



PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

On Monday night we begin the formal process of establishing our Parents and Friends Association for St Joseph's Weipa. The first meeting will be held in the multipurpose room from 7pm until 8.30pm. During this meeting Donna Machin will speak on behalf of the St Joseph's Steering Committee before I outline the structure and functions of the P& F. I encourage all parents to play an active part in the formative processes of this vital group in our school community.

The primary right of parents to educate their children must be upheld in all forms of collaboration between parents, teachers and school authorities, and particularly in forms of participation designed to give citizens a voice in the functioning of schools and in the formulation and implementation of educational policies.

(Article 5, U N Charter of the Rights of the Family)

The Catholic school participates in the evangelizing mission of the Church. It centres its vision on the life and teachings of Christ with the Gospels as the reference points of its philosophy. It is concerned with building a Christian community where parents, staff and students work together.

The Parents and Friends (P & F) Association is the formal structure, recognised by the Church and Catholic education authorities, which represents all the parents/carers in the school and acts in their interests and on their behalf.

The P & F Association exists to support the school community and is involved in the total life of the school. Parents/carers, as first educators of their children, have a vital collaborative role to play in the development and implementation of the educational philosophy and policy of the school.

The local P & F Association plays a significant role in the development of a collaborative and cooperative school community where parents/carers are recognised as authentic partners, with teachers and the administration, in the education of their children.

I look forward to seeing many of you on Monday evening at 7pm.

God bless,

Rosie

This week on Wednesday, Rosie and I joined with all Catholic Education Primary Leadership teams to attend a professional development in Cairns. The day focussed on Visible Learning and was a time for us to look at what is Visible Learning and what makes a visible learner. Visible Learning explores how evidence can be used to create innovation in the learning environment. Research analysed by John Hattie forms the basis of Visible Learning. This research was conducted over 15 years and involved thousands of studies and millions of students representing the largest ever evidence-based research into actually what works best in schools to improve learning. Hattie studied six areas that contribute to learning: the student, the home, the school, the curricula, the teacher, and teaching and learning approaches. Hattie did not merely provide a list of the relative effects of the different influences on student achievement. He also explains the story underlying the data. He found that the key to making a difference was making teaching and learning visible. This was a valuable learning experience and look forward to implementing how this can be effective within our school.

If you are interested in listening to what Visible Learning is all about, below is a link to an interview with John Hattie.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rkXE4IBwHD4&list=PLweERe9e5LxYyvuuUY3YhbkZG470QxbUW&index=2>

Testing and Data

Why do we collect data? The collection of data demonstrates best practice within a school and this in turn dictates that we cannot meet students' educational needs if we do not know what their needs are. What do students already know? What can they already do? What do they need to know, learn and do?

To achieve this best practice we need to collect baseline data which is used:

- To inform where a student is currently performing
- for a comparison of knowledge gained to show growth
- to provide guidance for teachers to plan future teaching and learning

and, as a result this leads to IMPROVED STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.

At St Joseph's we will be undertaking a number of tests during term 1 to collect our baseline data for the purpose of best practice. Some of these are reading running records, PAT M for maths and PAT R for reading comprehension.

Next week I will share with you some information about the Year of Mercy and how this may look in our school. Have a great weekend.

Blessings,
Amanda

LEADERSHIP DAY



Recently the year 5s and 6s participated in a Leadership Program. We learnt about how to be a passionate leaders and what it takes. It was a very useful program as it will help us to become better leaders and role models. We were even lucky enough to get special treats throughout the day and Ms Gane provided us with a yummy lunch.



Community News

Cape York Motorcycle Club Presents

Family Fun Day & Come and Try Day

10am 13 March 2016

- Free Entry
- Lucky Door Prizes and Raffles

Slip -n- slide fun

Tammy Terrific Burgers

Ice Cream Van
11am-1pm

Bring your peewees and your 250's, whatever you have, for the most fun you can have on 2 wheels.

This day is for everyone! Come and get your free Recreation Licence.

For More Info Ph Carol 0419 210 339
Glen 0429 698 003

Andrew Chinn Concert: On Tuesday, March 15, 2016, Australian religious songwriter and singer, Andrew Chinn, will be visiting our school to share his songs with our children. Andrew's songs, such as "These Hands", "Rainbow" and "An African Blessing" are used in classrooms and liturgies around Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada. Parents/parishioners are warmly invited to be a part of the celebration of faith and fun. There is no charge for adults. The concert will take place in the Flexible learning Space, at 11:10-12:30 We look forward to seeing you there. For fans of Andrew he will have a selection of DVD's and CD's for sale www.butterflymusic.com.au



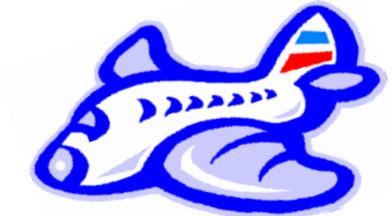
St Joseph's Reminders

Student Absences.

Thank you to those families who have remembered to let the office know when their child is going to be away. It is a requirement upon enrolment that if your child is going to be absent for any reason, you must inform the school with either a phone call, email or a note so this can be recorded.

PH: 4069 9500

Email: secretary.weipa@cns.catholic.edu.au



Year 4/5/6 News

Recently the year 5s and 6s participated in a Leadership Program. We learnt about how to be a passionate leader and what it takes. It was a very useful program as it will help us to become better leaders and role models. We were even lucky enough to get special treats throughout the day and Ms Gane provided us with a yummy lunch.

In science we are learning about evaporation and it is very informative. We collected leaves around the school and put them into zip lock bags to see if they would dry out. We cut different sizes of cloth and measured the same amount of water to see which size loses water faster. In maths we are learning about equivalent fractions and when you break them down they are much easier than it seems. We have started writing our own narratives and dreaming stories.

Written by : Lizzie McInnes

This Weeks Star Students

PREP... Levi Payne, Louise Argent and Oscar Argent

YEAR ONE.... Jackeal Day and Sisco Bosuen

YEAR TWO.... Archie Armstrong and Mia McLeish

YEAR THREE.... Kate Merkel and Ryley Welby

YEAR 456.... Peyton Welby and Mia Williams



HEAD LICE

In recent years the incidence of head lice in schools has been increasing. Children suffering from head lice are not normally excluded. On discovery of an infestation, parents are advised to treat the problem immediately and to check hair regularly to prevent reinfestation. Parents will be informed by letter or newsletter if any child in the class has head lice. It is important to note that head lice are not caused by unhygienic conditions, and can be caught by anyone regardless of the cleanliness of the hair. It is therefore important to be vigilant in checking your child's hair regularly, especially if they have an itchy scalp. Long hair should be tied up.

<http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthCondition/condition/14/165/351/Head-Lice>

prep News

As a part of our focus on helping others, the Preps engaged in a role play to experience what it would be like to have no taps. They filled a container by carrying water in cups from the 'well' to the 'home tank'. It took a long time and the Preps reflected that all people should have taps. The Preps were very excited about baking and selling muffins to raise money for Project Compassion. Preps say thank you to everyone who supported worthy cause.

In Religion this term, prep has been learning all about different ways we can pray. The children have been practising and look forward to leading the whole school in prayer at assembly next week.

Year Two News

We are excited about making Wombat Stew in class today! This was our focus book and we learnt all about ingredients and methods for a recipe. The students worked in groups to create their own kind of stew-some very creative ideas! The animal masks they painted were wonderful also. We have been observing our mealworms this week and recording the changes in our Science Journal.

School Assembly

Assembly will be held every Friday at 2.15pm



Year One News

This week year 1 performed a new song they learnt about Palm Sunday in front of the prep class. Students noticed the preps making muffins for Project Compassion this week and wanted to do something to raise funds for it as well. Next week our class will make fruit juice icy cups on Wednesday and sell them for \$1 on Thursday. Please remember Library book day is Tuesday to bring back books and borrow another book. There are still a few paint shirts needed for The Arts, if your child does not yet have one please bring one in next week.

Year Three News

This week we have been working hard on our Science assignments which involve writing an information report on an animal. We also worked on our addition and subtraction strategies in maths. Miss Stewart started introducing us to data collection and recoding our results into a bar graph - this was fun, cool and awesome. It was interesting to find out what were people's favourite shows and electronic devices.

Bell Times

8.30 ---10.40 Morning Tea
1 pm---1.45 pm Lunch

Banking

Please have bank books in by Tuesday to your child's teacher. They will be collected early Wednesday morning and returned to your child on Thursday by their teacher. School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for students to learn about money and develop good savings habits.



Reading

Thank you to all our parent volunteers for your help in getting home readers covered and ready to go out to students. It has been lovely to see some of our parents also volunteer to assist with reading groups at school. Please keep up the home reading and enjoy lots of books every night.



DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH 2016

Tuesday 15 Andrew Chinn visit

Thursday 17 St Patrick's Day

Saturday 19 St Joseph's Day

Sunday 20 Palm Sunday

Monday 21 Harmony Day

Thursday 24 Term 1 concludes

Friday 25 Good Friday

Sunday 27 Easter Sunday

Monday 28 Easter Monday

Term 2 begins Monday 11th April



PE Timetable – Sports Uniforms

Class PE timetable has now been finalised. Sports uniforms are to be worn on the following days:

- ☒ Years Prep, 1, 2 & 3 Wednesday
 - ☒ Years 4, 5 & 6 Thursday
- Should you have any queries, please contact the school office.



School Fees

Thank you to all that have paid their school fees.

Book list invoices will be included in term two's School Fees that will be sent out early April.

For future school fee payments could you please pay all amounts into the following account using your 10 digit reference number located on the bottom of the remittance slip (no names needed).

BSB 084-352

Acc-00001-8854

FOLLOW US ON


Our school Facebook page is operational. This is another way to keep up to date with what is happening in our school. Please notify the school office if you do not wish your child's image to be used on the school Facebook page or website.

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Josephs-Parish-School-Weipa-1622459621351524/>

My name is Laurel Eden and I am the new school counsellor. "New" to Weipa and St Josephs but 14-years-experienced "old" in catholic schools on the Atherton Tablelands.

The school counsellor is an important part of the team approach to educating your child. If you or your child's teacher are concerned about his/her emotional responses, anxiety levels, coping skills, social skills, ability to manage change/routine, or any family issues such as: shift work, different parenting styles, sickness, accident, death (of relatives OR pets!), separation or shared care, the counsellor can generally help.

At my previous schools I visited once a week. The upside of taking the Weipa assignment is that I will be here for 5 days at a time, Monday to Friday twice a term. The rest of the time I run a busy private practice in Atherton where I also hold the subcontract for most mining companies; so I am familiar with the effect a mining lifestyle can have on families.

I feel really enthusiastic about this arrangement because for the first time you and I and the staff have the opportunity to pre-empt problems and attend to them systematically before they become big issues.

My visiting dates will always be in the Newsletter and I am keen to make myself available to parents when I am here, even if only for a chat. For anything ongoing it is Catholic Education's policy for a referral form to be completed if you wish me to see your child. Appointment times and referral forms are always available at the front office.

NEXT VISIT: Mon 18/4 to 22/4

TUCKSHOP

We have received news that the long awaited fridges for the tuckshop are now on the way. Behind the scenes Susanne has been busy preparing yummy menus based upon the feedback from the parent surveys. This week the Staff have been treated to delicious wraps, salads and quiches each day for lunch. Watch for information of our online ordering system and details of how parents can access the tuckshop from home.



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