

## PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

The following poem is a thought provoking reflection on learning in a modern classroom:

### *A Child's Plea* (Original Author Unknown)



Today I did my math and science. I toasted bread, I halved and quartered, counted, measured, and used my eyes, ears and hands. I added and subtracted on the way. I used magnets, blocks and memory tray. I learned about a rainbow and how to weigh.

So please don't say - 'ANYTHING IN YOUR BAG TODAY?'

You see. I'm sharing as I play, to learn to listen and speak clearly when I talk to wait my turn and when inside to walk. To put my words into a phrase, to find my name and write it down. To do it with a smile and not a frown, to put my pasting brush away.

So please, don't say - 'WHAT NOTHING IN YOUR BAG TODAY?'

I learned about a snail and a worm. Remembered how to take my turn. Helped a friend when he was stuck.

Learned that water runs off a duck. Looked at words from left to right. Agreed to differ, not to fight.

So please don't say - 'DID YOU ONLY PLAY TODAY?'

Yes, I played the whole day through. I played to learn the things I do. I speak a problem, find a clue and work out for myself just what to do. My teacher's set the scene, and stay near-by to help me when I really try. They are there to pose the problems, and to help me think. I hope they will keep me floating and never let me sink. All of this is in my head and not in my bag.

It makes me sad to hear you say - 'HAVEN'T YOU DONE ANYTHING TODAY?'

When you attend your meeting today and do your work I will remember not to say to you - 'WHAT NOTHING IN YOUR BAG? WHAT DID YOU DO?'

### Future proofing your child

In a busy fast paced changing world where change is the only constant and knowledge is easily accessible, the concern bubbling up is how to ensure your child is truly prepared for the real world. The 21st century skills are very different from when we were at school. Many are just common sense, however this is not so common.

New Zealander Karen Boyes, is a well known writer and speaker on just this topic. In her workshops for parents, Karen explores some of the key behaviours and habits needed to be successful in the modern world. These include:

- Knowing how to question and problem solve,
- Thinking flexibly
- Manage oneself
- Listen with understanding & empathy, and
- Create and innovate



Just to name a few. Karen also speaks about the future jobs predicted and ways you can support your child at home and at school to ensure they are prepared for an ever changing world. Wilson McCaskill, author of the Play Is the Way program we have implemented here at St Joseph's has great article

<https://www.playistheway.com.au/img/cms/A%20Targeted%20Approach.pdf> that explores the same concept of future proofing your child. Wilson concludes in his article that "the more personally and socially capable the child the more likely he or she is to make the right decision".

I encourage all parents to take up the opportunity to meet with their child's teacher in the coming weeks to discuss not just their child's academic progress but more importantly their social and emotional learning journey here at St Joseph's.

Have a great week everyone and God bless.

Rosie

## APRE NEWS



As we start heading into the final weeks of the term it should be noted that there will be a lot of things happening around the school. As we try to keep you informed as quickly as possible it is also important to make sure you are reading all notes, emails and messages as they are distributed. The first important change is to the time of assembly and due to dismissal procedures we have changed the time to 2.30pm each Friday. Hope to see you there. A huge thank you to all those who have supported the Prep and Year One classes with their fundraising muffins and icy poles for Project Compassion.



### St Patrick's day

Next Thursday will see us celebrate St Paddy's day for the first time at St Joseph's and we are encouraging all students to dress up in green for the day. Let's see who can be the best Leprechaun in Weipa.

### St Joseph's day.

Early next week there will be an information sheet emailed to all families with the details for our St Joseph day celebrations on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March. In support of this day we are looking for some donations to help with the activities.

If you have any of the following items at home could you please send them in to Miss Stewart.

Wool scraps, material scraps, googly eyes, wooden spoons, empty matchboxes or coloured string.



### Holy Week

Holy Week is just two short weeks away. We will journey with Jesus through the events of this week, beginning with Palm Sunday and concluding with Good Friday. Prayer rituals will be held each day with classes and when a final timetable is complete notification will be sent home via email and/or the school facebook page. On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March a ritual will be held just before school closes for the Easter holidays.



### Parent Teacher interviews

Next week parents will have the opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss their child's progress so far this year. Parent-teacher interviews are a great way to find out how your child is going and show your interest in your child's learning and school life.

Parents are encouraged to play an active role in the education of their children and these interviews are an ideal forum in which to help enrich the learning opportunities for students and to build partnerships between home and school.

Throughout your child's time in primary and secondary school, you will be invited to attend parent-teacher interviews, once or twice a year. These interviews are usually just short meetings – about 10-15 minutes – between you and your child's teacher or teachers. Every parent is invited to attend at least one interview a year. It doesn't mean there's a problem.

Blessings,  
Amanda

# ... Community News ...

Andrew Chinn Concert: On Tuesday, March 15, 2016, Australian religious songwriter and singer, Andrew Chinn, will be visiting our school to share his songs with our children. Andrew's songs, such as "These Hands", "Rainbow" and "An African Blessing" are used in classrooms and liturgies around Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada. Parents/parishioners are warmly invited to be a part of the celebration of faith and fun. There is no charge for adults. The concert will take place in the Flexible learning Space, at 11:10-12:30 We look forward to seeing you there. For fans of Andrew he will have a selection of DVD's and CD's for sale [www.butterflymusic.com.au](http://www.butterflymusic.com.au)



Cape York Motorcycle Club Presents

## Family Fun Day & Come and Try Day

10am 13 March 2016

- Free Entry
- Lucky Door Prizes and Raffles

Slip-n-slide fun

Tammy Terrific Burgers

Ice Cream Van 11am-1pm

Bring your peewees and your 250's, whatever you have, for the most fun you can have on 2 wheels.

This day is for everyone! Come and get your free Recreation Licence.

For More Info Ph Carol 0419 210 339  
Glen 0429 698 003

\*Games both on and off bikes  
\*Gear for sale

## Year 4/5/6 News

In the Multi-age class this week we have been working extremely hard to complete writing assessment tasks. The students definitely have creative minds and vivid imaginations and have used these to create some wonderful stories. This week in maths we have been learning how to convert fractions to decimals and there have been some wonderful aha moments. So keep up the great work and keep discovering how much fun maths can be. Just a reminder to parents about parent/teacher interviews starting next week. I look forward to discussing all the progress your children are making in our great little class. Almost holidays and I am sensing the children are looking forward to a break :-)

### ... THIS WEEKS STAR STUDENTS ...

**PREP... Chelsea Steele & Elroy Spodnienski & Dion Williams & Reece Corcoran**

**YEAR ONE... Samuel Hancock & Samantha Guy**

**YEAR TWO... Samantha Dellar & Brock Blain**

**YEAR THREE... Alyssa Carlsen & Holly Jackson**

**YEAR 4/5/6... Jett Dawson & Bella Besham**



### ... PRINCIPAL AWARDS ...

**PATRICK DORAXY & SAMANTHA GUY**

## UNIFORM

From the very beginning of the year we have received feedback from both the parent and wider Weipa community as to how smart the children from St Joseph's look in their school uniforms. This is achieved by keeping the uniform requirements as simple, affordable and accessible as possible. I thank you, as parents for ensuring your children come to school each day looking smart and ready for their school day.

There have been a few incidences of children wearing different socks to school as part of their uniform. Our current school Uniform Policy stipulates that the children wear navy socks with both their everyday and Sports uniforms. This is applicable for both boys and girls alike.

So that we do not have a variety of socks being worn at school, I ask parents to check that children are compliant with our Uniform Policy and wear the Navy socks supplied by our Uniform Shop here at school.

The school uniform requirements can all be purchased from our school administration

## Prep News

Preps want to say a huge thank you to everyone at St Joseph's School for supporting our muffin sales. Through your generosity, the Preps raised \$90 for Project Compassion. The prep children continue to contribute to Project Compassion through their efforts to do something extra at home and make donations to our classroom Project Compassion box.

Preps have been developing their skills as speakers and audience members in Show and Tell. This term their topics have include 'Me as a baby, me now' and 'My Family'. These topics also link to History and the Preps are to be commended for their efforts in preparing and presenting their topics. Thank you to the Preps families for the wonderful support of the children in discussing these topics at home.

## Year Two News

We have been exploring how to use Google Earth to help us locate "our connection" in Weipa to places in Queensland and Australia as part of our Local Area topic in Geography. This has helped us work in pairs collaboratively and share our knowledge. Now we are working on locating our addresses on the local Weipa map as well as identify some Local places of interest. Our focus in Maths has been Bar Graphs and how we use them to help us pose questions to help us understand what they mean. The story of Zacchaeus from the bible has helped us all learn about forgiving others and that we can all make positive changes in our lives to be better people and peacemakers. Lots of learning happening!

## Year One News

This week we made some fruit juice icy cups to raise money to help others through Project Compassion. We started measurement in Maths this week and used our hands and feet to measure objects and compared our results. Our new reading strategy is Chunky Monkey which helps us to find two letter sounds and smaller words within words when we are reading.

## Year Three News

Year 3 have been busy working on some of their assessment pieces this week for English and Science. So far, the effort has been very impressive! We've been learning about plants in Science and important celebrations /commemorations in history. This week Ms Cassie and Mrs Stewart were involved in a Brigance Early Learning PD and have been collating our whole school data. While they were doing this, Mrs Simone Hansen had our class and she has raved about how lucky we are to have such an amazing group of young people. Thank you to our parent helpers this week too! Congratulations Alyssa and Holly for their awards this week on assembly

## School Assembly

Assembly will be held every Friday at 2.30pm



## BELL TIMES

8.30am School start

10.40am - 11.00am Morning Tea

1 pm - 1.45 pm Lunch

3.00pm School end

### 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.



### Reading

Thank you to all our parent volunteers for your help in getting home readers covered and ready to go out to students. It has been lovely to see some of our parents also volunteer to assist with reading groups at school. Please keep up the home reading and enjoy lots of books every night.



### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### MARCH 2016

Tuesday 15 Andrew Chinn visit

Thursday 17 St Patrick's Day

Saturday 19 St Joseph's Day

Sunday 20 Palm Sunday

Monday 21 Harmony Day

Thursday 24 Term 1 concludes

Friday 25 Good Friday

Sunday 27 Easter Sunday

Monday 28 Easter Monday

Term 2 begins Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April



### PE Timetable – Sports Uniforms

Class PE timetable has now been finalised. Sports uniforms are to be worn on the following days:

☑ Years Prep, 1, 2 & 3 Wednesday

☑ Years 4, 5 & 6 Thursday

Should you have any queries, please contact the school office.



### Uniforms

For those families that wish to purchase additional uniforms,

Day Uniforms

4 to 14 available,

Limited stocks size 8 boys.

Sports Uniforms

Sizes 4 to 10 sports.

Polos.

Size 12

Please call Jenni to organize pick up

WE now have EFTPOS for your convenience.

### School Fees

Thank you to all that have paid their school fees.

Book list invoices will be included in term two's School Fees that will be sent out early April.

For future school fee payments could you please pay all amounts into the following account using your 10 digit reference number located on the bottom of the remittance slip (no names needed).

BSB 084-352

Acc-00001-8854

### National Day of Action (NDA)

This year is the sixth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence and we have been invited to join WCC on a walk in support of this event next Friday 18th March. This annual day is Australia's key anti-bullying event for schools, and encourages all students to 'take a stand together' against bullying and violence in schools, the classroom and beyond. More details will be emailed home to families for your consideration.



### Parents and Friends Discernment

All families will have received an email this week with information and materials around the establishment and structure of our school Parents and Friends Association.

On Monday a further email will go home with a nomination form attached for anyone wishing to nominate for others for positions of the Parents and Friends executive/office bearers.

These positions are usually:

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Also with this email will be procedures as to how the nomination and voting process will work. Voting for these positions will occur at the March 21st meeting, which all parents of students currently enrolled at St Joseph's may attend



The Federation of  
Parents & Friends Associations  
of Catholic Schools in Queensland

### TUCKSHOP

We have received news that the long awaited fridges for the tuckshop will be here next week. Behind the scenes Susanne has been busy preparing yummy menus based upon the feedback from the parent surveys. This week an information letter will go out about the online ordering system we are using called Flexischools. This will give information of our online ordering system and details of how parents can access the tuckshop from home.



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