



ST JOHN'S

There's no
place
like St John's

St John's Newsletter

Term 1 Week 11 - Tuesday 5th April 2016

HEAD OF ST JOHN'S

Ms Shannon Rosewood



Children who read succeed. One of the best predictors of educational success and career attainment are one's strong literacy levels and passion for reading in primary school. Strong reading skills develop through repeated practice and exposure to a wide variety of quality literature. As we enter the holidays, I encourage the students of St John's to read for leisure as much as they can. I also ask parents to read with their children as a part of the joy of holidays.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the dedicated team of staff in the Junior School who all work so tirelessly to enhance the educational experience for your children. I look forward to the numerous events next term and wish all families a restful break.



Easter Egg Hunt

A big thank you to Ms Williams, SRC and the Prefects for the Easter Egg hunt last week. The students had a wonderful time. All funds raised go to a worthy cause and donations can still be sent in to Reception.



Thanks Year 6 2015!

A big thank you to the Year 6 class of 2015 for the gift of a very handsome playground clock. These industrious students planned and implemented their own Year 6 Fundraiser event which raised the funds to purchase a gift of their choosing.

ST JOHN'S JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Armidale Autumn Festival

Thank you to all the families who came and represented St John's at the parade. It was a terrific community event.

EXCITING SCIENCE activities!

Mrs Ward and Year 2 have formed a partnership with Dr Mary McMillan from UNE as part of the CSIRO's Scientist and Mathematicians in Schools (SMiS) is a national program managed by CSIRO on behalf of the nation. It provides skilled volunteers the opportunity to have a positive impact and make a difference to science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) education in primary and secondary Australian schools.

Creating and supporting flexible partnerships between STEM professionals and teachers, provides access to real-world, contemporary experiences that promote understanding of the importance of STEM and inspiring students.

Dr Mary McMillan visited the Year 2 classroom for a fun lesson where the children made yeast inflate balloons. Dr McMillan is based at UNE where she is involved in research and lecturing as part of the Brain-Behaviour Research Group in the Discipline of Biomedical Science, School of Science and Technology.

Important dates

1 April – Assembly – K-2 presenting

2 April – IPSHA Cross Country

7 April – St John's School Disco at NEGS Assembly Hall. Parents are invited to share drinks and nibbles on the lawn.

7 April – Last Day of Term 1

8 April – Staff Day – (Care will be provided with Ms Moore for interested parents. Contact Reception. \$50 per family)

25 April – St John's families are invited to join with NEGS at the Anzac March and wreath laying service in Armidale.

Exciting events next term!

26 April – We will begin the term with a student led Anzac Service at 9am, which will be followed by a parent morning tea in the playground. Mrs Mary Anne Evans will join the Junior School on this special occasion and will be available to meet with parents afterwards.

10–12 May - NAPLAN

Armidale Eisteddfod

26 May - St John's Biggest Morning Tea

4 June - Athletics Carnival

9 June - French Day

10 June - Staff Day

13 June - Queen's Birthday

23 June - End of Term 2

24 June - Staff Day



ASSEMBLY AWARDS @ ST JOHN'S

Congratulations to the following children who received awards in the Week 10 Assembly:

Class Stars

Kindergarten and Year One: Finlay Pulkkinen

Year Two: Siena Hays

Year Three and Four: Felicity Chapman

Year Five: Lucy Pulkkinen

Year Six: Miranda Pulkkinen

Personal Best:

Kindergarten and Year One: Charlie Harvey-Grace

Year Two: Bridie Wilkinson

Year Three and Four: Archibald O'Neill

Year Five: Zoe Thomas

Year Six: Charlotte Jacobson



Triathlon

The St John's triathlon was a huge success with all students contributing wholeheartedly to their team's effort and overall results. The spirit of St John's was alive as they cheered home their teammates and all children should be very proud of their performance.

Congratulations to the following teams:

- 1ST - Green Team 3: Chloe Moore, Arabella Dagg and Solomon Layton
- 2ND - Dumolo Team 2: Alexandra Reed, Jack Cassidy and Felicity Chapman
- 3RD - Lyon Team 2: Jade Watkins, Miranda Pulkkinen and Sophie Mason



Winter Sport

Soccer and hockey registration information has now been sent home with students who have nominated to play and teams are now finalised. Please ensure forms have been returned to school.

Soccer and hockey Under 9's and 11's will train at school on Wednesday afternoons from 3:30-4:30pm beginning Term 2 Week 1. Any child not collected by 4:30pm will be taken to the homework centre.

Under 13's hockey training will be at the UNE turf on Monday afternoons from 4:00-5:00pm. Children must be collected at 5:00pm sharp.

IPSHA Cross Country

Good luck to the following students who will be representing St John's at the upcoming IPSHA Cross Country Carnival to be held in Sydney. We are sure you will do us proud!

Claire McAlary
Airlie McAlary
Lara McAlary

Felicity Chapman
Andrew Knight
Arlie Tanner

Ashley Knight
Sophie Mason
Charlotte Claridge

Jack Cassidy





Department
of Industry
Resources & Energy



2015-2016 Family Energy Rebate



\$150*
**TOWARDS
ENERGY
BILLS**

Apply before 11pm
16 June 2016

TWO MINUTES TO FILL IN A FORM
<https://applications.fer.trade.nsw.gov.au/>

* eligibility criteria apply

WHAT IS THE FAMILY ENERGY REBATE?

The Family Energy Rebate helps NSW households with dependent children to cover the costs of their energy bills. In 2015-16 the rebate gives:

- up to \$150 credit on energy bills for eligible applicants who hold an account with an electricity retailer
- up to \$165 direct payment to nominated bank accounts for eligible applicants who live in an on-supplied residential community, retirement village or strata scheme and receive electricity from the on-supplied operator.

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE REBATE?

To be eligible you MUST:

- be a resident of New South Wales; and
- be an account holder of an electricity retailer, or a long term resident of an on-supplied residential community, or a resident of an on-supplied retirement village, or a resident of an on-supplied strata scheme; and whose name appears on the electricity account for supply to her or his principal place of residence; and
- have been assessed by the Federal Department of Human Services as being eligible for the Family Tax Benefit (FTB) A or B at any time during the 2014-15 financial year, and have received a payment in respect of that eligibility.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO BEFORE I APPLY?

You'll need to have:

- lodged your tax return for 2014-15 with the Australian Taxation Office or informed the Department of Human Services (DHS) if you're not required to lodge a tax return; and
- received confirmation from DHS as to your eligibility for Family Tax Benefit A or B for 2014-15.

HOW TO APPLY

- **ONLINE** - it takes just two minutes to submit an application. Processing starts immediately.
- **PAPER** - download a form from the website, complete and submit by email, fax or post. Use this form if you receive your electricity from the operator of the on-supplied residential community, retirement village or strata scheme where you live.

**APPLY
ONLINE
NOW!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

PHONE Service NSW 13 77 88

EMAIL fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au

WEB www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/info/familyenergyrebate

If you have a DHS Health Care Card, you may also be eligible for the Low Income Household Rebate.
Visit our website for more information.

Year 6 have gotten off to a great start this year and are enthusiastically embracing their new roles as St John's Peer Leaders. They have been helpful friends both on and off the playground, confidently running our school assemblies, lending a hand as library monitors and have even started the lunch committee to boost student involvement in our school meal options. Last week year 6 also had their annual lunch with our (soon to be) school principal Mrs Evans to share their experiences from their Canberra camp and to discuss their transition into the senior school next year. Year 6 are also enthusiastically discussing ideas for our upcoming fundraiser, so stay tuned for an exciting event to come.



Students in year 6 recently returned from their excursion to Canberra with year 5. Everyone had an absolutely amazing time with visits to Questacon, the National Art Gallery, the Dinosaur Museum, the Australian Institute of Sport, the Australian War Memorial and even a cycle around Lake Burley Griffin. Ask a year 6-er to tell you all about Sky zone! This was a new addition to the excursion this year and a highlight for many. The excursion also allowed students to explore content aligned with our history unit, *Australia as a nation*, with visits to both the old and new Parliament Houses and the National Archives. Here students learnt more about our system of government and the history of democracy in Australian. Students even got to see all our politicians in action in Parliament House and got a wave from Barnaby Joyce and Julie Bishop, which was the cause of much excitement.



Back in class in Science students have been learning all about Micro-Organisms. So far we have explored yeast and its role in the bread making process and we are now investigating mould. The senior school science team kindly allowed us to use their labs and microscopes to observe our fascinating mould samples and to get a taste of the senior school science environment.

Remember that as your peer leaders year 6 love to help out and lend a hand so you can always ask a friendly year 6 member for help or advice at any time.

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).
6774 8751



Growing future scientists!

Join Science staff from New England Girls' School for a fun day of Science activities designed to ignite and inspire a love of Science.

Where: New England Girls' School

When: Friday 22nd April 2016

Time: 9am - 3pm

Cost: \$30 (includes morning tea, lunch and four activities)

Age: School Grades 4 - 6

Hurry!! Limited places available. For more information or to make a booking, please email Belinda Stone on belinda.stone@negs.nsw.edu.au