

IMPORTANT DATES

 ✓ Wednesday 13th June - Parent information session & movie for Wonders of Living Program Time: 6 - 7 pm
✓ "How to have the talk" Parent information session (year 5 and 6 parents). Time: 7 - 8 pm
✓ Thursday 14th June - Wonders of Living sessions for Year 1 to 6
✓ 18th - 22nd June - Book Fair
✓ 27th & 28th June - St Joseph's Athletics Carnival

The Rosary

Each Wednesday night at 7pm the Rosary is held in St Joseph's Parish church. If you are interested in saying the Rosary with a small group of people or even just wanting to find out what and how to say the Rosary, please feel free to drop in on a Wednesday evening from 7pm.



Wonders of Living program

Wonders of Living program (NFS Cairns) will be held again this year on Wednesday 13th June for the parents and Thursday 14th June for the students. More details will be available closer to date. These sessions were well attended last year so we hope to see you there to meet and ask questions if needed.

Pentacost Sunday

This Sunday is Pentecost Sunday, one of the most significant feast days in our Liturgical calendar. The story of Pentecost is beautifully told in stunning artworks from around the world but essentially Pentecost is seen as the Birthday of the Church, the day that the Apostles began the work of the Christian Church. The word Pentecost is Greek and it means "50th day". Fifty days after Easter Sunday, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and their followers, and the beginning of their Earthly ministry to make disciples of all nations. Pentecost is also a Jewish holiday, which the Jews use to celebrate the end of Passover. Jews celebrate the gift of the law to Moses at Mt. Sinai on this day. But we, as Catholics celebrate the birth of our Church.



In the story of Pentecost, the Apostles and their followers were gathered in a room. Jews from all over the world were gathered with Peter, the leader of the Apostles and the Eleven. At this time, a great wind blew and a flame appeared as a tongue of fire, which split itself into many individual flames above the heads of all those present. The Holy Spirit came upon these people and each began to speak in tongues. Despite the fact many had no common language, they were perfectly able to understand one another.

Others who were not so blessed, accused those speaking in tongues of being drunk, but Peter arose and addressed the crowd, explaining that it was only 9 o'clock, and that this phenomenon was not intoxication, but rather this was the work of the Holy Spirit, prophesized in the scripture.

Peter then called all those present to be baptized and about three thousand people were baptized that day. These people were among the first Catholics, and Peter is the first pope of the Catholic Church.

The symbols of Pentecost are the flame, wind, and the dove, which represents the Holy Spirit. The colour of Pentecost is red and the priest wears red vestments on this day. Parishioners are also invited to wear red on this day. Red decorations as well as celebrations are appropriate, similar to any other birthday. Special prayers are often said just for Pentecost.



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Ph. 07 4069 9500

500 **Email**: <u>secretary.weipa@cns.catholic.edu.au</u> Boundary Road, Rocky Point QLD 4874 Postal: PO Box 1409, Weipa QLD 4874

News from Ms Harrison ..

Thank you to the P and F for their fabulous support of the Mother's Day stall. The presentation and quality of gifts available for the children to purchase was a real credit to the work of the Stall subcommittee. Special mention must go to Rachael Steele for her fabulous coordination of this event for the kids which has quickly become a well loved tradition at St Joseph's Weipa.

Thanks also to Simon Ward and those parents who participated in the P and F strategic planning meeting recently. Simon's expertise and leadership enabled this core group to make a great start to formalising future direction of P and F activities to support the school over the next five years.

I am pleased to announce the start of keyboard and voice lessons in the coming weeks. You may have seen the announcement in the Newsletter last week and from the responses this week we have begun planning for how this will timetable into the school day. I encourage anyone who is still interested in registering for keyboard or voice lessons for their child to express their interest as soon as possible.

Naplan testing has now concluded and our Year 3 and 5 students are to be congratulated for the manner in which they approached this more formal type of assessment. I saw this post on media recently and thought it a timely reminder about the importance of testing.



School Annual Improvement plan initiatives in progress:

The school has prioritised improvement in Reading as our number 1 priority for 2018. Parents will already be aware of the great work implemented at SJW for our focus area of Reading this year. Under the skilful guidance of Mrs Megan Pearce, intensive reading programs of MiniLit and MacLit are now underway across all year levels. These intensive learning sessions are already showing great success for participating students.

To ensure alignment of Literacy learning practices across the school, staff have devoted much time to the implementation of consistent best practice in the teaching of Spelling. In doing so, we have made the commitment to introduce the Spelling Mastery program across all grade levels from the commencement of Term 3, 2018.

This initiative will have us best placed to align with the Cairns diocesan priority of Writing going into 2019.

It is envisaged that we will conduct more parent information sessions for parents across the remainder of Term 2 and early Term 3 so to communicate to parents how they can best support Literacy acquisition for their children at school as well as keeping our school community informed.

Next Friday four of our teaching staff will be in Brisbane at a Visible Literacies professional development day. This day is a valuable learning experience for our teachers in equipping them with the necessary knowledge and skills to deliver best practice in Literacy at St Joseph's. Part of the expectation when staff attend professional development days such as this is that they bring back/share their learning with other staff as well as demonstrate implementation in the classroom.

Peace and blessing for a wonderful week ahead,

Rosie

APRE News

As a part of our commitment to developing a rich charism and culture within St Joseph's school, this week we have been analysing data from the Enhancing Catholic School Identity (ECSI) project surveys. Families may recall completing a series of surveys this time last year. The results have now been analysed into graphic data which provides us with a number of recommendations to build and enhance our identity as a Catholic school.

This week we will continue with the series explaining some of the symbols used around and within our classrooms. The focus this week is on the Liturgical calendar – specifically the seasons and colours.

Liturgical Colours

Liturgies celebrated during the different seasons of the liturgical year have distinctive music and specific readings, prayers, and rituals. All of these work together to reflect the spirit of the particular season. The colours of the vestments that the priest wears during the liturgy also help express the character of the mysteries being celebrated.



White, the colour of joy and victory, is used for the seasons of Easter and Christmas. It is also used for the feasts of Our Lord, for feasts of Mary, the angels, and for saints who are not martyrs. **Gold** may also be used on solemn occasions.



Red (the colour of blood) is used on days when we celebrate the passion of Jesus on Passion Sunday and Good Friday. It is also used for the birthday feasts of the apostles and evangelists and for the celebrations of martyrs. Red (the colour of fire) recalls the Holy Spirit and is used on Pentecost and for the sacrament of Confirmation.



Green, seen everywhere in plants and trees, symbolizes life and hope and is used during Ordinary Time.



The colours **violet** or **purple** in Advent help us to remember that we are preparing for the coming of Christ. Lent, the season of penance and renewal, also uses the colours violet or purple.



Rose may be used on the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, and on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday. It expresses the joy of anticipation for Christmas and Easter, respectively.

Thank you and blessings for a wonderful weekend,

Amanda

This Sunday is Pentecost Sunday, so the colour used liturgically is Red. A scripture passage for the week:

Acts 2:1–11 They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.



Potential Music Program – Expressions of Interest

St Joseph's Parish School, Weipa is seeking expressions of interest from the school community for those students from Prep to Year 6 who would appreciate the opportunity to take lessons in **piano** or **voice** with a qualified musician.

Biran Egan will soon be available to take one-on-one lessons during school hours. Mr Egan spent several years as Head Chorister of St Paul's Cathedral Boys' Choir in Melbourne, then completed his practical and theoretical education in piano, before graduating with his Bachelor of Music with Honours at Manhattan School of Music in New York.

Please email expressions of interest in this program to Rosie Harrison (<u>principal.weipa@cns.catholic.edu.au</u>), indicating the **age of the child**, any **previous musical experience**, and whether they are interested in **piano or voice** tuition. **Please note that expressions of interest do not guarantee a position in this program** but will provide important feedback from our community to help us set up something that suits the school.

Thank you.

Premiers Reading Challenge

This year St Joseph's will be participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge. Here are some things you might like to know.

Is it compulsory for my child to participate? No it isn't but please know that if they don't hand a completed form in, they will not receive a certificate from the Premier of Queensland.

When does reading take place? Students are asked to read from the 14th May until the 24th August.

Does my child need to read all their books by themselves? If your child is in Prep to Year 2 they can either read or experience books. If your child is in Year 3 to Year 6 they are required to read the books themselves.



What type of books can my child read? They can read printed books, e-books, virtual books and digital publications, graphic novels and comic books, audio and braille books, newspapers, magazines and recipe books and lastly books in additional languages (other than English).

What does my child get out of doing the reading challenge? Not only does your child receive a certificate from the Premier of Queensland, they also get the chance to improve on their Literacy skills that are vital to ensuring children have the best chance to succeed in their schooling and life. The Premier's Reading Challenge is an opportunity for students to be enthusiastic about reading. Reading a variety of books builds vocabulary and knowledge, improves spelling and comprehension, can improve confidence and is also a great way to relax.

Where can I hand my child's completed form to? When your child completes the challenge, their form can be handed to the classroom teacher or Miss Karen in the Library.

Happy Reading everyone!

Stacey Edmonds



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9500 Email: <u>secretary.weipa@cns.catholic.edu.au</u> Web: <u>www.stjosephsweipa.qld.edu.au</u> Boundary Road, Rocky Point QLD 4874 Postal: PO Box 1409, Weipa QLD 4874



Dear Parents and Families:

Reading for pleasure unlocks the power of information and imagination and helps children discover who they are. Here's what you can do to help children develop stronger reading skills and a love for reading:

- Set the example. Let children see you read.
- Have a collection of books in your home. Update this collection routinely to keep up with changing tastes and reading skills.
- Support our school's Book Fair. Allow your children to choose their own books to read.

Our Scholastic Book Fair is a reading event that brings the books kids want to read right into our school. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fair and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits.

Book Fair dates: 18/06/2018 to 22/06/2018 Shopping hours: 8am to 8.30am, 2nd lunch and 3pm to 3.30pm Special activities: Class Activities to be announced, prize vouchers for each class. Vouchers to be used to purchase books from the Book Fair.

We look forward to seeing you and your family at our Book Fair! Remember, all purchases benefit our school.

Sincerely,

Rosie Harrison Principal



Year 2 Demand Writing Task: Ladder to the Stars

The long, long, long ladder to the moon. Written by Gemma Mellner 15.05.18

One magical night a full moon rose. A little boy sneaked out of his house and he rode his bike through a paddock of long grass until he came to the full moon. He grabed his long ladder. He put sticky tape on it, and he threw it up th the moon. He climbed and climbed until he was op on the moon. But the ladder broke. Oh no. How will he get down. Then he was surrounded by aliens! They were coloured green and purple. He became frineds with them. He asked them if he could use their mni-rocket. They said YES! It was amazing. The mini-rocket flew down to Earth. Then the little boy woke up and found out it was just a dream.

The End.



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ST. JOSEPH'S ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2018

The 2018 Athletics Carnival has been set for Wednesday the 27th of June - Track and Ball Games Events (Prep - Year 6) & Thursday 28th June - Field Events (Year 3 - 6). If you are able to assist on either of these days please contact Melanie Turner on mturner@cns.catholic.edu.au



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