

PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I watched with interest a few weeks ago a program on ABC entitled Revolution School. The program documents the progress of a so-called low-performing school, Kambrya College in outer-suburban Melbourne. The school has engaged the services of the University of Melbourne to address issues associated with student performance, which reflects the broader discussion about education, government funding and Australia's educational standing internationally. We often hear that the more money invested in Australian schools, the worse it gets! We are most likely to hear this and other forms of rhetoric in this historically long election campaign.

There were a few things which struck me as I watched this program. One of my observations was that, regardless of where you are in Australia, the issues with students are fundamentally the same: some are disengaged from learning; some are stressed and anxious about their performance; parents want assistance with supporting their child's education at home. I listened to the stories of students and their families, and watched the struggles and triumphs of teachers in classrooms, and all of these reminded me of my work in a number of schools: with students, teachers and families. After all, we're really not that different from one another.

The other aspect of this program which I found interesting was the focus on particular strategies implemented by teachers to lift student performance, in particular the focus of the work of Professor John Hattie whom I mentioned in last week's newsletter. Professor Hattie is considered to be the foremost educationalist in Australia currently, and his research is finding its way into schools across Australia and the world. It has also found its way into our school. This year we have been focusing on evidence-based strategies to improve student learning, with a particular focus on Hattie's work which is an analysis of over 70000 studies involving more than 240000000 students. Hattie's study identified the strategies that have the strongest impact on student outcomes, and focused our attention to the most influential factor in the classroom: not the teacher him/herself, but what the teacher does.

As mentioned last week, as a teaching staff we are currently exploring a framework for teachers to adopt these strategies. Teachers are currently implementing a lesson s

Learning Intentions: What are the goals of this lesson?

Success Criteria: Ways for the student and teacher to determine if they have achieved the goals of the lesson.

Formative Assessment: Informal opportunities for students to demonstrate what they know and can do, and for teachers to determine the progress of each student.

If you have some time to watch Revolution School, you will see in action this approach to structuring a lesson. It allows students to know the aim of any given lesson and

what they have to do to demonstrate that they know and understand the key concept(s) of the lesson. Formative assessment can take a number of forms, but are usually student to show their knowledge and understanding of the concepts. All of our teachers are engaged in data gathering to measure the progress of students and to determine the extent to which these strategies are having the desired impact on student learning.

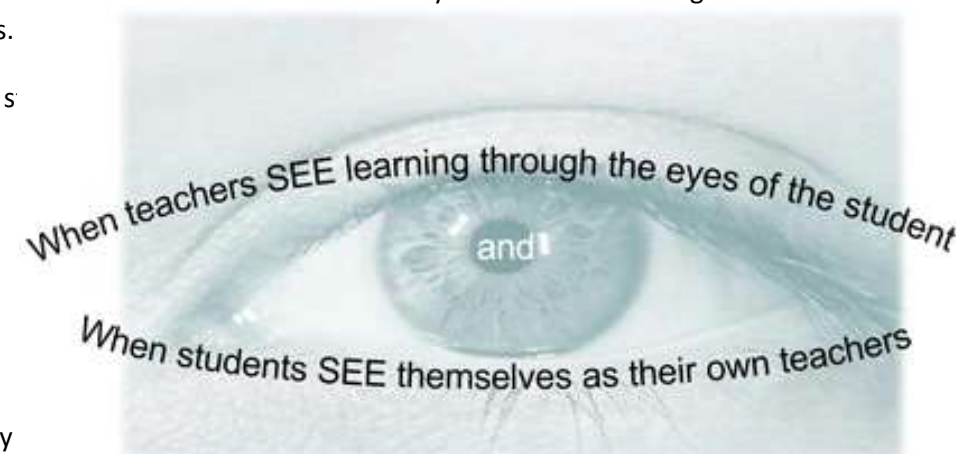
Next term our staff will be participating in professional development around Learning Intentions and Success Criteria as well as data collection and interpretation. At St Joseph's we hope to feature some sessions for our parents about these Visible learning strategies to allow parents some insight into the work in our classrooms.

Find out more about the program, Revolution School here:

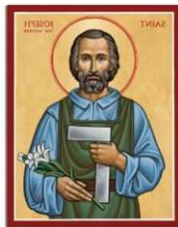
<http://www.abc.net.au/tv/programs/revolution-school/>

God Bless

Rosie



*****A Reminder that next week our Assembly will start at 2pm on Friday*****



News from the APRE



Last week I included information about the Religion comments your child will receive on their first semester report card so this week I would like to relay some further information about the remaining Learning areas. I would also like to thank all of those who attended the parent information session on Tuesday night.

Semester 1 Report cards.

Report cards are designed to provide parents with a summary of each child's achievement and progress. Each family is encouraged to use the Semester 1 report as an opportunity to set clear goals for achievement in Semester 2.

This year our teachers at St Joseph's Parish School have used the Brisbane Religious Education Curriculum to teach Religion and the Australian Curriculum to guide their practice in all other Learning Areas.

Written reports are a formal way to inform parents of their child's progress and form just one part of a process. They are designed to occur within the context of ongoing communication between school and home. They will provide information about your child's achievement, social emotional learning and commitment to learning.

Should you wish to explore anything from the report in detail, please make contact with your child's class teacher to arrange an appointment time.

More important than any overall grade is the evidence of growth. This is certainly something we look for and celebrate at a staff level at St Joseph's Parish School. As the grading scale may be different to what you have experienced in the past it is important to note the following about the 'C' or sound grade a student may receive.

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".

Should you wish to know more about the different grading scales please make a time with me and we can discuss in more detail. Any and all information reported against comes directly from the Achievement standards of the Australian Curriculum V8.1.

Reporting is also important for schools as they need to systematically collect meaningful information about student achievement and progress to plan future teaching and learning programs and strategies and make decisions about continuous improvement of their curriculum. Schools and teachers have a professional and legal obligation to provide these reports.

We would also ask that after reading your child's report that you celebrate with them as their successes make them who they are and to celebrate these gives value to their efforts.

Many blessings for the weekend,

Amanda



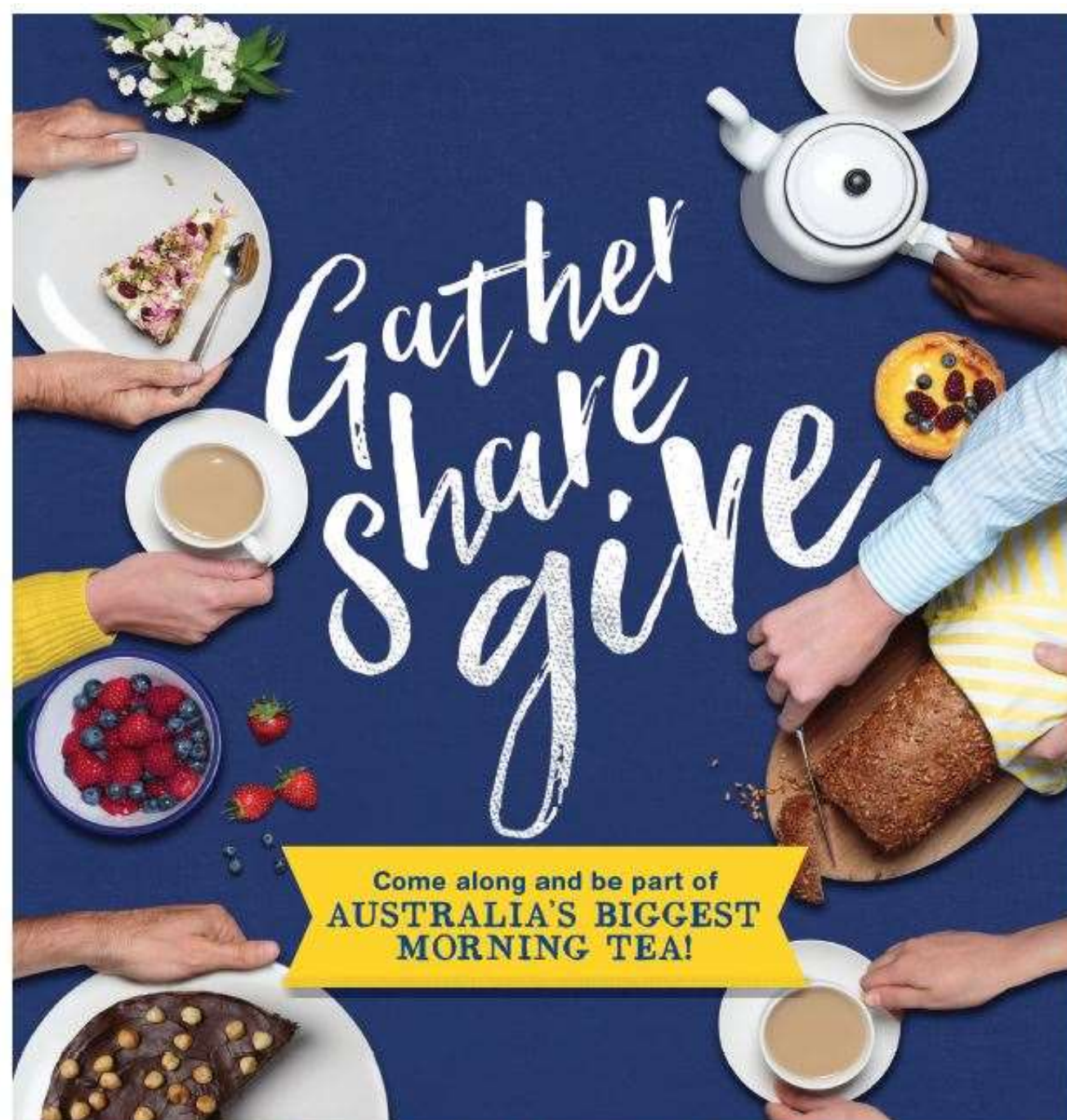
The Living Narrative of our Nation
St Joseph's Inaugural NAIDOC Week

JUNE 20 - 23

Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Opening Ceremony – Multipurpose Room 9:40 – 10:40 Rotation 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weipa Kindy and Napranum Preschool to join us for Indigenous Games 11am – Damper with Napranum Elders from HACC 2nd Lunch Chalk storytelling symbols 	<p>Art & Craft</p> <p>Games & Sport</p> <p>Dancing</p> <p>Cooking</p> <p>Storytelling</p>	<p>SI NAIDOC shirts can be worn as uniform</p>
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2nd Lunch Chalk storytelling symbols 1:45pm – 3pm Rotation 2 		
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2nd lunch Table Decoration making 1:45pm – 3pm Rotation 3 		
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm – 1pm Year 4/5/6 on food preparation 1:45pm – 3pm Rotation 4 6pm Community Kup Mari Feast (Please RSVP on facebook event) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening address Musicians Traditional Dancers Kai Kai (Dinner) Dancing 		<p>FOOD DONATIONS</p> <p>PREP: Washed potatoes</p> <p>Year 1: Sweet potatoes</p> <p>Year 2: Pumpkin</p> <p>Year 3: Onions & garlic</p> <p>Year 4-6: Damper ingredients</p>

To help us prepare for NAIDOC week we have quite a few tasks that we require volunteers for, as the old saying goes “many hands make light work”. It would be really appreciated if you could check the list of jobs requiring help that is located on the door to the Flexible Learning Space. Find a friend and put your name on the list to help us out. We really appreciate everyone's assistance.





WEIPA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA

COME JOIN US FOR A PICNIC FOR A GOOD CAUSE

WHERE: GRASSY AREA, BEHIND ROCKY POINT GYMNASIICS

WHEN: SUNDAY 19 JUNE 9AM - 11AM

WHAT: FAMILY-FRIENDLY WITH BAKED GOODS, LIVE MUSIC, ACTIVITIES FOR THE KIDS, RAFFLES AND MORE

ENTRY: GOLD COIN DONATION & BYO PICNIC RUG

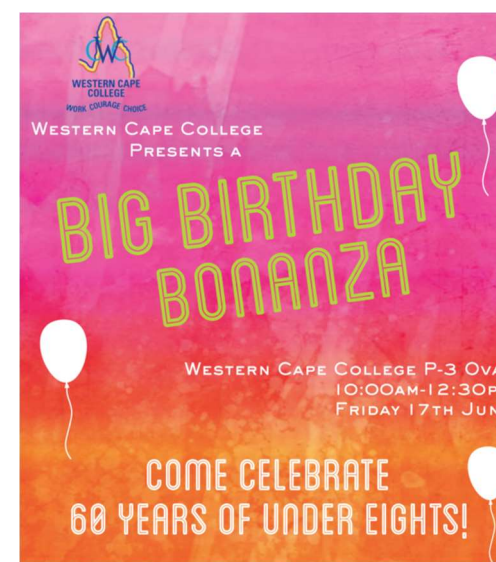
RSVP: Madeleine.Cattanach@riotinto.com



School Holiday Fire Safety

With school holidays just around the corner, now is the time to learn the ropes and become a junior firefighter. Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) is urging parents across the state to ensure their children are aware of fire safety and risks. Keeping fire safety in mind by involving kids in fire escape plans and smoke alarm checks can be an easy way to

ensure they are fire savvy. There are many fun activities you can do together, including playing the Triple Zero game, to communicate safety messages all children should learn. Be sure to check out Blazer's Kids Corner for more information, and to get your very own junior firefighter certificate www.fire.qld.gov.au/kids/



Our Early Years classes from Prep to Year 2 celebrated this unique and special time in a child's life today at the WCC. This year's theme – "Early Learning, Everyone Benefits" recognises that for young children to grow and develop to their fullest potential, learning must be rich, real and relevant. This event has been celebrated in Queensland for 60 years – another milestone year. Thank you to our Early Years staff for their planning and preparation of this celebration of childhood learning and to the staff of WCC for including the St Joseph's students in the Big Birthday Bonanza activities today.



St Joseph's News & Reminders

- TUCKSHOP CLOSED -

Tuckshop will be **closed** for the last week of school

20 – 24th June

We apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause



St Joseph's Parish Church Weekend Services

Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 8:30am

For further inquiries, please contact
Pastoral Leader Kath 40699346

Enrolments 2017

Interviews are no being conducted for Prep, applications are still being accepted for years 1-6.

Please inform family & friends if they have children who are interested in Prep enrolments, to please contact our office ASAP as placements are almost at capacity.

Parents are asked to obtain an enrolment pack from the school office or download from our website www.stjosephs.qld.edu.au

June

Monday 20th June P&F Meeting

7.00pm

Thursday 23rd June Student reports emailed to
parents

Friday 24th June End of term 2

Early Arrival at School

Parents please be aware that playground supervision begins at 8.10am. Any students arriving prior to 8.10am are to wait on the seats in the eating area adjacent to the Staffroom.

In the interests of safety, children are not to be on the basketball court area unless supervised by a teacher.

Jumpers have arrived

School jumpers are in stock \$35
each and can be purchased from the
Office



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Ph. 07 4069 9500
Email: secretary.weipa@cns.catholic.edu.au
Web: www.stjosephsweipa.qld.edu.au

Class News

Year 1 News

In year one this week we talked about attending the Weipa Fishing Classic last weekend. We did an experiment in movement with materials including foil, pipe cleaners and sticks. We finished testing the cardboard planes that we made. We discussed tasks we are allowed to do by ourselves and explained how these have changed since we were younger. We practiced our skip counting and reading the time throughout the day. We had lots of fun at all of the different activities at Under 8's day.

Prep News

Preps really enjoyed the game Robots in Play is the Way. The children took turns to guide the blindfolded robot to find and collect the bean bags for their team. They had to really think about giving the best verbal directions in order to guide the robot precisely.

Preps reflected on their first semester at school as they completed their own student reflection. They identified their areas of progress and their strengths as they wrote about themselves at school.

The Preps had a really fun day participating in the various activities for Under 8's Day at Western Cape College. What a wonderful opportunity to be able to join in with the College and other communities from Weipa.

Year 2 News

A very exciting week as we went off on our first excursion to Red Beach and the Cultural Centre yesterday. We learnt many things about the scarred trees, the shell middens and why Red beach is such an important and sacred place. Our bus journey was fun and the Cultural Centre all taught us a few things about our Local Area. A special thank you to Miss Tari and Miss Kellie!

Year 3 News

Year three have been extending their knowledge about heat energy and have constructed their own solar ovens. They've been testing their designs with timed activities and have melted iceblocks and completely cooked a freddo frog! They've been learning about conductors and insulators and have had a wonderful time



Year 4/5/6 News

How time has flown this term. It is almost the end of the term already and I think everyone is looking forward to a well-deserved break. I am taking this opportunity to thank you all very much for your support and kindness. I am extremely proud of the achievements each child has made this year and the way they care for others. I sent a note home Wednesday but I wish to say it one more time, that I have learned just as much from them as they have learned from me.

Just a reminder that our class will be making damper for the NAIDOC week celebrations therefore we are asking for donations of flour, sugar and milk powder. We will be making damper on Monday. Thank you in advance for your generous donations. It will make the celebrations very special.

** STAR STUDENTS OF THE WEEK **

Prep... Summer Allyn & Olivia Besham

Year 1... Brendan Ward, Jackeal Day & Jimmy James Cox

Year 3... Kate Merkel & Lucas Hancock

Year 4 5 6... Brayden Keough & Jett Dawson

