Dear Families, Staff and Friends of St Johns

Welcome Back
Welcome to the 2016 school year at St John the Apostle School. It was great to see so many smiling faces in the yard on Monday morning, where great excitement, laughter, some anxiety and a few tears filled the air. We are all looking forward to working closely with all members of our school community in providing a safe, relevant and rigorous learning experience for all students in our care. In all my many years of working in schools, I have never known as wet a start to a school year, where on Tuesday the children spent all day inside because of the rain. The first week of the school year is an exciting time with students and staff continuing their journey to learn, to learn more about themselves, to learn more about relationships with others and to deepen their understanding of faith. All classes have settled into the new school year and all credit must go to our hard working staff that have been planning learning programs to ensure successful outcomes for all students. In Week 3 – Wednesday 17 February, all classes will have “Parent Information Sessions” to outline the class structures and routines. Attendance of these sessions is essential for all families.

Parent Information Night
Wednesday 17 February
Information Sessions:
R Martin R/1 Clark & 1/2 Egidio - 6:30 – 7:15pm
Yrs 2/3 Osborn / Wheatland, 3Marcelline & Yrs 4/5 Lowey/ Mashford - 7:20 – 7:55pm
Senior Unit Yrs 6/7 (Marsh / Sampson) – 8:00 – 8:45pm
Crèche facilities will be available. All parents are expected to attend this evening.

This term will be a busy term full of activities for the children, with Swimming / Aquatics planned this term. A calendar of events will be sent home next week, please place these dates in your diary. It is important to work in partnership with home and school. Research states that one of the major influences on a student’s success in school is parent participation. Students enjoy and benefit greatly from parents being involved in their schooling. As we begin the 2016 school year, it is a time as a family to establish routines. I know when my children were much younger, that they enjoyed routines as it gave them a structure and helped them be better organised. This week all classes have sent home a Class Newsletter. Within the Newsletter, your class teacher would have communicated with you their email address. This is a great way to communicate any issue with them. In today’s world, with communication this is a convenient and easy way to communicate with them.

New Students
We welcome our new students and families to the St John the Apostle Parish School community and we trust that their time with us is full of rich and rewarding experiences. They are named in alphabetical order (by surname) below:

- Emilee Anderson
- Misu Duong
- Oliver Edgar
- Max Faulkner
- Amber Fisher
- Mitchell Jeffery
- Courtney Kowalewski
- Lucas Little
- Christian Uitzow
- Kobi Maiden
- Toby Maillard
- Amarni Manickam
- Tiana Mazzone
- Thomas McGaragh
- Mieyllah Nana-Mitsu
- Domin O’Collagahan
- Brodie Ozolins
- Chloe Rand
- Oscar Rayner
- Eboney Rem
- Jack Rowland
- Mary Robinson
- Rachel Sadler
- Lily Stewart
- Rylee Taylor
- Bon Tran
- Ella Virgin
- Jett Wassink
- Toby Maillard
- Isabella Beard
- Mitchell Jeffery
- Damian O’Callaghan
- Rylee Taylor
- Brodie Ozolins
- Bon Tran
- Ella Virgin
- Jett Wassink

* All Assemblies are held in the St Dominic Centre on alternative Mondays at 2:20pm
** Class Masses are held at 9:00am in the Chapel
From the APRIM

I welcome everyone to the new school year, especially our new staff, students and their families. We hope you feel welcomed and supported as you begin your journey with our school and parish community.

The celebration of Mass is central to life at St John’s school as we acknowledge that it is God who sustains us through our lives. All parents and members of our school community are invited to attend our Masses and celebrations throughout the 2016 school year.

We are very fortunate to have Father Tony Telford-Sharp celebrate mass with us in our school chapel every Thursday @ 9:00am. Classes are rostered to host these weekly masses which family and friends are encouraged to attend. You are more than welcome to attend on a regular basis.

Shrove Tuesday - Ash Wednesday - Lent - Project Compassion

February 10th is Ash Wednesday. This marks the beginning of the 6 week season of Lent. It is a time of reflection, becoming reconciled with God and being renewed. During this time, Project Compassion will be the focus for our students as they explore local and global social justice issues that are being addressed by CARITAS.

Ash Wednesday Mass will be celebrated at 11:30am in the St. Dominic Centre and all families are welcome to join us to begin the Lenten journey. After mass, each family will bring home a Project Compassion box which can be returned to me after Easter. Over the years St John’s community has been very generous in donating money for the needs of people overseas who are assisted in many ways through this cause and we ask for your support again.

One of the ways we raise money for Project Compassion is by selling pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, 9th February. Pancakes will be sold for a gold coin donation. Thank you to all the families from the St. John and St. Luke house teams (Red & Green) who have sent in their donated goods for our Pancake Day.

All donations need to be at school by Friday 5th February, so that we can ensure we have adequate supplies. Thank you to the parents and grandparents who have generously offered to help with the cooking and serving of the pancakes. Please email me at dopeters@stjohns.catholic.edu.au if you’re available to help out on Tuesday. We are expecting to sell in excess of 230 pancakes!

What is Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, blessed ashes are put on your forehead in the shape of a cross. These ashes are made by burning palm leaves which have been saved from last year’s Palm Sunday.

Ash Wednesday is also when we begin to do penance for Lent. Penance is something that you do or are given to do in order to show that you are sad or sorry about doing something wrong. We do this to improve our relationship with God and others. The Church suggests three special practices of penance for Lent:

Pray- go to Mass more often, pray more often.

Fast- going without some foods or eating less. It can also mean giving up a certain food or treat.

Almsgiving- means doing good for others. That can be giving gifts of money or help to others. This is how we use the Project Compassion box.

What other ideas can you think of to show good will to others, especially during Lent?

Date Claimer:

Family Mass including Commissioning of St. Johns School Staff Sunday 14th February St. Luke’s Church @ 9:00am Baptism

If you are interested in having your child/ children baptised, please contact me at dopeters@stjohns.catholic.edu.au or phone me on 8382 2064. Father Charles is available to visit school to run a short information session in the coming weeks. Please let me know if you are interested in attending.

If you have any queries regarding Religious Education please don’t hesitate to come in to the office and see me. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Dee-anne Peters — Assistant Principal; Religious Identity Mission (APRIM)
School Uniform
- Second Hand Cupboard 2015

The Second Hand cupboard, located in the St. Dominic Centre, will be open every Wednesday morning from 8:45 until at least 9:00am. Should you wish to arrange a different time please contact Naomi Ellis on:

0408 118 775

For all new uniform purchases including replacement sun hats (see details below) please contact or visit:

LOWES at Centro Colonnades
Beach Road, Noarlunga
Ph: 8326 2528 Fax: 8382 7473

- **PLEASE NOTE:** All students are supplied with a sun hat by the school when they commence. However spares / replacements will need to be purchased from Lowes at Colonnades at a cost of:

  - Slouch $14.99
  - Legionnaire $12.99

Online ordering is also available: [www.lowes.com.au](http://www.lowes.com.au)

Lost Property

All named items are returned on the same day that they are found and any unnamed items will be held by Mrs Peters for a few days before going to the St Vinnies box.

Scholastic Book Club

Read Every Day.
Lead a Better Life

2016 Scholastic Book Club

Issue #1

All orders are due Friday 12th February

Becky Brown
Scholastic Book Club
Co-ordinator

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Safety Reminders

Just a reminder to several of the school's procedures that are in place to ensure the safety and welfare of students, parents and staff ...

- **Before School** – the gates are opened at 8:30am and students assemble on the court and wait for the teacher to indicate it is 8:40am when they may enter the school buildings to prepare for the start of the school day. Classrooms and Corridors are not opened or supervised until 8:40am, except when it is raining.

- **Playground** – for safety reasons the playground is out of bounds before and after school. Even if you are available to supervise your children the area is still out of bounds due to advice received from our insurer.

- **Staff Car Park** – Please do not use this as an entrance to the school. Please use the Winnerah Road footpath gate. Walking through the car park can be dangerous with cars reversing.

- **Fire Drill** – yesterday we held an Evacuation Procedure which was successfully completed. If you are on the school premises and hear the Fire Alarm, please follow the Evacuation plan or follow staff directions. Our Evacuation point is to the oval, so make your way safely out onto the oval. If we need to evacuate the school for any reason, Rainmakers Park (Gulfview Road, opposite IGA) is our assembly point.

- **Signing In** – when working within the school, please sign in at the Front Office. This is used in the event of an Evacuation to account for all persons on site.

**Parking around St John’s**

At the start of a new school year, with new families joining St John’s it is important to know the parking procedures around the school. Carmichael Road has been resurfaced and relined so there should no longer be any confusion regarding parking.

This week whilst on Yard Duty I noticed that the 2 minute “Kiss & Drop Zone” (Broken Yellow Lines) has been working efficiently. But it only takes one car to park longer than the allowed 2 minutes for this procedure to break down. This area is designated in the morning & afternoon for parents to stop and let children out or pick up and then leave straight away. This is not a long term parking area. A map of parking arrangements can be found in the 2016 Family Information Booklet.

To assist parents please follow the directions below:

Parking is only permitted on the school side of Winnerah Road, Carmichael Road, Holly Street & Howe Street.

- **Yellow Lines** – Cars must not stop on Yellow lines, not even for a few seconds.
- **Broken Yellow Lines** – Are just like yellow lines but there are times when parking is permitted. Around St John’s cars can park on these broken yellow lines between 9 – 3, but during pickup & drop off times cars cannot stop on the broken yellow lines.

- **School Crossings** – You cannot stop within 20 meters on the approach side of a school crossing or 10 meters on the departure side. There are yellow lines to signify this.

- **Double Parking** – this is always an offence at any time, but the danger is increased in the vicinity of schools, especially when children are entering or leaving.

Little Johns Play Group

**Wednesday Morning’s**

9:00am to 11:00am

(please bring a piece of fruit & a gold coin donation)