Last Friday, we welcomed our grandparents and special relatives to St John’s as we celebrated their special day. This included an assembly where the students were able to showcase their many talents including singing, acting and dancing. Classroom visits and a morning tea followed. Special thanks goes to Mr Steve Swires who spoke on the assembly about what being a grandparent means to him.

It was a wonderful morning and it was fantastic to see so many grandparents and special relatives in attendance. Thank you to everyone who came and helped make it such a successful event.

Kaylene Keleher
Prep Teacher
Grandparents and Relatives Day
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Being thankful:
Sometimes you can feel personally offended when your children are not thankful for all you provide for them, or they complain about what they can't have. Unfortunately, if they persist with such an attitude, they will ultimately hurt themselves by not being able to enjoy the life they have.

The author of 'Teaching your Kids to Care' writes “it is normal and natural for young children to believe everyone in the world exists for their benefit. Thankfulness is just not part of their job description.” Part of our role as parents (teachers) is to lead our children (students) out of their internal focus and prompt them into a ‘thank you’ attitude towards people around them, upon whom they rely so completely. As life goes on, teaching an attitude of being thankful will continue even into the teenager years.

On a side note – I have, over the past five to six years been impressed with our secondary students, who have thanked their teachers after each lesson.

In Positive Education, being thankful is a major part of our inner harmony. Within our lives, being thankful can be like Superglue, as it gives a strong sense of hope and confidence about the future. With life as busy as it is, we don't seem to take the time to count our blessings, to be thankful for all the positives in our lives.

My current Year Twelve Religion and Ethics class has been exploring three types of thinking: critical, creative and reflective. Reflective thinking has looked at our conscience, our inner life. If we apply this to being thankful, our question is “What kind of attitude are we projecting?” Are we content with our possessions, our clothes, our appearance? Are we making use of what we have and telling children to play with the toys and games they already have. Do we see the larger world of need around us or is the focus simply on ourselves? As parents and educators, we might hope that our children will learn to be thankful for the way we live our lives. We can tell them how thankful we are to have them in our lives. We can spend more time with them instead of buying them new toys and so teach them the value of relationships over material gifts. We can tell our children that we like it when they say “thank you.”

Say No to Bullying Week.
This week, there are a lot of activities focusing on “saying no to Bullying”, with an emphasis on what bystanders should be doing and not doing. I commend last week’s article by Cathy Perkins as a must read to all parents.

Events in this month

**Monday - Thursday, March 14 - 17**
Years 11 & 12 Exam Block

**Tuesday - Thursday, March 15 - 17**
DDSW Sec Schools Instrumental Music Camp

**Monday - Thursday, March 21 - 24**
Year Eleven Leadership Camp

**Monday, March 21**
World Harmony Day

**Thursday, March 24**
Last Day of Term 1
Current NEWS!

**Homework Club**
Homework Club will not be on next Tuesday March 22. We will resume Week Two, Term Two (Tuesday April 19). Homework Club is run on a Tuesday in the Resource Centre from 3.00 pm until 4.00pm. All students from Prep to Year Twelve are most welcome.

**Futsal**
Due to Exam Block this week, futsal has been cancelled.

**Tuckshop**
All P-Six school students must remember that if they want tuckshop they will need to order through the brown paper bag system. We are still happy to sell the P - Six students ice blocks etc. however we will not sell anything over the counter to P - Six students until all children with tuckshop bags have been filled and the Seven - Twelve students have been served.
Also, the last day of term 24th March will be a RED food day. We will have large pies available and a few other special treats; we will advise more closer to the time.

**Thank you**
Anita Crawford

**SOS**
St John’s ‘The Wizard of Oz’ production is in desperate need of an adult tinman costume for our latest production. If anyone can help us out, please contact Yenda Emery 46221842

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**Palm Sunday**
This Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. It starts off with Palm Sunday (Passion Sunday) to signal the full reading of the Passion narratives in Scriptures which provides the framework of the week. It reminds us that, at the moment of what seems to be the height of Jesus’ public acceptance, also begins the process of his public betrayal. On Palm Sunday, we are forced to remember the distance between apparent public success and personal commitment. These 1st days of Holy Week confirm; there are some things worth living for, even if we find ourselves having to die for them as well.

**Reflection**
If the only prayer you say in your life is “thank you” that would suffice. Unstinting gratitude saves us from the sense of self sufficiency that leads to forgetfulness of God.

Meister Eckhart.

Yours sincerely,
Nicholas Lynch

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**Interim Reports and Parent /Teacher Interviews**
Term One Interim Reports will be issued to parents/caregivers on April 21. (Thursday Week Two Term Two). The Parent / Teacher Interviews that were scheduled for Tuesday March 22 in Week Nine of Term One have been changed to Tuesday April 26 (Week Three of Term Two).
Parent Teacher Interviews can be booked by phoning the front office. It is important to book these times in advance during Week One and Week Two of Term Two.
Due to the fact that there is a Public Holiday on Monday April 25, there will be limited time to make interview times between when the reports are distributed on Thursday April 21 and Parent /Teacher Interviews on Tuesday April 26.

**Summary**
April 11 - 22 - Parent Teacher Interview times to be booked through front office
(Weeks One & Two)
Thursday April 21 - Interim Reports distributed via students
Friday April 22 - If the Interview Requested box has been ticked and parents have not already made an interview time, it is important to ring the school office and book an interview time on this day.

**Monday April 25 - ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY**
Tuesday April 26 - Parent / Teacher Interviews 3.15pm – 7pm
Easter in the Country

BE PART OF THE ST JOHN’S FLOAT –
LET’S MAKE IT GREAT!

This year we have chosen to use the float as a way to advertise the upcoming (and very popular) school musical, “The Wizard of Oz”. However, we really want to involve the whole school in the float, not just the students who are planning to perform in the show.

In order for us to ‘tell’ the story of “The Wizard of Oz” we need students who are prepared to dress up as any of the characters from the play. Please have a look, and check your dress-up box from home to see if you would be able to help us make this year’s float amazing!

We need students to play these parts -
1. Dorothys
2. Tinmen, Lions, Scarecrows
3. Munchkins
4. Wizards
5. Good and bad witches
6. Monkeys
7. Winkie Guards
8. Ozians

Please return the form below to the school office, your Form teacher or to Mrs Anne Moloney to help us plan this special Roma event. We hope to see as many students as possible involved with this year’s Easter in the Country parade!

The _____________________________ Family will be in Roma for Easter, and our children would like to be part of the St John’s parade.

Student name: _______________________ Year: ___ Part: ______________________

Student name: _______________________ Year: ___ Part: ______________________

Student name: _______________________ Year: ___ Part: ______________________

I would like to assist decorating the float on Fri Sat?  Yes/ No

Signed _____________________________________________________________________
Mum’s the word at the

St John’s Mother’s Day Stall

To be held in the P & F shed on
Thursday, 7th May 2016
8am - 11am

The stall will offer gifts for students to purchase and take home to surprise those they cherish for Mother’s Day.

Prices of gifts will range between $2 and $15 so there will be something for every student’s budget.

Secondary student’s are welcome before school from 8am and during first break.

For further information please contact Anna Lucas on 0418 268 431 or email at jdlucas@bigpond.net.au

The St John’s Mother’s Day Stall is a fundraiser for the St John’s Parent and Friends Committee and any monies raised will be used to fund future initiatives to benefit the school and its students.
ST JOHN’S SCHOOL PRESENTS

the
Wizard
of
OZ

DATES/TIMES
APRIL 21-23, 2016
DOORS OPEN FROM 6.30PM
SHOW COMMENCES 7.00PM

LOCATION
ROMA CULTURAL CENTRE
59 BUNGIL ST, ROMA

COSTS
$10 PER TICKET
OR FAMILY OF FOUR FOR $35

FOR GROUP BOOKINGS CONTACT
MRS SARAH NERVA AT THE SCHOOL

AN ALL AGES EVENT
PROGRAMMES AT THE DOOR
AND CANTEEN FACILITIES ON THE NIGHT

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT
ST JOHN’S SCHOOL OFFICE, KIMLIN’S CAMPING WORLD,
AND AT THE CULTURAL CENTRE ON THE NIGHT.
Faith, Life and Culture

As Dean of Faith, Life and Culture I am concerned with ensuring that all students have the opportunities to be successful at school. One of these ways is to make sure that students understand how to use their draft opportunities well. On Tuesday last week at the Year Seven Social Capabilities and Problem Solving Day, students were given the fine details of how to use the Assessment Task Sheet to their advantage. We talked about how to read the front page carefully so you know when due dates are, so you know what the conditions of assessment are, so you know how it should be presented, right down to the fact that you should actually write your name and teacher’s name on the front sheet! Important information for all. As the year progresses, as part of the curriculum team, I will be overseeing programing, assessment pieces and ensuring that your children have good chances to show excellence in their work, that assessment is achievable and that as teachers we are showing values of respect and compassion towards all.

I am also involved in the school’s Religious Education Program, teaching Years Seven, Eight, Nine and Ten. Our Year Eleven and Twelve students sit their first exams this week. Here are ten useful tips:

1. Ensure you have all the necessary equipment.
2. Listen to and read any instructions carefully.
3. Use your reading time.
4. Break the questions down.
5. Start with answering the questions about which you feel most confident.
7. You’ve got plenty of time, so use the time you have.
8. Keep calm.

All the very best Years Eleven and Twelves!

Rebecca Lynch

Next Step Survey 2016

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year Twelve in the previous year. The Next Step survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year Twelve. Between March and June, all our students who completed Year Twelve last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a

web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office to complete the survey. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate.

Thank you for your support of the Next Step survey in 2016.

Further information on Next Step is available online at www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or on toll free telephone 1800 068 587.
Current NEWS!

Sports Uniforms
Those students who have rugby league or netball practice on Thursday afternoon may wear their sports uniform on Thursdays. Those students who are not involved in rugby league or netball must wear their full school uniform.

Reminder
Students who are not involved in after school Rugby League and Netball on Thursday Afternoons need to be adequately supervised by parents.

P & F Committee
St John’s P & F are looking for a Race Day Co-ordinator to organise one of our successful fundraising events for the year in August 2016.
This position will come with the full support from the P & F Committee along with a handover from our previous Coordinator, Debbie Green.
If you are interested and would like more information, please contact the P & F Secretary, Ange Millard on 0407 181 092

Parents please note:
A reminder to parents that if your child is going to be absent from school for representative sport, music camps or any other reason, you still need to notify the school. This enables us to enter your child's absence correctly into the system and avoids SMS messages being sent home. This can be done via the school app or by phoning 46221842

Prep Science
In Prep, this term, our Science unit is focused on students engaging and exploring various activities centered around the needs of Staying Alive. Together, we have investigated and compared our own needs to the needs of our class Hermit Crabs, played detectives in discovering our five senses and challenged ourselves to exercising outside for five minutes to witness what changes occur to our body. Many students observed their legs becoming tired and jelly like and sweat forming on their forehead. This week, students will be planting a seedling in cotton wool to investigate the importance of water in our lives. Students for the next two weeks will observe and record the changes in their seedling before taking them home at the end of term. Overall, the students have enjoyed becoming junior scientists and are enthusiastic for next term’s adventure.

Isabella Dart

Sport Success

Congratulations Isabella for participating in the South West team at the Queensland School Sport 13-19 years Tennis State Championship. Returning from a four day competition in Rockhampton, Isabella relished every minute of the event. Overall, the South West team didn’t do so well; the competition was quite elite. Isabella learnt so much from the experience and continued through the games with her head held high.
Year Three History

This term students have been investigating local celebrations and celebrations from around the world. Students are learning why we celebrate and commemorate certain events and the history and significance of these events. For assessment, students were required to research an unknown celebration (for example, Chinese New Year) and discuss how this celebration is similar to a familiar celebration. From this, students created a poster displaying this information. We have particularly enjoyed learning about ANZAC Day and thinking about how life must have been for those affected during the War. Some of us have relatives who can tell us stories from those times and we have enjoyed sharing our new knowledge with our peers.

Annie Wright
Year Three Teacher

Year Five LOTE

‘Hola.’ This term in LOTE, we have been learning all about the Spanish language. We have learnt a number of different phrases in Spanish such as ‘Hello’, ‘How are you?’ and ‘I’m fine.’ We have also started to learn about the numbers and colours in Spanish. We are working hard on trying to remember these and use them in simple conversations with a partner. We have also looked at some stories with which we are familiar and being told these in Spanish so that we may recognise words and phrases that we already know.

Danielle King
Year Five Teacher
The senior Biology students have started the year looking at a unit on cells. Students have explored the differences between cell types, cellular processes including DNA replication and building proteins, as well as looking at reproduction of cells, plants and animals. From a topic that interests the students in class, they have then chosen a topic to develop their own Extended Experimental Investigation (EEI).

Last week, students completed these investigations and collected data during their Biology lessons. Students are then required to write a formal laboratory report, discussing their results in relation to biological concepts and prior research on the topic. A big thank you goes to parents and caregivers for sourcing some materials for the students during their ‘experimenting’ week.

Some of the topics that students have chosen to investigate include:

- Modelling the movement of substances across a membrane using eggs and potatoes
- Hydration of sports drinks
- The effect of concentration of lactase activity
- Bacteria growth in relation to different mouthwashes
- The effect of prescribed antibiotics on E. coli growth

Although students do not have a Biology exam this term, they have their EEI report drafts due this Thursday.

Senior Biology is a composite class of Years Eleven and Twelve, taken by Miss Bethany Mason. If you would like more information on the Senior Biology course, contact bethany.mason@twb.catholic.edu.au

Beth Mason
Science Teacher

Did you know?
A cell is the smallest building block of life. All living things are made of cells including animals, plants, bacteria and fungi. The average human body contains 50 trillion cells!

Did you know?
All the proteins in your body are made up of the same 20 amino acids, just in different combinations!
What a trip! The morning of our departure began as early morning school trips usually do; tired-eyed students and mounds of luggage piled high, which soon became a vibrant group of young people ready to brave the big city. The bus was filled with constantly escalating chatter that, much to the dismay of the patient teachers, eventually developed into a full blown karaoke session as the day progressed. After refueling both the bus and our stomachs along the way, we finally arrived in Brisbane and couldn’t wait to get out and begin the activities. By the time we were crossing the Story Bridge (the first time), we had exhausted almost all forms of entertainment. We’re sure the teachers can confirm this, and were extremely excited when All Hallows, our accommodation, came into view. One of the day’s greatest challenges that we would face presented itself when we attempted to actually enter the school grounds and park the bus. We circled the mass of buildings a number of times before eventually succeeding after a few calls to the school and a good deal of persistence.

Unloading our luggage and familiarising ourselves with our new surroundings, both the students and teachers were amazed at the sheer size of this massive school. Luckily, we were parked directly across from the gymnasium that would be our lodgings for the night, so we could drop off our luggage and be straight on our way to the much-anticipated workshop. After stopping for a quick bite to eat (and of course a Boost Juice), we were ready to navigate our short walk to the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts to meet the Shake and Stir team who would work with us for the next two hours. The students and Mrs Nerva found the workshop to be extremely enjoyable, as it tested our limits and introduced new concepts and strategies to our group that will help with a range of our classroom activities and tasks.

After the fantastic workshop, we returned to All Hallows where we eagerly dressed to impress, ready to head out to our long-awaited dinner and a show! After we were all primped and perfected (poor Edwin being the only boy had a lot of waiting around to do as hair was curled, makeup was applied and dresses were zipped), we began the short walk down the hill that took us directly to the bus stop. Once our fares were sorted and all were aboard, we took in the city that passed us by through the large bus windows, adjusting to the view that was so vastly different to our own. After dinner, we were all very excited to see the QPAC Playhouse, where we would see ‘The Secret River’ – the highlight of our excursion. After a bit of panicked running to ensure we made it inside on time, we were seated and ready to watch the performance. When the final curtain was drawn, the whole audience had been taken on a rollercoaster of emotions; we had laughed, cried, gasped, smiled, scowled and ultimately been left heartbroken by the powerful performances, breathtaking staging and spectacular storyline that resonated with audiences long after the play ended.

The rest of the trip went smoothly, and we managed to exit the school grounds much more quickly than we entered it. We travelled to Southbank visiting the beautiful Gallery of Modern Art, which was enjoyable for all. We were all sad to leave our exciting capital city and embark on the bus trip home, but more than happy to return to our families, and sleep off the excitement from our fabulous Senior Drama Trip.

Sarah Nerva
Senior Physical Education

Senior Recreation aims to introduce students to the individual and community benefits of recreation. This term, students are looking internationally for inspiration, playing flag football. Flag football is a 5 a side non-contact variant of American football or Gridiron. Students are developing offensive and defensive plays and enjoying the highly structured form of play. Senior Recreation students have developed passing, snapping, fading, running and evading skills while also beginning to understand the positions such as quarter back, snapper and wide and short receivers.

Meanwhile in the classroom, students are looking at the benefits of recreation to individuals and the community. They are analysing the recreational opportunities available in our local community and how they might support individual and community health.

To finish the term, students will complete an assignment that brings these two topics together. Students will evaluate recreation in Roma and decide if the opening of a Roma flag football competition is of benefit to the Roma community.

Doug Amiss  
Teacher- Physical Education
St John’s School Roma is a Catholic School from P-12.

Applications are sought for the following Position:

SCHOOL OFFICER (Teacher Aide)

Starting Term 2, 2016

Up to 30 Hours per week

Years P-10

Role Description: To assist students with disabilities and learning difficulties: in classrooms, small groups and individually.

Requirements:

• Willingness to support the Catholic Ethos

• Willingness to abide by the St John’s Code of Conduct

• Blue Card

• A sound level of literacy and numeracy and the ability to work independently.

• Completion of online Child Protection modules

Please submit your resume and cover letter by email (preferred) or submit to the school office by Friday 18th March 2016

The Principal - Nicholas Lynch, PO Box 41, Roma 4455

Email: roma@twb.catholic.edu.au
ICAS

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) is an independent, skills-based assessment program which recognises and rewards student achievement. ICAS provides an opportunity for all students in Years 2 to 12 to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. The assessments comprise Digital technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing tests.

All students receive a certificate and an individual student report with questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The certificate and individual student report are also suitable for your child to include in a portfolio.

Certificates are awarded for each year level as follows:

- High Distinction to the top 1% of entrants;
- Distinction to the next 10% of entrants;
- Credit to the next 25% of entrants;
- Participation to all other participating students.

Entries close on the 24th March. Please indicate on the slips below, those competitions that you would like your child to enter and return to the school office. Payments can be made at the front office or by direct deposit (with ICAS and your surname as the reference).

St John’s School
BSB: 064-786
AC: 514716001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS SUBJECT</th>
<th>ICAS SITTING DATE</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Tuesday, 17th May 2016</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Tuesday, 31st May 2016</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday, 13th June</td>
<td>$18.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Wednesday, 15th June 2016</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday, 2nd August 2016</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday, 16th August 2016</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please circle the competitions below being entered for each child and return to the office.

Science    Digital Technologies    Mathematics    Writing    English    Spelling

Student’s Name: .................................................................................................

Year Level: ........................................................................................................

Teacher: ..............................................................................................................
As advertised in last week’s newsletter, this Friday St John’s is participating in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. Throughout this entire week students from all across the school will have had opportunity to participate in a variety of activities so that they can better understand what bullying is and how they might take a stand against it.

One important way that the whole community can help take a stand is by having a shared understanding of what bullying is. Our staff and 7-12 students have watched the four short videos and it would be great if other members of our community also wish to do so. They can be found at the following link.


Our younger students (P-3) have been interacting with a story called the Allen Adventure. It gives them an understanding of what it’s like to be a new person, who is a bit different and how they can all work together to help. This is also available online as an app or you can watch the video at the following location.


Grades 4-11 will have participated in activities about being an active bystander. Bystanders are very important, as in a school that has students that are active bystanders, bullying is not supported. A united front by teachers and students can reduce the number of bullying incidents.

Following is some advice for parents and individuals about what you can do if you child talks to you about bullying.
Mum’s the word at the 2016 Mother’s Day Stall

It’s on again and is almost here! The St John’s Parent and Friends Committee is holding their annual gift stall to provide the children with a chance to purchase a little something for that special person this Mother’s Day.

In order to make it a success, we need your help. We’d really appreciate any donations you are able to contribute. We are looking for any quality unused gifts or items still in its packaging that may be suitable to upcycle as a new gift for someone else (you know those things collecting dust and taking up space in your cupboard) and donations of items that have proved popular in the past such as the following:

- Candles
- Oil Burners
- Soaps
- Mugs
- Glass Jars
- Body Scrubs

- Cosmetics
- Perfumes
- Coffee Sachets
- Individually wrapped confectionary
- Stationery such as note pads and pens
- Towels, hand towels and facewashers
- Photo Frames

**Handmade** craft makes wonderful gifts also. Whether you knit, stitch, glue, nail, carve, melt, draw, paint or create - we’d appreciate any donations as a result of your crafty talents.

**Have time to donate?**
We will be holding a couple of wrapping days where gifts will be arranged, packaged and wrapped. Each session will run for approximately 2 hours and your help would be wonderful. We also need helpers to help set up, run the stall and pack up on the day.

**Wrapping Session times**
- **Tuesday 26 April - 8:30am - 10:30am** (Venue to be advised)
- **Sunday 1 May - 2pm - 4pm** (Venue to be advised)

**Stall Helpers**
- **Thursday 5 May between 7:30am - 11:30am.**
Even if you only have 30 mins, we would certainly appreciate your help.

Please let Anna know if you are able to make it to any of these sessions or can help out at the stall.

This is a wonderful initiative which the children really enjoy. Your donation of gifts, items or time will most certainly make all the difference to someone.

For further information please contact Anna Lucas on 0418 268 431 or at jdlucas@bigpond.net.au
We acknowledge the original inhabitants of this land, the Mandandanji people, and show our respect for their ancestors and traditions.
ROLL UP TO ROMA FOR EASTER IN THE COUNTRY 2016

Maranoa Performance Poetry and Song
March 25, 26 & 27 2016, Roma Cultural Centre

Fancy yourself as a Poet, Performer or Songwriter? See ya at Roma’s Easter in the Country in 2016. Walk Up’s Welcome. There is plenty of camping over the weekend. Come one come all as the audience will be part of the judging panel.

There will be a number of categories and there will be prize money of each category.

Special Guests Include: Keith & Caitlyn Jamieson, Alisha Smith, Alan Luscombe & Gary Fogarty
MACCA’S® ROMA CELEBRATES
EASTER IN THE COUNTRY 2016

3PM FRIDAY 25 MARCH
RONALD MCDONALD® & FRIENDS SHOW
AT BIG RIG PARKLANDS

6PM
RONALD MCDONALD®
MEET & GREET
AT MCDONALD’S® ROMA

11AM SATURDAY 26 MARCH
AFTER THE STREET PARADE
MEET AYDEN & JESS
FROM THE BLOCK
AT MCDONALD’S® ROMA

MCDONALD’S ROMA 24-26 BOWEN STREET (CNR HAWTHORNE ST)