

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

EDITION 201701 WEEK 1, TERM 1 2017



Important dates for month of February...

Friday 3rd February Welcome BBQ

Time: 4 – 6pm

Location: Undercovered Area

Tuesday 7th February Years 3 – 6 Parent information evening

Time: 5pm

Location: Classroom

Thursday 9th February Prep – Year 2 Parent information evening

Time: 5pm

Location: Classroom

Friday 10th February Welcome Mass

Time: 9am

Location: Flexible Learning Space

Wednesday 15th February Volunteer Training

Time: 9 – 9.30am

Location: Flexible Learning Space

Monday 27th February Shrove Monday

More details to come

Tuesday 28th February We will celebrate Ash Wednesday, more details to come.

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News from Ms. Harrison...

Dear Families,

It is a pleasure to welcome you all back to a new year here at St Joseph's and may I once again add a special word of welcome to all of our new families, who have joined us for the first time this year.

Families, who have joined us for the first time this year-

- Myall Family – Hamish and George
- Rees Family – Lewis and Edward
- Van Der Westhuizen Family – Zoe and Riley
- Gay Family – Judson, Brocton and Lealand
- Hayman Family – James
- Lindsay Family – Isaiah
- Van Pelt Family – Sydney and Sumer-Lee
- Bond Family – Ramona and Ta'Layah
- McDonnell Family – Jake
- O'Connor Family – Maddison and Aidan
- Williams Family – Sienna
- Baylis Family – Kiarah and Kooper
- Clements Family – Annabelle and Sophia
- Nona-Poipoi Family – Xeroxia
- Booth Family – Jedda

As well as all our new Prep families-

- Agale Family – Philemon
- Bassett Family – William
- Borg Family – Ella
- Caputo Family – Lewis
- Childs Family – Ashton
- Christie Family – Jayce
- Fay Family – Aidan
- Huni Family – Lopeti
- Robinson Family – Nate
- Simpson Family – Taylah
- Sorbello Family – Sophia



2017 has begun and what a wonderful start! Smiles, stories, beautiful kids, well presented classrooms, enthusiastic staff were all around me on Monday when we started – I loved it. There was also the collective sigh from mums and dads as they bid farewell to their children.

You may have noticed a few changes that occurred over the holidays – The grounds are looking magnificent – the wet season rains have certainly replenished the grassed areas to a lush, thick “want-to-roll in” state!

The interaction and commitment of our parent body helps to make St Joseph's such a great place to be. There are numerous groups of parents who assist the school in many ways, from the classroom to formal advisory bodies. In the coming weeks, there will be quite a few different ways for parents to be involved in our school.

On Monday February 20, the first P&F meeting of the year takes place in the Flexible learning Space, commencing at 7:00pm. On behalf of our P&F and school, I would like to invite all of our parents to this first meeting.

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The year will be planned and topics of interest discussed. Please try to make it. Parent information evenings will be held on Tuesday February 14th at 5pm for Years 3 -6 and Thursday 16th for Years P -2 at 5pm. A note will be sent home soon informing you of times.

Please feel free to pop in and say hello to me at any time, and know that my door is always open to families. Our parents' support is valued and appreciated. Join in where you can! Communication is the key. If you have any concerns about the school, it is important to deal with them as soon as possible so that your concern does not become a big problem. I have included in this newsletter a copy of the school Communications policy which will be useful in directing you to the right person/avenue in matters related to the school. This link will take you to the school webpage where you can see other policies related to St Joseph's school.

[St Joseph's Weipa school webpage](#)

Please feel welcome at any time to make an appointment to discuss any issue of concern with myself or one of the Administration team. Always approach the class teacher first if it is a problem relating to your child's class. Teachers can often correct relatively quickly, what might appear to be a big problem.

A couple of reminders

- Please read the pick-up zone notes in today's newsletter – this procedure is for your children's protection and safety and we ask you to abide by it. An important note is that cars should not bank up in front of the Church and block the driveway. If there is not sufficient space, cars should do a loop around.
- If your child is sick before coming to school, please try to make arrangements for them at home – we have had a couple of children attend school who have been really upset from the beginning of the day and when you are unwell, there is no place like home. Children who are vomiting should have time to recuperate at home before coming to school. This is recommended to be 48 hours since stopping vomiting. Have a peace-filled week.

The weekly newsletter will provide comprehensive coverage of what has been happening in the school, celebrate our achievements and acknowledge the successes of members of our community.

The first few weeks of a new school year are critically important in setting a strong foundation for the work that lies ahead and we really want every child to achieve to the fullest of their potential at St Joseph's this year. As a staff, we recognise that change can often be challenging for young people and a new year at school involves quite a bit of change in their young lives – new teachers, new classrooms, new fellow students, new expectations and so on. While this is a time of change, it is also an opportunity to 'recalibrate' – a new year is somewhat like a blank canvas on which each of our students will paint the picture of their life. In these first few weeks we will design our teaching and learning programs and provide our students with the time, opportunity and information they need to assist them to 'sketch out' their outline for the year ahead.

A few odds and ends to touch on..

Tuckshop

Sue Gane, our much loved Tuckshop Coordinator has officially resigned from her position here at St Joseph's. Sue has been instrumental in getting our fabulous tuckshop up and running to a very high standard last year and she will be sadly missed by us all. We have begun the process of advertising to replace Sue and hope to have someone start as our new Coordinator on 13th February.

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Parents and Friends Meeting

Our first P&F meeting for the year will be held Monday 20th February at 7:00pm in the Flexible Learning Space. I encourage new and current families to attend these meetings throughout the year. They provide an opportunity to socialise with other parents, confirm, and promote parents as partners in the delivery of Catholic Education in our community. I invite parents to consider this role as a means of contributing to the life of the school. Please contact Donna Machin for more information on 0427 792 941.

P & F Working Bee – Time to Lend a Hand

On Sunday 5th February, 8:00am – 11:00am, we have planned a working bee on the grounds of St Joseph's. There is nothing better than being given the opportunity to lend a hand and work together to make a difference for your children's school. At this stage, we will just be doing a general clean up amidst a couple of other tasks. If you are available and can help out, we would love to hear from you. We will feed and water you as well. Please email your RSVP to principal.weipa@cns.catholic.edu.au

Allergy and Anaphylaxis Awareness – Supporting Students with Health Needs

We have a number of students in our school again in 2017 with different food allergies. Our management plans for these allergies are sound and we constantly remain conscious of children's health needs at all times. With these students' needs in mind, I ask that parents consider excluding certain foods as a way of supporting staff in their management of their health needs. If packing yoghurt, then pouches rather than tubs will no doubt create less mess and risk of an accident. Parents may also like to leave boiled eggs for after school and aim to keep lunches nut-free. Thank you for your support with this.

<http://www.stjosephsweipa.qld.edu.au/policies/policies-and-procedures/>

Volunteer Training

Throughout the year, many parents and friends of SJW will volunteer their time, effort and energy to different causes from classroom reading to excursion attendance. It is a mandatory requirement of schools to ensure volunteers are suitably aware of the student protection procedures and guidelines. Legislation in this area continues to evolve and change and, as a result, it is of utmost importance that, if you are considering volunteering this year, you attend a training opportunity Wednesday 15th February at 9am to 9.30am. The session should enable the bulk of parents wishing to volunteer in 2017 to attend. The training will be held in the Flexible Learning Space (FLS). Those parents who cannot make any of these opportunities should make contact with the office and register their intention to volunteer.

Rosie

PRINCIPAL

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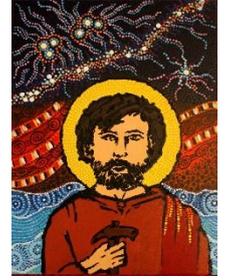
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APRE News..



Welcome back to the start of the 2017 school year. I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year break. Each new school year brings with it the promise of what is before us. Who can believe we are now in our second year and it is with all hope and joy I believe that this New Year will present further opportunities for our school community to build on the positive culture that we started in 2016.

We all know that children receive the best education when parents and staff work as a team. Parents' enthusiasm, support and involvement are integral to the success of our school as are the skills, dedication and professionalism of teachers. Together, staff and parents can provide educational excellence for every student, so that they can achieve their personal best. Together, we can support one another to provide a friendly learning environment and celebrate our achievements. Our achievements in 2016 were plentiful and it is without a doubt we will expand on this in 2017.

We welcome your presence at school, encourage you to become active partners in the faith life of the school community, and invite you to attend any of our liturgies and celebrations whenever it is possible. Involvement in school activities can vary from covering books, cooking sausages, helping move furniture and of course utilising your skills and talents.

I ask and encourage you all to become involved in some capacity with the school life and if you have something to contribute please let us know as in the coming months as there may be times when we will need to call on the talents and skills of our wonderful parents.

It is also important that if you have any questions, concerns or ideas, please share with us so that we can provide the best possible learning environment for your child.

Finally, I ask that you keep up to date with happenings around the school via the following ways:

- School website <http://www.stjosephsweipa.qld.edu.au/>
- Facebook page
- Parent portal – more information to be distributed in next 2 weeks
- Volunteering
- School office
- Teaching staff.

Over the coming weeks I will also be advising our community of events happening in the church and around school. Our first event will be the Welcome BBQ Friday 3rd February from 4-6pm and our Beginning School Mass 10th February 9am.

Please stay in touch if you need any further information.

Thank you and blessings for a great weekend,

Amanda
APRE



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Classroom News..



Prep

Prep students began the week with their very first day here at St Joseph's school on Monday. It has been a busy and exciting week as we have been familiarising ourselves with the school environment, learning routines and making new friends. We have learnt about our school St Joseph's Covenant and the golden rule of treating others the way that we liked to be treated ourselves at school. Each member of the class joined in whole class, group and individual learning experiences throughout the week. One of these learning experiences was the Reading Eggs program on the iPads. At the end of the week we participated respectfully in our first whole school assembly.

Year 1

A big welcome to you all. This week we have been learning about our school and classrooms covenant. All year one students have made a positive start to Play is the Way with the focus of "treat others as you would like them to treat you." This week we focused on learning our rainbow facts up to 10, revising our letters, sounds, and have been discussing Australia Day and how we all celebrate it differently. Our sports day will be on a Wednesday, so please don't forget to wear your sports uniform! Our Library day will be on a Friday, so the students will need to bring in their St Joseph's library bag. I look forward to seeing what next week will bring.

Year 2

What an awesome start to the year! It has been such a pleasure getting to know my students and we welcome 4 newcomers to St Joseph's in Yr 2: Judson, James, Isaiah and Sydney. Thank you to all the children from last year who have been so inclusive of each other and their new friends.

It has been wonderful today, discussing Australia Day & how everyone celebrated it differently in Weipa. Our focus other than routines has been how to be "a bucket filler" in our classroom. We have made buckets, read many stories about this and hopefully your child has come home with a full bucket and is showing how they are filling other people's buckets. We are enjoying learning a song called "Every Move We Make" and "Mama Lama". Next week will be full speed ahead. Way to go kids!

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Year 3

A very big welcome to all our Year 3 class – especially those new students joining us this year. It has been a fabulous start to the year with lots happening. The students were very impressed with the “Lobwart’s” theme in the room and excited about what lies ahead for the year. They have started on English and Maths with Miss Cassie in the mornings and have Mrs Saunders for the remainder of each day. This term we are looking at ‘What is a rule?’, Who makes the rules? And why do we have rules? As a part of our Religion and Civics units this term. On Friday, we celebrated with some modified Australia Day games.

Year 4

It has been an enjoyable start to 2017 for the Fabulous Year Four’s (aka the Fab Fours)! Although some of our friends left us, we have three new students joining us. Welcome George, Lealand & Mia. Our classroom looks beautiful and our theme of turtles has us stumped at the moment. We will find out more next week. This week we wrote about our holidays and completed a quite hard maths test. Australia Day and Australia was our theme for the week, which we enjoyed. Next week we will start homework, so look out for this on Wednesday afternoon.

Year 5 – 6

Year 5/6 has had an amazing start to the year and every student is showing they are ready to become a School Leader. As leaders, the students will take on extra responsibilities around the school and in the wider community. They will represent St Joseph’s with pride, be respectful of others, and be fantastic role models for the younger students. Miss Cook and the rest of the staff look forward to seeing the students take on these roles. We have focussed on building a positive classroom environment, with the students taking on daily meditation and prayer, learning about their strengths and abilities, as well as creating personal and class goals for the term. All students have shown that they are capable of exceeding these goals and Miss Cook is very proud that each individual is taking the initiative to aim high and achieve their personal best.

Social Emotional Learning (S.E.L) & Physical Education (P.E)

This term we have the following routine for S.E.L & P.E children are asked to wear their P.E uniform on the corresponding day please.

Wednesdays: Prep – Year 2

Thursdays: Year 3 – Year 6



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Prep..	Ben Machan & Ta'Layah Bond
Year 1..	Ayden Vogler & Gemma Mellner
Year 2..	Sydney Van – Pelt & Samuel Hancock
Year 3..	Ramona Bond & Jake McDonnell
Year 4..	Kunio Sagigi & Holly Jackson
Year 5 – 6..	Corey Clarke & Caleb Hill

Uniforms...

Please be reminded that we are the office is cashless; all uniforms are to be paid for by EFTPOS and must be paid for in full before they can be taken.

Tuckshop..

Our Tuckshop ordering is done via "Flexi schools", if you do not already have an account registered please visit www.flexischools.com.au click on "register" to get started. The daily menu is viewable online.

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Two-Minute Zone

Process for Using Two-Minute Zone

There have been problems last year in the 2-minute zone. Please familiarize yourself and anyone else who collects your child with the pickup zone process.

The 2-minute zones are there for the safe drop off and pick up of your children.

Without your cooperation, your children's lives are at risk.

DO

Display sign

Use the zone like a quick moving taxi rank.

Allow your child to embark or disembark only when your vehicle is in position 1, 2, 3 of the queue.

Stay in the car unless assisting loading of baggage and passengers.

Drive off only when your vehicle is the front position.

Drive around and re-join the back of the queue if your child is not at the waiting area.

Please follow teachers' directions as they are there for your child's safety.

DO NOT

Obstruct the intersection in front of the Church

Leave your vehicle in the 2-minute zone.

Overtake another vehicle to enter or leave the zone.

Remain at the front of the queue if your child is not ready to enter your vehicle, drive around and re-join the back of the queue.

Helpful Tips

In the afternoons, delay your arrival until after 3pm, as it is impossible for the children to be dismissed from class and be at the zone at exactly 3pm.

Ensure that your child knows exactly where to wait and to move directly to the undercover area at the conclusion of school.

If you are walking to your car, do not cross through the pickup zone.

Ensure your child is watching for your arrival and siblings are waiting together.

Ensure passengers remove backpack and secure seatbelts before driving off.

If the 2-minute zone is full and not moving, please go around the block and re-join the queue.



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2017 First Day of school snaps courtesy of Kylie Abood & Tari Sagisi..



Sharon Scarabello, Ruby Scarabello & Ty Scarabello



Ben Machan, Donna Machan, Matilda Machan, Michael Machan



Judson Gay with Dad, Seamus Gay



(L to R) Vannan Fay, Stacey Sorbello, Lisa Hill, Kate Turner, Mel Turner, Rosie Harrison, Rachael Clements, Nicole Yik, Melaia Huni beating the back to school blues with a morning cuppa..

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