



# Presenting Primary

Regular Primary Newsletter

Edition 15 – 8 September 2016

Dear Families

With Parent/Teacher Interviews being held next week, most extra-curricular clubs and activities will not operate. There will not be any sports training or Running Club and Performing Arts groups will not meet except for Red Fire Choir, the Performance Dance Troupe and the Years 1 & 2 Dance Club. These three groups will rehearse in Week Ten. Chess Club will also take place next week and will recommence after the holidays on Monday 10 October.



## ON-LINE TUCKSHOP ORDERING

I am very pleased to inform you that online ordering for our Tuckshop is now available. This new service will be very helpful for families as they will no longer need to find loose change and paper bags to submit a tuckshop order.

The online system will operate through the very reputable Flexischools group and parents are encouraged to visit the Flexischools website, [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au) to learn more about the benefits of this online ordering system.

### How it works:

Parents need to register with Flexischools and create an account into which they top-up funds to pay for tuckshop items. They also need to add their children's names and year levels. Once registered, families are able to order meals. Separate orders need to be made for morning tea and lunch and for each child. Everything is completed online without the need for children to bring anything to school, which eliminates the problem of missing money and torn paper bags that have been a rather common occurrence. A step-by-step instruction sheet is included at the end of this newsletter and can also be found on our College website.

Tuckshop online ordering closes at 9.00am each day and no other orders can be processed after that time. Flexischools prepares labels with students' names and meals ordered, according to what families have submitted. The Tuckshop staff print the labels and adhere them to bags which are distributed to students with items ordered at morning tea and lunch. Students who have an ice block or slushy ordered will take their bag to the tuckshop to collect the ordered item.

Online ordering is only available for the primary campus at this stage. While we are transitioning to a full online ordering system during Term Four, families may continue to use paper bag ordering. However, this option will not be available from the commencement of Term One, 2017. All families wishing to use the Tuckshop from that time will be required to register with Flexischools and order through the online system.



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## WEEK TEN EVENTS

Term Three has been absolutely fabulous in so many ways and we conclude it next week with several special events.

### Interhouse Eisteddfod

Our annual Interhouse Eisteddfod commences on Monday 12 September with sections for individuals and small groups, in vocal, instrumental, dance and drama taking place throughout Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday at 1.30pm, the Dance-off between the Houses takes place and all students in Years 3 to 6 will participate. The House groups have been rehearsing each day and I am sure the competition is going to be very close.

At the conclusion of the House Dance-off, there will be a showcase of selected items that were outstanding in the Eisteddfod. The winning Eisteddfod House will be announced and trophies presented to those students who have achieved the highest points for their performances.

Parents are most welcome to attend and celebrate the Primary Performing Arts with us on the afternoon of Wednesday 14 September. The Eisteddfod Showcase is expected to commence at 2.00pm.

### Science Club Astronomy Night

On Monday 12 September, the Primary Science Club and Brisbane Astronomical Society are holding an Astronomy Night from 6.00pm to 7.30pm on the primary oval. Families of students in Years 4 to 6 wishing to attend this fun learning opportunity are asked to register with Mrs McConaghy via email [mmcconaghy@sjac.qld.edu.au](mailto:mmcconaghy@sjac.qld.edu.au) and bring along \$5 on the night.



There will be a range of hands-on science activities on offer including telescopes, moon biscuits, robots, rockets and space ice-cream. You will also be able to purchase a BBQ supper. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Let's Chat Education

Parents and students in Years 5 and 6 are invited to a special family workshop presented by 'Let's Chat Education' on Tuesday 13 September in the Primary Library, commencing at 6.30pm and finishing at 8.00pm.

'Let's Chat Education' is a highly regarded, specialised program that deals sensitively with the very personal topic of puberty and changing bodies. It is important that our children learn factual and age appropriate information about this topic, rather than gleaning information from elsewhere that could be incorrect and misleading. The presenters are skilled in building a positive environment where the students feel safe to discuss topics and ask questions. They also understand that families come from many different backgrounds and have different beliefs, values and opinions about this topic.

Coming along to this workshop offers children a good introduction to puberty and is a foundation for ongoing discussions with parents.



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## Walkathon

We are all very excited about our annual Walkathon to be held on Friday 16 September from 8.45am to 10.30am at the Primary Oval. This is great activity on which to end Term Three. The Walkathon is an initiative of the Supporters of Sport, a dedicated group of parents who are passionate about providing the best sporting opportunities for the students at St John's.

Not only do the children love this event, it is also a fabulous way for us to raise funds to contribute to our sporting program. Information about the Walkathon was sent home last week with your child. Please get behind this project and help your children find sponsors for their 'walk'. A canteen will also be open on the day for parents to purchase brewed coffee, tea and hot chocolate for \$3.50 each. All funds raised will go directly to supporting the programs at our school.

Children are to wear their sports uniforms for the Walkathon but are permitted to wear crazy socks and hats with their sports attire. Hats must be sun safe.



## Sports Assembly

On Friday 16 September we will hold a Sports Assembly in Living Faith Chapel to recognise the students who participated in Sport during the Term Three season. Families are invited to attend the assembly which will commence at 1.45pm.

## Vacation Care Program

We have an excellent program of activities developed for the coming Vacation Care period which commences on Monday 19 September. Families wishing to use this service should view the program on the College website, (located under the Enrolments tab) and complete the attached booking form, submitting it before the end of next week.

## TERM FOUR

### College Creations

Our annual Art Exhibition will open on Saturday 8 October at 1.00pm in Living Faith Chapel. A work of art from every student from Kindergarten to Year Six, will be on display and families are most welcome to come along to view the art and enjoy the atmosphere.



There will be a People's Choice Award on the day and families visiting the Exhibition will be encouraged to vote for the artworks they like the most by placing a small coloured dot next to their work of choice. The winner of the People's Choice award will receive a prize and an artwork from each class will be selected for framing and then placed on display in Living Faith Chapel for the coming year.

The College Creations Art Exhibition will be open in Living Faith Chapel from 1.00pm to 4.00pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Kindy and Prep Playdate

Families with children in Kindergarten and Prep are invited to come along to a playdate on Saturday 8 October from 1.00pm to 3.30pm, in the Prep playground. We ask parents to bring a small plate of food to



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be placed on the main table for all to enjoy and a drink for their own children. There will be chairs and coffee/tea available for the parents.

We have a lucky door prize for this event and each parent who attends the playdate will go into a draw to win either a hairdressing voucher, sponsored by Future Hair Design, Heathwood or one of 2 double passes to Rowdy Rascals, Jindalee. You must be in attendance to win the lucky door prize which will be drawn on the day.

For further information, please contact Roscoe Revelly, member of the P&F Committee on 0417 427 896. We hope to see you there.



## Operation Christmas Child

For a number of years now we have supported Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, which aims to give children in disadvantaged circumstances around the world, a Christmas gift. This is a such a worthwhile initiative bringing joy and happiness to the children and providing them with items for play and/or personal care, that they might not otherwise receive.

The initiative involves filling shoe boxes full of special items to send to children caught up in the midst of war, famine, natural disaster or extreme poverty. In a previous year our school sent 168 boxes to this worthwhile charity. This year we aim to send many more boxes to Operation Christmas Child.

To be part of this exciting project, all your child needs to do is to bring an item(s) to school and give it to their class teacher. To ensure we include the correct range of gifts, we request that you purchase a gift for the same age and gender as your child and refer to the guidelines provided. We also require shoeboxes covered in colourful Christmas paper. The lid and base need to be covered separately to comply with customs regulations. Each box requires \$9 to cover postage, so if you would like to assist in this area, your donation would be greatly appreciated. Please bring your items to school no later than Wednesday 14 October, 2016.



I encourage you to teach your children about the joy of giving at Christmas and involve them in selecting items for these Christmas shoe boxes. Together we can brighten the lives of many others.

Kind regards  
**Sandra Hawken**  
Head of Primary

## Gift Ideas for Boys or Girls

- **Something to love** (teddy bear, doll or soft toy etc.)
- **Something for school** (exercise book, pencil case, pens, pencils, colouring pencils, sharpener, eraser or chalk etc.)
- **Something to wear** (t-shirt, thongs, shorts, underwear, beanie or sandals etc.)
- **Something to play with** (tennis ball, cars, skipping rope, marbles, musical instrument or yo-yo etc.)
- **Something for personal hygiene** (soap and face washer, toothbrush, hairbrush, comb, hair-clips, or scrunchies etc. – no toothpaste please)
- **Something special** (carry bag, sunglasses, bangles, necklaces, craft kits, stickers, note or photo of yourself)



**Note: No liquids, glass, food, toy guns, used items or lollies please**