

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

EDITION 201708 WEEK 8, TERM 1 2017



Important dates for month of March ...

Cross Country Training

For week 9 and 10 Cross Country Training will only be held on Thursday 23rd March & Thursday 30th March at 7.30am

Sunday 19th March

St Joseph's Day

Monday 20th March

St Joseph's Day Celebrations

P&F Meeting 7pm Flexible Learning Space



Meeting: 7pm 20th March

Being discussed:

- 2017 P&F priorities and budget
- Exciting news about our annual STEAM event
- Grants & Sustainability committee updates

Friday 31st March

Cross Country Carnival / Last day of term

Tuckshop will be closed

Easter Holidays commence 31st March, school resumes 18th April

Humility - Justice - Compassion

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News from Ms. Harrison...

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

There is a saying that, "When you point one accusing finger at someone, three of your own fingers point back at you". Try it right now; you will see it is perfectly true. Jewish law even forbids spreading negative truths about anyone lest perhaps it lowers respect for the person; "Never tell evil of a person if you do not know it for a certainty and, if you know it for a certainty, then ask yourself, "Why should I tell it?"

Unfortunately, our culture tends to treat gossip lightly, even though people who gossip show a shallowness to their own lives and, generally, are viewed as untrustworthy. Gossip in a schoolyard can have a negative effect on the school community; it can dampen morale and possibly cause conflict and ill will. It can lead to incorrect assumptions and to a shrinking of the vision that a school community should have about itself. Furthermore, gossip can foster an environment of fear and distrust because usually, it is a vehicle for processing negative feelings.

For those who engage in gossip, it can be a symptom of the breakdown in the health of their group. For a group to maintain its "good health", the friends in the group need to work towards an environment where, when gathered in conversation, they should be able to stop and say, "Wait a minute, does this feel right?" when gossip starts. There should be no shame, no blame, just questioning whether the conversation is compassionate and constructive and if not, then how to change it.

Sadly, gossip entails the exclusion of the person who is the topic of the gossip, for one does not gossip about another with them present. This is because gossip is not the exchange of factual information; rather it is concerned with telling untruths about a person, about what they said or did. Gossip is inherently a lie, or it is not gossip.

Important lines of communication between parents and teachers or parents and the school administration can be disrupted because of a lack of trust created by gossip. We need to display maturity and responsibility when faced with disagreement or diversity of opinion. It is not the action of a mature or responsible person to assassinate the character of someone who perceives things differently to them.

School leaders need support and emotional safety in order to do their jobs well. They need the members of the school community to be open, honest and constructive when they observe attitudes or decisions that they regard as questionable. Problems are solved when people of good will engage in informed and compassionate conversation and, in doing so, testify to their personal integrity. Many a time has "loose talk" sabotaged a relationship and magnified a simple problem when "direct talk" could have improved mutual respect and resolved a problem.

Here is another saying, "Reputation is what men and women think of us; Character is what God and angels know of us".

"Lord, Guide us in the choices we will make today, so that we may choose what is positive and life-giving. Amen."

Peace and blessings for a wonderful week ahead,

Rosie

PRINCIPAL

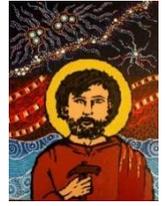
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Firstly, I would like to say what a wonderful way to start back – I was welcomed by so many of the students and families and was touched when told that I was missed. I did actually miss you all as well.

In last week's newsletter, I made mention of the ICAS assessments we are going to participate during Term 2 and I am so pleased that some students have shown interest in completing these tests. I have made contact with the UNSW and am awaiting our login details to access forms and order test papers. Below is the information and if you are still interested please let me know. ICAS is available for Years 2 - 12 in Australia. Tests are done with pen and paper under normal exam conditions and give students the opportunity to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. They take place at school on a set date and are voluntary. If you wish to have a further look please use the link below:

<https://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/about?gclid=CJ-rxfraNICFQGavAodbtwDIA>

The dates for 2017 are as follows:

Subject	Competition date	Cost
Digital Technologies	Tuesday 23 rd May	\$9.90
Science	Tuesday 30 th May	\$9.90
Writing	Monday 12 th June	\$19.80
Spelling	Wednesday 14 th June	\$13.20
English	Tuesday 1 st August	\$9.90
Mathematics	Tuesday 15 th August	\$9.90

St Patrick's Day – 17th March



Today we celebrated the Feast day of St Patrick. St Patrick was a very humble and gentle man and is most significantly remembered for using a shamrock as a symbol of the Holy Trinity. It was his sign to show God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. St Patrick was born in 385 in Scotland. At fourteen, Patrick was captured and taken to Ireland as a slave. It was during these years that he turned to God in prayer. This was the beginning of a life devoted to God and preaching the good news to the people. Patrick preached and converted all over Ireland for 40 years. He used the shamrock to explain the Trinity, and has been associated with all things Irish since that time. After years of living in poverty, travelling and enduring much suffering, he died March 17, 461.

It was fantastic to see so many support our St Patrick's Day by wearing green and supplying a gold coin donation for Project Compassion. Well done.

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St Joseph's Feast Day - 19th March

St Joseph is one of the most revered in the symphony of saints. Tradition sees him as a gentle, obedient, compassionate older man who lovingly cared for, protected and provided for Mary and Jesus earning a living as a carpenter and passing on his skills to the youthful Jesus.

Many Churches, convents, schools, colleges, spirituality centres, and a number of religious congregations have been named after him. If ever there was a man who embodied the spirit of the beatitudes, surely it was Joseph.



Next Monday, 20th March our school community will celebrate the feast of St Joseph. Our classes will be setting aside the afternoon session to undertake a prayer, reflection and some fun activities relating to St Joseph.

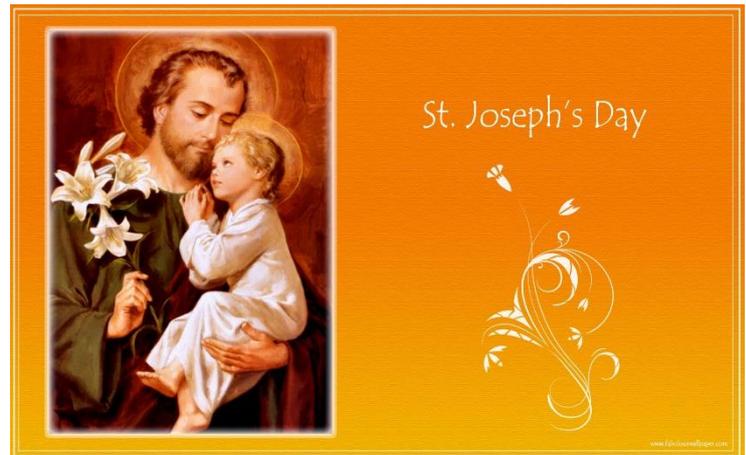
Thank you and blessings for a great weekend,

Amanda

Let us pray:

*Father, your Son Jesus was cared for by St Joseph.
By his prayers may we always know your love and
protection.*

Amen.



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Readers Cup



The Children's Book Council of Australia Queensland Branch Welcome to the Readers Cup for 2017

What is it?

Readers Cup is organised by the Qld Branch of the Children's Book Council of Australia. It is a state wide competition for young readers. Teams of four students together read a set of books, and then compete with other school or public library teams to answer quiz questions from the books.

Why do it?

Readers Cup competitions challenge students to read widely, work collaboratively in a team and continue developing a love of reading. It allows readers to compete at a regional and state level similar to sporting competitions and to meet other students with an equal passion for books.

Who can take part?

From 2017 there will be three categories: Year 5/6 and Year 7/8 for most regions and Year 9/10 for Wide Bay. Our region will accept only one team per school or public library per category. A team of up to 4 readers (plus one optional reserve) may be registered per school/public library, per category.

When does it take place?

Term 1

Teams need to register before the Easter school holidays.

Term 2

The Far North competition is being held on 8 June in Cairns. Teams can begin reading the set texts on 27 March

Term 3

Winning teams from each region will compete at the CBCA Qld Readers Cup State Finals to be held on the evening of 6 September 2017.

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Meet your 2017 St Joseph's Readers Cup Team "The Red Joeys"



**Makayla Lobley, Emelia Haardt,
Mia Williams, Annabelle Clements and Ava Steele**

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Classroom News..



Prep

This week we began the third week of our journey of Lent. We focused on having kind and loving thoughts about others in our minds and wrote on a candle and placed it on the class rainbow. In History we have talked about how we all belong in our families and how we have similarities and differences. In our literacy rotations we learnt a new letter and sounds Bingo game, did a sight word search and coloured in the words yellow. We practiced writing our names with correct letter formation and started wavy lines in our Writing Time textbooks. We revised our reading strategies of Eagle eye, Lips the fish and Stretchy snake to read words. We did our reading eggs program on the iPads and laptops this week. We participated in a shared lunch and a variety of games for closing the Gap. We learnt a new game with Miss Tari called Rob The Nest. Many of us wore green on St Patrick's Day this week and learnt about how the shamrock was used to teach about the Trinity.

Year 1

This week in Year one our focus was to treat others as we would like to be treated. In English we have been focusing on reading and sight words. In Mathematics we have been focusing on measurement. The students have had the opportunity to measure things around the classroom using different materials like paddle pop sticks, paper clips and counters. We have looked at how to accurately measure different objects using no overlapping to get a correct measurement. The students have really enjoyed this activity and have all demonstrated fantastic getting along skills. We all had the opportunity to learn how to log onto the computer correctly and enter our own usernames and passwords. We have continued with our Lenten Journey and this week we have added the symbol of a candle to our class rainbow to represent "The Minds of Love". The focus is on having kind and loving thoughts about our minds in the right way. This week you will find a new folder in your child's homework folder, it is for you to record your child's reading each night. Thank you to all of the parents for your help in year one, the students have been enjoying your involvement. Please don't forget homework is due on Wednesday and our Library day is Friday.

Year 2

With much perseverance, all the students have finished typing their Information Report into Google slides. They will now present these to the class next week. We have all learn to be patient as at times technology and the internet was not always on our side! Ms Grant has taught us many new things and shown the students some great resources to use on our website. We have enjoyed hearing everyone's Listen and Share presentations and I have learn lots about each student and their interests. Thankyou parents for your support. In Maths we have been doing doubles and near doubles facts and exploring different counting patterns. Keep up the great work kids!

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Year 3

Year 3 have been busy catching up on work and have done an amazingly impressive job of doing so. We've been revising subtraction and addition with regrouping, calculating change and measuring length and width of 2D shapes. In English we've been writing persuasive letters to Mr Boggington to persuade him NOT to build a Pickled Onion Factory on our school oval! In Science we have been classifying animals and sorting them into living and non-living. We've also done a bit of art. It's been a mammoth week in Year 3.

Year 4

This week the Fab Fours have been learning about angles in Maths. Did you know there are angles everywhere! Acute, obtuse, right and straight are the names of the angles we have been learning about. Since finishing reading "Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing" we have been completing many different activities about the book. Our Science unit "Materials Matter" has come to conclusion and we are using our knowledge of the properties of materials to design an outfit for a certain situation. Lastly, we are continuing our Lenten Journey on the lead up to Easter.

Year 5 - 6

With Miss Cook away sick for most of this week, year 5/6 has been working with Mrs Scicluna. Together, we continued working on our subtraction skills and using lots of different strategies to solve problems with missing numbers. We continued writing our choose-your-own-adventure narratives, and some of us are ready to start typing up our final pieces. In religion, we have finished looking at the three different types of psalms; thanksgiving, praise and lamentation. We studied these by annotating one psalm of each type, as this is a skill that will be very important when we enter high school. Our studies about civics and citizenship have lead up to looking at what a democracy is and how this compares to a communist country. In French, we are learning about the verb être (to be), so that we can describe ourselves and others in a variety of ways. This is one of two very important verbs that we will be learning about this year and everyone is doing an amazing job at trying their best in this new language.



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Physical Education (P.E)

..Cross Country..

The Cross Country is rapidly approaching and we are getting excited, training and practicing War Cries.

Please note: In Week 9 and 10 Cross Country Training will only be held on Thursday 23rd March & Thursday 30th March at 7.30am

The Tuckshop will be closed on Cross Country day, we ask that all children come to school with packed lunches.

The P & F will be providing a complimentary sausage sizzle that will be served closer to second break.

Below is an approximate guide for Cross Country Day on Friday 31st of March.

- 8:45 am Administration and marking rolls. Move to basketball court
- 8:55 am Welcome, Prayer & Briefing
- 9:00 am Sports House War Cries
- 9:10 am Race 1 - 2012 Girls
Race 2 - 2012 Boys
Race 3 - 2011 Girls
Race 4 - 2011 Boys
Race 5 - 2010 Girls
Race 6 - 2010 Boys
Race 7 - 2009 Girls
Race 8 - 2009 Boys
- 10:40 am Morning Tea
- 11:00 am Race 9 - 2008 Girls
Race 10 - 2008 Boys
Race 11 - 2007 Girls
Race 12 - 2007 Boys
Race 13 - 2006 Girls
Race 14 - 2006 Boys
Race 15 - 2005 Girls
Race 16 - 2005 Boys
- 1:00pm Lunch Time
- 2:15pm Assembly & Presentations
- 3:00pm Dismissal

We desperately need volunteers for the day so if you could assist in anyway please contact me mturner@cns.catholic.edu.au and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask. Let's make this event the best yet!

Thank you,

Mrs Turner

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- Prep.. Evie Chiesa + Brocton Gay
- Year 1.. Dion Williams, Lewis Rees, Tre Bobongie
- Year 2.. Mistee Sagigi + Isaiah Lindsay
- Year 3.. Ramona Bond + Samuel McNamara
- Year 4.. Wylie Clarke + Holly Jackson
- Year 5 – 6.. Caleb Hill + Kiarah Bayliss

A message from the Tuckshop...We need your help!

Our Tuckshop is becoming more and more popular with an average of 30-40 orders each day..

If you have some spare time in the mornings from 9am, even if it is just half an hour, please write your name in the Roster we have placed on the Noticeboard to help Thu in the Tuckshop.

Remember, many hands make light work ☺ Thankyou..

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