St John’s Spectacular Showcase was a roaring success with many talented students and teachers dazzling the audience with their performances. We would like to thank everyone who attended on the night to support Catholic Mission and the Breast Cancer Foundation as approximately $1500 was raised for both charities. During the night, we were treated to many incredible dancing and singing acts, revealing some of the hidden talents of St John’s students and teachers. Congratulations to all those who participated! A big thank you goes to all of the Year Elevens who stepped up and gave a hand in setting up, selling raffle tickets and running the tuckshop; the technology team who created the incredible sound and lighting effects and the unbelievable MCs, the school Prefects, who ran an amazing night! A special mention goes to Mrs Carr and Miss Topic, who put in many hours of organisation to ensure the night was a success. Without the help and contribution of all those involved, the night could not have been as successful and spectacular as it was.

Mrs Carr and Miss Topic are calling on Lidy who was the 2nd prize winner in the raffle. Please claim your prize at the office by this Friday 12th June or there will be a redraw.

It really was SPECTACULAR!
See the Gallery for more photos
Impressive
Dazzling
Sensational
Dramatic
SPECTACULAR!!

Spectacular Showcase 2015
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As our community would be aware, we want to develop our students “to respond to Jesus by striving for personal excellence (being the best we can be), having the courage of their convictions and being active agents of change”. In short, we want our girls to become women and our boys to become men. As our children grow up, we talk about moving young people from being “the centre of the universe” to being a part of the universe, where they realise that they are personally accountable for their actions and accept responsibility for “the tribe” and from dependent to mutually respectful relationships. All ancient groups of people marked this transition to adulthood with significant ceremonies called “rites of passage”. These rituals have been diluted or even lost in modern society. Adolescence today tends to extend for longer than it should because we don’t ritualise those moments when we expect our young people to become responsible adults. Since our society no longer provides these markers, young people of today invent them for themselves. They manufacture their own challenges, usually by taking risks, and usually in the absence of loving adult mentors. This is similar to Steve Biddulph’s finding as quoted in his book, “Raising Boys”, ‘where gangs predominate, fathers are absent.’

We need to acknowledge the unique gifts, the genius and the vibrant spirit of every young person in our community. I especially appreciated the insight that the root word of ‘genuine’ is also the root word of ‘genius’. We can always be a genius at being who we are. If we are the author of our own story, then we are authoritative and authentic. We need to nurture our teenagers into their own adulthood by sharing stories, providing appropriate challenges and honouring each individual. The key for a school is to provide opportunities for all students to be involved in activities where they thrive, so that they develop a mastery of something early on – something for which they can become famous.

Maggie Dent, author of “Some Secrets for the Modern-Day Mammoth Hunter: Becoming and Being a Good Man” also argues that rites of passage are powerful pathways to enabling boys to become good men.

St John’s is committed to producing fine young men and women who are faith filled and who will make a positive contribution to their communities. Our vision for our Rite of Passage Program is:

“The St John’s Rite of Passage Program, in partnership with families, is transforming our children into young adults who are reaching their true potential both as individuals and within the global community.”

Over the next few years, we will refine our practices, such as our Camps, Year 12 Retreat and our Graduation Ceremony to ensure that we challenge, honour and create teachable stories for our young men and women.

---

**Tuesday June 9**
P&F Meeting

**Monday, June 15-18**
Years 11 & 12 Exam Block

**Monday June 22**
Leadership Interviews

**Thursday June 25**
Year 11 Leadership Dinner

**Friday, June 27**
St John’s Day and Student Leaders Induction Mass

---

**Reflection**

“Going into the unknown teaches us more about life and more about ourselves than anything stable and defined can ever do. Uncertainty and expectation are the joys of life.”

William Congreve

Nicholas Lynch
Principal
Year Eight Religion.

*Year Eight students are exploring the question, “Who rocked the Church?”*

We have been discovering the preaching, achievements and challenges of the earliest followers of Jesus. Students are introduced to the significant challenges and changes in the Church from c.650 CE – c. 1750 CE and the influence of the significant people, groups and ideas, which are active in the world today.

The students investigated a saint who had an impact on the Church. The following are students’ comments regarding their saint:

Hannah Hughes - John of the Cross was a part of the Carmelite Order.
He believed that people of his time should be more traditional with their prayers.

Mark John Jocson - St Thomas Aquinas had the greatest impact on the Church because of his teachings.

Arabella Neil - Joan of Arc. At the age of 18, she led an army at the Battle of Orleans and she won it for France.

Grace Harvey - Catherine of Siena. At the young age of 16, she wanted to devote her life to God. She had a huge impact on peacemaking between countries.

*Lisa Kynoch*
*Year Eight Religion*

Year Nine Information and Communication Technology

During Term Two, the Year Nine ICT class has been designing and managing a web site, blog and forum. They have investigated the use of a corporate image and how logos and colours are used to create an identity. Students used Weebly to design and create their web sites. Edublogs was used to create a blog.

Students chose a topic, for example, guitars, craft, scrap booking and gaming which was interesting to them. For example guitars, craft, scrap booking and gaming. Students promoted their sites by email, word of mouth and some used Instagram.

*Steve Swires*
*Information and Communication Technology Teacher*
Students have been investigating their own special places.

This term, students have been investigating and explaining their own special places and their features. Students have been identifying why places are special for certain people and have been representing their own special places by using pictorial maps. Below are students suggestions on ways in which we can care for our special places in our community.

Jackson: We can take care of our school by putting rubbish in the bin.
Tabole: We can take care of Roma by not wasting water.
Sienna: I can take care of my bedroom by keeping it clean.

Kirsten Cochran, Lena Marsh and Claire Angus
Prep Teachers

In Maths this term, we have looked at 2D shapes, symmetry and area. We worked with the different types of 2D shapes to create symmetrical designs. In our assessment, we used our knowledge of 2D shapes, scale, area and symmetry to design what our own bedroom would look like. We had to create a feature tile wall and a floor mat using 2D shapes that created a symmetrical pattern. This term, we have also looked at place value and are currently looking at patterns in multiplication to help with remembering our number facts.

Danielle King and Michaeala Wehl
Year Four Teachers

This term for English, Year Five has been looking at information reports. Throughout the term, students were given opportunities to look at, compare and develop a variety of information reports. For our assessment, students became news reporters. They combined skills and knowledge learnt in Geography to write a news article on a particular Flood or Fire that had occurred in South America or Europe.

The real fun started when they then changed their written news article into a live news report using Moviemaker. Students’ dramatic side came to life when they started filming themselves and the primary courtyard became a live news studio. Students thoroughly enjoyed this unit which was evident in the final assessment pieces.

Fletcher Casey
Year Five Teacher
SECONDARY GIRLS CHOIR AT CHORAL FANFARE Third Place

St John’s Girls Choir also performed at St John’s Spectacular Showcase.

CHORAL SHOWCASE - PRIMARY CHOIR FIRST PLACE

St John’s Girls Primary Choir - awarded a Gold Award

Last Thursday, the Secondary Girls’ Choir (Hannah Hughes, Grace McGrath, Arabella Neil, Maddie McInnerney, Libby Partridge and Sarah Hall), competed in the Southwest Catholic Regional School Choir Competition, better known as “Choral Fanfare”. A number of school choirs across the region (including our award winning Primary School Choir) brought their best voices to the competition. The girls sung the well-known song from Shrek, “Halleluiah”, and sounded like angels. The comments from the adjudicator discussed their ability to blend harmonies and how good their tone as group sounded.

The girls were judged on individual merit and came away from the competition with a third placing.

This was the first time the Secondary Girls’ Choir had performed as a group in public and they did an absolutely amazing job. They are to be congratulated for all the hard work that they put in during rehearsals and the time they gave up for the choir.

Miss White and Ms Smith, the co-conductors of the Secondary Girls’ Choir, could not be prouder of their accomplishments.

In addition to this, they then went on to perform at the Spectacular St John’s Showcase that evening.

St John’s has been known for producing award-winning choirs, and the Secondary Girls’ Choir is looking like it will definitely carry on the tradition.

Petrina Smith and Holly White
Secondary Girls Choir

Congratulations to the twenty-nine students from Years Four to Six who were awarded a Gold Award for their performance at the first Choral Showcase Competition, held in Roma. It was wonderful to sing against choirs from St George, Chinchilla, Surat and Roma.

We were honoured with an invitation to attend the Regional Showcase Concert in Toowoomba this Thursday. However, due to time constraints and lack of numbers we will not be able to make the trip.

Well done, Primary Choir!

Carmel Treasure
Primary Girls Choir

Lord of the Flies - Working Bee

A BIG thank you to Mrs Nerva and Mrs Smith who spent their Monday holiday with Cast members of this year’s production “Lord of the Flies”. Students are working well – but there is a lot left to do before we will be ready to take the stage.

Reminder: Speaking Cast Rehearsal after school Wednesday, and All Cast Members will need to be at school this coming Saturday (13th June) 2 - 5pm.

HELPERS NEEDED

Our Props team, led by Tracey Regan, Jenny Eeles and Bernie Anderson, will be meeting after school on Wednesday afternoons. If you have free time between 3.15 - 5pm, they would love to meet with you outside the Art Room. Email carmel.treasure@twb.catholic.edu.au if you are able to come along, or if you need any information. We will be meeting on Wed 10th, Wed 17th and Wed 25th June.

Carmel Treasure
Music Teacher
Our Resource Centre staff would like to extend an invitation to all St John's parents and grandparents to attend our Scholastic Book Fair in the last week of this term: 22nd to 26th June 2015.

The theme for the Book Fair is Kings, Queens and CASTLES and we are planning some extraordinary displays around this theme to create a medieval atmosphere for you to enjoy your book purchases.

This is a snippet of some of the activities and events we have planned:

• Devonshire Tea will be served at 9.30 am each day at the Kings and Queens Café located at the entrance to the Resource Centre. Our hospitality students will be providing freshly baked scones which will be served with your choice of tea or coffee. A gold coin donation would be appreciated with funds raised to be donated to the Breast Cancer Foundation.

• A Photo Booth will be set up in the library so that you can capture the medieval experience. Choose from our various costume items to create your own unique “medieval” individual or family shot. Cost for photos will be advised.

• Student activities will be conducted throughout the week providing chances for students to win Scholastic Book Vouchers to cash in at the Fair.

Scholastic will supply us with an extensive range of books for a range of different ages and reading levels. Prior to the Fair, students will have the opportunity to make a wish list of books they would like to purchase. Funds raised from the Book Fair will be allocated to updating our library resources.

So, we hope you will join us in our Kingdom of Books Medieval Book Fair, relax and enjoy a cuppa and purchase some awesome Scholastic books in an atmosphere of great FUN!

Jenny Eeles - Teacher Librarian
St John’s School

29 Duke Street
Roma, Queensland 4455
Phone: (07) 46 221 842
roma@twb.catholic.edu.au
www.stjohnsroma.com.au

Editors
Jenny Ford
Yenda Emery

Edition
Term 2 Week 8

In the next issue

*Prep to Year Six*
Year One - English
Year Three - Maths
Year Six - Science
EALD - Reflections of an EALD student

*Years Seven to Twelve*
Year Seven - Science
Year Eleven - Furnishing
QCS

We acknowledge the original inhabitants of this land, the Mandandanji people, and show our respect for their ancestors and traditions.