FIRST EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION AS A SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

Our school experienced a historic day last Thursday, as a community we gathered together and shared the breaking of the Bread of Life, which is Jesus.

It was an occasion which strongly demonstrated the welcoming community we have already begun to establish here at St. Johns. The mingling of parents and toddlers amongst our student group was symbolic of our school vision to create a connected learning community.

Our school, through the season of Lent been called to action during our school Ash Wednesday liturgy. One way to be of service to others is through the action of giving to Caritas Australia, via the annual project compassion campaign. Offerings can be placed in the offerings box in the school community space. Thanks so much to those families who have responded generously to this cause.

SCHOOL PHOTOS—THIS THURSDAY!

This Thursday, 5th March is our school photo day for the year 2016.

These photos will prove to be historically significant in years to come, so we ask all families to make a special effort to ensure that all students are well presented on this day.

1. All students must be in a clean full summer uniform. (This includes a jumper, cardigan or vest, white socks for girls, grey socks for boys.)
2. Girls hair ties should be matching to the school colours. (White, light blue or navy)
3. School shoes should be clean. No runners are permitted
4. Leggings and tights and long sleeve undergarments are not permitted.

Ordering envelopes were given to each student last week. Families can either order online or may submit their order to the school using the envelop.

The photos will be taken first thing Thursday morning starting with a whole school photo followed by individual photos. No family photos will be taken this year, this service will be offered every second year.

ENROLMENTS OPEN—2016

Enrolments opened for all St. Andrew’s Parish schools on Monday, 2nd March. The first intake of enrolments close on Friday, 27th March.

It is vitally important that any currently enrolled families wishing to enrol siblings into St. John the Apostle School submit an enrolment pack with all supporting documentation before this closing date.
An information forum is being held onsite on Tuesday, 10th March. This forum is open to the public and aims to equip all interested families with the information they need to assist them in making this important decision relating to the education of their child.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM—INCORRECT UNIFORM NOTIFICATIONS**

All uniform supplies have now arrived at Rushford’s schoolwear. Families have been very flexible in way they managed the delays in the girls school dress.

Our uniform is a strong symbol of our school identity throughout the community. It should be worn with pride and become renowned for the fine students who wear it.

We now will be expecting all students to be in full school summer uniform each day. Please be aware of the following misunderstandings:

1. Long Pants cannot be worn as part of the school summer uniform.
2. Leggings cannot be worn with the summer uniform.
3. The school jumper, vest and cardigan cannot be worn with the sports uniform. If cool, students can wear their sports jacket only.
4. Runners cannot be worn with the normal summer uniform.

Students will be reminded of these expectations in the coming week. Students not wearing correct uniform after a warning will receive a written notification which must be signed and returned to the school.

**PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

Thank you to all families for their diligence in booking students interviews via the online PTO portal. The interviews allowed teachers to gain and share valuable insights about the children within their home groups.

A reminder that future interviews can be coordinated with teachers on a needs basis.

**LATE PASS—CLARIFICATION**

Please be aware of the following adjustments to our arrangements for late students.

Children are expected to arrive at school between 8:30 and 8:50am. Should they be late, children are expected to enter the school through the front office as all school gates will be closed at 8:50am. They will then be asked to proceed quietly and calmly to their learning area after being issued a ‘late pass’.

This arrangement is slightly different to that outlined in out Parents Handbook. This will be amended and updated on the website.

**HOMEWORK AND HOME READING**

Students have no commenced homework. We ask that parents communicate with us if the weeks family schedule has made completion of the homework difficult. That way we are able to remain fair in our expectations on children.

Students who have been issued with a take home book should return the book when able ensuring that it is kept in a safe place were it will not be lost or damaged.

**PRINCIPAL’S AWARD WINNERS**

This fortnights certificate was presented to Gladys Taban from Year 5.

Gladys has demonstrated an understanding that learning is not only confined to school times and homework issued by teachers. She took an interest she had had in St John the Apostle, and produced a poster based on her research.

Congratulations Gladys, a great example for all our students. The next principal’s award will be announced at our next assembly.

**CAR PARK SAFETY**

The safety of students is of paramount importance. We have identified that the carpark as one of our prime areas of concern when it comes to ensuring student safety. We urge parents to be aware of the following points when dropping students off and collecting students at the end of the day.

1. Please drive slowly within the carpark and follow directional arrows at all times.
2. Do not call students to the car. You must leave you vehicle and collect the children and supervise them walking to the car.
3. When walking across the carpark always use the marked pedestrian crossing.
4. If possible, to reduce carpark traffic, park outside the school grounds.
5. If you are staying onsite for a coffee or chat, please use the street parking as the carpark gates are closed promptly by 9am.