Dear Parents and Caregivers,

One of our Mercy values, compassion, develops students’ service capabilities; this Tuesday, April 12th.

School Board Meeting 7.30 pm
Wednesday, March 20th
St John’s ANZAC Day Service 11.00 am
Monday, April 25th
Anzac Day Public Holiday
Thursday – Saturday, April 28 – 30
Wizard of Oz Musical

To be part of such a cooperative, enthusiastic team of students, school staff and wonderful parents was the best thing about this year’s Easter in the Country. Thank you to all the parents of the 100 students who came on Easter Saturday to show Roma some real fun, excitement and just how animated we are about supporting Roma’s Easter in the Country and St John’s School.

This year, our focus was on promoting The Wizard of Oz musical that will be performed on April 21, 22 and 23. The costumes that Mums and Dads, kids, grandparents and friends came up with, really made the parade a colourful and interesting show for all. We had little Dorthys on the truck, followed by more Dorthys, Tin men, Scarecrows, Lions, Winkie Guards, Monkeys and even an actual Yellow Brick Road who proudly led the parade down the street.

A very big thank you to everyone for making our float so dynamic and interesting! To top all this off, we won BEST CHILDREN’S FLOAT and Champion Float for 2016!! A great reward for all of us.

Rebecca Lynch
Dean of Faith, Life and Culture
2016 Easter Parade

WOW!
Fantastic Work
St John’s School
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We warmly welcome our new students and families to St John’s. It is also excellent to see the talents and gifts that our students bring to the diversity of St John’s over the school holidays. A number of our students, (Tully Stone, Hannah Hughes, Chloe Tiley, Maddison Thomas, Ellen Kehl and Nina Johnstone), did exceedingly well in the Australian Highland Dancing Championships, others like Jake Williams, did so well in the motocross championships. Congratulations to all who participated in events that represent the local community and St John’s.

For those of us who had our own moment of success - the Easter in the Country Float - which received the Children’s Award as well as the Grand Champion Float, a vote of sincere thanks to the students, parents and staff who helped with costumes, make up, organisation, building and painting the props and the small things that happen while waiting for the parade (giving water, ice blocks and collecting the rubbish). Thank you to all the Tin men, Lions, Dorothys, Witches, Scarecrows, Yellow Brick Road….

Over the past newsletters, I have been writing to you about the growth mindset we would like our students to have about their learning. We don’t grow when things are easy - we grow when we face challenges. We should therefore teach our students to be brave, not perfect. An important part of this growth journey is the ability to learn from mistakes. Mistakes are not bad - they are excellent! As Albert Einstein said “A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new.” Too often, our students are afraid of making a mistake. Have you ever seen your daughter/son begin some work only to tear out the page and start again, or they have written their answers in pencil so they can rub them out if they are wrong? Sometimes, when teachers are marking assessments, they come across a student who has not even attempted one of the questions, even though they have done well in other sections. When the teacher has asked why the answer was left blank, they would say, “I was worried it would be wrong.” Imagine if our champion athletes didn’t start to compete until they knew they would be the best (especially now with the trials for the Olympics). Imagine if our scientists gave up after their first hypothesis was not correct. Imagine if our best authors threw away their first draft and never attempted a second one.

Some of our students, particularly when they are doing homework or assignments, feel like they can’t complete it because it might not be correct. Encourage your son or daughter to have a go. If they still can’t start, ask them to write a series of questions for their teacher about what they need to know in order to complete the task. Once these questions are written, ask them to work through the questions using whatever resources they need (friends, siblings, the internet, the textbook). By not attempting something challenging, our students are actually taking a backwards step.

**Winter Uniform**

A reminder that in the first week, it is up to parental discretion regarding the wearing of winter uniform. As the weather cools down, it will become compulsory to wear the full winter uniform. It is a timely reminder that our uniform needs to be worn properly to and from school, and of course during school. This means wearing the hat correctly and shirts tucked in. Taking pride in our appearance is important!!

At St John’s, we encourage open dialogue between community members. It is important that everybody feels they can be heard. If parents have issues, we encourage them to contact their class teacher or pastoral care teacher so we can be of assistance or otherwise make clear St John’s position on any matter.

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**Events in this month**

*Tuesday, April 12*
P&F Meeting 6.15 pm

*Tuesday, April 12*
School Board Meeting 7.30 pm

*Wednesday, March 20*
St John’s ANZAC Day Service 11.00 am

*Thursday - Saturday, April 21 - 23*
The Wizard of Oz Musical

*Monday, April 25*
ANZAC Day Public Holiday
Homework Club
Homework Club will resume next week, Tuesday 19th April. All students from P-12 are welcome. Homework Club meets in the Resource Centre 3pm - 4pm every Tuesday. Homework Club will not be on Tuesday 26th April due to Parent/Teacher interviews.

Rugby League
There are NO Rugby League Fixtures this Saturday due to the R&D Brisbane Trip.

ANZAC March
It is that time of year again, when St John's School takes the opportunity to show our respect for our fallen soldiers by marching in the ANZAC Day Parade on Monday, 25th April. It is a very important event in which we would like as many students as possible to participate. A note will be going home on the first day back of Term Two detailing further information about this event.

Memorabilia
ANZAC Day memorabilia is being sold by the Roma RSL Sub branch at the Plaza on Tuesday 19th April until Friday 22nd April from 9am to 4pm and if stock is still left on Saturday 23rd April 9am-12 noon.

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

Rugby League
There are NO Rugby League Fixtures this Saturday due to the R&D Brisbane Trip.

Reflection
As parents are tender with their children, so God is gentle with those who believe. (Psalm 103)
Don’t be afraid to be yourself, Jesus wasn’t.

Yours sincerely,
Nicholas Lynch

Jake Williams - Well Done!!

The Queensland Yamaha Junior Racing team logged a rock solid weekend at round two of the 2016 Sunshine State Motocross series, held at the Tivoli circuit, over the weekend.

After the opening round in the sand pit of Hervey Bay, it was a big change of scenery for the riders who were greeted with the hard pack, clay based Tivoli circuit laden with jumps. Both Jake Williams and Levi Rogers raced well and are in strong positions in their respective classes in the six round series.

Jake Williams took the win in the 15 years 250cc class with ease. He won all three races contested and looks in fine form on the Yamaha YZ250F. But he had his work cut out for him in the 13 – 15 years 125cc as poor starts impacted on his results. Williams finished with 3-2-3 results to take third for the round but showed he had pace to burn as he charged through the field.

Moto one on the 125 proved the most dramatic as he went down in a first turn pile up. He remounted at the back of the 38 rider field and back the long haul back towards the front. He clawed his way to fifth in five laps before another fall slowed his progress. Again he climbed back on and managed to pass another two riders in the final lap to get back to third place.

Williams’ leads the 250c class and sits in second place on the 125 just one point off the series lead.

“I’m pretty happy with the way I rode but I had to fix those starts on the 125. I wasn’t getting into the first corner in good position and I made hard work for myself because of it. I will work on those and make some improvements there and continue to get better as the series wears on,” Williams said.

The next event for Jake Williams will be the 125 Rookies Cup at this weekend’s round of the MX Nationals at Appin, in Sydney while Rogers will contest some local races in central Queensland before both meet up again for round three of the SSMX at Bundaberg in a few weeks’ time.

Yahama Motor Australia
**National Youth Week Presentations**

*The One Woman Project*

This Thursday, 14 April, students in Years Seven to Twelve will listen to speakers from the One Woman Project. Established in 2013, the One Woman Project is a youth-led, non-for-profit organisation with a drive to educate youth about gender equality. Years 7 to 10 will have their presentation in Lesson Five and Years 11 and 12 will be in Lesson Six. Caitlyn and Alexandra from the One Woman Project have travelled to Roma as part of the National Youth Week activities organised by the Maranoa Regional Council. They will also present at Wallumbilla State School, Injune State School, Mitchell State School and Roma State College. Further information on the One Woman Project can be found at http://www.onewomanproject.org/.

*Bernadette Makim*

Coordinator of Positive Education

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**Rugby League Confraternity 2016**

This year, the St John’s 1st XIII Rugby League team will again be contesting the Queensland Independent Secondary Schools Rugby League Confraternity Shield competition in the first week of the June Holidays. After an impressive trial win against Shalom College Bundaberg last term, the boys are ready to fire.

A big thank you needs to be given to our magnificent sponsors who support this program.

- Roma Transport Services
- Sharpe Engineering
- Condon Treasure
- Mounts Machinery
- Roma Space and Storage
- Crawfo’s Tyres
- Matthew Edwards Podiatry

In 2016, you have the opportunity to support the boys by purchasing a one-off 2016 CONFRO Supporter Polo. For only $35.00, you can support the boys and look pretty smart as well.

*Orders need to be placed through the front office by 3pm Thursday 21st April. Please ensure that payment is made with the order.*

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Thomas Moore through the School Administration or via email thomas.moore@twb.catholic.edu.au

*Thomas Moore*

Rugby League Coordinator

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**Abstract Art Workshop**

St John’s Years Eleven and Twelve Visual Art students were very fortunate to spend the first day of Term Two participating in an Abstract Art painting workshop with local award winning artist, Kim Noon. The students had a great day learning about the process of abstraction and relevant artists, before experimenting with their own ideas and creating their own masterpiece.

This wonderful experience could not have been possible without the generosity of Roma on Bungil Gallery, Santos and Kim Noon which St John’s School sincerely thanks.

*Sue Tiley*

Art Teacher

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**ANZAC Day Parade**

St John’s School will march in the ANZAC Day Parade on Monday, April 25 2016. Permission slips are to be sent home with your eldest child and to be returned by Thursday, March 21 2016.
THE WIZARD OF OZ

Don’t forget to get your tickets for “The Wizard of Oz”. There are nearly 100 students involved in this wonderful production, and we are very proud of the show they will present for our local community. Tickets are for sale at the school office and at Kimlin’s Camping World.

You will be amazed at the wonderful set – prepared by our wonderful staff members Mr Willem Brits, Mrs Susan Tiley, Mrs Jenny Eeles, Mrs Rebecca Lynch – and parents Tim Tiley, Nat Henningsen and Lindy Douglas.

The costumes in a show such as this are quite complex. We are fortunate to have Mrs Yenda Emery coordinating our costumes again this year. Thank you to staff members Mrs Cathie Padbury, Mrs Angela Brennan, Anne Moloney and generous parents Lindy Douglas, Sherron Coonan, Nat Henningsen and Kylie Wallace.

Roma Performing Arts has once again been of great assistance to our show, and we thank Mr Terry Schefe in particular for the generous way in which he shares his time and talents.

Miss Ashleigh Baker and the Cert II class have produced a wonderful program and tickets for us.

Thank you from Mrs Sarah Nerva (Director), Miss Emma Podbury (Choreographer), Mr Trent Sellars (Stage Manager & Assistant Director), Mrs Carmel Treasure and Mrs Rebecca McPake (Music).

Carmel Treasure

ATTENTION!
Parents of Performers and Crew in “The Wizard of Oz”

Thank you for the time you are giving to the school community to ensure the success of our school musical, “The Wizard of Oz”. We are looking forward to a wonderful performance – and to a well-earned rest once the show is over!

All students have been sent an email with all instructions needed for the next two weeks. If you have not received this, please email trent.sellars@twb.catholic.edu.au asap. Students will also have been given this information as a letter. Please keep the dates and times in a safe place!
ROMA HIGHLAND DANCERS

ROMA Highland Dancer, Tully Stone, could barely contain her excitement. The youngster has achieved one of her greatest feats yet, placing second in the Champion of Champions Highland Dancing Championship of Australia for 7-11 years in Adelaide over the Easter weekend.

The Champion of Champions is the most prestigious occasion on the Highland Dancing calendar in Australia. Tully is the second Roma dancer to qualify for this championship, but the first Roma dancer to ever compete. Tully placed fourth in the South Australian Championship on Saturday, and said she knew the competition would be tougher on Sunday.

“She prepared herself well for the event and presented beautifully on the day, pleasing the 12 judges from Scotland, Canada and Australia,” Roma Highland Dancing principal Glerys Hughes said.

Tully also placed sixth in the Celtic Festival Premier Premiership.

Five other Roma dancers competed successfully over the weekend against dancers from Scotland, New Zealand and Australia, all receiving prizes in their respective age groups and categories.

Maddy Thomas received a second, two third places, a fourth place, two fifth places and a sixth place in the Novice 11-12 years dances.

Nina Johnstone placed third in the 12-13 years South Australian Restricted Premier Premiership and sixth in the Celtic Festival Restricted Premier Premiership.

Hannah Hughes won the Celtic Festival Restricted Premier Premiership and placed ninth in the South Australian Championship.

Chloe Tiley placed fourth in the 16-17 years South Australian Restricted Premier Premiership, while Ellen Kehl took out second place in the 16-17 years South Australian Restricted Premier Premiership.

Ms Hughes said she was overwhelmed by the success of the girls at the biannual event.

“They had worked very hard in preparing themselves for the competition and all danced at their personal best,” she said. “It is always such a privilege to accompany such dedicated and committed dancers to such esteemed events.”

*Western Star*
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 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 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).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS SUBJECT</th>
<th>ICAS SITTING DATE</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science (Years 2 – 12)</td>
<td>Tuesday, 31st May 2016</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing (Years 2 – 12)</td>
<td>Monday, 13th June</td>
<td>$18.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling (Years 3 – 7)</td>
<td>Wednesday, 15th June 2016</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English (Years 2 – 12)</td>
<td>Tuesday, 2nd August 2016</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics (Years 2 – 12)</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  Mathematics  Writing  English  Spelling

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

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

Teacher: .................................................................................................

St John’s School
BSB: 064-786
AC: 514716001
EVOLUTION’S ACHILLES’ HEELS MEDIA RELEASE

The science is settled isn’t it? There’s only one possible explanation for our existence and that is—according to the textbooks—that humans evolved from lower forms of life to who we are today.

But not all scientists agree with the textbooks and the majority of their colleagues. In fact, some of those who reject widely accepted evolutionary explanations feature in a new documentary that outlines their objections.

The 96-minute documentary Evolution’s Achilles’ Heels has a distinct local connection as well, with several Australians among the 15 Ph.D. scientists who give a powerful critique of textbook evolutionary orthodoxy. Surprisingly, perhaps, among them is a former Cornell University genetics professor who is a pioneer of genetic engineering.

These scientists say they differ with the majority on the origin of humans and everything on earth and beyond, and have an alternative understanding of what the evidence indicates. As one of the scientists says about biological systems in the documentary: “All modern scientific evidence points to the decay and destruction of an original good design ... if you like ... good information getting worse.”

Evolution’s Achilles’ Heels addresses in an easy-to-understand manner the concepts of natural selection, genetics and DNA, the origin of life, the fossil record, the geologic record, radiometric dating, cosmology, as well as ethics and morality. The documentary can be seen at Cinema Roma, 37 Hawthorne St, Roma on Sunday 17 April 2016 at 6.00pm, and Monday 18 April 2016 at 10.00am.

Presented by the Combined Churches of Roma and admission is free.

To find out more contact Estelle Burey on 0429 202 872.
15 Ph.D. scientists explain evolution’s fatal flaws—in areas claimed to be its greatest strengths

EVOLUTION’S
ACHILLES’ HEELS
~ THE MOVIE ~

Sunday 17 April at 6.00pm
and
Monday 18 April at 10.00am

Presented by the Combined Churches of Roma
Cinema Roma
37 Hawthorne St, Roma

Enquiries: Phone Estelle Burey on 0429 202 872

ADMISSION FREE
Creation resources will be available

See creation.com/EAH for more information about the film
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.
In the next issue

Welcome Back To Term Two 2016

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