Through participation in our Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday activities last week, students from St John’s School learnt that the Church offers three things to guide us on our way: praying, fasting and almsgiving (giving money or service to those in need). When we want to be a better athlete, musician, or student, what do we do? Practise, practise, practise. The same is true of being a better Christian. It is hard work! Although we can and should practise our Christian living all year, Lent is a time to more intensely focus our energy on how we can do, and be, better in the world. Think of Lent as training for Christian living! The extra time we spend praying during Lent leads us closer to God. We focus our prayer on the places in our lives and in our world that need improvement. Our fasting isn’t about denying ourselves as a sort of punishment, and it isn’t even just about food. We fast from food, television, video games, computers, digital media, and so on, so we can literally hunger for God. Our fasting also puts us in touch with those whose hunger is never filled because they live in poverty. Finally, our praying and fasting leads us to action. Almsgiving, is sharing time, talent and treasure with those in need. Thank you to Father Jamie Collins, Reverend Faye Talatonu and Father Scott Gunthorpe for making our celebrations very meaningful.
Last Tuesday, we were so lucky to have Josh Arnold return for the launch of our three songs as part of the Small Town Culture Project; the result was fantastic. Firstly, we launched the *Spirit of St John’s* which was written by students from Year 4-12 last year. The song was recorded in the 9% 5ooP and the filming took place around St John’s; our school looked beautiful.

Second to launch was *Kangaroo Rock*. This one was written by students from Prep to Year Three last year and is a rock song which tells the story of a group of native animals getting together to form the greatest band on the face of the earth. A highlight to look out for is our very own Father Jamie on a motorbike!

Finally, we launched the dark and gloomy *Burnt Out Matchstick*. This song was written by Bridget Treasure, Melody Carroll, Amelia Gane and Ella O’Brien and is absolutely fantastic. We were lucky enough to film this on location at the Romavilla Winery which only enhanced the dark and mysterious side of the song.

All three songs can be accessed via the school website or on the Small Town Culture Project website.

I would like to thank all of the students involved, Josh Arnold for his dedication to the songs and Mr Penrose for his help to organise the room changes and the filming at Romavilla Winery. That definitely is the Spirit of St John’s!
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Many of my professional colleagues often remark enviously to me that St John’s has a ‘great reputation’. Certainly, many new families often tell me that their decision to seek enrolment here was based on ‘word of mouth’ from other families who praise the quality of the school’s staff, our students and their families and our rich array of programs.

It is very satisfying for each of us in the community to hear about the public perception of St John’s. We are glad to belong to an organisation that brings us some pride. Such a deep public impression cannot be formed in a short time or based on a few actions or achievements. It has taken many years, for the fine students, parents and staff of our community to build the picture that people have of St John’s. The important aspects of self-discipline in our students are found in the small things - how we address people, how we wear our uniform (shirts tucked in, hats on) and it even goes down to ensuring that our school shoes are polished. It is pleasing to see that the majority of students are excellent in this area and bring a note of courtesy if they are not in uniform.

I use the word courtesy on purpose, as I have intercepted letters from parents or emails passed on to me that I would consider as inappropriate responses, after receiving a uniform infringement notice. There should always be civil communication between the home and the school. I remind our students that they represent every other St John’s student and every other family who has ever been associated with St John’s. This means that the world will constantly be assessing our school and each one of us, on coming and going to school, in shopping centres, at parties or at sports clubs. Further, they will hold us to the same high values we espouse for ourselves, of being compassionate, courteous and respectful. I urge all of our students to “be the best they can be” and to live up to the highest ideals forged by those who have worked hard to win the reputation we all enjoy. We are, after all, like our school, nothing more than the sum total of our deeds, behaviours and accomplishments.

Our actions tell us who we are. As Aristotle said; “We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence therefore, is not an act, but a habit.”

School Canteen

Our Parents and Friends are trialling a new approach for lunches for the Years 7 - 12 students with a local food van. As we have struggled to find volunteers to maintain our tuckshop over the last two or three years, the Parents and Friends are being proactive on this issue. The food van is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and all food will need to comply with the food and drinks in schools regulations (Healthy Eating). If we continue to struggle to find volunteers, outsourcing may become a viable option. P - 6 students still have the option of school tuckshop on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Reflection

Gandhi once wrote, “Anything you do may seem terribly insignificant, but it is terribly important that you do it.”

In this time of Lent, we can too easily dismiss the spiritual significance of the unusual act- the visit to hospital, the conversation with a stranger. A life of value is not a series of great things well done, it is a series of small things consciously done.

Yours sincerely

Nicholas Lynch
Principal
Notices

Uniform Shop
The Uniform Shop is now located at St John’s School. It is open from 7:45 - 8:45am every Monday morning and 2 - 5pm every Thursday afternoon.

Bus Changes
Please note - if there is a change to your child’s bus schedule, advise the school by letter or phone call. If we are not informed of any changes, your child will be put on the bus/not put on the bus as scheduled.

Milkshake Fundraiser
Milkshakes will be sold to help raise funds to assist the students travelling to France in Term Two. Milkshakes can be purchased for $3 each on the following days:
Wednesday 25th (primary students)
Friday 27th (secondary students)

Calendar Items
Please check the online school website calendar or the App (School Events) for the most up to date information about upcoming school events. The hardcopy calendar is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

For Sale
2 x blue size 12 boys formal school shirts.
New $39.00 Selling Price $12.00

1 x size 12 sports shorts.
New $25.00 Selling Price $12.00

Prep Teachers

Writing in Prep
We have been very busy at school and now that we have settled into our school routine, we have started our pre-writing exercises, to get us ready for writing. Our focus this term is learning to write our names independently and to hold our pencil using the correct pencil grip.
We have also begun some readiness activities that include; tracing our names, numbers and letters of the week, using play-doh to strengthen our hands, singing finger rhymes and using lots of different techniques during our craft and colouring activities. We love using markers on our own whiteboard to copy words that our teachers have written on the board.

Year Two Science

Learning about ‘push-pull’ forces
This term, Year Two has been busy leaning about forces in our Science Unit, ‘Push-pull’. At the start of our unit, we had the opportunity to ‘play’ with a variety of toys. We discussed ways that toys could move and then explored whether we needed to use ‘push’ or ‘pull’ forces to move them.
Our favourite Science activity was when we played with Play-doh and Kinetic Sand. We used push and pull forces to change the shape of the Play-doh and Kinetic Sand. We investigated which one needed a stronger force to change its shape and used some great descriptive language to describe what it looked like and felt like.
We also had the opportunity to test our predictions about objects in our lesson, ‘What sinks? What floats?’ We chose several objects and predicted first whether it would sink or float and then tested our predictions. We then had to explain why we thought it floated or sank using our knowledge of push and pull forces. We also really enjoyed making plasticine boats and discovering how to make them float.
Last week, we made Paper Helicopters. We were amazed at how they would spin and turn. We did the activity first with our partner and then again on our own. We tested to see what would happen to the fall time of the helicopters if we changed one thing, for example, the wing size of one of the helicopters.
We have had a great time this term learning about Science.
Mrs Brennan, Miss van Slobbe & Mrs Purssell
The Year Nine students are part way through an exciting unit entitled “Visiting Wonderland” exploring action and words with an emphasis on Physical Theatre based on the adventures of Alice in Wonderland. They have been learning about how actors communicate non-verbally and how the body can be used to create and enliven performances. The students have been engaged in many activities to build and strengthen their ensemble ability. They have had to physically create new and exciting environments and take on the challenging roles of animals. The work they are producing is both fun and physically demanding. The unit culminates with a performance involving both script and physicality and promises to be of a high quality.

Sarah Nerva
Drama Teacher
This semester, the senior BCT class will be studying the unit, Workplace Health, Safety and Sustainability. Students will be examining Queensland Legislation on health and safety, the difference between hazards and risks and how to create a sustainable work environment. In Week Six, our class will be heading across the street to Pinaroo where students will attend a meeting with the business’s Workplace Health and Safety officer. Here, they will be exposed to real life health and safety considerations required by a local business. They will be given the opportunity to explore Pinaroo with the guidance of the Workplace Health and Safety Officer and ask questions pertaining to the business's training processes. Students will have the opportunity to complete a risk assessment for their excursion as well as an incident report form, which will be based on a simulated incident.

This year, students will also have the opportunity to use different types of online programs in order to broaden their use of technology. Last week, BCT students were introduced to piktochart.com. This site allows its users to create professional looking infographics, presentations and reports. Our class created a variety of informative and colourful infographics to share with the class on a given workplace health and safety topic. More exposure to different types of technological communication will be taught throughout the year in order to widen the students' technical abilities. The importance of professional looking and presented business documents is encouraged throughout the year in order to better prepare students for a business career and university business expectations.

Miss Patricia Barrett
Business Studies Teacher
DEAN OF TECHNOLOGY

The newly created role of Dean of Technology provides an opportunity to support students and teachers at St John’s by encouraging the increasing use of emerging 21st Century technologies across the curriculum. These new technologies hold the promise of delivering better educational outcomes for students and ensuring they have the right tools and skills to pursue their career and life goals.

Additionally, by using these technologies, the limitations of a physical classroom can be removed. Teaching, interaction and collaboration is now possible without regard to geographical location. This virtual space where parents, teachers and students can interact is referred to as “the cloud” and it has a level of sophistication that opens up many possibilities for educators and students.

Tech giants like Microsoft (Windows 365) and Google (Google Apps for Education) are heavily invested in providing the platforms, software packages and resources to integrate these technologies into the school environment. It is sincerely hoped that our school will be able to take full advantage of these powerful tools on offer as we move forward. There are challenges ahead of course. By way of example, a quality internet service is at the heart of operating in this new environment. I am confident that we have an amazing IT support team, the enthusiasm to overcome any challenges, and the will to drive our school toward the best educational experiences that technology can offer.

If you have any questions about the use of new technologies in the school or any other issue you would like to discuss, or insight you would like to share, please send me an email (steven.winnett@twb.catholic.edu.au) or give me a call on (07) 46221842.

Mr Steven Winnett
Dean Information Communication Technologies

YEAR FOUR MATHS

This term, Year Four has been discussing everyday chance events. We will describe different methods for data collection, represent and construct data displays from given or collected data and evaluate their effectiveness. So far, we have predicted the weather, recorded what the experts think and recorded the actual weather for a two week period. We have noticed in some cases, Year Four is better at predicting the weather than the experts!

Year Four Teachers
Theresian House Report

Theresian’s Time to Shine!

Welcome back as Theresian heads to what we hope will be an exciting and eventful 2015. 2015 is not just any year, it is Theresians year! The school Swimming Carnival held in Week Two saw many Theresians take the plunge and swim the team to a second place victory, being narrowly defeated by Xaverian.

While, as a team, we could not claim a first place victory, we held our heads, and tiger tails high knowing we had participated and cheered with great enthusiasm. With a second place under our belt, we feel a first place would only be fitting at the Cross Country in Term Two.

Following the Swimming Carnival on Monday, students returned to school tired but raring with excitement, as they prepared to embark on the first ever, 7-12 School Camp held at Lake Moogerah. After several team building activities, Theresian team members were closer and friendlier than ever.

Come Friday, when students packed their bags and boarded the bus, more than just exhaustion was felt. We were filled with a sense of team spirit. Leaving the school gates on Tuesday, Theresian was merely a group of students who shared a mutual house and colour. However, returning on Friday, we were a team, bonded by friendship and our desire to defeat Marian and Xaverian once and for all!

A big Theresian thank you goes out to Miss Gillam, Mr Moore and all staff involved in the running of the Swimming Carnival and School Camp. These events would not have been as enjoyable without their contribution.

Remember Theresian, we are R-E-D H-O-T. Red hot!

Nicky, Oliver and Lucy
St Patrick’s Day

To celebrate St Patrick’s Day and raise money for Project Compassion, Year Six Blue will be selling St Patrick’s Day balloons on March 17th!

Balloons can be ordered by completing the form below and returning it to your classroom teacher by March 6th.

The balloons will be delivered to classrooms after second break on St Patrick’s Day.

Cost $2.50 each. All proceeds to Project Compassion.

__________________________________________________________

Please complete and return with the correct money by March 6th.

Student’s name _______________________________________
Year/Classroom teacher ________________________________
Number of balloons ($2.50 each) ___________
In the next issue

Primary
Year One - Religion
Year Three - Writing
Year Five - Science
Performing Arts - Choir

Secondary
Year Ten - English
Senior - Religion and Ethics
Xaverian House Report
World Day of Prayer

We acknowledge the original inhabitants of this land, the Mandandanji people, and show our respect for their ancestors and traditions.
International Women’s Day Breakfast

Roma Explorers Inn Function Centre

“Make It Happen”

Guest Speaker: Dr Shannon Spriggs

Dr Shannon Spriggs is currently a Research Fellow with the Violence Research and Prevention program at Griffith University. She has spent the last seven years delivering and developing training across the U.S., in Brisbane, Australia and around the world for the ‘Mentors in Violence Prevention’ (MVP) program which focusses on the prevention of all forms of violence.

Since 2010, she has worked to adapt the MVP curriculum for use in Australia and has introduced a pilot program. From 2006-2010 she was the Assistant Director for the MVP National Program in the U.S. In this position she facilitated over 600 training sessions with over 15,000 participants over the four year period. She has facilitated dozens of Train-the-Trainer programs, including work as a consultant with the U.S. Military. In 2009, she was part of a select team that spent two weeks in Iraq conducting trainings for service members currently in theatre.

Shannon received her Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration with Student Development focus from Boston College in 2007.

Friday 6th March 2015 Time: 6.45am

Buffet Breakfast: served at 7am

Cost $30.00

Bookings are essential
Please contact Heather or Carly on 4620 4000 or email roma@zontadistrict22.org for ticket purchases and account details
Tickets must be paid for before 2nd March 2015
**J-zone- Grade 1-7**

At Roma Church of Christ, 119 Curry St Roma.

**FRIDAY NIGHTS-6:30pm-8:00pm**
Dinner from 6:00 pm

- **13th February-** Fast Action Packed Night of Fun and Excitement!
- **20th February-** _Fruit Salad_...
  Yummy fun.
- **27th February-** _Glow in the Dark Night_...
  Have some fun in the dark, see just how much one light can change things.
- **6th March-** _Dunny Run_...
  ??Some good stinky possibly messy games??
- **13th March-** _Chalk Chase_...
  Find your way to a great place!!
- **20th March-** _PIZZA_...
  Make your own Pizza
- **27th March-** _EASTER Special_...
  Find the real meaning of Easter, do craft, egg hunts

For Information phone- Irene Krueger 0488015184

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Main</th>
<th>Desert</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 1</td>
<td>Beef Stir fry with Veggies and seamed rice.</td>
<td>Fresh Fruit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 2</td>
<td>Chicken drumsticks mashed potatoes</td>
<td>Fruit salad and ice-cream or homemade custard</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 3</td>
<td>Pasta with Bolognese or cabornara and Garlic Bread.</td>
<td>Fruit and Milkshakes.</td>
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<td>WEEK 4</td>
<td>Quiche and Salad</td>
<td>Individual maranges, cream and fresh fruit.</td>
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<td>WEEK 5</td>
<td>Kebabs with Nan bread and Rice.</td>
<td>Sorbet</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 6</td>
<td>Make your own pizza night. All items supplied.</td>
<td>Fresh Fruit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 7</td>
<td>Lasagna and Garlic bread with salad. - Easter theme</td>
<td>Chocolate cake and ice-cream/custard. Fruit Salad.</td>
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1) Please note, that the menu plan is suggested meals only and may be changed
2) Every attempt will be made to cater to dietary needs and allergies. Please discuss any concerns regard these with Irene Krueger on 0488015184
3) The provision of a meal included with JZone is on a trail basis for the first term only. Notification will be made of any changes.