrative in scripture. Students will reflect on some of the main characters in scripture text and the intersections between them and their lives.

Sacraments

Students will explore the relationship between the sacraments, their symbols and rituals that are used in these celebrations. Students are invited to reflect their participation in the Sacramental process and identify the next steps in their faith journey.

Literacy

In Term 3 Writing, we will be continuing to use the 6+1 Writing Traits to write creative and imaginative texts such as Fairy Tales and Folktales. We will have a continued focus on using the writing process - plan, draft, confer/revise, edit and publish.

In reading groups, students will continue to work on a range of comprehension, spelling and

handwriting activities. Students will also be working together on Readers' Theatre to help develop their oral language skills and expression.

Spelling groups will continue each Monday to target specific spelling rules and letter blends.

Students will work in groups and participate in a range of activities focused on the specific spelling rule or blend.



3/4 Term 3 Newsletter

Mathematics

Through independent, small and large group activities students will explore the following concepts:

Multiplication

Recall multiplication facts up to 10 X10. Develop efficient mental and written strategies for multiplication and division where there is no remainder. Understand the relationship between multiplication and division.

Location

Use simple scales, legends and directions to interpret information contained in basic maps. Create and interpret simple grid maps to show position and pathways.

Fractions and Decimals

Count, order and represent fractions and decimals on a number line. Investigate equivalent fractions and make connections between fractions and decimals.

Area

Solve and compare the areas of two dimensional shapes using metric units. Understand how multiplication is used to find the area of two dimensional shapes.

3D Objects and Volume

Describe the properties of 3D shapes. Compare the volume of 3 dimensional objects using centicubes and litres.

Pattern and Algebra

Explore repeating and growing patterns. Find and use functions rules to solve simple problems (input/output machines). Understand that the = sign represents "the same as".

Home Learning

-We encourage daily reading at home with a minimum of at least three nights signed and recorded in diaries. This should include both independent reading and reading aloud.

-Fortnightly Home Learning sheet.

-Ongoing Mathletics tasks will be set for students to complete at home. These tasks will relate to what has been covered in class and assist students in consolidating what they have learnt.

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Term Three

Year Five/Six

Newsletter

Year Five/Six Term Three Newsletter



Welcome back to Term Three. Where has time gone? We hope you have all had an enjoyable break and feel energised for another big term of learning. We have lots of activities and events occurring throughout the term so please continue to check the weekly school newsletter as well as the student diary.

Geography

Our Inquiry unit of learning will have a Geography focus with students investigating Asian countries and cultures. We wonder how many family holidays to Asian destinations will be booked by the end of term! Students will investigate Asian cultures and how people and their environments influence one another. Students will explore maps, interpret geographical data and information, and use geographical terminology, to identify and develop descriptions, explanations and conclusions.

Religious Education

Students will be exploring an understanding of God from a personal perspective and that of our and other faiths. Students will reflect on ways religion contributes to the identity of believers and the place of prayer. With Confirmation being celebrated on July 29th and 30th, students will be deepening their understanding of this sacrament and the Holy Spirit.

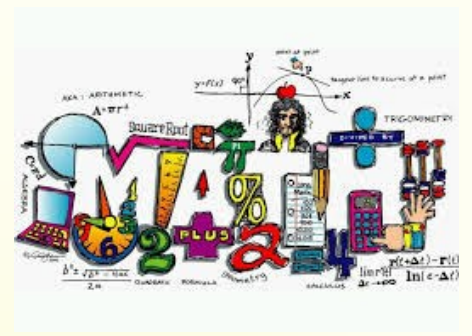
English

With the Year Five and Six students having important roles in the performance of "A Grimm Night for Hans," a lot of our learning in curriculum areas will be linked with this. Exploring narratives from various cultures, character analysis and plot development are examples of how the performance will be linked to our reading program. In writing students will continue to explore the "6 + 1 Writing Traits" with a particular focus on 'organisation' and 'sentence fluency'. Our text focus for this term will centre around writing narrative texts. Students commenced their public speaking course on the last Wednesday of Term Two and have two ninety minute sessions on Friday 21st of July and Friday 11th August with Elaine from Train to Speak.

Maths

We will be covering the following content in Mathematics:

- Number - Multiplication
- Algebra - Number Patterns
- Space - maps, scale and networks
- Decimals -money, currency
- Statistics
- Measurement - volume, capacity and mass



Social and Emotional Learning

Our focus for this term is Social Awareness. Social awareness is about understanding and demonstrating sensitivity to our differences and different points of view and establishing and maintaining respectful relationships.

Home Learning

We are noticing an improvement in the quality of learning being submitted and organisational skills developing. We thank you for your support with this and ask you to continue to check diaries ensuring nightly reading is recorded and reminders/events listed.

Learning Conferences

We will continue to conduct these regular meetings with students to discuss progress and next steps with their learning. We have begun to include a goal sheet in their home learning book for students to share with you.

We welcome Olivia to our teaching team for eight weeks of this term. Olivia is completing her final year of her teaching course at Australian Catholic University and has placement in 5/6 MO.

Communication

Effective communication between family and school is an important factor in a student's' learning. Please make contact with us if you have any questions, comments or concerns.



Below are our email addresses:

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Seesaw is another way that you can engage with your child and their learning. If you have had issues with logging on please ask your child to let us know and we will be able to assist. We welcome parents' comments on their child's posts.

Many thanks,

Monica O'Shannassy, Beth Johnson and Tom Jackson