

NEWSBOOK

Term 1 Week 1

2013

We hope that you had a great Christmas and New Year and that like us, you are looking forward to another school year. We welcome you into the classroom and are always open to any questions or concerns that you may have. Thank you to those parents who have offered assistance in the classroom this year. We will contact you as needs arise. We wish all the students well as they begin another year in their lifelong learning and pray that they have a great start to the year.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

This night is a time for you to gain as much information about the year as possible. Expectations of Year Six/Seven students will be discussed and routines explained. It is important that parents attend to be well informed about the education of upper primary students in our school. The Parent Information Evening will be held on Tuesday, 12th February.

CHANGES TO ROUTINES

If your child has changes from the day to day routine in regards to attendance at school or changes to travel arrangements, please send a note in the diary so that we are aware of the changes. It is important that the school is informed by the parent rather than the student. To make planning in the classroom more efficient, especially with the large amount of collaborative activities that take place, it would also be helpful to know of any absences in advance of the event unless of course any unforeseen circumstances occur.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education lessons will be held on Fridays throughout the year and so each Friday, students in our class will be expected to wear sports uniform. On all other occasions school uniform is to be worn unless you are notified via a diary note or information in the 'Informer'. It is advisable that students bring their sneakers to school each day so that they can gain maximum benefit from Fitness sessions when they will be involved in a variety of activities.

SHARED TEACHING

As has been the case the last few years, the class will be taught by Mrs Hambour for four days and Mrs Kleinig on the other day. This year Mrs Kleinig will work with the students in our classroom on Wednesdays after Japanese and 'Learning to Learn' lessons and on Thursday afternoons from 2.00pm.

SWIMMING

Next week the class will have swimming lessons daily from 9.45am to 10.30am. We would like students to wear their bathers to school under their sports uniform so that they are prepared for the swimming lessons. They will be able to change out of bathers when they return to school. Students may bring thongs or similar footwear to school to wear to and from the pool – bare feet will not be permitted. To ensure the success of the Swimming Carnival on Friday, 22nd February, please encourage your child to participate in events that they are able, so that we have a good field of swimmers in the morning events.

UNITS OF INQUIRY

Throughout the year, Units of Inquiry and other curriculum areas can be enhanced by a variety of teaching methods. If you feel that you could offer information that could be useful to the units, please contact either of us so that your expertise can be shared. On occasions we will use movies and movie clips to develop our units. These could be rated PG so please sign the permission slip below to indicate your feeling towards this. We are happy to discuss the nature of the movies or movie clips with you.

YEAR 5/6 AND YEAR 6/7 CAMP

The Year Five/Six and Year Six/Seven Camp is being held in Week Five of this term from Tuesday, 26th February – Friday, 1st March at Barmera. We will be travelling by bus to Lake Bonney which is a great place to learn various aquatics activities with trained instructors. We will stay at Camp Kedron for three nights and the camp will cost \$240. Camps are considered to be a valuable part of your child's education and we are holding our camp in Term One in order to build relationships within the Upper Primary group of students. Our first Unit of Inquiry has as its central idea: **People develop a sense of well-being through their relationships with others and belonging.** The camp will involve team building activities and also give students an opportunity to participate in a number of activities which can contribute to well-being. We therefore look forward to all students attending as the camp is an integral part of the Unit of Inquiry. Please return the consent form below by Thursday, 7th February so that we can confirm numbers. Payment would be appreciated by Monday, 18th February and so if there are any difficulties concerning this, please contact Mrs Skinner or our Business Manager, Mr Bill Mader.

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF YEAR SEVEN STUDENTS ONLY

YOUNG LEADERS DAY FOR YEAR SEVEN STUDENTS

Each year, we offer Year Seven students the opportunity to attend the National Young Leaders Day for primary students. We would like all students to attend this day so that we can use the information gained at the Leadership Day to further develop leadership qualities in all students in Year Seven. Leadership at St John's will contribute significantly to a student's preparation for life as he/she is empowered to assume a positive place in the global community. Opportunity and skill development is a key to building leadership. As an I.B. school this will connect strongly to the I.B. mission of aiming to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world. Young Leaders Day will be held on Monday, 18th March, 2013 at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre commencing at 9.00am and concluding at 2.30pm. The objectives of the day are to:

- Promote the value of inspirational and positive role models as examples to others.
- Educate students about the need to grow in knowledge and practical skills in the areas of excellence and leadership.
- Inspire students to make a positive contribution to their school.
- Empower students with practical skills of balancing school, study and commitments.
- Connect with other students from other schools and develop long-term support networks.

A high profile team of speakers is invited to speak to this next generation of young leaders. An endeavour is made to ensure the program has a mix of both male and female, and younger and older leaders. This is a marvellous opportunity for the students, at such an important time in their lives, to be exposed to these speakers and challenged to be their best. There are opportunities during the day for students to ask questions, which is really exciting.

Last year's exciting line-up of speakers for the day included:

- Lorin Nicholson – a legally blind high achiever in a number of fields
- Kate Taylor – the founding director of the 2h project which supports pregnant women in Cambodia
- Brenton Sanderson – Adelaide Football Club Coach

For more information about the speakers for this year, visit www.halogenfoundation.org. There will also be a few surprises to make sure the day is entertaining as well as educational.

We strongly encourage Year Seven students to attend this stimulating day as it is an event of great benefit to students especially as they practise leadership through Peer Support. The cost of the day is \$44 each. If parents are prepared to drive for this event and would like to attend for a cost of \$20, please indicate below along with consent for your child.

It is imperative that consent and payment is received by Monday, 11th March if you wish for your child to attend the National Young Leaders Day. Please contact us if you have any questions about this event.

YEAR SEVEN WINDCHEATER

All Year Seven students will need to have their windcheaters clean and at school on Monday, 4th February, so that they can be delivered to the printers. The Year Seven students all had input into the design during the last week of the 2012 school year.

We pray that this year is a great one for you and your child. May we all focus on the things that will help the Year Six/Seven children in their learning throughout the year.

Yours in Christ,

Coralee Hambour and Emma Kleinig
Year Six/Seven Teachers

Parent Signature

I consent / do not consent to _____ attending the Young Leaders Day to be held at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre on Monday, 18th March, 2013 and enclose \$44.00.

I am able / unable to provide transport for _____ students.

I would / would not like to attend and enclose \$20.

Signed _____

I consent / do not consent to _____ attending the Year 5/6 and Year 6/7 Camp to be held at Lake Bonney and will provide payment by Monday, 18th February.

Signed _____

I consent / do not consent to _____ viewing movies or movie clips throughout the year which have a PG Rating.

Signed _____
