



**ST JOHN'S**

There's no  
**place**  
like St John's

# St John's Newsletter

Term 1 Week 4 - Wednesday 17th February 2016

## HEAD OF ST JOHN'S

Ms Shannon Rosewood

### WELLBEING DAY 2016

Establishing and maintaining positive relationships with family, friends, peers and educators in a variety of settings is essential to wellbeing. It is all about our ability to connect with other people. St John's Wellbeing Day will be held on Friday 4 March. Creativity and art are avenues that enable students to express themselves, promote social interaction and evaluate their wellbeing. Years 3 to 6 will be working in conjunction with Drum Beats.



Drum Beats educational shows are designed to build confidence, spirit and a sense of community in children. All the shows are hands-on for every child and the program aims to *'Find the Heart Beat of your school with this exciting hands on show involving drums, singing, languages from around the world, rhythms in our environment and body percussion. A great way to inspire the rhythm in life!'* [www.drumbeats.com.au](http://www.drumbeats.com.au)

Transition to Year 2 will be playing cooperative games and learning 'How to get along' as a prelude to Harmony Day which occurs later in the term. Harmony Day, 21 March, celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. It is a day for all Australians to embrace cultural diversity and to share.

Continued emphasis this year is being given to the development of character traits through our Junior School wellbeing program and the PROPER@NEGS framework that is being developed this year. We welcome your input and support as we educate our students in a holistic manner that sees them flourishing.

Student 'voice' is a focus for the school this year and already we are seeing our Year 6 leadership team keen to be involved in making St John's a school that listens and acts on what students value at school. So far we have established a 'Lunch Committee' and are in the planning stages of a School Disco (STAY tuned!!!). Reasonable discussion between staff and students will create positive outcomes and a sense of wellbeing and purpose.

### ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT ST JOHN'S

There are many exciting and fun activities happening for students this Semester.

- Mud Club pottery extravaganza occurs Mondays after school with Mrs McCann. We can't wait to see what they come up with!
- Explorers Club is an exciting new Christian lunchtime group that plays games and explores the Bible on a Tuesday at lunchtime.
- Chess Club has gone from strength to strength with the amazing Mrs Ward. Chess Club meets after school on a Tuesday in the Year 2 classroom.
- Ready Steady Trot is a fantastic equestrian program that is held on Tuesday afternoons between 3:00 and 4:30. Students do not require their own horse, just a 'can do' attitude.
- Vocal Ensemble and Saumerez Strings are held in the Music room before school on a Wednesday and Thursday. Speak to Mrs Tall about these opportunities for our budding musicians.
- Code Club will again run this year but with Mrs Ford in the Year 2 classroom on a Thursday at lunchtime.
- Science Club is a new initiative, which will operate every second Friday in the Senior School science labs. This collaboration with NEGS is very exciting and will build and develop our students' natural curiosity and wonder about their world.
- Our sporting program continues with hockey clinics, indoor hockey, touch football and the upcoming Cross Country carnival. We hope to run the St John's Triathlon in the near future. Look out for emails from Mrs Nixon.

### ST JOHN'S JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Registered Provider: NEGS Limited  
ABN: 31 122 393 702 | CRICOS: 02945A

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 19 February - Assembly – Year 5
- 26 February - Cross country (Lunch provided for parents)
- 2 March IPSHA Swimming Carnival
- 4 March – St John’s Wellbeing Day
- 4 March – Assembly Year 3/4
- 14 March – Camp and Swim week (No Assembly)
- 19 March – Autumn Festival Parade
- 24 March – Note this is a PD day for NEGS but a school day at St John’s
- 2 March – IPSHA Cross Country
- 7 March – Last Day of Term 1
- 8 March – Staff Day – (Care will be provided with Ms Moore for interested parents. Contact Reception. \$50 per family)

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Lottie Jacobsen and her horse ‘Dandy’ What an achievement to be sashed Champion Open Rider at the Uralla Show. Lottie also achieved a first for U11 Rider, second in the working hunter and third for the 13 to 14 hands category. Amazing results for one of our new St John’s boarders. Congratulations Lottie!

St John’s would like to congratulate Caitlin Croft on her brilliant efforts at the recent Bundarra and Uralla Shows She achieved first and Champion Pony Club Rider in the 11 – 13 years. She also recieved a first in District Galloway Hack. Amazing riding Caitlin.



30-31st January	Bundarra Show	Lead Regd Riding Pony	Truly	3rd
		Ridden Regd Riding Pony	Truly	3rd
		Pony Club Girl Rider 9 - 13 yrs	Selena	3rd
		Prelim L2 Dressage	Selena	2nd
		Prelim L2 Dressage	Truly	4th
8th February	Uralla Show	Pony Club Girl Rider 11 - 13	Selena	1st & Champion Jnr Girl Rider
		Registered Riding Pony Mare	Truly	3rd
		District Girl Rider Under 13	Selena	1st
		Girl Rider 11 - 13 yrs	Selena	3rd
		District Galloway Hack	Truly	1st
		Novice Galloway Hack	Selena	2nd
		Chicks Galloway Hack	Truly	3rd
		Educated Galloway Hack	Truly	2nd
		Pleasure Galloway Hack	Selena	2nd

## AUTUMN FESTIVAL PARADE

On Saturday (19 March), the annual Autumn Festival Parade will be held. St John's children are invited to participate:



- Meet: 12 noon**  
**Where to drop off: Park opposite TAFE in Beardy Street**  
**Finish: 1.15 pm**  
**Where to pick up: Opposite the Belgrave Twin Cinema in Dumaresq Street**



All children must wear full school uniform with hats and they may carry water bottles. Unless the weather is cool, blazers do not need to be worn. Please ensure you are at the finish point promptly.

## MUSIC NEWS WITH MRS TALL

We love Music at St John’s and it’s been wonderful to share the joy of music making with both old and new friends in this new school year. Kindergarten are having a ball learning new songs, games and dances while Year 1 have commenced lessons on the violin. Year 2 have begun listening to ‘Rondo Alla Turca’ by Mozart and Year 3 are about to start recorder lessons. Year 4 are moving up to more complex music on their recorders and Year 5 have made a flying start on their new band instruments. Year 6 are being challenged with more difficult band music and are the leaders in our 3-6 choir.

Our two co-curricular ensembles have commenced with Vocal Ensemble on Wednesday mornings from 8.00-8.45 for enthusiastic singers in Years 3-6 and Saumarez Strings for string players who have had at least one year of tuition on Thursday mornings from 8.00-8.45am. If your child is interested in joining either of these groups and you need more information please contact me by email rowena.tall@negs.nsw.edu.au

More advanced Year 6 wind players are also welcome to join the NEGS Wind Ensemble conducted by Mr Tracy and rehearsing on Tuesday mornings from 8.00-8.45am.

Congratulations to Tariq Rahim for achieving a high distinction with a score of 99% in his Preliminary musicianship examination. Well done Tariq! If any students in Year 4-6 are interested in taking musicianship classes please let Ms Williams know.



It has been a very busy couple of weeks for Junior School Sport!

Students have started Summer Sport and have thoroughly enjoyed developing their skills during the hockey clinics in their PE lessons. Registration for winter sports will be sent home as soon as they are available.

Congratulations to all the swimmers at the St John's Swimming Carnival on Friday 12th February. All children competed in events and had a free swim at lunchtime. Particular thanks to the P & F for the delicious lunch and parents who volunteered their time to assist with timekeeping. Spectacular swimming from our senior girls meant that the competition was fierce. Congratulations to our champions and all of our students for trying their best. Well done to Murray House for being the winning house on the day. The house cheer competition was a noise festival. Well done all the houses, Mrs Dent couldn't pick a winner!

Champion trophies and Participation medallions are awarded according to qualifying times achieved or involvement and effort on the day.

**Junior Boy participation – Charlie McCulloch**  
**Junior Girl Champion - Eloise Gooch**

**Senior Boy participation – Owen Rice**  
**Senior Girl Champion - Isabella Rutledge**

**Winning House – Murray**

Students who qualified for IPSHA Swimming Carnival in Sydney in a few weeks time, will be attending the local PSSA Carnival this week in Armidale. We wish them all the very best.

On Friday 26th February the Junior School Cross Country Carnival will be held. All students will receive an invitation for all parents and families to attend. It is a great afternoon and it will be followed by a BBQ lunch.

St John's will also hold a triathlon event for years 3-6 students on Thursday 24th March. More information will be distributed closer to the date.

#### DATES TO REMEMBER:

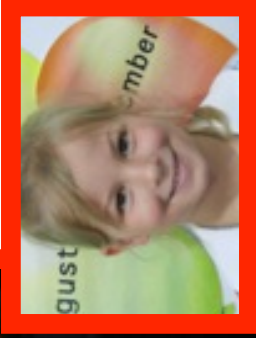
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|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>18th Feb</b>  | <b>PSSA Swimming Carnival</b>       |
| <b>26th Feb</b>  | <b>Junior School Cross Country</b>  |
| <b>2nd Mar</b>   | <b>IPSHA Swimming Carnival</b>      |
| <b>24th Mar</b>  | <b>Junior School Triathlon</b>      |
| <b>2nd April</b> | <b>IPSHA Cross Country Carnival</b> |





# YEAR 2

Fifteen fabulous students have settled beautifully into their new Year 2 classroom routines. In English, the children have been very busy talking and writing about our class study of the text, Sebastian Lives in a Hat. In Mathematics, they have been working hard to develop efficient strategies for solving problems. There has been great excitement during Science lessons with Mrs Ford as they study how living things grow. Through their observations of the mealworms they are keeping, the children are recording how their pets grow and change. In History, Year 2 are looking at how the past influences the present and why some places have great significance to local communities. A very busy start to 2016. Well done Year 2!



## Expressions of Interest are being called for participation in the FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING COMPETITION

This year, NEGS and St Johns will be offering the Future Problem Solving Competition as an after school activity for Years 5-9. Future Problem Solving (FPS) is an international academic program and competition that brings together students from different countries to think creatively and solve critical issues the world may face in the future. FPS opens doors to creativity, teamwork, persuasion and presentation and is particularly suited to challenging and answering the needs of high ability students.

The FPS program is designed to stimulate, challenge and teach about thinking. Students learn to think creatively, work cooperatively and come up with solutions to problems the world may face tomorrow.

By promoting thinking and working collaboratively, the FPS program helps build more active students. FPS encourages a better understanding of our world and generates optimism and commitment towards solving our common future problems. Please take a look at the FPS website for more information [www.fpsp.org.au](http://www.fpsp.org.au) and email Mrs Tutt if you are interested in being part of a team at [donella.tutt@negs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:donella.tutt@negs.nsw.edu.au)

**Good for Kids** good for life

BENEFITS OF TEAM SPORTS

Participation in team sports is a great way to increase your child's physical activity. But did you know there are a number of other benefits to team sports, including:


- Teaching children skills in teamwork
- Increasing communication skills
- Helping children gain confidence through interaction with other kids
- Teaching children it is ok to lose sometimes
- Making new friends
- And most importantly having fun!



There are many different team sports to choose from such as soccer, netball, touch football and hockey. Why not see what team sports are available at your school or in the community for your child to participate in?



PHONE 4 924 64 99

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What</b></p> <p>The Kids' Lit Quiz™ is a major international literature competition where teams of four students work together to answer wide-ranging literary questions. Students collaboratively answer 100 questions arranged in ten categories. (The categories are unknown to contestants prior to the event).</p>	<p><b>Kids' Lit Quiz™ Australia 2016</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Why</b></p> <p>The Kids' Lit Quiz™ celebrates and rewards reading and literary knowledge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It offers reading challenges</li> <li>• It broadens literary awareness</li> <li>• It fosters positive attitudes towards reading</li> <li>• It motivates students</li> <li>• It provides a literary focus for schools to extend their students reading mileage and knowledge of literature</li> <li>• It's highly motivating</li> <li>• It's fun</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Who</b></p> <p>The Kids' Lit Quiz™ is open to students aged 10 to 13 years and must be under 14 years on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016.</p> <p>*A school can enter up to 3 teams. *Teams may be mixed Grades or just a single grade. *Students must all be from the same school. (Small schools under 30 can have combined teams, contact Coordinator for more information) *Teams do not need to be allocated prior to the heat. *Substitutions are not permissible after the heat. (Team that takes part in heat must be the same as the team that takes part in the final.) *The heats and final are run by the Quizmaster.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>When</b></p> <p>The Australian Kids' Lit Quiz™ will be conducted from 10 – 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016.</p> <p>The World Final will be held in August 2016.</p> <p><u>The Quizmaster</u> Wayne Mills is a retired lecturer from the University of Auckland who specialized in Children's Literature. He was awarded the Margaret Mahy Medal in 2008 for services to children's literature and in 2011 was made Member of the NZ Order of Merit.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Where</b></p> <p>The Kids' Lit Quiz™ will be held in:</p> <p><b>QUEENSLAND:</b> Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March in Ipswich and Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in Brisbane.</p> <p><b>NEW SOUTH WALES:</b> Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 Armidale Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016, Orange. Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in Merrylands, Sydney</p> <p><b>ACT:</b> Wednesday 16th March 2016 in Canberra.</p> <p><b>NATIONAL FINAL:</b> Saturday 19th March, Monkey Baa Theatre, Darling Harbor, Sydney, NSW. The winning team from each heat will be eligible to be in the Final.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>How</b></p> <p>Obtain a Kids' Lit Quiz™ information pack (This includes Entry form to be returned and pretest questions to get you started).</p> <p><b>TO REGISTER:</b> Submit or return your Entry form and your school will be invoiced \$100 (\$25/ student) per team for your registration fee.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prizes</b></p> <p>Participating students have the opportunity to win books and also the chance to win on-the-spot cash prizes.</p> <p>Plus: The Australian Champions are invited to the International Final in Auckland, New Zealand in August 2016</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>More Information and to Register</b></p> <p>Contact: National Coordinator: Nicole Deans Email: <a href="mailto:kidslitquizaustralia@gmail.com">kidslitquizaustralia@gmail.com</a> Phone: 0407708206 <a href="http://www.kidslitquiz.com">www.kidslitquiz.com</a></p>

### Attention: New families to NEGS/St John's Junior School

#### Private Vehicle Conveyancing (PVC) applications – NSW day and boarding students

PVC subsidy is available for eligible NSW school students, where there is no public transport available for all or part of the journey. An example of this is if families live more than 1.6km from the nearest transport pick up point. For further information re eligibility please telephone the Ministry of Transport on 1800 010 123.

Please note: for families who are not registered, to be subsidised for Semester 1 (Terms 1 and 2) the cut off date for applications is the 23rd June.

It is now possible to apply online at the following address: <https://appln.transport.nsw.gov.au/stms-parent/application/download>  
If you are unable to apply online or have any questions, please contact me.

Helen Smith ([helen.smith@negs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:helen.smith@negs.nsw.edu.au)). 6774 8751