



# St John the Apostle Primary School

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Term 2, Week 2

5<sup>th</sup> May, 2017

2018 enrolment period commenced 1 May and concludes 19 May

## PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Dear Parents and Carers,

Since the announcement of a change in federal funding for schools earlier this week we have witnessed a great deal of initial and somewhat fuzzy conversation about the impact of these proposed changes on Catholic schools in particular over the coming years.

We have also witnessed the Director of Catholic Education Canberra and Goulburn, Mr Ross Fox, actively engaging with the Government to ensure a funding guarantee that doesn't disadvantage any students in ACT/NSW Catholic schools including students at St John the Apostle. Catholic Education will provide more information for schools and parents very soon and we will be sure to keep you informed of any specific implications. If you would like to hear Mr Fox speak about some of the issues for our schools as a result of the proposed funding I would encourage you to view last night's Lateline program on ABC's iView (<http://iview.abc.net.au/programs/lateline/NC1725H064S00>).



In the meantime, while our Director and Catholic Education Office is working very hard to support our schools, we continue to focus on the learning and wellbeing of our wonderful students: Year 5 going on Excursion today to learn about scientific endeavours related to space exploration; celebrating the published writing of our students who have drafted and re-drafted pieces to share with peers; recognising the birthday of students each morning at assembly, and; continuing to experience pride in our school as our Year 6 students host tours for the many prospective parents walking through our doors during Open Days this week. Our focus is squarely on the students and families for whom we provide a very sound and nurturing education each school day and those who wish to join this joyful learning community.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Mrs Jessica Figura and husband who gave birth to young Benjamin yesterday. There are many children who have been keen to hear this news. Mrs Figura and her newly expanded family are all healthy and well.

## Learning at Recess and lunch

School is about learning and that learning extends beyond the classroom into the playground. During play times children learn how to collaborate together, how to build, imagine and create new worlds, how to use their bodies to run and climb, how to compete in games respectfully. Our aim is to ensure that the opportunity to learn these skills is a safe and happy one. We have altered a few play zones and supervision arrangements this term to ensure this experience for our students.

I would like to acknowledge and thank staff for embracing these changes. Not only have staff increased supervision on the playground, resulting in more time spent on duty, some of our staff have also introduced regular clubs for lunch

*United in love truth and courage.*

times, e.g. Lego club, Robotics Club, Knitting Club, Book Club and Chicken Club. These clubs provide alternative opportunities for students each day to participate in something of interest to them. Our staff are always keen to support our students in success. I feel very fortunate to work with them all.

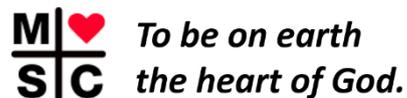
We have been able to introduce opportunities such as Lego Club because of the generous donation of unused Lego from some of our families. We are also going to introduce some play items for our break times. We have a large chess and checkers set that students will be able to use very soon thanks to the points earned through Scholastic Book Club. We would also love to have some cars for students to play with. If any families have outgrown their toy cars (e.g. Matchbox, Hot Wheels cars) and are happy to donate them to our collection where they will be happily used on a daily basis, we would be very appreciative.



Thank you for your support as we continue to grow as a happy, welcoming and safe learning community at St John the Apostle.

Matthew Garton  
*Principal (Acting)*

## CATHOLIC LIFE & REFLECTION



“Rabbi, where are you staying?”

He said to them, “Come and see”. John 1:38-39

This week the teachers during daily staff prayer have continued to reflect on the theme of love. Being the creative bunch we are, we did have a few interesting ideas around expressing love to others. On Wednesday we invited teachers to bring their phones to prayer. We encouraged them to send a text message of love to someone in their life.

Texting is something we do so often, more likely about the mundane things around our life like dinner plans or sport pickups. Texting reminded us that the expression of love does not need to be complex or time consuming. Jesus asked us to love one another. A radical concept in his time but one that continues to change and shape the world we live in.

May the coming week be full of love and blessings to you and those you cherish.

“Love one another”. John 13:34

Many blessings,  
Stephanie Stewart  
Religious Education Coordinator

# GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS

## Chicken Club

We had our first Chicken Club this week and it was great fun! We all helped to clean the chickens and keep them safe from mites. We enjoyed snuggling with the chickens as well as sharing some wonderful chicken stories.



Our new baby chicks are called Hershey, Lethal and Caramello and they are enjoying all the attention the students are giving them. Occasionally the chickens actually fall asleep when they are being cuddled.

Everyone is welcome to join us for Chicken Club. We meet at 1.30pm (after eating time) on Wednesday lunchtime at the chicken cage.



## Mothers Day Breakfast

With Mother's Day celebrated on Sunday 14 May we would also like to celebrate mothers and those who play that same role to students in our school community.

Next week on the morning of **Thursday 11 May** we will hold a **Mother's Day Breakfast** for students to bring these special people to. It will run from **7.30am until 8.15am**.

We look forward to celebrating with you.



## NAPLAN 2017

Next week NAPLAN occurs for Years 3 and 5 students across the country. Due to the online environment not quite being ready ACARA and local authorities have opted for students to complete them in the same paper and pencil format as in previous years. Students in both Years 3 and 5 will complete the tests on the following days:

<b>Tuesday 9 May</b>	<b>Wednesday 10 May</b>	<b>Thursday 11 May</b>
Language conventions	Reading	Numeracy
Writing		

Tests occur during the morning sessions. We ask that students be on time for school and have had a good sleep and a good breakfast to sustain their attention. Please contact their teacher or Mr Anthony Ganley with any questions or concerns.

## Tuckshop News

The tuckshop operates Tuesday-Friday. If you are able to help at any time, Maria would be most grateful. Please contact the front office.



## Weekly Notes & Forms

The following notes have gone home this week and are currently on the [school website](#) or as an e-form on Skoolbag.



## Dates to Remember

- May 6 -7 - Confirmation Presentation Masses.
- May 1 - 19 May Enrolment Period
- May 9 – 11 Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN
- May 10 - Community Council
- May 11 - Mothers Day Breakfast
- May 12 - Athletics Carnival
- May 26 - Confirmation Retreat Day, Year 6
- June 1 - Confirmation, 5pm

## Happy Birthday...

Happy Birthday to Monica F, Ruby Mc, Ella S, Jed R, Aiden S, Joel Mc, Bianca L, Callum S and Kyle O, who all had birthdays during the last week.



## Cross Country Ribbons

Cross country ribbons will be handed out Monday 8 May at 3Ms assembly. All welcome.

## Celebrating Student Achievements

If you would like to see your child's achievements on this page, please email to [office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au) no later than 3:30pm on Wednesday afternoons. If it is received after this time it will be in the following weeks newsletter. We love to share our student's successes with the school community.

## Congratulations

Ryan K swam at the ACT swimming championships on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May. He came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 200IM and 4<sup>th</sup> in the 50m Free, 4<sup>th</sup> in the 50m Fly and 5<sup>th</sup> in the 100m Free. Ryan will be representing the ACT at the Pan Pacific games later in the year in Adelaide.

## Weekly Class Awards

presented at assembly Monday 2pm

<b>K Blue</b>	Cameron F Bior A
<b>K Maroon</b>	Marcus T Tammy N
<b>1 Blue</b>	Chloe H Max S
<b>1 Maroon</b>	Thanish M Klaudia S Adelaide N
<b>2 Blue</b>	Will S Tai J
<b>2 Maroon</b>	Zed B Jackson K
<b>3 Blue</b>	Oliver M Olivia H
<b>3 Maroon</b>	Jaxon R Eseta T
<b>4 Blue</b>	Tyson B Aiden B
<b>4 Maroon</b>	Bella P Bridget W
<b>5 Blue</b>	Lorenzo B Riley D
<b>5 Maroon</b>	Monica F Ruby M
<b>6 Blue</b>	Charlotte M Melynna D
<b>6 Maroon</b>	Patrick F David H
<b>Performing Arts</b>	Bernice K (1M) Brodie S (4M)

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

The Entertainment Book is now available at the front office. \$60.00 and full of amazing deals.



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