



St John's College Nambour

Unbind and Set Free

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28 May 2021

Principal's Message



Dear Johnnies Community,

Last Friday was a great day for St. John's with the official Opening and Blessing of our new facilities: Hospitality, Staff and Administration areas.

I provide below some snippets from my address: Please excuse some abbreviations as they help when speaking and, if this is just part of it, aren't you glad you were not there.

"It is my great pleasure to address you today on this occasion of the Opening Blessing of the new and refurbished Sr Kostka Hospitality buildings. Included in the same project, were the upgrading of the Staff amenities and the construction of the new Administration area. The Hospitality Centre upgrade and new build were only possible with the generosity of State Govt Grant to the tune of \$995,000.

The new facilities have been most appreciated by staff in this area, students, who now have state of the art facilities, and by the community who benefit from events held in the dining area and surrounds.

This latest project was preceded a year earlier by building a State-of-the-art St Joseph's ITD centre for all our woodwork, metalwork, graphics, and design activities. Without that build we would not have had the necessary space and ideal position for the new Administration area. – located where the old ITD centre was.

It has been an exciting five-to-seven-year period of building and providing excellent facilities and opportunities to the students of St. John's. Much of the hard work and planning was due to our business Manager, Kim Harrison. – She is currently on extended leave and cannot be here as she is still recovering from the 35km Bloody Long Walk raising funds for Mitochondria.

Once we had brainstormed what we needed and where it might go, Kim just went into overdrive with meetings with architects, council, builders, ADF and so on and managed the borrowings and repayments in conjunction with BCE and ADF. A huge thank you to Peter Middap Architect and 161 building, especially Kelvin and Darren, for their partnership in our buildings over the past seven years.

Our needs are still growing with our student numbers; from around 640 students in 2014 to 860 on campus today. Year 7 to secondary and finally attaining a five-stream status has accentuated the need to provide excellent facilities. Indeed, as the larger numbers are finally reaching the senior school, our estimate for 2022 will be around 880-890. And yes, Chris and Doug, we need to build again.

We are blessed with such a beautiful site here on the hill, which we have occupied since 1979, with 100 students and only a demountable. Many people doubted the success of St. John's in those early years, and I pay tribute to those early Principals, Kathleen Rundell, Wendy Cutting and Paul Blundell. Our rich history began in 1940 (and contrary to popular opinion, I was not born then, but was born some 17 years later) when the first Sub-senior year, as they called it then, commenced with 7 students, one of which was Pat Carroll, who after graduation went straight to Banyo seminary where he became a priest in 1948.

As time went on, the local community demanded a catholic secondary school that included boys and it was then that BCE under the directorship of Mr. Vince O'Rourke, established our college on this site, land donated by the Hearth family. We are forever indebted to Vince and his foresight. The Good Samaritan sisters handed over their governance to BCE but still had a great interest in the school and several sisters continued to teach here up to 1990.

Sr Patricia Thom was the last Good Sam sister to be Principal up to 1978.

Srs Eliz, Eugennie Maureen, Joan and Adele 79 - 90

I received a wonderful message this morning from Sr Eugennie '88 who could not be here today as the sisters and oblates gather in Brisbane for a weekend retreat:"

To Principal, Chris Gold, Staff, Students and Families of St John's College,

I send my personal good wishes and congratulations to all of you,

as you gather for the Blessing and Opening of the Sr Kostka Building.

As a Good Samaritan Sister who taught at St John's College from 1983-1988,

and who loved being a part of the College life and history, I am disappointed that I cannot be present for this event, but hold you in thought and prayer and ask God's good blessings,

for the use of this building and the continued growth of its hospitality.

It is wonderful to see how the College has developed in "leaps and bounds"

over these many past years and I pray that the spirit of Sr Kostka and all

the Good Samaritans Sisters who have been associated with the College,

will keep alive the charism of the Good Samaritan within all

who minister and learn there.

With deepest gratitude and affection,
Sr Eugennie Levinson

"Our history is dynamic; we are reinventing ourselves and all the while keeping strong the traditions, values, and charism of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan.

I cannot wait to see the next project gather momentum: On our Priority list of to do's.

1 is to enclose the MPC with timber floor, stage, and theatre style seating at the top; we would also love to develop our beautiful oval with lights, a second oval where the cow is ajisted, parking and new dressing sheds/toilets.

If enclosing is not the best thing, we would also love to see a performing arts theatre that can be flexible with Drama and music classrooms, and of course we need more parking spaces. Take note Doug. Nothing is impossible despite the steep site.

In my 13 years here as principal, I learned quickly to Never underestimate the Johnnies spirit we will continue to achieve great things. Some doubted us in the early days, and it was a lot of pleading to finally go to five streams, today we stand before you as a college of 860 students and growing, and most of our recent buildings have been possible with borrowings and State Govt Funding.

A huge thank you to our parents, P&F, Board, staff for their many ideas and support for our growth and of course to BCE for encouraging our growth with support for building projects, property acquisition; to the ADF who work closely with the finance team to help manage borrowings and repayments, and to the State Government for showing continued interest in and financially support for schools in the Catholic sector."

And in the spirit of faith, hope and love, we continue our journey to Unbind and Set Free.

Chris Gold
Principal

Celebrating a Strong Catholic Identity

Year 10 Event: PoTENTIAL

BCE have identified that our youth, especially the Year 10s, have an amazing opportunity to lead in our schools. They aim to help them develop confidence so that when they are in year 12, they already have the skills to put ideas into action and the motivation to inspire others. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions last year's event had to be cancelled so I am thrilled to see it returned this year.

This Thursday, St John's College will be taking sixteen students, down to Brisbane to participate in this amazing event. The students will experience numerous activities arranged by Brisbane Catholic Education, Catholic Mission, Caritas and Vinnies Youth. There also promises to be a Pop-Up Vinnies Store during lunch time and after the event, as caring for our environment is an important message from Pope Francis in his encyclical, Care for our Common Home (Laudato si). We are very fortunate to have as a guest speaker, Chris Tamwoy. You may remember Chris from Australia's Got Talent in 2016, he was the recipient of the 2015 NAIDOC Youth of the Year award. Chris has ties to Badu, Boigu and Darnley Islands in the Torres Strait and is a self-taught guitar virtuoso in the making. It promises to be a great day and an important part of our student's formation.

POSITIVE PARENTING SEMINAR

Save the date!
Wednesday 23rd June
5.00 – 6.00 pm

St John's is offering a free parent seminar for our parenting community. Our presenter is Glen Gerreyn, a dynamic speaker who has been working with our Year 11 and 12 students.

CONTEXT

As a father of four, Glen understands first-hand how parenting can indeed be one of the toughest jobs in the world. He also knows how rewarding it is to see one's children growing up feeling love, assured, and closely bonded with their parents.

SHIFT

In this one-hour seminar, Glen shares the five fundamental positive parenting tools, based on positive psychology research. You will leave feeling equipped with the skills to better connect with your children and to empower them to tackle a complex world. Our first responsibility as parents is to enjoy our kids. How you think about being a parent deeply shapes how your child will see the world. When you are enjoying your children you are teaching them that the fundamental engine of what makes a family thrive and flourish is joy, not angst, depression, despair, or destitution, but joy.

Topics Covered Include

- How to help your child find a vision
- The rules of encouragement
- How to be where you are
- Teaching your children how to fail
- How to say you're sorry
- Making the home a refuge

The Hopeful Institute delivers solutions for the whole school community through powerful seminars that shift individual thinking and inspire audiences to navigate the complexity and disruption of contemporary society. Each of our programs are research-based and geared around supporting your schools existing wellbeing programs and enriching the lives of people in your school community.

GLEN GERREYN
AUTHOR AND CO-FOUNDER

Over the past twenty years Glen has shared his message of hope with over a million people around the world, engaging with schools, parents, leaders, groups and community leaders. Glen's work has been featured in 200+ seminars and on national TV and radio. He's authored five books and created the "Man of Honour" character development course.

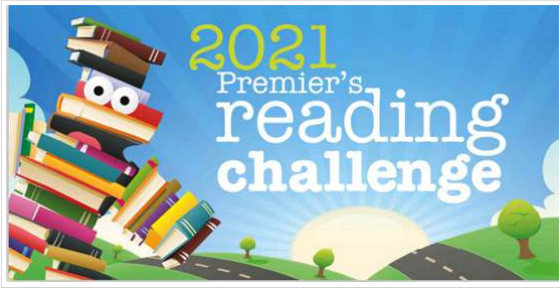
Glen has a unique ability to capture the attention of thousands, while deeply affecting individuals. So much more than being able to inspire, he has the ability of being able to compel people to take action in their lives. Through his own experiences and with the unique ability of encoding today's data into tomorrow's impact, Glen continues to offer audiences profound experiences of meaning and identity, shifting perceptions, challenging boundaries and restoring positive change.

RSVP via edsmart by Friday 4th June

Fiona Baker
Assistant Principal Formation and Identity

Fostering a love of Learning and Teaching

Library News



The Premier's Reading Challenge is an annual state-wide initiative for Queensland state and non-state schools and home-educated students from Prep to Year 9, as well as children (aged up to 5 years) enrolled in an early childhood center.

The Premier's Reading Challenge aims to improve literacy and encourage children to read for pleasure and learning

Children and students who complete the challenge have their efforts recognised through the receipt of a Certificate of Achievement signed by the Premier of Queensland.

School and individual readers (Prep to Year 9)

For our students to successfully complete the Premier's Reading Challenge they are required to read or experience 15 books.

Experiencing a book includes classroom or at home activities such as shared reading, listening and reading along with a book, or being read to.

Students are encouraged to select a range of fiction and non-fiction books suited to their reading ability. While there is no compulsory reading list for the challenge, [book lists](#) are available to help students, teachers, parents and guardians select appropriate reading material.

Registration is now open, read as many books as you can by the 27th August, 2021.

Register online here:

<https://readingchallenge.education.qld.gov.au/>

Read on!

Mrs Corey, Miss McCaul and Miss Rowe

Year 10 History

This term, our year 10 History class has been studying the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples struggles for rights and freedoms from harsh Australian government policies. History itself is the retelling of stories and experiences from many perspectives which are then evaluated and analysed to determine the ultimate truth of a historical event. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people fought, protested, and campaigned for basic human rights for many decades, human rights which are taken for granted by many Australians. Our depth study focused on The Stolen Generations, an incredibly dark period in Australia's history. A period when First Nations

children were taken from their families based on an assumption that their parents were not fit to care for them. The government at the time determined that a 'recessive gene' gave First Nations People a darker skin tone and it was decided that in three generations this gene could be 'bred out' entirely. When the children were taken away, they were placed into orphanages and some families forced children to work and children were assaulted. These children were also immersed in European education and religion, they were denied their culture and language; as a result, many traditions, ways of living and the stories of First Nations People were lost. A major effect of the Stolen Generation is intergenerational trauma, that is, trauma that is passed down from one generation to the next. This can be represented in present day by the feeling of disconnection from culture, kin, and country.

During our lesson, Mrs Tollner gave us primary sources of children in orphanages, teenagers in a school in Cherbourg, and in groups, we had to question what we saw, what we thought and what we wondered about the children in the photos and newspapers from the 1930s. We wondered why the government thought this was ok, how it was accepted by Australians and how the children were feeling. During National Reconciliation Week and particularly on National Sorry Day (26th May), we understand the importance of all Australians knowing the truth of what happened and of continuing to acknowledge and say sorry.

There were many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander activists over the years who fought for the rights and freedoms of First Nations people, including Eddie Mabo, Oodgeroo Noonuccal, and Charles Perkins. Charles Perkins later wrote of the Freedom Rides stating, "What we gave Aboriginal people in the towns we visited was hope. We stirred their imagination, their desire for human rights."

These stories and major events happened because of the courage of many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Our year 10 class now has a better understanding of the struggles and the fight for basic human rights the First Nations peoples endured, deepening our respect for the truth-telling of Australian history.



By Ashlee Spencer and Mikayla Montgomerie

Youth Symphony

Last Wednesday 19th May two of our students, Sophie Pinna and Niamh Wall were lucky enough to be able to perform with members of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra as part of their involvement with the Sunshine Coast Youth Orchestra.

This was a wonderful opportunity for students across Sunshine Coast to immerse themselves in the Orchestra, watch the talent and skills of local professional musicians and listen to short excerpts of classical favourites.



St John's College Swimwear Orders Closing Soon

St John's College has a brand-new swimwear range. This is highly recommended for all our students and is preferred for students participating in the Water Polo Season commencing in Term 3. This coming Friday 4th June is the final day to place your order. We will not reopen the swimwear ordering again until Term 4 so make sure you don't miss out, jump onto Qkr to get your swimwear now. Further information can be found on Team App or pop over to the Uniform Shop for a fitting.

Rugby News

Last Wednesday saw another great week for our rugby teams with another three wins and one near win. Our boys are all showing great sportsmanship and team spirit as we work our way towards the last matches of the season before finals rounds commence.

U13	Win	29 to 10
U14	Win	36 to 19
U15	Loss	29 to 14
1st XV	Win	17 to 11

Rugby Union School State Tiles - Boys 17-18yrs and Girls 15-16 yrs

The College would like to congratulate **Jack O'Leary, Matt Barrett** and **Cooper MacMinn** for being part of the Sunshine Coast team that took out 3rd place at the Rugby union School Boys State Titles over a 4 day period 27-30 May. A huge shout out to **Jaspa Jones** who was also named in the team but unable to play due to an injury received in the week before the Titles. He still participated by being the teams water boy.

The College would also like to congratulate **Felicity Mokohar** on her selection and participation in the Girls Rugby Union 7's team at the State Titles over the weekend 29-30 May. Felicity was an important member of the squad and helped her side to a 4th place finish.

It was some fierce high level competition and our students showed off their skills and passion for the game.

Not to be forgotten, a huge Thank you to Mr Rob Charlton, Mr Brendan Macaulay and Mr Luke Zeremes who were part of the coaching staff for these teams. They give up countless hours of their time and thanks to their knowledge of the game, passion and support, students from the Sunshine Coast are able to compete at these State Titles.



Samples available at uniform shop, fittings required before purchase.

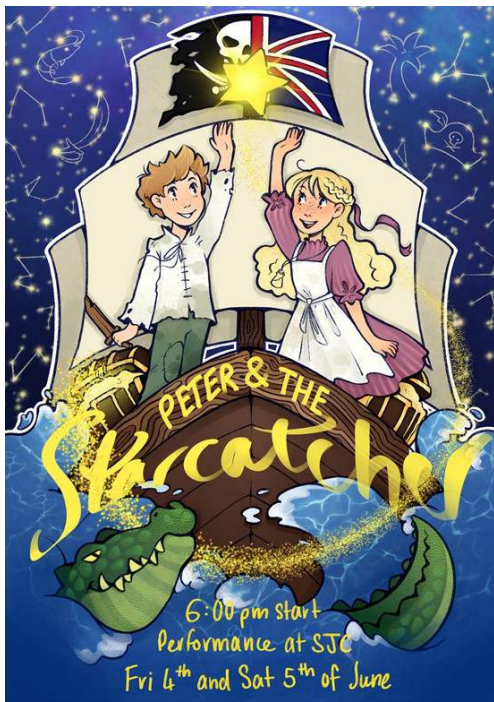


Samples available at uniform shop, fittings required before purchase.

Supporting a Connected Community

Peter & The Starcatcher Performance

The countdown is on, it's not long now until the 2021 School Production, Peter & The Starcatcher. Students in the production have received their tickets this week. All other tickets can be collected by students from the student office.



“**Casuarina 3** pledge to embrace learning more about the truth of our past in order for our country to be the best version of itself for everyone”.

“Create more dedicated days to learning about and celebrating Indigenous culture, map of Indigenous sacred sites, have an involvement in community- **Melaleuca 5**”

We are very proud to display the beautiful artwork by Year 7 student Holly Dart in our reception area for visitors of the school. Holly’s piece was painted especially for National Reconciliation Week with the profound meaning “that the dots inside the hand represents who we are as a nation and that we are all different... but no matter the skin colour together we are still human.”

“Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.”

Vinnies Winter Appeal 2021



Vinnies have given a donation bin (located in Student Reception) for

DONATIONS of Blankets and Sleeping Bags (new or used) and new beanies, scarves, and socks and personal items are all welcome.



blankets	jackets	jumpers	scarves
gloves	beanies	socks	deodorant
soap	toothbrushes	toothpaste	shampoo

Thank you for your generous support.



Isabella and Declan

National Reconciliation Week

Wednesday, the 26th of May, was National Sorry Day, which acknowledged the mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who were forcibly removed from their families and communities - which we now recognise as 'The Stolen Generations'. It is such an important day to remember the people who are the Stolen Generations, their descendants, communities and the healing that is still ongoing. National Reconciliation Week occurs from the 27th May until the 3rd of June with the 2021 theme “More than a word, reconciliation takes action.” Students were given the opportunity to pledge their action during our long PC activity on Monday with PC teachers mentioning the insightful and meaningful discussions being made.

“**Acacia 2** – To our PC, Reconciliation means to accept people for who they are, respect culture, acknowledge the Stolen Generation and say sorry”.

“In **Banksia 8**, we believe that the education system needs improvement so everyone graduates knowing and understanding Australian History”.



Amanda Tollner

Inclusion and Diversity Program Leader- Humanities and Religion Teacher

Embracing change and continuous improvement

Careers

At St John’s College we believe it’s never too early to start planning your future career, which is why we have a dedicated Careers Team. For more information regarding our Careers please visit the Parent Portal or the purpose built Careers Website. Alternatively please reach out to Bernadette or Kim at sjccareers@bne.catholic.edu.au or via the Appointments Calendar.

College Business

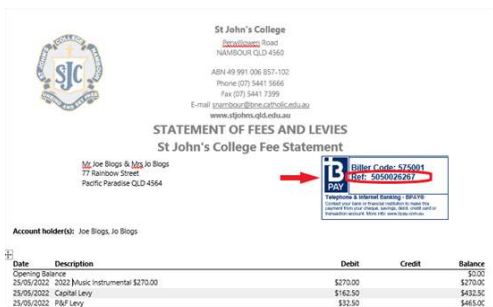
Finance News

Paying your school fees is about to get a whole lot easier!

Did you know you can pay via the Qkr App anytime, anywhere. Click here to view the Qkr download instructions.

We have also added a link to the Parent Portal which will take you directly to our secure payment website (Bpoint), please click here to access.

You will need your Customer Reference Number when paying by either of the above methods. This can be found on the statements which are emailed to account holders at the beginning of each term.



Tuckshop Volunteers



WEEK 7, Term 2 2021				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
31st May	1st June	2nd June	3rd June	4th June
Shellee	Volunteers Required	Tanya Pam	Christine L	Volunteers Required

The Week Ahead

The Week Ahead	
Monday 31st May	Afternoon: Netball Matches Rugby Training Junior AFL
Tuesday 1st June	
Wednesday 2nd June	Day: Da Vinci Challenge (Nudgee College) Afternoon: Rugby Matches 1st, 2nd & Intermediate A Netball Training Drama Production Rehearsals Daily Bread
Thursday 3rd June	Day: Da Vinci Challenge (Nudgee College) Y10 PoTENTIAL – BCE Leadership Forum Afternoon: Y7-9 Intermediate Girls Netball Training
Friday 4th June	Day:

The Week Ahead	
	Evening: Peter & The Starcatcher Performance – 6.00pm
Saturday 5th June	Day: Peter & The Starcatcher Performance – 1.30pm Evening: Peter & The Starcatcher Performance – 6.00pm

Note: Please check Team App for full updates on Sports Training and Match Information.

Community News

St Joseph's Needs Our Help!

Grade 5 students from St Joseph's Primary need your help. They have made the final of the Sunshine Coast Council's Get Ready Schools competition, but now need community votes to help them win!

To check out their disaster preparedness video and to vote just go to 2021 Sunshine Coast Get Ready Schools Competition | Sunshine Coast Regional Council. Scroll to the bottom and click on the **Vote Now! Community Voting** tab. Voting closes June 7.

Alternatively click on the QR code below.



Gallery

Year 10 History



National Reconciliation Week

