

PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you to everyone for making our Opening Day a resounding success on Tuesday morning. This week I share with you the address I gave on Friday as way of saying thank you to all our community.

Good Morning and welcome Bishop James, Mr Bill Dixon, parents and friends, our guests, staff and most importantly our foundation students. It is lovely to share in this long awaited but very much blessed occasion.

Almost exactly twelve months ago I stepped off the Qantas flight from Cairns to visit Weipa for the first time whilst considering the Principalship for a new school being built at Weipa. What I saw when I stepped off the plane was a landscape that was all very familiar to me, the red earth and low scrub surrounding the airport. Shortly afterwards I was here in Weipa experiencing for myself the friendliness of the locals and the welcome of a community eager for their new school to open its doors.

On that first visit the school was just some concrete footing poured into a thick powder of red dust. The lovely crisp white bunting that went up on the perimeter fence displaying the artist's impression of the finished school was soon too, a lovely shade of orange/red.

From those very early days, I sensed a deep appreciation from the community that finally the school that the community had been advocating for many years was coming to fruition.

Whilst I can be the person who stands here today on behalf of the school, I stand here to speak for and of the wonderful and energetic people who helped the school become what you see today.

The Parish community: your tireless work in supporting an idea and your continued support and encouragement to this day as we forge a united parish community mindful of church and school.

To the team of Catholic Education Services Cairns: the amazing foresight of our Catholic Education Services team in setting up all the necessary framework and support systems for St Joseph's to function. I feel privileged to work for an organization that puts the needs of people first. This evident in the support we have particularly in the recruitment and relocation of staff to Weipa. On the days when I thought there was no way something could be done, until a phone call to the right personnel enabled a resolution to be found.

The Steering committee: You were the A team, the glue that kept everything going as you were the link between the Weipa community and the Catholic Ed Services as well a wonderful support to me personally in those first few months when I was here by myself.

Architects and builders: The concept of creating a 21st century learning space in probably one of the most remote locations was fraught with challenges. The beautiful learning spaces we have today are testament to understanding of the task you were given. I would also like to acknowledge the generosity of the numerous local businesses that have assisted us with everything from furniture and electrical equipment, from plumbing to electrical repairs

The parents: Your belief and trust in seeing on paper in a very tiny office last year what we visioned for your children.

The students: Your joy as you turn up every day to school for a brand new day of learning.

And last but not least the amazing team of staff that I have gathered here to help me at St Joseph's. Your professionalism and fantastic team work is a delight to come to work each day. From the very early days when the Alby was my daily work space juggling a laptop on a table in the corner trying to get internet connection, to the tiny office space that Jenni and I shared side by side during 50 enrolment interviews. I have been greeted happily every day, a joke and a laugh made of the utterly ridiculous and always a positive, never say die attitude to start again the next day.

Together you all enable us to ‘bring faith and learning to life’ every day for the children in our care.

The reflection of the readings from Mass last Sunday for Pentecost spoke of opening doors, letting the Holy Spirit into our lives, our hearts and our homes. I truly believe that we here at St Joseph’s have witnessed a unique and vibrant spirit develop in our school. A spirit, which truly does embody the mission of our catholic heritage where we strive to live out each day with humility, justice and compassion in all we do.

I feel proud and privileged to lead this very special family oriented school community.

May we all continue to be blessed with the gift of each other,

God Bless,

Rosie



News from the APRE

I would like to extend a very special thank you to all those who have helped or attended our Official opening on Tuesday. It was another special time for all of us here at St Joseph’s and it was wonderful to show our amazing school off to all the visitors. Bishop James, Ernest Madua Jnr and others were extremely impressed with what we have managed to achieve in such a short space of time and what a wonderful community we have at St Joseph’s.

Cross country will be held next Friday and there will be lots of information being distributed via newsletter and the Facebook page. Please make sure you have checked these and Mrs Vass will be seeking volunteer parents for Station Marshalls for the morning.

At the assembly today I spoke to the children about the safety of themselves and others when collecting their bikes of an afternoon. I have asked that students who are cycling to school to leave through the staffed gate. They are not allowed to leave without their parent if they are in attendance to collect them from school and bikes must be walked through the Drop, Stop, and Go zone.

AFL on Wednesday afternoons has started and it was lovely to see so many attending, but we were not sure if parents were aware that this is not a school organised event, so an adult must be present with your child when attending these skills sessions.

Next Tuesday all grades from Prep to Year 6 will be listening to a Child Safety Presentation by the Queensland Child Safety Ambassadors, Denise and Bruce Morcombe. This will begin at 9am in the flexible learning space. Parents are most welcome to attend. The presentation lasts for approximately 50 minutes which includes a short film.

Just a gentle reminder about our before school procedures. The children are not permitted to be in classrooms unless their teacher is present and are certainly not allowed on verandas or in the sports area. They are to sit on the seats outside the flexible learning space until duty commences at 8.20am. We have staff prayer each Thursday at 8.10am and teachers are not available unless it is an emergency.

Thank you all so much and blessings for a wonderful weekend,

Amanda

Cross Country Carnival

The St Joseph's Cross Country is next week! On Friday 27th May, classes will gather under the Basketball court by 8.40 am to begin the morning events with House War cries. We are asking for any parent volunteers who can assist in the morning to please see Mrs Vass early next week. Training sessions will run Tuesday & Thursday morning at 7.15 for a 7.30am start. Students are to meet Mrs Vass and Miss Libby by 7.15am at school in the outdoor area adjacent to the multipurpose room.

We have requested that all students bring running gear and a spare pair of shoes and socks in case the grass is wet in the morning. We are expecting good weather, but early morning dew may still be on the ground. Additionally, if there are any parents who can come along and run with the students for their training would be greatly appreciated.

On the day of Cross Country, we are needing parents to stand at checkpoints along the Cross Country course to direct children in the right direction. I have included a program for the day. Please remember these times are estimations, as some age groups may take longer than others to complete their course on the day. Remember your children will need to wear **SCHOOL SPORTS UNIFORM, COMFORTABLE RUNNING SHOES** and **THEIR SCHOOL HAT**. They will need their **WATER BOTTLES** too. Bring along your house spirit and let's have some fun!!!

Our tuckshop will be providing Burger Day with second lunch menu as normal – parent's if you haven't already please register online with Flexi Schools www.flexischools.com.au to place your Tuckshop order/s.

Length of courses:

Prep and Year 1	800 metres (see course map)	Year 2 and 3	2 kilometres (see course map)	Year 4, 5 and 6	3 kilometres (see course map)
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Program:

8:30am	Administration and marking rolls. Move to basketball court ASAP.
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8:50am	War cries to be held under the tents prior to the first race.
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9:00am	Race 1	Prep class
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9:15am	Race 2	Year 1 class
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9:30am	Race 3	Year 2 class
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9:50am	Race 4	Year 3 class
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10:20am	Race 5	Year 4 class
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Community News

Western Cape College
Year 4-6 Students
Production of



Music & Lyrics by
Elton John & Tim Rice


Book by
Roger Allers & Irene Mecchi

Additional Music & Lyrics by
Lebo M, Mark Mancina, Jay Rifkin, and Hans Zimmer

Based on the Broadway Production by
Julie Taymor

Evening Shows May 27th & 28th at 7pm
Matinee Show Saturday 28th at 3pm
Tickets \$10 a seat
Family of 4 \$20 for matinee only

Performing Arts Centre Doors open 15 minutes before show commences

 **Flexschools** online tickets, the administration office,
or at the door

Music Adapted & Arranged and
"Luau Hawaiian Treat" written by Will Van Dyke

Disney's The Lion King JR is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Script, music, and all other material © 2015 Disney



WEIPA WASTE WARRIORS

INVITE YOU TO
HELP CLEAN UP OUR TOWN!

SUNDAY, 22ND MAY, 2016
8:00AM – 9:30AM

MEET: ROCKY POINT BOAT RAMP OR
ADJACENT TO THE SQUASH COURTS

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR SUNSAFE CLOTHING,
CLOSED IN SHOES AND BRING
A BOTTLE OF WATER.

JOIN US FOR A FREE BBQ
AFTERWARDS AT ROCKY POINT!



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St Joseph's News & Reminders

MONSTER BOOK FAIR

All book purchases help us fundraise for other resources in our school. Pre-purchases can be made from the Book Fair catalogue sent home last week but more available from school. We have 2 volunteer parents to help man the shop but may need more please.

Wednesday 25th May

Book Fair opens 7:30am for sales to our students and families until 8:30ish

9am – 9:30am – Prep sales

9:30 – 10am – Year 1 sales

10am – 10:30am – Year 2 sales

(Morning Tea – not open)

11am – Whole school to meet in the Flexible Learning Area. National Simultaneous Reading of “I’ve got that hat”.

11:20am – Whole school to get their special hats from their bags and rooms and meet in the undercover area

Students to go back to class at approx. 12pm

1 – 1:30

1:30 –



Special Hat Parade



A friendly reminder to be making your hats over the next 4 days ready for the

Special Hat Parade

Which will take place after the Simultaneous reading on Wednesday 25th May 11.30am

Parents you are welcome to join us and we hope to see some special hats. Feel free to make one for yourself also and bring along.



NAIDOC SHIRTS

Orders close

Monday 23rd May 2017

Please ensure your order forms are returned to the office and payment has been made by direct credit as outlined on the bottom of the order form



Prep News

Preps were proud to celebrate the St Joseph's School official opening. The preps respectfully participated in this historic and special occasion in the life of our school and the Weipa community. Preps were presented with their commemorative certificates which they know are a special memento to keep forever. Preps recognise it is a unique experience to be the very first students in a school with brand new facilities.

Preps have made a monster mobile to decorate the multi-purpose room for the Book Fair. Preps eagerly viewed the display of books to compile wish lists. Thanks to those who helped set up the display.

The class has also been preparing for the cross country by training and familiarising themselves with the course. They know it is all about having a go and doing your best. The preps are very excited about their very first school sporting event.

Year 1 News

This week in year one we were pleased to share our classroom space as we all joined in the official opening of our school. We have been walking and running the cross country course a few times in preparation for the event next week. We have begun to arrange our display of monsters for next week's upcoming book fair. AFL was popular in Health and Physical Education and we are looking forward to our next session.

Year 4/5/6 News

What a very busy week indeed! This week in maths we have been learning about division and the methods of short and long division algorithms. It has been challenging but we are getting there slowly. In class we have been sharing the many ways we can show kindness to others and make a difference in the world, in our class, friendship group, homes and communities. There are many ways to do this and they don't have to be grand gestures. Just something as simple as taking the time to smile at someone and say good morning is enough to make someone feel important. If we are to all perform small acts of kindness like these every day, we can make the world an amazing place to live. Any parents in 4/5/6 who are able to volunteer at the Cross Country would be fantastic. Please let me know as soon as possible if you can.

THIS WEEKS STAR STUDENTS

PREP.... Summer Cox & Toby Abood

YEAR ONE.... Jessica Hoad, Samuel Hancock & Isabella Faxey

YEAR TWO.... Sammi Dellar & Ewan Hardt

YEAR THREE.... Alyssa Carlsen & Eva Payne

YEAR 4/5/6.... Whole Class Award



Year 3 News

This week we have been working hard on our Art projects, how to be active t-shirt designs for Health and many other exciting activities relating to lots of learning areas. We have some very creative and enthusiastic students who work hard each and every week.

Year 2 News

A week full of excitement, emotions, self-control, listening, tiredness, achievement and learning! How proud were all the parents and Staff of the way our St Joseph's students conducted themselves for our Opening on Tuesday. My sense of pride was enormous for everyone and I know it will be embedded in many of our hearts. In class we have worked hard on our number line strategy in Maths and much progress has been made due to perseverance and practice! We are exploring our Local Place of Weipa in History and looking at Sites of Significance and the meanings of many local names in the Weipa area. Interesting and great for research skills!

Can't wait for the Cross Country and **GO EMBLEY!!!**

STUDENT BANKING

Please have bank books in by **Tuesday** to your child's teacher. They will be collected early Wednesday morning and returned to your child on Thursday by their teacher. School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for students to learn about money and develop good savings habits.

*** Bell Times ***

8.30 School Starts

10.40-11.00am Morning Tea

1 pm-1.45 pm Lunch

3.00pm School Ends

School Assembly

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SPECIAL THANK YOU

*To Erica Hutchinson, Kris Wallace
& Peta Hancock for all your help
preparing morning tea & to Belinda
Hohns & Chris McInnes for
donating treats*

*For our Official Opening
From Susanne & Staff*

School Fees

**Overdue school fee notices will be
issued next week**

Payments to be made into the following account
using your 10-digit reference number *located on
the bottom of the remittance slip (no names
needed).*

BSB 084-352

AC-00001-8854

TUCKSHOP HELP NEEDED

We are in desperate need of
helping hands

Monday Wednesday & Friday

9-11am

Only need one volunteer each
day. If you can help...

PLEASE CALL SUSANNE

0429 698 245



Morcombe Visit

Tuesday 24th May

Book Fair & Special Hat Parade

Wednesday 25th May
11.30am

Cross Country

Friday 27th May
8.45am start

Art Show

1st June

Enrolments 2017

Applications are now being accepted for 2017 Years P-6.

Parents are asked to obtain an Enrolment Pack from the school office or download from our website.

Please inform family or friends if they have children who are eligible to enrol.

The cut off for Prep enrolments for 2017 is 27th May with interviews to commence 2nd June.

For more information please contact our office.