



ST JOHN'S NEWS

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PRINCIPAL NEWS

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to school. This time last term we were using Home Based Learning and about to face five weeks of very different learning conditions. Thank heavens we are able to begin Term 3 with all systems ready to go, although we must be extremely careful and cooperative to ensure we are each doing our best to keep ourselves and each other safe.



I encourage you to keep in touch with our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/sjannarrabeena> where you will find record of daily happenings at St John's. Our first Merit Awards assembly will be available Friday morning and it includes our Strength and Gentleness Awards.

St John's No. 1 on the Northern Beaches:

I was pleased to read recently that the Manly Daily rated St John's as the **number one Catholic school on the Northern Beaches** in terms of NAPLAN results for 2019. NAPLAN forms part of the picture about a child is learning in Years 3 and 5. We are aware results can vary from year to year, nevertheless the result is great acknowledgement to our children and their teachers. In other learning news, we entered eleven of our Year 5 and 6 children in the **Australian Maths Trust 2020 Maths Challenge**. The event provides an opportunity to extend and challenge children who enjoy Mathematics and problem solving. Every child performed extremely well solving a series of quite difficult problems. We received 8 Distinctions and 3 Credits which is another fantastic result. Thanks to Mrs Douglas, Mrs Jones and Miss Dunk for working with the children through the challenge phase this year.

Change to Sacramental Programs

Attached to today's newsletter is a letter from our pastoral leader, Bishop Anthony Randazzo concerning **changes to the receipt of the sacraments**. In summary, Bishop Randazzo has decided to move receipt of the sacrament of **Confirmation from the Year 2 to Year 3**. He has also decided to move the receipt of the sacraments of **Reconciliation and Eucharist to from Year 3 to Year 4**. Receipt of sacraments will continue according to the current order – Baptism, Confirmation, Reconciliation and Eucharist. The decision has been prompted by issues associated with the pandemic, specifically, the disruption caused to this year's calendar. In addition, following consultation, the Bishop agrees that developmentally, the children will be in a more appropriate position to understand key ideas about the sacrament of Confirmation at an older age.

Father Reinaldo has decided not to run any sacramental programs for the remainder of 2020 because of the Bishop's decision. He will inform the community of appropriate dates and times for 2021 once these have been decided. Bishop Randazzo's letter will be sent as an attachment to today's mail out, the letter provides further detail about the decision.

A reminder that our canteen is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday for online lunch orders only. No over the counter service at this stage.

Have a great week,

Mark Bateman - Principal

Student Achievement Reports:

Student Achievement Reports will be emailed to you July 31st. A reminder that you have already received a communications from teachers via phone call followed up by a copy of the notes from the calls. This communication specifically related to HBL and the pastoral needs of your child. The progress reports are modified to include Maths, RE and English only. The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) has given all schools permission to modify the content and outcomes to covered across all syllabuses this year due to the pandemic. There are no teacher comments on this year's report given the personal contact achieved with families by all classroom teachers since Term 1, however, should you wish to discuss your child's report with the teacher, you are welcome to contact them via sjan@dbb.catholic.edu.au to arrange a discussion via telephone. Information about the learning and assessment for Religion, English and Mathematics will be sent home via Compass on Friday 31st July to accompany the reports.

DIARY

Week 2 Term 3 Mon 27 July	Week 2 Term 3 Tues 28 July	Week 2 Term 3 Wed 29 July	Week 2 Term 3 Thurs 30 July	Week 2 Term 3 Fri 31 July	Week 10 Term 2 Sat/Sun 1/2
		<i>St John's Athletics Carnival</i> Parents are NOT permitted to attend		<i>Reports Sent home</i>	<i>Trivia night</i>
Week 3 Term 3 Mon 3 Aug	Week 3 Term 3 Tues 4 Aug	Week 3 Term 3 Wed 5 Aug	Week 3 Term 3 Thurs 6 Aug	Week 3 Term 3 Fri 7 Aug	Week 1 Term 3 Sat/Sun 8/9
			<i>Playgroup 9.30am-11am Booking required</i>		

AWARDS



Awards are presented on Friday:

K-6 awards will be presented tomorrow morning.

Photos will be updated

Strength & Gentleness	<i>Evie B (2W), Annie C (5B)</i>
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KB	Bailey D Niamh Mc	3B	Ilana A Emery H Ashton B	5W	Ruby G Keeley F	Library Ashton C (1B) Khyla M (6W)
KW	Milla H Ava P	3W	Mia S Andre D	6B	Alex M Nelson D	
1B	Connor W Lucas B	4B	Sophia H Jack K	6W	Khyla M Sienna G	Creative Arts Grace W (KB) Harry D (3W)
2B	Barney J Lawson L	4W	James C Jeremy B	5/6F	Brendan W	Sports Smith O (4B) Jacob O (6W)
2W	Alessandro C Charlie A	5B	Annika H Bailey G			

FROM LITTLE THINGS...

Are there times when your child is in need of encouragement? Is he/she feeling 'small' in the face of life's challenges?

Perhaps you could share the parable of the mustard seed: In [Matthew 13:31-32](#) Jesus describes how God can bring great blessings from even humble and apparently insignificant beginnings. With God's help, even the tiny seeds we plant can bear immense fruit.



At the meal table, invite each person to name one 'mustard seed' that he/she planted. Celebrate everyone's sincere efforts! Offer them all to God.

CARING FOR THE LITTLE THINGS...

One of our positive behaviours for learning is to “care for the place you are in”. We are all concerned about the state of the world. The environment is high on the agenda, particularly for young people.

The culmination of God’s creation here on earth is human beings. We are in charge! We have the capacity to affect change!

We do need to care for all of creation but that begins by **caring for the place you in**. Learning to care for the little things; our jumpers, lunch boxes, pencils and crayons, sets us up to be people who do make a difference in the world.

Parents please help us to care for the place we are in...see “lost property” below!



LOVING THE WORD OF GOD...

Year 1 love reading the Bible and it is always a popular choice when they have silent reading. So, it was very exciting today, when an entire box of brand-new bibles arrived.



“I really like bibles because I care for God.” Alex C

“I picked the story about Noah because he's looking after the animals.” Eliza B



One of the ways we show that we are responsible learners at St John's is to "Care for our Belongings".

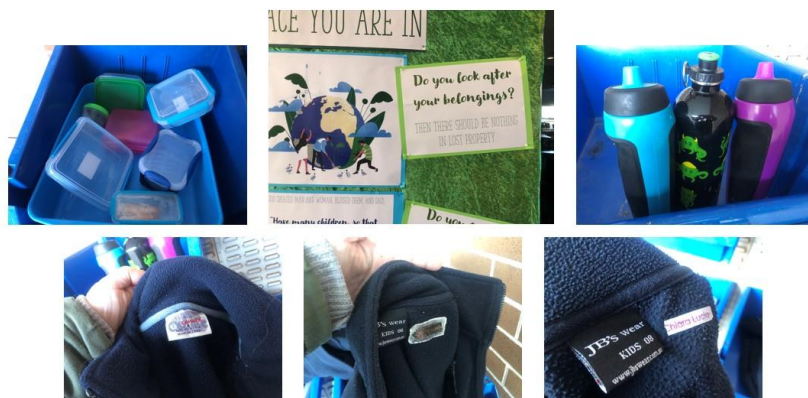
Every day, one of the Year 4 classes picks up all of the hats, jumpers, lunch boxes and drink bottles that have been left in the playground.

Anything with a name on it is returned to the owner. Anything with **no name**, or an **illegible name**, is put into lost property.

What has surprised us is the **amount** of belongings that have no name, an illegible name, or even the name of a child who has left St John's. Quite often the clothing items are brand new. The monetary value of the unnamed items is significant.

There are a multitude of companies selling labels online, a puffing pen works well on fleecy jumpers or a black marker on hats.

We are asking for your cooperation in helping the children to follow this school rule and care for their belongings.



Calling paper plane experts!

Welcome to the 'COVID safe' 2020 STANSW YOUNG SCIENTIST PAPER PLANE CHALLENGE.

VIDEO your throw from home and upload your entry by midnight **FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST 2020**.

All details can be found at the following website:

www.paperplanes.youngscientist.com.au



You also may be interested in the 'Young Scientist of the Year Award', with over 150 awards for Scientific Investigations, Inventions & Innovative Devices, Mathematical Investigations, Software and ICT applications and Robotic projects. Details can be found at:

<http://www.youngscientist.com.au/>

Mrs Gillett :)

Road Safety

Keeping your children safe when dropping off and picking up at school. Everyone is reminded of the need for caution and safety in school zones.

You are asked to:

1. Slow down and stick to the 40km/h speed limit in a school zone and look out for children who may be about.
2. Talk to your children about being alert in the road environment, remind them to **STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! THINK!** Every time they cross the road, driveways or carparks.
3. Never double park as it puts children at risk.
4. Look for oncoming vehicles, bikes and pedestrians.
5. Remember that school zones carry heavy fines for breach of road rules.





Media Release

16 July 2020

Bishop Randazzo announces change to the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation

Bishop Anthony Randazzo has made adjustments to the age of children receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Diocese of Broken Bay.

In a letter to clergy of the Diocese last week, Bishop Randazzo acknowledged the crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the course of Sacramental Preparation Programmes across all parishes.

“I have been unable to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in the parishes of the Diocese at all this year,” said Bishop Randazzo, who has decided, due to ongoing uncertainty and for the sake of clarity for parents and families, parishes and personnel involved in preparing children for the Sacraments that he will not celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at all in 2020.

Formerly, children receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation were seven years old, typically those in Year 2. For the future celebration of the Sacrament, Bishop Randazzo has announced that candidates will be at least eight years old, those who are in Year 3.

The change has been made after Bishop Randazzo consulted and received feedback about the Sacrament of Confirmation and after discussions with the Council of Priests.

“The practice of celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with those who have reached the age of seven, typically those in Year 2, seems early for the most meaningful reception of the Sacrament,” said Bishop Randazzo.

“Therefore, I wish to use the circumstances afforded us negatively by the pandemic to place our practice of Sacramental preparation, positively, on a new footing going forward.”

The Bishop has not changed the order of the Sacraments of Initiation being Baptism, followed by Confirmation and Eucharist. Under the new program, Reconciliation and Eucharist will therefore be celebrated by those who are aged nine and in Year 4.

“I regard this as the best and most sustainable way forward to address both the suspension of the celebration of Confirmation for the rest of this year, and to engage the unique opportunity with which we are now presented to bring Sacramental Preparation Programmes into the future on a different footing for children who are older and more able to appreciate the significance of their Christian Initiation.”

The letter to clergy announcing the changes, explained some of the implications on Sacramental Preparation Programmes. With the various timings of the programmes across parishes throughout the Diocese taking place either in the first or second halves of the year, it will take the course of 2021 to 2022 to establish the consistent foundation of the preparation programme for children who are aged eight and older.

Bishop Randazzo also explained norms around who has the faculty to Confirm, especially regarding the various circumstances arising for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. With some exceptions, the Bishop clarified particularly regarding the Confirmation of children, “I am the ordinary minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation and I do not wish this to be compromised by widespread delegation of this faculty”.

The Bishop explained he is aware of the practical implications for parishes during a period of adjustment but looks forward to achieving consistency across the diocese as soon as is practicable.

“We have been through a great disruption that has affected parish communities in numerous ways,” said Bishop Randazzo, “and I acknowledge the many creative and innovative initiatives adopted by our people to keep the faith flourishing”.

“I am grateful for the way in which parishes will bring to completion this year sacramental preparations commenced in 2019, so that in the new year, we can resume the programme for new cohorts on a new premise.”

For more information please contact Selina Hasham, Director, Office for Communications on 02 8379 1622 or email Selina.hasham@bbcatholic.org.au