

# St Joseph's Parish School Newsletter

5th August 2016 Edition 24

### Peace starts with me!

While watching media reports about the tragedies in France, Germany and USA in recent times and the political unrest in Turkey, I was touched to hear an Aussie survivor reach out to all Muslims in Australia to say, "It is not your fault. You are not responsible for the actions of madmen." It must be hard to live life feeling that people are judging you because of your religion and culture rather than for who you are as a person.

We are blessed, here at St Joseph's, to have a diversity of cultures and backgrounds make up our community. Our students are learning from first hand experience that we

have so many more similarities than differences; that our differences enrich us; and that it is who a person is at the heart that matters.

It is important that we continue to remind our children and each other that each little act of kindness can make a very big contribution to bringing people together and making our world a more unified place.

Let us join together in prayer this week, asking that we may be instruments of peace in our world:

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. *O*, *Divine Master*, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.

God bless,

Rosie

And let the sun come shining through; It can bring a lasting friendship That nothing can undo! Our Father's loving kindness Is what this role needs: There is too much hate and violence. Selfishness and greed; It has to start with someone, And that someone can be you and me; One by one we can make a difference But someone has to plant a seed! We can reach out in to others All across this land of ours; Teach them the joy of simple things Like taking time out to smell the flowers! It's the little things, which matter most And we can all have a part; But the most important thing of all Is having Jesus in our hearts!



### \*More details to come ..

- 17<sup>th</sup> August Tuckshop Bake Sale Day bring a \$2 coin
- **19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> August** Weipa Bull ride
- **29<sup>th</sup> August** During week 8 Weipa Hospital Dental Clinic staff will visit. Please keep an eye out for the information / consent forms which will be sent home on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August. <u>These need to be returned</u> to your student/s Teacher/s.
- 1<sup>st</sup> September \*Father's Day Science Night 5-7pm Flexible Learning Space
- 4<sup>th</sup> September Father's Day
- 8<sup>th</sup> September \*School Liturgy Celebration of Our Mother Mary's Birthday
- **9<sup>th</sup> September** Tuckshop Bake Sale Day bring a \$2 coin
- 16<sup>th</sup> September Last Day Term 3
- **3<sup>rd</sup> October** Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
- 4<sup>th</sup> October First Day Term 4
- **7<sup>th</sup> October** \*Swimming lessons commence every Friday
- **12<sup>th</sup> October** \*Crazy Sock Day
- 24 28<sup>th</sup> October Lillian Millar School Communication Engagement Officer visit
- 26<sup>th</sup> October \*Socktober family movie night
- **18<sup>th</sup> November** \*Swimming Carnival
- 25<sup>th</sup> November Last Day Term 4

MARK YOUR CALENDAR





A very big thank you to those who attended our Parent Thank you night last Friday. Even though it may have been small numbers it was fantastic to be able to sit, relax and chat informally. Without the support you have given to St Joseph's we would not be as successful so soon. Next Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August is the Feast Day for our very first Saint – St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Mary was canonised as our First Australian Saint in October 2010. She was an ordinary Australian who did extraordinary things for God. Mary helped the homeless and hungry, as well as taught children about God's love. Mary was kind and loving to every person she met as if she was meeting Jesus himself. She is a great example to all of us and we extend an invitation to all of our community to talk with your children about Mary's activities through conversation about what they will learn in class and by sharing

These (see links) You Tube video with them at home. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4CBQ4XKSjYI

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U47oWVgFHak

Mary was the founder of the Sisters of Saint Joseph and it was her works and legacy that helped us select her as one of our patrons to demonstrate the role modelling of ways in which we are challenged to live out our faith and educate our children accordingly.

Mary's motto for life was ..

"Never see a need without doing something about it"

### Apps in the classroom.

Some time ago a conversation was raised about some of the apps that students are using within the classroom and was asked to share information with regards to the functions. This week I will talk about: Minecraft.

Minecraft has 2 modes – Creative or Survival mode. There is also an Education version available. In Creative mode, no monsters will attack you, you'll be able to fly around and you'll have a full inventory of items. This is great if you want unlimited resources to build amazing creations and buildings. In Survival mode you get to have loads of fun fighting off monsters. You can choose to play in different levels of difficulty.

Minecraft is a place to imagine a world where the possibilities are the limits of your imagination. It is one of the most interesting open-minded games ever produced. If you are a parent wondering whether Minecraft is suitable for your own children, consider that in 2013 a school in Stockholm Sweden, undertook a mandatory training course on Minecraft, teaching them various skills such as:

Environmental issues, City planning, Getting things done, Planning for the future, Interactivity, Safe online habits, Building and making objects using your creativity and Computer skills (eg: coding).

Apart from the benefits listed above it also: improves visuospatial reasoning skills, how to collaborate to solve problems, and collaborative learning improves critical thinking skills that support motivation for learning.

It is also worth noting that there are two very different versions of Minecraft: the publicly available version and the new Minecraft EDU version. To set up the app for the public version an adult would need to have registered an account with its creators – Mojang. A student cannot just download the demo version and start playing without an account. A lot of the functions can be used offline but it works best when there is a steady internet connection.

Minecraft EDU version is available for schools and is used widely to promote creativity, collaboration and problem solving in an immersive environment where the only limit is the imagination. Many students learn differently and this app provides a different avenue for some learners. It is also a valuable aid to assist in meeting some of the content and skills required in the Australian Curriculum – especially the Technologies Curriculum.

Should you wish to investigate further I have included a link *http://education.minecraft.net/* 

Thank you and blessings for a great weekend,

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St Joseph's Parish Church Weekend Services

> Saturday Vigil 6pm Sunday 8:30am

For further inquiries, please contact Pastoral Leader Kath 40699346

# **Parenting Ideas: Insights Michael Grose**

This week we begin a weekly update of parenting ideas to foster and build parent -school partnerships. These 10 tips come from reknowned parenting expert, Michael Grose. His tips are based on the premise that resilient families develop their own words and phrases to help each other get through the inevitable tough times that each person experiences. (The language of resilience generally refers to coping strategies such as empathy, humour and acceptance).

# Strategy of the Week

1. Come On, laugh it off



To help fundraise for our Tuckshop, we will be holding cake/slice bake days, on the following days this term.

- ✓ Wednesday 17th August
- ✓ Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September

Bring a \$2 coin to school and choose from our selection of cakes & slices...

Thank you for your support.

Susanne Gane

Tuck Shop Convenor



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Good for: Kids who experience disappointment, failure and even loss.

Humour is a great coping strategy and a powerful tool for resilience as it heightens feelings of control. Some children and young people will naturally crack jokes or make fun of seemingly serious situations. This is a fantastic way to release stress and handle feelings of helplessness. As a parent you may need to lighten up tense situations by introducing humour of your own, which is something that many dads do really well.











# Class News

### Year 2 News

As teachers, we all reflect on our teaching practices; and we always encourage our students to reflect on their learning. Great success this week in our room by everyone! We have had t sessions with Ms Grant from Cairns (Teacher Librarian) who has taught us all about using devices in our classrooms. This includes the Ipads and the laptops. We have learnt how to log into Google Drive, open a new document and use the tools to enhance our work; and look at APPS on the Ipads that will help us with our learning in class. This is exciting as it gives us more options for expressing our ideas and showing different ways that each student learns. It was also important for the students to see how listening to directions and following visual cues was essential to learn new concepts. Another highlight was introducing Chapter books in class and having USSR (Uninterrupted Sustained Silent Reading) Yes, a bit old fashioned but it works!!! As a class we also conquered the Zigzag game in pTW-it was fun but challenging and was a reminder about working well as a team and encouraging each other. Awesome work everyone!!

This week the students have been finalising their information reports on their chosen country around the world in preparation for the Olympics next week. We've been working on researching facts about planets and our solar system, how day and night occurs on Earth and are working towards the phases of the moon, tides and seasons over the next few weeks. Year I reading is improving every week with the additional literacy support and guided reading daily. We will book in regular Monday library time to swap home and classroom readers so please have a dig around at home and return any outstanding library books so we can swap them for fresh ones.

The last few weeks in maths we were looking at flights to go to the Olympics in Rio. accommodation and tickets to the games. After we gathered this information we are typing it into a Google Sheet and finding out the total cost of our trip. In English we are looking at the novel "Storm Boy" and completing activities based on the novel. We also watched the movie, which was filmed in 1976. In Religion we are learning about Jesus's message, we have found some pictures to represent this. Mrs Grant our Teacher Librarian has shown us how to use Google Drive and we are enjoying using it for our work. This week in PE we practised high jump and shot put. Written by Emelia and Jett.

# **\*\* STAR STUDENTS OF THE WEEK \*\***

Prep... Chelsea Steele & Evan Uh Shay Year I ... Amy Stone & Samuel Hancock Year Z ... Samuel Mc Namara & Baia Spodniewski Year 3... Eva Payne & Alyssa Carlsen Year 456 .... Amber Peet, Emelia Haardt & Brayden Keough

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## Prep News

preps are doing lots of addition stories in Maths as well as number facts. The preps have learnt it is not just about adding up but being able to demonstrate their understanding by sharing a relevant addition story.

For Show and Tell, the preps have been sharing their personal details including date of birth and address, telephone number. Not only will they be showing Miss Cassie they can remember their details but they have also learnt some of these are important things to know if you need to ring 000 for one of the emergency services. In History, Miss Miller shared information about local Indigenous history. The children learnt about the Alngith people as the first people and traditional owners of the local area. They also learnt the place name Weipa comes from the word Waypa (or Waypundun) meaning 'fighting ground'. The preps have also enjoyed two ICT lessons with Miss Grant and engaged enthusiastically with the app pic Collage on the Ipads. Skills included choosing a picturing, resizing and moving the image, adding borders and typing in text from a choice of fonts and colours. Miss Keenan and Mrs Hancock are now involved in a variety of learning activities in prep. Thank you to all these people for your contribution to learning in Prep.

## Year 1 News

This week in year one we had another lesson with Miss Grant and learnt how to enter google drive using our school user names, passwords and email address on the laptops. On the ipads we created a picture collage with text and photographs of insects. We looked at rock samples in the year 4/5/6 class using the magnifying glasses. We learnt some more about the upcoming Olympics and reviewed where they are going to be on Google Earth. We cheered for our team mates as they completed their Athletic events. In Health we did a written response about things we could do on our own when we were a baby, things we can do now and things we think that we will be able to do when we grow up. We have continued reading Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl. Our class participated respectfully in leading the prayer this week at Assembly.

### Year 3 News

### Year 4/5/6 News





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