

Important dates...

- ✓ **Monday 6th November – Prep Parent Information Session**
- ✓ **Tuesday 7th November – Prep Orientation Morning**
- ✓ **Thursday 9th November – Prep Orientation Morning**
- ✓ **Monday 13th November 7:00 pm – P & F Meeting**
- ✓ **Thursday 16th November 4:00pm to 8:00pm – Swimming Carnival**
- ✓ **Wednesday 22nd November – Starry Starry Night**
- ✓ **Thursday 23rd November – Graduation Dinner**
- ✓ **Friday 24th November 12:00 pm – Last day of Term 4**

St. Joseph's Swimming Carnival 2017

The St. Joseph's Swimming Carnival will be held on Thursday the 16th November at the Town Pool from 4.00 to 8.00pm for Prep to Year 6. We are looking for parent volunteers so if you are able to assist with this event can you please email me on mturner@cns.catholic.edu.au

Are you planning a move?

At present many preparations are being put in place for the 2018 school year. If you are aware that your family is being transferred, moving towns, etc. for the 2018 school year, could you please let the school know of your intentions? This will assist with the early notification of acceptance of these families who are currently on our waiting lists. Many thanks for your thoughtful considerations.

2018 School Uniform Orders

2018 School Uniform Orders can be made now. Feel free to go onto Flexischools.com. I will contact you once your order is ready for collection.

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News from Ms Harrison..

Cracked Pots

This week, at our Principal's Conference, leaders reflected on one of my favourite stories...

The Story of the Cracked Pot

A Water Bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on each end of a pole which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and one-half pots of water in his master's house.



The perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do. After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the Water Bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you." "Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?" "I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.

The Water Bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path." Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some.



But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologise to the bearer for its failure. The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of your path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."

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None of us are perfect. Each of us has our own unique flaws. We're all cracked pots. But if we will allow it, the Lord will use our flaws to grace His Father's table. In God's great economy, nothing goes to waste. So, don't be afraid of your flaws. Acknowledge them, and allow Him to take advantage of them, and you, too, can be the cause of beauty in His pathway. When you share the message of the cracked pots with your family, you might like to share the "cracks" you see in yourselves and celebrate how our cracks, indeed, can shine God's light in the world.

You might like to make this prayer your own this week...

Father,

*You made us, each, in Your image and likeness;
we are just as You would have us be.*

*Help us to accept our own cracks and allow You to use them
to make this world a better place.*

*Help us to see the 'cracks' in others as gifts...
opportunities for us to learn about humility, respect, dignity and honour.*

*May your blessings in our lives, continue to create feelings of wonder, wisdom and peace;
and may we go forward with grace and gratitude.*

We ask this in Jesus name. Amen

God Bless,

Rosie

Prep Orientation 2018

Next week we welcome our 2018 Prep class with our Parent Information session on Monday evening, then orientation sessions Tuesday and Thursday.

Our Year five students, who will be our school leaders next year, are very excited about welcoming their new Prep buddies and showing them around St Joseph's school.



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Halfway through the term and still lots of things happening around the school. As promised from last week our winning class who raised the most money was Year 2 with a total of \$147.40. I must say a huge thank you to all involved because as a school we raised a total of \$508.70 in our collection boxes for the 2017 Mission campaign.

This week, on Wednesday 1st November, we celebrated the Feast of All Saints and as a school community we held a prayer service with both our P-2 students during the morning session and our Years 3 to 6 after morning tea. This day is special in the Catholic liturgical calendar as it is the day that we commemorate the known and unknown saints of the Catholic Church. Each and every one of us is called by God to be saints – followers of Christ. May each of us reflect this week on how we can be more saint-like. The 2nd November is All Souls day – the day which we remember and honour those loved ones who have died before us. We pray to God to watch over them and often families will light a candle in the home for them or visit their graveside.

End of Semester Report Cards and Parent Portal

Report cards for Semester 2 will be uploaded onto our Parent portal in the last week of this term. With respect for the need to become more sustainable report cards will no longer be printed out and sent home. The office will be sending out an email with “how to” instructions on how you can set up a username and password to access the portal. Parent teacher interviews are not compulsory in Semester 2 however if you wish to meet with your child’s teacher, please do not hesitate to contact them.

The Parent portal is going to become a place where parents can retrieve vital information at any given time. It is important that you please check your emails and follow the instructions on how to set up your access. If you have any problems setting up your access, please let the office or myself know as soon as possible.

With regards to your child’s report card and the Australian Curriculum, it is important to recognise that typically a C/Sound means a child is working and achieving what is expected of them at that point in their learning. It means the child is on par with a “typical” child in Australia, which is a worthy achievement. What teachers are now looking for in an “A” student is a child who has shown a deep understanding of a topic and possesses the ability to apply that information in an unfamiliar context without adult assistance. Simply achieving 100% or close to it on a spelling or maths test doesn’t automatically equate to an “A”. Getting 10 out of 10 each week on a spelling test does not equate to an “A” as it needs to be in context and being used in their writing, independently and consistently. It is imperative also to remind you of the importance of celebrating your child’s successes as this makes them who they are and to celebrate these gives value to their efforts. Should you require any further information with regards to your child’s report please contact the classroom teacher.

Next week we will be celebrating Remembrance Day and like this week we are going to hold 2 prayer services with both the lower and upper classes of the school. This will work in much better due to our commitment to swimming on Fridays.

With blessings for a wonderful week ahead,

Amanda

Prayer for All Saints Day

**Father, All-Powerful and ever-living God,
today we rejoice in the holy men and women
of every time and place.
May their prayers bring us your forgiveness and love
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

From Christian Prayer: Liturgy of the Hours



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Classroom News...

Prep... We have had a great week in Prep. We've been busy with assessment throughout the week and many fun filled activities. We have been focussing on our St Joseph's Golden rule of treating others the way that we like to be treated. In English, we read our recounts about swimming that we had written in an oral presentation. In Science we had Miss Deb Mc Guinness (Miss Mac) do a lesson with us on using the Shadow Puppet app on the I pads. The students took photos of things that move in the classroom, then uploaded them and recorded their voices talking about the way that the objects moved. We also had a visit from Miss Mac's pet dragon. We held a Liturgy for "All Saints Day" and in Religion we watched a story about the Nativity. We also looked at old houses in Biblical times and visited the Year 2 classroom and had a look at their clay houses they had made. We looked at where Bethlehem is compared to Weipa on Google Earth. In Maths we did sorting by attributes, Bingo with numbers to twenty and matching Tangram shapes to picture templates.



Year 1... This week we continued completing a lot of assessments and working really hard. We have finished the month of October on Tuesday so that concludes our class saying the Rosary every day. I think they all really enjoyed it and now all know the Hail Mary very well. Last week we had started Reading Stamina where the students found a book and read it for as long as they could. Our class goal is to read for 15 minutes we have made it to 6 minutes, a very good effort for something new. In health, we have been talking about what it sounds, feels and looks like to be safe or unsafe. The students have continued to enjoy swimming and are demonstrating their organizational skills very well. Miss Henderson will be away next Thursday afternoon the 9th and Friday the 10th to attend some professional development.

If anyone is available between 8:40 and 9:00am, we will continue with student reading in the flexible learning area. Library day will stay on a Friday and Homework will be due on a Monday this term.

Year 2... We enjoyed looking at lots of poetry examples this week during reading groups and reading time. Our understanding of rhyme is so much better now and we have learnt what alliteration is, what onomatopoeia is and how important patterns in poems are. Next week we will be writing our own poems after lots of work in class. The concept of what it was like for Jesus when he was alive is finished and we are now looking at stories from the New Testament Bible that help us understand how Jesus was a healer, teacher and a friend. The students love being Bible detectives and finding these stories and exploring different texts in the bible. In Maths we have worked hard at making up stories (word problems) to help us understand how maths can help us in our daily lives and connect it to real life stories. Looking forward to the history presentations next week about Toys from the past. Next week we continue with assessment of different subject areas. Only 3 weeks to go!

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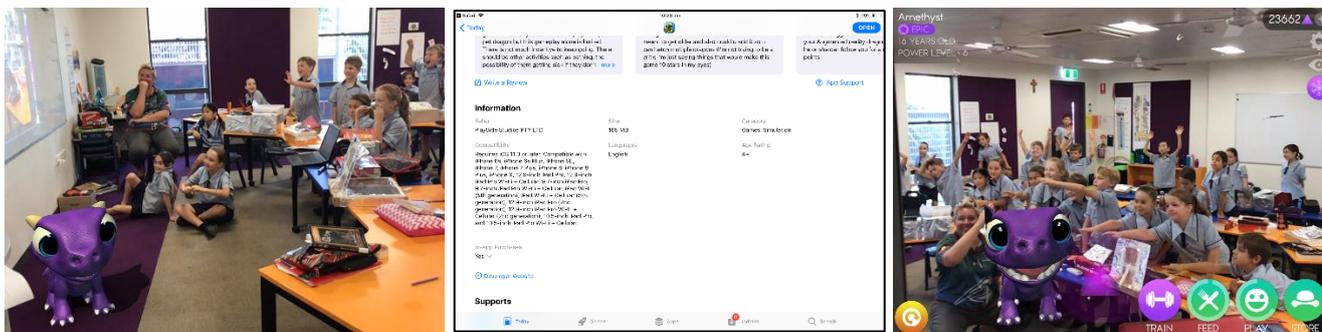
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Year 3... This week we've been working on inferring comprehension through visual images and looking beyond the text. We've been working on editing and punctuation of our writing and have focussed on the Greek and Latin roots in Spelling. To begin our last unit of English, focusing on diary entries, we introduced the students to the virtual reality app called AR Dragon where they can hatch a dragon and then feed it, train it and look after it in real time. We introduced one called Amethyst who is an Epic Dragon and all the kids loved seeing it through the iPad and on the classroom's big screen then recording their views. We're working on trying to get their own this afternoon to start next week. In Science they've made solar ovens as a consolidation of their Heat unit and students cooked everything from eggs to pizzas to chocolate smores. Needless to say, it was very exciting and the weather really turned it on so they were hot, hot, hot! Reading Stamina award goes to Daniel Scarabello and Golden Pencil goes to Ethan Edmondson.



Year 4... This week we created book reviews to convince next year's Year 4 class that Tom Appleby Convict Boy is the BEST book and should be studied. The students created a book trailer using IMovies and selected themes, music and images to persuade an audience to learn about the First Fleet. We continued this learning journey by writing historical texts demonstrating all of the interesting facts we now know about the First Fleet. In Maths we learned about the connections between decimal numbers, fractions, and percentages. We found this a bit tricky and will practise this next week too. This was our last week of celebrating the month of the Rosary and we now know the words and meaning behind the prayers: Hail Mary, Our Father and Glory Be very well. As a class we have had a big jump in our reading levels and have to pat ourselves on the back for our hard work paying off.

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr Seuss

Year 5-6... This week the students completed their Civics and Citizenship presentations on an aid organisation of their choice. It was great to learn more about each of these organisations, along with how and why we should be supporting them. In English we have started looking at how to structure "burger paragraphs" for our book reviews on "Wonder" by RJ Palacio. In Maths we have been designing and problem solving the construction of a flying fox, like the one the Year 6 students experienced at camp. We had to stick to a budget and work out how to use all the available materials to create a fun and safe flying fox without spending too much money. The students also did a lot of work on their websites for the different images of Mary. After choosing which image of Mary they wanted to focus on, students wrote a Marian prayer and described what each symbol meant. In French we have started labelling our bilingual floor plans of our favourite personal spaces. These are looking great! Congratulations to the Year 6 students for showing great leadership at Transition this week. We conducted two science experiments and all of our students showed great skill and a good understanding of exothermic and endothermic reactions.



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prep.. Aiden O'Connor + William Bassett + Summer-Lee van pelt + Brocton Gay

Year 1.. Elroy Spodniewski + Charlotte Guy + Gemma Mellner + Chelsea Steele

Year 2.. Sydney van pelt + Casey Oastler

Year 3.. Edward Rees + Charlie Hockey

Year 4.. Kate Merkel + George Myall

Year 5-6.. Jemma Booth + Brayden Keough

Donations Needed

During the month of November, St Joseph families are being asked to support the Weipa Community Care's "Buddy Bag" donation drive. If you have any new pencils, pens, notebooks or colouring-in books feel free to drop them into the office. Thank you.



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During our school swimming carnival the P&F will be holding a sausage sizzle.
If you are able to assist setting up, serving or packing up
Please contact Donna Machan 0427 792 941



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