



St John the Apostle Primary School

Pawsey Circuit FLOREY, ACT, 2615

Ph: 02 6258 3592

Email: office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au

 Follow us on Facebook

Term 2, Week 8

16th June, 2017

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Dear St John the Apostle Community,

Student Reports, Semester 1, 2017

Each time I have received my children's reports I have felt a mixture of pleasure and trepidation. I have four children and all of their reports have consistently been very different to each other. That's a good thing. This means the reports reflect their individual strengths and areas for development. After reading them I am always reminded of how hard it is to capture a whole semester of student learning and achievement on one A4 page of paper. Our teachers find that challenging as well when there is so much to celebrate.

Changes to student reports

Parents and Carers will notice a few small changes to the student reports that will be sent home next Friday.

As many of you will be aware, the student reports that parents receive at the end of each semester at St John the Apostle are identical in each systemic Catholic primary school in the ACT. They are identical to St Thomas Aquinas, St Matthew's, St Monica's, etc. This is because we use an online system for producing them, provided by Catholic Education in Canberra and Goulburn. There are many benefits for this, one being that the system can collect student achievement data across primary schools for analysis and to inform ours and the system's strategic planning. One challenge with the system is that any important changes that need to be made take some agreement and time.

The second most important influence on student reports is that of the evolving Australian Curriculum. The Australian Curriculum has taken many years to write and new curriculum areas have been introduced over time. It has now settled into shape and schools can more confidently set up report structures that accurately reflect the shape of the curriculum.

Last year the Catholic Education Office began consulting with schools about their assessment and reporting preferences in order to develop a new systemic approach. The work has continued this year with a view to a new approach for 2018. In the meantime, schools have asked Catholic Education to enable a few minor changes to the current structure of student reports in order to reflect more accurately the student achievement against the current Australian Curriculum and to provide teachers with more flexibility in writing comments. The changes made are for these 2017 student reports as we transition from those in 2016 to new reports in 2018.

What will remain the same in these reports	What will be different in these reports
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting to a five-point scale as required by the Australian Government – for us this is A to E. Reporting against all curriculum areas that have been taught during the Semester. Reporting against student effort. Recognition of Further School Involvement. Reporting on student absences. Written comments about student achievement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No more separate comment boxes for RE, English, Maths and General. Instead, one large comment at the end of the report that will include all of these areas together. No separate 'Work Habits' and 'Social Skills' sections. Instead, one section primarily based on the Australian Curriculum social capabilities continuum.

- Opportunity for a Parent-Teacher Interview following the distribution of reports.

- Curriculum area names are directly aligned to the Australian Curriculum area titles.

Personal plan reports

Our school is like any school and caters for a diverse group of students. In addition to the standard student report a few students will have an additional report against a some of their Personal Plan goals. Students with Personal Plans have some highly specific goals based upon some complex needs they experience. We work together with parents and carers to determine these goals and at reporting time would like to provide a brief comment about how the students are tracking against these goals. Not every student requires a Personal Plan and so not every student will receive this report.

Sharing reports with children

There are many opportunities for students to receive feedback about their learning as part of their school day. These reports are designed for parents and carers. I will tell students that the reports are addressed to you and that it is therefore important that you open them and not the student. The reports will contain a cover letter that will provide some suggestions you may like to consider on sharing the reports with your children.

Catholic Schools funding update

Next week the legislation around the funding for Catholic schools will be determined in the Senate. The funding debate has not abated and continues to be an important issue for Catholic schools throughout Australia. Our Archdiocese has significant concerns due to our unique demographic nature. You can remain up to date about the perspective of Catholic education and our needs by visiting the Catholic education website.

Lastly I would like to remind everyone that the weekly class awards appearing in last week's and this week's newsletters will both be distributed at the assembly this coming Monday.

Have a lovely weekend.



Matthew Garton

Principal (Acting)



CATHOLIC LIFE & REFLECTION

"Rabbi, where are you staying?"

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

Next week we are celebrating The Feast of the Sacred Heart. As part of our celebration we will be raising funds for Global School Partners. On Monday, Simon from GSP will be speaking to the children at assembly.

Last year we donated almost \$3000 to St George's Academy, Kenya. Simon will be showing the children photos of how our money has directly supported the school.

This year the school has also welcomed children into their Early Learning Centre. They require simple supplies to help the children effectively engage in their learning. GSP also supports local Kenyan business to provide school supplies. This doubles our money as it funds the community as well as the school.

The following is a list in Australian Dollars of the cost of school items required and the cost.

- Small, suitable chairs - \$8
 - Low tables - \$20
 - Wall charts - \$4
 - Crayons, small box, 6 - \$2.50
 - Pencils, small box, 5 - \$2
 - Picture books - \$3
- (\$40 is a full classroom set for one child)

On Friday we ask that the children bring in some money to "purchase" an item. The class teacher will be asking what item they would like to purchase and it will be recorded. On Monday of Week 10 we will build a "visual classroom" on the board outside the hall to show which items have been purchased. All donations will be gratefully accepted.

Deciding to support GSP was a simple choice. This action is at the very core of who we are. We are on earth the heart of God.

John 13:34-35

³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

<http://www.globalschoolpartners.org.au/>

Many blessings,

Stephanie Stewart



GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS

Clothing Pool

Clothing Pool will be open Friday morning from 8:45am- 9:30am.

Tuckshop

Winter warmers are now available. Mini sausage rolls and mini meat pies are available for \$1.00 each. Warm Milo or hot chocolate with marshmallows \$2.50. These items are available over the counter only.

Don't forget to place your orders for the canteen winter special lunch. This is a great way to support the canteen through this fundraiser.

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE
CANTEEN WINTER SPECIAL LUNCH ORDER
DATE: FRIDAY 30TH JUNE
COST: \$6.00

ORDER INCLUDES:

- ✚ Meat pie or Sausage roll or Spinach & ricotta roll with tomato sauce
- ✚ A packet of Jumpys - salt & vinegar or chicken
- ✚ Just Juice popper - apple or apple & blackcurrant or orange

CUT OFF FOR ORDERS STRICTLY WEDNESDAY 28TH JUNE.

No late orders will be accepted.
Order online through Flexischools or write your child's name and class on a brown bag and send to the canteen
Please advise of any dietary requirements.

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.

- Dance Crew Competition Note
- Year 4 Excursion
- Year 4 Movie Permission

Weekly Class Awards

presented at assembly Monday 2pm

K Blue	Mason W Bianca L
K Maroon	Harry M Matilda M
1 Blue	Alexis M Matthew H
1 Maroon	T.B.A.
2 Blue	Matilda P Archie B
2 Maroon	Theodore P Melinda C
3 Blue	Jedd W Joshua P
3 Maroon	Matilda M Keanan D
4 Blue	Sasha R Amelia A
4 Maroon	Duot A Isabelle U
5 Blue	Anna M Charles S
5 Maroon	Gemma B Jay L
6 Blue	Zac K Mackenzie O
6 Maroon	T.B.A.
Performing Arts	Benjamin W (6B) Rhea B (2M)

Happy Birthday to...

Happy Birthday to Olivia G, Tina N, Jesse M, Olivia M, Apajok G and Evan M who all had birthdays during the last week.



Dates to Remember

- June 20 - Years 2 & 4 Questacon excursion
- June 23 - Feast of the Sacred Heart
- June 30 - Last day of Term 2
- July 17 - Term 3 commences

Overdue Library Books

There are currently a large number of overdue books from the library. Would you please check under the beds, in the toy chest, on the bookshelf, in the car in bags, wherever you like to read.

Bringing books back on time means that every student has a chance to read them.

Reading Challenge

Please remember that the St John the Apostle Reading Challenge is currently underway. Read 10 books this term and you could be in the running for a free book of your choice. Entry forms are available at the Library. Come and see us.

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 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 to Anthony V who achieved his Level 2 grading in Muay Thai yesterday. He's been working hard and is very, very pleased with his achievement. Well done Anthony!

Dance Crew

Ms Gomez and Ms Brown worked extremely hard on the choreography and getting the children ready for this performance. The kids performed amazingly! And the children lots of fun. They should be very proud of their performance.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

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



 **Kippax Kids**
Holiday Happenings
for Primary aged children
presented at
Kippax Uniting Community Centre
Hardwick Cres, Holt (opp Kippax Fair)
 **10 am - 2 pm**
Thursday July 6th & 13th 2017

Different craft, games, stories and activities each day 

Cost: \$5 per child, \$10 for two or more
in a family (covers craft, morning tea and drinks).

BYO lunch and hat.

Bookings *essential* - 6254 1733
An activity of Kippax Uniting Church

 