



**Saint John the Apostle
Primary School Florey**



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Term 4, Week 9 2019

From the Principal



Dear St John the Apostle Primary School Community,

This Sunday is the Third Sunday of Advent. While the last two Sundays have been about hope and peace, this Sunday is about JOY.

There is a difference on the advent wreath this Sunday. The third candle is pink, or more traditionally 'rose'. It marks the middle of advent and the liturgy at mass has a focus on rejoicing. Where purple is the usual colour of lent and advent, both times of waiting and preparing, the rose coloured candle reminds us of the joy that we feel at the coming of Jesus.

December is a very stressful time of year for everyone. There is much to do at work to be able to take leave. There are many plans to be made for Christmas activities and celebrations. Everyone is having a Christmas party. Sometimes, those tasks you've been meaning to get to all year become more urgent to do now.

This Sunday in advent is all about pausing to remember and be joyful about all that is good in our lives and worth celebrating. It may take a little effort amidst the busy-ness but I'm pretty sure we can all find at least one great joy to remember and thank God for this weekend (you send them to us every weekday).

Year 6 Graduation

On Wednesday night we celebrated the Year 6 Graduation Mass. It was a beautiful celebration for a wonderful group of students. We were all very proud. Thank you to Mrs Stewart, Mr Gibson, Mrs Fear and Mr Ganley for organising the evening. Congratulations to all of our Year 6 students. An additional congratulations to the following Year 6 Award winners:

Discipleship	Annet Thomas Amelia Ayton
Christian Leadership	Bryce Cover Miller Ward
Academic Excellence	Germana Gualtieri Olivia Monahan
Outstanding Effort	Isabella Pitt Ethan Talip
Citizenship	Emma Nicholson Mia Givens
Rotary Citizenship Award	Cooper Spence

Thank you to Ginninderra Rotary for their contribution to recognising excellence and service in our student leaders.

Staffing 2020

Thank you for waiting patiently for the news of teachers in each year level next year. There have been a few last minute changes. Our teachers for next year will be:

Kindergarten	Mrs Rebecca Stevenson Miss Sarah Collins
Year 1	Ms Melinda Taylor Miss Charlie McIver
Year 2	Miss Ellen Fletcher Miss Ruth Blackwell
Year 3	Ms Alison Ewyk

	Miss Ashleigh van Kemenade
Year 4	Mr Brett Seaman Ms Allison Lock
Year 5	Mr Ryan Spencer Mrs Bree Dess
Year 6	Mrs Stephanie Stewart/Mrs Serae Love TBA

You will notice that there is still a position to be filled in Year 6. We will be working hard over the coming weeks to recruit the best person for this position and will announce the teacher once it is filled. An exciting 2020 is ahead.

School Fees 2020

Attached to the newsletter this week are our school fees for 2020.

As you would expect, there will be a small increase in the school fees. This is firstly due to Catholic Education undertaking their annual increase in the Catholic Education Tuition Fee that is standard across all ACT Catholic Primary Schools.

The Community Council also approved a small increase in our Student Resource Levy and our School Levy for three main reasons:

- there are annual small increases in our running costs including student stationary and consumables, bus hire and cleaning;
- the new playground changes will begin next year and we want to maintain the momentum;
- the Community Council agreed earlier this year that a school managed model for student access and use of technology was more preferred than a BYOD model that places more burden on families and is less manageable by the school. The small fee increases enable the school to provide this opportunity for students more effectively.

Please always remember that it is the policy of Catholic Education that 'no child shall be denied a Catholic Education based on the inability to pay school fees'. If ever you are experiencing difficulty in meeting your commitments to school fees please make contact with Debbie, our Finance Manager, to see if you are eligible for a fee remission.

Student Reports, Semester 2

You will have received your child's/children's Semester 2 report on Wednesday. I hope you enjoyed reading about their achievements. I encourage you to contact their teacher if anything needs clarifying or you would like to know more. The Parenting Ideas article this week is a guide to useful questions that you may like to ask them.

One more week to go everyone! Have a lovely weekend.

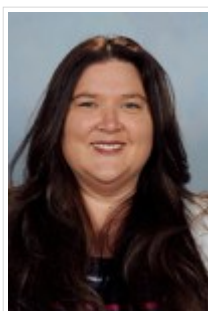
Kind regards,

Matthew Garton (*Principal*)

Please note that the last day of school for 2019 is Thursday 19 December.

For those requiring care for their child on Friday 20 December, Camp Australia have places available.

Catholic Life & Reflection



Each
year as
we

M|❤️ S|C *To be on earth
the heart of God.*

watch our Year 6 students graduate I get a little nostalgic. I remember their younger faces, scraped knees, crooked hats and lost lunch orders. And it seems but a moment and they are off to high school.

Wednesday night was Year 6 graduation. As I was packing up one child appeared from the crowd and gave a big squeeze, whispered, "I'll miss you" and disappeared back into the crowd again. In another moment some parents got a little misty when the blessing song was sung.

I was so taken by the overwhelming joy, the community, but mostly the love in the room that night. The love of that surrounded each of our students. Love from their families, love from their teachers and love from the parish.

We pride ourselves on being on earth the heart of God. Our MSC charism speaks of love and faith with a healthy dose of humour thrown in. Wednesday night's graduates have shown us that in many ways throughout the year that they hold our charism in their heart.

Wherever they go in life I hope that the love they experience here in their formative years goes with them.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved...forever.

God bless,

Stephanie Stewart
Religious Education Coordinator

Notices from the Parish

https://stjohnflorey.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2505/2019_flyer_electronic_version.pdf

If you would like to read items of interest from the latest Parish Newsletter ('Compact') please click on the link below.

Happy Birthday

https://www.youtube.com/embed/sFv_YvISXcl?showinfo=1&rel=0

Happy birthday to Abbey W, Hayden S, Matilda M, Claire B, Hayley B, Abhinav B and Anabelle-Louise T who all celebrated a birthday over the last week.

End of Term Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received the End of Term Awards at the assembly on Monday afternoon.



	Academic	Consistent Effort	Discipleship		Academic	Consistent Effort	Discipleship
KB	Grace R Vincent N	Jonah T Rohan D	Kiri F Penelope P	KM	Xavier G Ethan Z	Amelia S James M	Sofia Noah
1B	Sophia N Emilio V	Charlotte S Jack R	Ky M Elizabeth C	1M	Abbey W Leo J	Adrienne M Kelvin N	Elijah Lillian
2B	Amelia M Sophie R	Cameron F Jacob N	Tyler R Indiana E	2M	Olivia T Lovette E	Layla P Cameron M	Erin V Bier A
3B	Amy S Elizabeth D	Claire B Francesca M	Adelaide N Klaudia S	3M	Daniel S Neroli D	Lucas M Alexis B	Daven M Bhaskar P
4B	Lachlan S Zachary M	Finn P Theodore P	Miles M Ronan H	4M	Cooper W Genelson K	Huon H Karam H	Samsara R Hudson H
5B	Olivia G Darcy M	Alicia O Brianna R	Sabeen A Maddison O	5M	Jedd W Antara D	Jaxon R Poppy E	Mark Sienna
6B	Anotida Z Lidia S	Dihini S Amen E	Harrison M Annabel B	6M	Mia G Olivia M	Ava N Brodie S	Aidan B Isabella H



School Fee Schedule 2020

http://stjohnflorey.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2526/fees_schedule_2020_fortnightly_break_up.pdf

Candle Ceremony

The Candle Ceremony will be held in the hall next Thursday 19 December at 9:10am. Parents and carers of Year 5 and 6 students are welcome to attend. The Candle Ceremony is a handover of leadership from the Year 6 students to the Year 5 students.



Student Achievements

Congratulations Izabella H who received her First Holy Communion on Sunday 8 December at the Polish centre, John Paul II Church in Narrabundah. Izabella has been preparing for this sacrament all year attending classes at the Polish centre since February 2019.

Library News



What a fantastic year it has been in the Library. Thank you to our brilliant parent volunteers who have supported our Library by donating books or assisting with Library jobs and activities throughout the year. Your help has been much appreciated.

Special thanks to our Year 6 Library Monitors and Volunteers for 2019

Our Library also had a wonderful team of Year 6 students who assisted with shelving, tidying and other activities. The Library Monitors gave up their lunchtimes to serve the school community and we give a huge thank you to them for their enthusiasm and hard work. We couldn't have done it without you!

Holiday Reading

It is vital that we continue to encourage our children to read widely and often whilst they are on holidays. Research shows that when students return to school after a long break, their reading ability can also have dropped. So keep it fun, read together, give books as gifts, whatever it takes to keep them interested!

Overdue Books

Thank you to all the families who have brought their library books back. There are still however a large number of classroom books, readers and Library books still unaccounted for. Notices have been emailed this week and hard copies were given to students. Please have a good look over the weekend. All books are due back now.

If a book has been damaged or lost, we would appreciate replacement of the book or a contribution of \$8.00. This can be paid on Qkr!.

Happy reading!

Mrs Georgina Jaram (Teacher/
Librarian)

Mrs Vanessa Hallaj (Library Assistant)



You may like to keep an eye out for any specials during January or even keep the fete in mind if there is anything you may need to re-gift after Christmas Day!

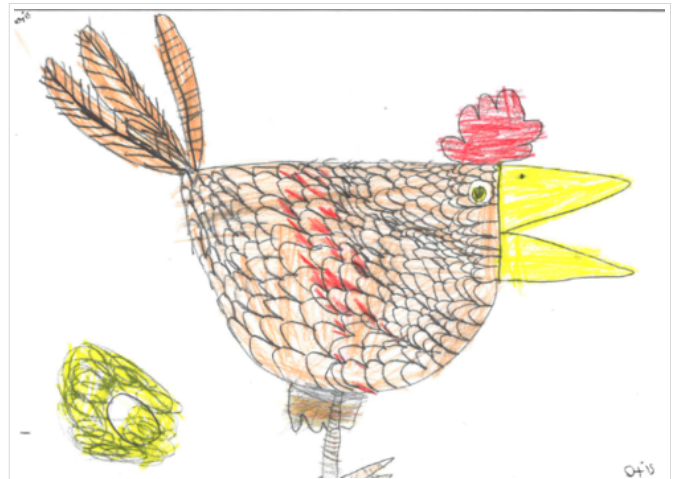


End of Term Special Lunch

https://stjohnflorey.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2490/end_or_term_special_lunch_sjaps_t4_christmas_2019.pdf

The Chicken - Otis Hogg 3M

When the chicken was in the egg. He got laid outside of the coup. Then the bird saw the egg and took it. – By Otis 3M



Fete Update

FETE UPDATE

SJAPS FETE 21 FEBRUARY 2020

A Mufti Day will be held on the first **Thursday** of term next year, **6 February 2020**. We will be asking all families to donate items for our hampers, kids and wine tombola and chocolate toss.



Work and attitude

Is my child's overall academic performance on track?

Expect to know how your child has performed in all curriculum areas according to expectations for his age and stage. Use age expectations as your benchmark, avoiding peer and sibling comparisons.

What do the results mean?

Sometimes school-based assessments, and the language used in reporting can be difficult to understand in lay-person's terms. If unsure, ask for clarification of results in general terms without getting lost in the minute detail.

Does my child need help in any areas?

It helps to know if your child is falling behind in a particular subject or set of skills so you can formulate an improvement plan.

How can I help at home?

There may be specific things to do at home to help your child such as extra reading, giving more responsibility or special home activities that you can think about for the following year.

What are my child's strengths?

If a child is struggling, then identifying his or her strengths will boost your confidence and provide valuable information to work with.

Does my child try hard at school?

Understanding your child's attitude to work is important to form a rounded picture. Some kids perform to a good standard but don't exert themselves. Others work hard to achieve more modest results. Effort matters.

Does my child complete most of his tasks?

If the answer to this question is no, then explore possible reasons with the teacher. Was the work too hard? Does your child have a problem finishing work? Does he get easily distracted?

When does my child produce his best work?

Some kids work better on their own; some love to work in groups; some love repetitive work; others love creative tasks; some excel outside the classroom; and some love working in specific subjects. Knowing your child's strengths and interests will help provide a positive direction for the following year.

Behaviourally, socially and emotionally

Has my child been happy at school?

A child's well-being is a good indicator of their academic success, their attitude to learning and to school. Be aware that many factors can impact a child's well-being, but getting the teacher's perspective is extremely helpful.

How has my child behaved this year?

Ask for a snapshot of your child's in-class and playground behaviour including how he behaves for other teachers and his behaviour toward his peers.

Parenting Ideas

Insightful questions to ask teachers at end-of-year interviews



By Michael Grose

An informative parent-teacher interview can give you a wonderful insight into your child's academic performance, work attitude and social abilities. It can provide valuable information to assist your child next year to continue his or her improvement in the following year.

Prepare yourself before your interview so you can maximise the time you spend with your child's teacher. These insightful questions will help.

What messages should I give my child at home about their behaviour?

Teachers generally have a valuable perspective about your child's behaviour based on experience and broad behavioural norms. Use this perspective to guide your child toward positive behaviours in the following year.

How does my child get along with others?

How a child interacts socially inside and outside the classroom will help give you a well-rounded picture. It's also an area that may need to be addressed in the following year with your child's teacher, should problems be identified.

Other questions

Did anything surprise you about my child this year?

The answer to this open-ended question may provide you with a delightfully different insight into your child's year at school.

What advice do you have for helping my child improve in any area we've discussed?

You don't want to leave an interview feeling overwhelmed with areas that need improving, but it's useful to identify one or two areas of focus for the coming year.

Do you have any further advice or information for me?

This is another open-ended question that could provide an unexpected, even important insight into your child.

This list of questions is a guide only. Choose your own questions according to what you'd like to know. Be prepared, be friendly and be prepared to take the teacher's feedback on board and the interview is sure to go well.

Camp Australia Holiday Program

https://stjohnflorey.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2483/camp_australia_holiday_program_st_john_the_apostle_summer_2020.pdf

Community Notices

Calisthenics

A THEATRICAL DANCE SPORT COMBINING ELEMENTS OF BALLET, JAZZ, LYRICAL, ACRO, SINGING & RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS INTO THE 1 CLASS! BUILD CONFIDENCE & LIFELONG FRIENDSHIPS WHILST HAVING FUN

Join Evatt Calisthenics in 2020!
Come & try, classes commence February
Email evattcalsecretary@gmail.com



This Saturday (13 December 2019) at 8:30am is your last chance before the Christmas break to see the Junior Blasters Cricket Program ran by the Ginninderra Cricket Club at 'The Nest'.

Located behind the car park of the Belconnen Raiders Club, this very professional program gives kids (and parents) a purpose on Saturday morning, develops teamwork, improves physical skills and improves emotional resilience. Parents can take a break from their smart phones and join in with the activities by helping the instructor with the various drills and listening exercises.

Three times a year, kids can also attend intensive (yet fun) training on a Sunday at the indoor ACT Cricket Centre in Woden.

Kanga Cricket in the 1980s was highly subscribed – Junior Blasters is even better but the school needs need more representatives, like Cameron and Mason F pictured here.

There is still time to join the season, and for \$100 you will get all the training (recommences Term 1), a personalised shirt, bat, ball, hat and more...

All the details are at: <https://www.playcricket.com.au/club-finder/club-details?Id=3334&postcode=2617&disability=1,2,4,8,16>

See you there on Saturday!

