Dear Families, Staff and Friends of St John's

Safety Alert
You may have heard recent media reports regarding a number of student safety concerns that have occurred around schools and shopping centres. Such incidents have involved students being approached by strangers at the beginning and end of the school day. All staff at St John the Apostle School respond to such matters of student safety with the highest priority and safety policies and procedures are in place and regularly reviewed. As stated last week, after reviewing our school environment, the Staff Car Park and other areas will be fenced off for the further protection of all students. Students and families are reminded to be wary of approaches from strangers, especially when they are unaccompanied or travelling to and from school. Parents are key partners in issues of student safety and this is a timely opportunity to speak to your child about keeping safe. If your child is approached by a stranger anywhere, he/she should not respond and should not accept offers of rides or gifts. Students should seek the assistance of nearby adults if they feel unsafe and should report the event to a trusted adult (parent or school staff member) as soon as possible. Schools are implementing the Keeping Safe – Child Protection Curriculum and a parent resource with strategies for you to discuss with your child/young person at home is attached. Additional information can also be found on the CESA website. If you have any concerns to report or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

School Closure Day
There will be a School closure Day next Friday 11 March. Approval was given by the School Board. All staff will be involved in the Trauma Sensitive Schools Project. The project will assist staff to understand the particular issues surrounding children who present with trauma-consistent behaviour. This is a 2 day course – school will remain open on Thursday 10 March (the first day of the project) and classes will have relief teachers. OSHC will be available.

Literacy Workshop R– 2 Wednesday 9 March 9am – 9.40am or Tuesday 15 March 2.20pm – 3.00pm
Over the next two weeks, Dee-anne Peters & I will be running a Literacy Workshop which will focus on Jolly Phonics. Earlier this week, the Junior Primary teachers participated in Jolly Phonics PD which will result in several changes which will improve this program. Phonics and sight words is a very important part of the R-2 literacy program. Please come along to either session. If you cannot make either time, please see Dee-anne Peters who will discuss this with you.

School Board AGM
I draw your attention to the School Board Annual General Meeting which will be held on Wednesday 16 March. This is an important school event that gives parents the opportunity to hear all about the success and the great learning experiences that occurred here at St John’s over the last 12 months. We also elect new members for the School Board. This School Board plays a vital role so that parents can be involved in the successful operations of the school. The role of the School Board, in part, is to: develop the relationship between the school and the local Church; promote education excellence within the school; support the administration of the school; foster harmonious and positive collaboration within the school community; protect children; monitor buildings and grounds development and maintenance. We have a number of vacancies on the School Board for 2016/2017. Nomination forms will be sent home tomorrow. I invite you to consider these opportunities that are available in our school community. These nominations are due to the office by Tuesday 15 March. I am more than happy to discuss these roles with you in more detail.
Fourth Sunday of Lent, Cycle C  
March 6, 2016 Gospel Reading  
Jesus teaches about forgiveness in  
the parable of the Prodigal Son.

Family Connection
“Hey, that’s not fair!” How many times have we heard this spoken in  
our family? Family members challenge one another’s generosity,  
operating from the perspective of limited resources. If we have  
given to one, perhaps there won’t be enough for the other. Jesus  
wants us to understand that this is not how it is with God’s mercy  
and forgiveness. God offers his love to all of us in abundance. The  
forgiveness of the father in the parable is an image of God’s love for  
us, generous beyond measure in his love for both of his sons. Can we  
truly believe that God acts this way towards us and accept his  
mercy without jealousy, knowing that God’s love for another does  
don not diminish his love for us?  
As you gather as a family, talk about the words and phrases you  
speak to one another when angry. Identify words or phrases that  
reflect jealousy towards one another. Talk about why we sometimes  
feel jealousy towards one another. Read aloud Sunday’s Gospel,  
Luke 15:1-3,11-32. Talk about why the older brother is jealous of the  
younger brother. Identify words that the family members in the  
parable might say to one another to begin to heal their broken  
relationships. Make a family commitment to say these types of words  
and phrases to one another with greater frequency.

http://loyolapress.com/sunday-connection.htm

Reminders:
Sacrament Group Meeting  
Tuesday 8th March, 5:30pm @ St. Luke’s church  
(for the children and their parents who started the program in Term 4 2015)
Family Mass  
Sunday 20th March @ 9:30am @ St. Luke’s Church
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St John’s Children’s Counsellor

Hello to all parents at St John’s. My name is Lynn Madden and I am the Children’s Counsellor. I work for Centacare Catholic Family Services and am based at the school two days per week on Wednesday and Thursday. My role is to work with the children on issues that cause them concern or distress, ranging from family conflict and separation, grief and loss of pets/family/friends, anxieties and/or excessive worrying, being bullied or bullying others, anger management, sleep difficulties, significant family member illness, managing changes at home or school. Minor conflict between friends is not something I work with unless it becomes a more serious bullying behaviour. Teaching staff generally help deal with those issues. Children can refer themselves or staff and parents can refer. There are referral sheets at the front office for parents and a box of referral slips for children to refer themselves. I offer the children confidentiality but should they be in any danger or at risk, then parents and/or services will be notified accordingly. Sometimes it is best to have parents/teachers involved, particularly if the child does not have the ability or power to make the changes necessary. My day begins at about 8.30am and I finish at 4.30pm. On occasion I have to alter my work days due to other commitments but Frank and office staff are usually informed in advance. If you are unsure whether a referral is required or just need to briefly discuss a situation I can be available to chat, although I have to keep the chat brief due to demand for the service. I hope this helps your understanding about the role and access to it. I look forward to working with you and your child/children if required.
Lynn Madden - Children’s Counsellor

Clean Up Australia Day

Once again all classes will participate in Clean Up Australia Day tomorrow. Many thanks to Mrs Peters for organising this event. It is important that our children have an understanding of significant issues relating to our environment and learn to take responsibility for the care of their environment too. I know that all the classes have been discussing details relating to this issue. Cleaning the area around St John’s will provide them with the opportunity of being proactive in creating a better world.

We have gathered to discuss the safety issues related to picking up sharp objects. Students will be strictly supervised at all times and will be given protective gloves. This will be done early in the school day, before it gets too hot. We have been assigned the area around the school, Gulfview Road and the Esplanade.

Pupil Free Day 11/3/16 - Message from OSHC

OSHC will be open on the Pupil Free Day 6.30am to 6.30pm it is a $45.00 flat fee. Children will need to bring lunch (snacks will be provided during the day). OSHC will only open if there is 6 or more children booked. To book please call 8382 2064

School Uniform - Second Hand Cupboard

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

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.

Canteen Info

MUNCHMONITOR
Log on to www.stjohns.catholic.edu.au And click on the link under School Canteen or use the Schoolstream app and go to the Munchmonitor tab.

When registering for the first time you will need
SCHOOL ID: Cardijn
PASSWORD: munch5168

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When registering for the first time you will need
SCHOOL ID: Cardijn
PASSWORD: munch5168
St John’s OSHC

- M: 0409 094 888

- OSHC operates at St John the Apostle Parish School from 6:30am—6:30pm, Monday to Friday during the school term (except staff training days)
  
We do not run vacation care but are able to supply you some information.

- We have bookings capacity for a maximum of 35 students per session.

- All OSHC staff have senior first aid qualifications.

- Enrolment forms must be completed in order for your child to attend OSHC.

- Bookings must be made prior to 2pm on the day OSHC is required (subject to availability).

- If you have booked your child into a session and they no longer need to attend, please notify the school as soon as possible.

- The Behaviour Management Policy (BMP) of the St John’s OSHC program follows the same principles and procedures as the school’s.

- Hats must be worn all year except for the months of June, July and August.

Little Johns Play Group

- Wednesdays from 9:00—11:00am during school terms.

- Gold coin donation and piece of fruit each visit to share at morning tea.

Library News

Book of the week

Diary of a Tennis Prodigy

Come and read the great review by Thomas Kirwan

FROZEN FRIDAY IN THE CANTEEN

This Friday IN THE CANTEEN WE WILL BE SELLING ICE BLOCKS from 1:15pm to 1:30pm

Quelch - 50c
Juicies - 75c
Ice Mony - 60c
Zooper Dooper - 50c

Enjoying our time during Swimming Week

Little Johns Playgroup

Wednesday 9 March (Week 6)
9am to 11.00am

Adelaide cup crafts and a Kindermusik session

Please bring some fruit to share and a gold coin donation.