



Presenting Primary

Regular Primary Newsletter

Edition 14 – 25 August 2016

Dear Families



If you are at the Primary campus over the next few weeks, please take the time to visit the Library. It looks amazing. Each class has created a display featuring one of the books short listed by the Children's Book Council of Australia and the Library has come alive with colour and images. The theme for Book Week this year has been 'Australia – Story Country' and we have been enjoying a range of wonderful yarns and tales related to our country. Many of our students have created their own personal Australian story and these are also on display in the library.



Despite the wet weather on Wednesday morning, our Book Week Parade went ahead. The children loved the opportunity to dress up as a character from a favourite book and they all looked incredible. Thank you to the many parents who prepared costumes and to those who were able to stay for the parade.



On Tuesday evening, students in Years 3 to 6 attended a special Book Week Reading Hour in the Library and loved the experience of sitting around specially made 'camp fires' and listening to some Aussie stories. On Friday 26 August, the Library will be open in the evening again for the Early Years students to attend our annual Pyjama Party. This promises to be an exceptional event as well.

Story Time Fun

Monday 29 August is the day for our next Story Time Fun event. Pre-Kindy children are invited to come to the Library with an adult, between 8.45am and 9.15am, to listen to a story or two about insects and take home a special activity to try. We look forward to seeing you there.

Early Years Conference

On Wednesday 31 August we are hosting an Early Years' Conference in our Library for teachers of young children. Our guest speaker, Professor Michael Anderson, from Sydney University will talk about creativity and collaboration in the classroom and a number of teachers from other schools in Brisbane and Gold Coast will be in attendance. The afternoon session will see some of our own teachers showcasing the excellent initiatives we have in place at St John's. It is very pleasing to know that our teachers are leading the way in many educational practices and other schools are keen to learn from us.

Antipodeans Pizza Fundraiser

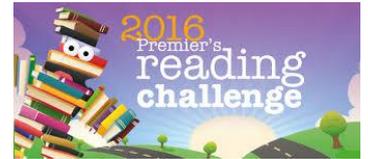
The St John's Antipodeans participants from the Secondary Campus are fundraising to help towards their community project in Cambodia next year. Please see the attached order form if you would like to order pizza for the last day of Term 3 on Friday 16 September. Monies and forms need to be returned to your classroom teacher by Monday 12 September.



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Premier's Reading Challenge

The closing date for the Premier's Reading Challenge is Friday 26 August. If students have not already submitted their completed reading log, they are encouraged to do so no later than Friday this week to ensure that they receive a certificate from the Premier.



Early Years Game Day

The Early Years children from Kindergarten to Year Two will participate in a Games Day on Tuesday 30 August. The morning of activities is centred around participation and having fun. Family members are most welcome to come along and cheer on their children. When the activities conclude at approximately 10.30am, the children will enjoy a picnic morning tea and parents are invited to join them. Supporters of Sport (SOS) will be running a canteen on the day and family members are encouraged to support this initiative by purchasing hot drinks (tea, coffee and hot chocolate \$3.50) and water (\$2.00) as well as small snacks (chocolate cake/lamington \$1.50) which can be enjoyed during the games and activities or afterwards at the picnic.

We sincerely thank the members of SOS for all the work they do in supporting the College and raising funds to enhance the opportunities for your children.

Combined Chapel Service

A combined Chapel Service for students in Years 3 to 10 will be held at the secondary campus on Friday 2 September. Students from the primary campus will travel by bus to College Avenue to attend this special service, commencing at 2.00pm. They will return to the primary campus by 3.00pm.

ABCC

Our After and Before College Care (ABCC) provides a wonderful service to our College community. We adhere to a strict staffing ratio that we cannot exceed. Parents wishing to use ABCC are asked make a booking at least 48 hours prior to requiring the service so that appropriate staffing levels can be organised. We do understand that in emergencies parents may not be able to give 48 hours' notice and we can usually accommodate a child or two in these circumstances. However, when a few families are contacting ABCC on the day that care is required, it can be very difficult to organise extra staff members at the last minute.

We encourage families to make a booking in advance if they need to use ABCC so that we can ensure the best care for all children in attendance and maintain excellent staffing ratios. Thank you for assisting us in this matter.

Australian Girls' Choir

This week the girls in Years 1 to 6 received a flyer about the Australian Girls' Choir.

Representatives from the Australian Girls' Choir will be at our primary campus on Thursday 1 September, conducting a free assessment workshop at 1.30pm in the Music Room. The workshop will take approximately half an hour. If you are interested in your daughter participating in this assessment, for possible selection into the Australian Girls' Choir, please complete the form on the flyer and return it to Primary Reception no later than Tuesday 30 August.



Science Club Night Under the Stars

Please see the attached information flyer regarding the upcoming Night Under the Stars hosted by St John's Science Club and the Brisbane Astronomical Society on Monday 12 September from 6.00pm for Year 4 to 6 students. Sign on sheets are located outside the Year 4 to 6 classrooms and the \$5 fee includes all activities and an ice cream. Supper will also be available for purchase on the night.

Kind regards

Sandra Hawken
Head of Primary