Wednesday 1 February 2017

From the Principal

Dear Parents and friends

Welcome back to the school year! I trust your family enjoyed some quality time together over the festive season. Particularly, we welcome the many new students to St John’s. We are really looking forward to 2017 being another terrific year – if the buzz last Monday was anything to go by then I’m confident that this will be the case.

Our 5 Rs

Last year we worked with our students about our 5 Rs – Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Rigour and Random Acts of Kindness. I visited every class and again reminded out students of the importance of these values in our school. I’m confident that our students will continue to work to demonstrate these qualities every day.

Parent Information Evening – Tonight

As per the letter sent home last week this year, as we did last, we are conducting our Parent Information Evening on one night (tonight - Wednesday 1 February, 2017). We have again staggered the start of each year level so as to allow parents (as much as practicable) an opportunity to attend multiple classrooms, should that be necessary.

Please see below the schedule for the evening. I encourage as many parents as possible to attend this evening.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Mrs Peta Burt</td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Mrs Samantha Jones</td>
<td>5.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Mrs Hannah Crow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Ms Lena Andersen</td>
<td>5.45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4/5</td>
<td>Mrs Rachel Johnson</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Mr Aaron Bakker</td>
<td>6.15pm</td>
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We thank you for taking the time to learn about curriculum, teaching and learning agendas in 2017.

Assembly and Chapel Days

Our Assembly remains to be held each Monday morning at 8:40am. For new families, these are held in the Multi-Purpose Hall once a week for all students. Our Chapel remains to be Friday morning in the Church, beginning at 8:40am.
Presentation of Badges
On Friday 3 February during Chapel, we will acknowledge those students in our school community who have been elected to various positions of responsibility in 2017. Particularly, we will be presenting School Captains and Vice Captains, House Captains, Student Representative Council members.

Congratulations to the students listed below:

**School Captains:** Joel Faint & Lauren Richter
**Vice Captains:** Cody Muller & Dakota Carroll
**Biar House Captains:** Liam Taske & Bailey Grigg
**Reuther Captains:** William McRae & Ashlee Bock

**Senior Leaders:**
Caoimhe Craven-Hughes
Holly Crosbie
Ashtynne Gallwey
Lydia Iles
Kaitlyn Johnson
Mia Keely
Cooper Knott
Taylor Krueger
Cohen Kruger
Slade Pearce
Hamish Rasmussen
Dylan Shaw
Bailey Simpson
Ethan Togo
Angus Watson

**SRC Members:**
Bailey Simpson SRC Leader
Ashtynne Gallwey SRC Leader
Eloise Wooldridge
Cooper Croft
Molly Kay
Caolan Craven-Hughes
Ella Rose Smith
Aiden Hart
Jack Honey
Bridget McEwan
Harper Tindel-Dimes

We cordially invite friends and family to attend Chapel and this presentation ceremony.

**Newsletter**
This will be the final **printed** newsletter that will be sent home. Starting with our next newsletter on Wednesday 15 February a link will be placed on our Facebook page which will direct you to our website where you will be able to view the newsletter. The fluro yellow **Two Weeks at a Glance** will still be sent home the day the newsletter is published.

**Facebook** I strongly urge all our families to follow us on Facebook. This is a tool that can be well utilised to access information regarding items such as our newsletter, event information and general news about our school.

**Hats and water bottles**
A reminder that hats are to be worn at all play times and **to and from school** each day. Please also remember to pack a water bottle for your child/ren during this hotter weather.

**OSHC (Outside School Hours Care)**
OSHC is available from 3:00pm – 6:00pm each day and 8:00am - 6:00pm during holiday periods. If you would like further information or need to enrol your child, please contact Barbara at OSHC.

**Communication**
Please make a time to meet with your child’s teacher for feedback regarding their learning journey at St John’s. That said, feel free to contact any of us should you require any information.

Thank you for working in partnership with us.

Grace and Peace

Chris
Chaplain’s Chat
As we step into this New Year many of us face change in one form or another. From children commencing school, kindy or changing schools, to new classrooms, teachers, routines, people to get to know, schedules, and information to learn – change can bring with it some challenges. As adults too, change is all around us!

We know that change of itself isn’t necessarily bad. In fact it can be great and just what we need! It is a part of life and growth. Everyone goes through changes in their lives. But how do we cope with change? How do we manage change?

Firstly we need to acknowledge that we may have different feelings about the changes than others do - and that’s OK. Different feelings come and go with change, but it’s what we choose to do about these feelings that is important. We can make good choices – ones that help us and not hinder our growth.

So we can embrace the changes of life and see them as opportunities to grow. We can be reminded that our God is a God who does not change so we can always rely on and trust in Him to see us through whatever change may come. Hebrews, chapter 13 verse 8 says "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." What a blessing to have Him to hold onto and by our side!

Jeanette Mann
School Chaplain

Curriculum Connections
HOMEWORK
As you will all be made aware at tonight’s parent teacher evening our students will be starting homework next week. Homework at St John’s is set to allow students to revise concepts learnt in class and to practise and consolidate fundamental skills such as: sight words, reading and mathematical concepts.

As teachers and school staff we certainly understand that homework can at times add to the business of many families. At our school this is why we have chosen that homework is handed in on Monday mornings – this allows families some flexibility as to when they complete their 4 nights of expected homework. Families may choose 4 weeknights or 2 weeknights and 2 days over the weekend.

Below are some simple ideas that are proven to assist students with homework organisation.

Set up a homework Station
• away from noise and distraction
• has comfortable seating
• good lighting
• offers enough room to spread out

Provide the right supplies
• pencils
• paper
• scissors
• ruler

Teach time Management Skills
Have a set time for completing homework each day – before play, before dinner, away from distractions – a solid routine your child can count on.

If your child is still having trouble concentrating on their homework, try setting a timer – ask your child to work for small chunks at a time, taking a short break between sessions.
Talk about the homework with your child

Be sure to read through your child’s homework with them at the start of the week and ensure they understand exactly what needs to be completed each session.

Sit with your child and go over the work they have completed – children easily forget parts of work and it’s our job as parents to help them to check carefully.

Happy Homework – Jocelyn Bakker
Learning and Teaching Coordinator and Learning Support Teacher

Student Awards

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<th>Congratulations to this fortnight’s award recipients</th>
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<td>Prep</td>
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Around the Grounds – General Notices

**Uniform Shop – Opening House**

- Tuesday 8.15am – 9.00am
- Thursday 2.30pm – 3.15pm

If you are unable to come at the above times, please remember that you can send in orders/payments via the class basket. Just write a short note and send it in an envelope clearly marked ‘Uniform Shop’.

**Welcome** We warmly welcome those families who are new to our school community this year. As well as our class of new Prep students who started on the first day we also welcome the following to other classes:

| Year 1 | Dusty Johnstone, Flynn McMillan, Oscar Quarrell |
| Year 2 | Brayth Burkitt, Shaishana Cross, Ashleigh Plumridge, Zahli Togo, Imogen Willes |
| Year 3 | Matilda Johnstone |
| Year 4 | Caleb Bonney |
| Year 5 | Bridget McKewan, Amelia Willes |
| Year 6 | Mia Keely, Ethan Togo |

Welcome also to Knox (Prep) and Archer (Yrs 2) Kewley who start with us yesterday.
Welcome you all to our school family.

**School Mail Out** Every family, for who we had a current address, should have received a mail out in the last week of the school holidays. This mail out contained a general information letter, copy of the term times for the school year, information forms that need to be returned to the school and our school calendar.
Firstly: if you did not receive your mail out, please contact the office so this information can be given to you, and Secondly: please return the forms as soon as possible so we have the information we need concerning your child.

**Interested in playing hockey** Raiders Hockey Club are looking for more Junior and Senior players to play fixtures in Bundaberg each weekend from March to September. All players welcome – old and new. Subsidised fees, competitive teams, accredited coaches, regular training, new junior players receive a free stick, ball and socks and uniforms are supplied. Sign on Saturday 11 February or contact Latoya 0437 576 178 or Trina 0438 576 283.
**Sprouts** begins this week on Wednesday 1st February. (3:15pm – 5pm) Children in Year 1 - Year 6 are welcome to attend. Year 6 students who attend will assist as Junior Leaders. Students from other schools are welcome to attend. Sprouts is held fortnightly during term time.

At times I have been asked if Preps can attend. Because we have quite a number of children attending, and a limited number of adult leaders we are saying Preps can only attend if they have an adult to accompany them.

Students meet for Sprouts after school on the lawn near the Community Room. Because we wish to offer the Kid’s Club at little or no cost we really appreciate it if you can support Sprouts by providing some Afternoon Tea or a gold coin donation. This helps to cover costs.

Students can be picked up from the hall upstairs (entry via the church on Boundary Street).

If you have any further questions, please contact Jeanette Mann or Sandy Bowes.

**Blessing of the Backpack** – Community Sunday service this coming **Sunday 5th Feb. at 10am at the St John’s Lutheran Church**. All students and families welcome to attend. There will be an opportunity during the service for students to receive a blessing. Some students will also be participating in a dramatized presentation, Bible Reading and prayers. Families are welcome to stay for Morning Tea following the service. We would love to have you join us!

**Do you have a New Address or Phone Number** Have you moved or changed your phone number during the holidays? If so, please contact the office so that your details can be updated.

**Travel Allowance (Queensland Transport Conveyance Allowance)** If you live more than 3.2 kilometres by the shortest trafficable route from St John’s, and have children in Year 1 – 6, you may be eligible for the above allowance. For further information contact the Passenger Transport Section Qld Transport, Maryborough phone 4121 8315.

**Arrival of Children** The school day commences at 8.30a.m. - that is - children must have bags unpacked and sitting at desks ready to **start the day at 8.30am for Roll call at 8.35am**.

A staff member is on duty from 8am and students arriving at school before 8.20 are asked to enter via the Bell Street gates and to wait under the mango tree. Parents are not to take their child directly to the classroom before this time.

If children arrive late (after 8.30a.m) to school, parents are asked to direct their child/ren to the office to collect a **late pass before** going to class.

**Student Success** Just prior to the end of school last year we were notified that Ashlee Bock has been selected in the Under 13 girls Bundaberg Representative side for football (soccer) for 2017. Congratulations Ashlee, well done!

**Worship Collection** For many years the school has sponsored young people through Compassion. This support has allowed these young people to have an education they might not have otherwise have received as well as providing support to their families. The money for this sponsorship comes from the collection taken at Friday worship. Please encourage your children to bring their collection each week.

**Community Sunday** The first Community Sunday for 2017 will be held this Sunday 5 February and will include “The Blessing of the Backpacks”. Set this date aside to come along with your children (& their backpacks) to worship at St John’s Lutheran Church at 10am. Please bring a plate to share after the service. Students will be involved in the worship service and further information will be sent out soon.

**Water Bottles & Freezer Blocks** Some students have returned to school without water bottles. With the temperatures we are having at present, it is even more important that these are brought to school every day. Freezer blocks are also essential for lunch boxes to keep food fresh.
Lutheran Laypeople’s League (LLL) Banking  LLL operates a deposit account just like any bank or credit union. If your child receives pocket money, a gift of money, or gets paid for doing some home chores, they can save that money into an LLL account. This is an interest bearing account with no fees. If you are interested in opening an account for your child or yourself please contact the school office for more information. For those already using LLL banking, please remember to bring in your Passbooks for banking on Thursday mornings.

Non School Items at School  It is asked that extra paraphernalia or toys are not brought to school. These items take up room in a student’s desk and may be a distraction during class time and cause distress if lost or broken.

Wet Weather Pick Up  Following is the procedure for pick up on wet days. Students will sit in the hall and wait for a parent or nominated adult to come to the Hall and collect them. This means you will need to allow a slightly longer time to collect your child on wet days. We also encourage parents to try and vacate the car parks near the Bell Street gates as quickly as possible so these parks can be utilised by other parents who may have been ‘lapping’ the block waiting for a park to become available.

Appointments During School Hours or Early Departures from School  If parents need to collect students during school hours for medical/dental appointments etc or to leave school early for the day, it is asked that a note be written and handed to the class teacher before school commences or an email sent to the school email: school@stjohnsbundaberg.qld.edu.au All students can only be collected through the school office. Admin staff will do everything to ensure that students are ready for collection. Please do not verbally tell teachers in the morning as they are busy settling children into class and they may not get to pass the message on to the Admin Staff.

Absentee or Illness  When your child/children are ill or going to arrive at school after 9.00a.m. please phone: 4132 6888 by 8.45a.m. OR email: school@stjohnsbundaberg.qld.edu.au by 8.45a.m. Phone messages may be left before office hours as an answering system is in place and all messages are checked. When your child is absent due to holidays or planned appointments please write a note prior to the holiday/appointment. If you have not written a note prior, please follow the same procedure as for a sick child. A written note signed and dated is required for extended absence for a family holiday. Sometimes it is a little difficult to keep track of all the children’s illnesses, holidays and appointments at one time. Why this process? If a child is away and the school is not advised, as a legal duty of care, the school must not assume that the parents are aware of the absence.

Forms  Emergency Information, Publicity Permission, General permission forms were mailed to each family along with the letter from Mr Mallett prior to school commencing. Parents are asked to return these forms to school no later than Monday 6 February. Thank you to the many parents who have already returned these forms. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Parents are asked not to have children complete these forms. In the past there have been incorrect phone numbers written on forms and this causes problems when trying to contact a parent. If you have misplaced your forms, please contact the office and replacements will be sent home.

Prep – News Mail Photo  Every year the New-Mail publishes a Prep feature of the students who have begun their schooling in this area. The feature is usually published in early March. If your child’s Publicity Permission Form has not been returned by this date, they will be unable to appear in this photo.

Appointments during NAPLAN Week 9 – 11 May  These are the testing dates for the Year 3/5 NAPLAN tests this year. It is asked that you avoid making any appointments for your children on these days. Please put these dates into your diaries. It does seem a long way off, but by avoiding these dates you will greatly help with the smooth administration of these tests to all students.
P & F Welcome BBQ  Did you see the orange flyer that came home yesterday? Come along and join with other families as we start the new year with a Welcome BBQ next Friday 10 February commencing at 5p.m. For catering purposes, please complete the tear off slip and return to school by next Wednesday 8 February.

Medication during School Hours  Under Workplace Health & Safety By-Laws, staff are only able to administer prescription medications prescribed by your doctor. The medication can only be given when written permission is signed by the parent/caregiver. Forms are available at the school office or you can send in a simple letter outlining name of child, name of medication, time of dosage, amount of dosage, and period of days the medication is to be administered. This letter must be signed and dated.

If your child requires non-prescribed medicines such as Panadol etc, parents are required to come to the school and administer these to their child unless there are special circumstances. In this case, please phone the office before sending in medication.

Book Club  Book Club brochures were sent home last week. This year parents are able to order and pay online through the new LOOP system. It is a simple process. Follow the steps to set up an account and add your children then you will be ready to order. This will mean not having to fill in the forms. You won't even need to send money or the orders back to school. It's all done right there online. If you need assistance, you can either contact Scholastic directly or just pop into the office or the library. Orders will still need to be in by the date that is stamped on the brochures. Issue 1 orders need to be in by next Wednesday 8 February. Scholastic Book Club – a great way to purchase quality books at very reasonable prices.

School Fees  Term 1 fees were posted out last Friday. Accounts paid by the due date (10 February) which is noted on your fee account, will be eligible for the 5% discount on Tuition Fees. Payment can be made by Eftpos, Credit Card, Cheque, cash or Internet Banking. If paying by Direct Debit, please ensure that you put your Parent Code (top RH side of your Fee Invoice) and Surname as the identifier.

If you would like to spread the payment over the school year by making weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments please contact our Business Manager, Ms. Bernadette Latimer, who will be happy to assist you set up a direct debit plan.

If you have any queries regarding fees, please contact Bernadette Latimer either by phone, mail, e-mail at blatimer@stjohnsbundaberg.qld.edu.au or speak with her in person at the office.

Baptism Sundays at St John's Lutheran Church  This year we will be trying something different with regard to Baptisms at St John’s Lutheran Church. Instead of conducting “ad-hoc” Baptisms, we will, where possible, have “group baptisms” on designated Baptism Sundays throughout the year. This will not only enable mutual encouragement and support amongst the baptismal families, but also enable us to focus afresh on this wonderful gift through a dedicated worship service.

Baptism Sundays for 2017 are set as follows:
Sunday, 26th February
Sunday, 28th May
Sunday, 27th August
Sunday, 26th November

These Sundays will be preceded by a series of group preparation classes. If you or anyone you know has not yet been baptised and would like to find out more, please speak to Jeanette Mann or Pastor Wayne George. Remember, we do not only baptise babies, so if, as an adult, you would like to be baptised, we would be happy to chat to you about it. God bless.

Play Netball  Bundaberg Netball Association is looking for players. There are seven netball clubs in our areas in our district. Players born 2010 – 2011 can find more information by emailing bundynetball@hotmail.com. For players born 2009 and above, please contact one of the clubs. Details about the clubs can be found on the netball website www.bundaberg.netball.asn.au or find them on Facebook.
Instrumental music lessons have commenced for 2017 Beginner instrumental students have their lessons on Tuesday each week. The lessons are on a rotating roster so they don’t always miss the same subject in class. All beginner students are asked to attend Junior Band on Wednesday morning at 8am in the hall. This is where we all play together and revise the songs learnt in out lessons.

All other instrumental students are in Senior Band. These students have their lessons on Wednesday on a rotating roster. All senior students are asked to attend Senior Band on Thursday morning at 8am in the hall.

Piano lessons are normally held on the same day each week. Please check your musician’s satchel next week for a note regarding their lesson day. If there are public holidays or other changes to class schedules, lessons may be shifted to another day. It’s a good idea to pop their piano music in every day if they miss their lesson.

Choir is on Tuesday mornings at 8am in the hall. All students from Years 4 to 6 who want to have fun and sing is welcome to join us.

**Representative Sport Trials**

Please see the dates for the Bundaberg trials for representative selection this year. If you are interested in attending these trials you will need to obtain a form from Mr Higgins. Please remember that these trials are for students of a high skill level in these sports and you may be required to provide evidence of standards achieved to be considered.
Like Tennis
SIGN UP NOW FOR OUR TERM 1 PROGRAM

Introductory ANZ Tennis Hot Shots Program

Tuesday 7 February – Tuesday 28 March
7.45am to 8.30am (Grades 3-6) Places Limited
Outside Multi-Purpose Court
Loan rackets available

To register please phone Kevin Banner
4152 0753 / 0409 520753
Important Dates for Term 1, 2017

Feb
1   Parent Information Night for parents of Year 1 – 6 students
5   Community Sunday – Blessing of the Backpacks

March
1   Ash Wednesday
31  Term 1 concludes with Closing Service at 2.10pm

April
14  Good Friday
16  Easter Sunday
17  Easter Monday Public Holiday
18  Term 2 commences with Opening Service at 8.50am

Lord Jesus, we ask for Your help as we begin this new school year. Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us.
Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.
Open our heart and mind to new friends and new staff.
Give us a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with our studies and courage to accept new opportunities.
Help us to be attentive to one another and let us experience Your presence in our new friends.
Jesus, inspire us to do our best this year!
Amen