

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

EDITION 201705 WEEK 5, TERM 1 2017



Important dates for month of February & March ...

Cross Country Training

When: 7.30am every Tuesday / Thursday morning until Cross Country Carnival 31st March

Monday 27th February

Pancake Monday

Volunteers needed 8.30-11.30am in the Tuckshop to help with preparing and serving..

Tuesday 28th February

Liturgy for Ash Wednesday

When: 9.00am Where: Flexible Learning Space

Week 7 6-10th March

Laurel Eden School Counsellor visit

Monday 13th March

Mrs Saunders returns from Leave

Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th March

Wonders of Living Program

Friday 17th March

St Patricks Day

Sunday 19th March

St Joseph's Day

Monday 20th March

St Joseph's Day Celebrations

Friday 31st March

Cross Country Carnival / Last day of term

Easter Holidays commence 31st March, school resumes 18th April

Humility - Justice - Compassion

Ph. 07 4069 9500

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Boundary Road, Rocky Point QLD 4874 Postal: PO Box 1409, Weipa QLD 4874

News from Ms. Harrison...

Dear Families,

What makes St Joseph's a strong school community is our firm belief in making Jesus real in our everyday actions - how we show a friendly, welcoming, encouraging, saying sorry and thankful presence to others. An attitude of gratitude for our many blessings makes a huge difference in our lives. Our community is only as strong as the willingness of every member to look for the good in others, despite all our differences.

Our school motto "Bringing Faith and Learning to Life" remind us of the very purpose of our St Joseph's school family and the beliefs which hold us together.

We are united in working together to provide a quality education, which meets the needs of our students today, not an education which reflects our past. The world is a different place and I do not believe we fully understand the impact it is having on our children or us.

Recent world events have highlighted some of the fears facing people in a changing world – change that is happening at a pace we find disturbing, impacting on our ability to deal with it and making our feelings of anxiety increase. Experts tells us to be resilient, which is easier said than done.

So what can we do? I resolutely believe in the power of community – a community which works together, listens respectfully to one another, stays calm within the storm, keeps its sense of humour and shows compassion.

A deep belief in the integrity of each person, made in the likeness of God and our willingness to be the face of Jesus to others, despite all that life throws at us definitely makes a difference. Knowing the loving and forgiving nature of our God encourages us to forgive and show compassion to others.

Our faith in God is our bedrock – it is what holds us together when sometimes it seems that everything around us is falling apart. However, our faith needs to be continually nurtured and encouraged and we can do that through our school's active prayer life and through giving to others rather than always having a "what's in it for me" attitude. In these ways we stay more connected to our God and one another.

I pray that we are continually blessed with the wonderful school spirit so evident in our school community. It is that life giving spirit that gives us strength to continue to work together to build an even stronger school community as we grow.

Educating Leaders

Great Student Leadership doesn't just happen by accident. It needs to be nurtured by the right program and through supportive guidance from all in our school community. Our St Joseph's student leadership program is a tremendous opportunity for all students in their final year/s of primary school.

Our Year 5/6 students have begun developing their personal and public leadership skills, engaging in their leadership ministries and already leading our Friday afternoon assembly. At the **Leadership Prayer Assembly** today, the first of our Year 5/6 students will be commissioned as the student leaders of our school. We wish them well and look forward to watching them grow in confidence.

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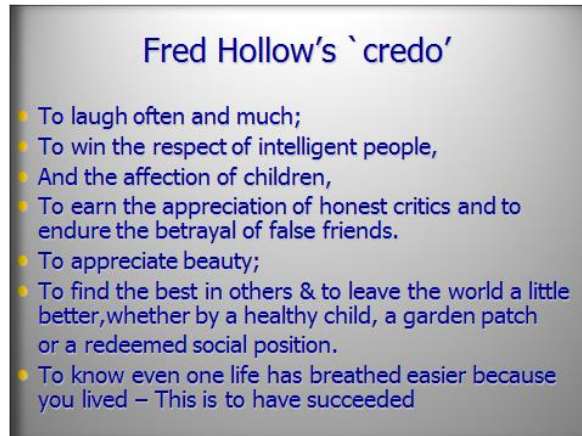
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Parents & Friends Association

Thank you to those parents who attended our first P&F Meeting **for the year** on Monday night. Our new P and F executive was formed for 2017 and inroads been made into the formation of committees to work on certain projects. There is still room for able volunteers to add their name to some of these committee groups. Please contact Donna Machan if you are able to lend a hand. The P&F is a valuable parent and school partnership and one way parents can be actively involved in our school. It is also an opportunity to learn firsthand just what is happening in all aspects of our school. We would love to see you at our meetings. When everyone works together – great things can happen for the benefit of your children.

Here is a thought for the day...



Have a great week and God bless,

Rosie

PRINCIPAL

...PANCAKE MONDAY...

Monday 27th February we are having a Pancake Monday (in lieu of Shrove Tuesday) in preparation for the Lenten season ahead. In our Christian faith, this day represents the last day before we prepare for the Lenten season, starting with Ash Wednesday.

We are having Pancakes at morning tea at the price of 50c per pancake.

Please make sure your child is aware of this and send money in with them. Pancakes will be available plain or with different toppings.

All money raised from this will go to the CARITAS charity we support.

We will need some Volunteers for this to be successful, so please if you are able to help between 8.30 – 11.30am Monday morning, phone Laura in the office 4069 9500.

Thankyou.



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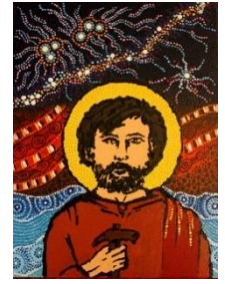
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APRE News..



Pancake Day

Next Monday 27th February, we will begin preparing for our Lenten Journey by celebrating Shrove Tuesday. This follows the tradition where people used up all of the fats in the house that they would go without until Easter. We will begin with a small prayer on Shrove Tuesday followed by distribution of pancakes to students at 10.30 am just before morning tea. Parent helpers are most welcome to assist in the preparation of the pancakes. Please see note from Miss Libby for arrangements for Monday and a call for volunteers to help with the cooking of pancakes.

Lent is a time for self-discipline. Throughout the 40 days of Lent, people are called to fast and pray. But just before Lent starts, has become a time of merrymaking, culminating on Shrove Tuesday, or Fat Tuesday, the day before Lent begins. The name Shrove Tuesday comes from the custom of ringing the 'shriving bell' to summons the people to church to be 'shriven,' that are to confess their sins at the beginning of Lent. At that time, certain foods like eggs, milk, meat and rich buttery dishes were given up for the duration of Lent. One way that they used up the eggs, milk and fats in the house was to add flour to make special pancakes. In England, the popularity of pancakes caused Shrove Tuesday to be called Pancake Day, a tradition we also follow here in Australia.

Ash Wednesday Liturgy

Our Ash Wednesday liturgy will be held next Tuesday, 28th February at 9.00 am. Everyone is most welcome to attend. (Remember this is only a liturgy with the distribution of ashes). Ash Wednesday begins our special time of Lent.

Ash Wednesday begins the forty days of preparation for celebrating the resurrection of Jesus. The word 'Lent' actually comes from the old English word meaning "springtime". In Australia, in the Southern Hemisphere, Lent usually falls in the season of Summer and Autumn and the experience of what comes with springtime is therefore different. However, it is still a time with rich meaning and symbols. Lent is a time for strengthening our faith, a time to reflect on who we are and where we are going. It is a time of quietness and prayer, a time of penance and meditation, a time to become aware of our strengths and weaknesses. During Lent we try to make a conscious effort to prepare ourselves for Easter. We can do this by increasing our prayer, helping others, fasting, giving up things we particularly like, and supporting Project Compassion.

Lent urges us to identify and walk with Jesus as he travels towards Jerusalem and the place of his death and resurrection. In the spirit of renewal and conversion, we observe Lent by reflecting on the central events of Jesus' life and welcoming the opportunity to grow through changing our lives.

Blessings,

Amanda

A prayer for the week:

As art is a journey of discovery, Lord
so may I grow more aware this day
of your life-giving presence.



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Parents & Friends Committee...

Our new P&F Executive and Sub-Committees:

President: Donna Machan

Vice President: Nikki Di Costa

Treasurer: Michelle Merkel

Secretary: Kate Mellner

Sustainability Committee: Elissa Nash & Kylie Argent

Grants Committee: Sarah Ward & Kylie Abood

**Annual
General
Meeting**



**WE NEED
YOUR HELP**

Parents
and Friends

**We need 4 people to form a
Fundraising/Social Committee**
To organise our major fundraiser event (STEAM)

**We need 2 people to form a
Grounds & Maintenance team**
Working with the Sustainability Committee you will
organise at least 2 working bees during the year

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Classroom News..



Prep

We have had a great week in Prep. We have been focussing on kindness. We've been learning how we use language to express ourselves and gave examples of how we show kindness and role played some scenarios in our groups. In reading, we have learnt about Lips the Fish who reminds us of the strategy of sounding out words beginning with the first sound. A focus in reading and writing has been learning how words are groups of letters from the alphabet with spaces in between them. We read the Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle and learnt about what quantities of food were eaten on the different days of the week. In Maths, we have been matching objects with numerals, writing digits and learning about place value. We had a lesson with Miss Miller using numbered fish (Maui) which were identified and arranged in the order of place value. We have been learning how technology is things created by people to make things easier and solve problems for example water pipes in our houses to get water easily. We revised things we need to stay alive and our five senses in Science. We have been learning some new songs for the Liturgy next week. Thanks to Miss Cass who has visited our class this week and has been doing some fun activities in Prep with literacy and numeracy focuses.

Year 1

This week we have been focusing on being friendly and kind towards each other by saying and doing nice things. We focused on the story called "Meanies" by Joy Cowley. The children have had to cut out a sentence from the story and then put it in the correct order. We used this book to guide our discussions around being nice and treating others as we would like to be treated – Our School Convent. We have also been looking what a sizzling start is and creating wonderful exciting endings to help assist the start of our narrative writing. We have also looked at many blends and the children have then written the blends in sand focusing on letter formation and the recognition of sounds. This week we have started with the children marking the roll in the morning as Miss Henderson marks it on the computer, it is amazing to see how confident they are. In mathematics, we have continued on with counting in twos, fives and tens by doing many dance actions to help recognise and remember the number patterns. The children have had a great time with Mrs. K while Miss Henderson was away doing some other work.

Year 2

In Yr 2 this week, we have been continuing to partition numbers to increase our understanding of the value of numbers and what each number is worth on a H T O chart. Great success with this! I have set tasks on Study ladder so we have had quite a few sessions logging in and many students are well on the way to completing these. Our focus in Religion was how to be Peacemakers based on the bible story of "The Forgiving Father" and how we can do this every day. This takes courage and it is not always easy, so this was a good class discussion about our Golden Rule. For our Science and Writing task, we worked with a partner to write a report about an insect, this will prepare each student for writing their own report next week. Some great researching is obvious and it is so helpful to work cooperatively with others and share ideas. Everyone enjoyed our Art activity to create a butterfly or dragonfly, some very creative ideas and fantastic language from this! Yr 2 Superstars are on fire!!!

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Year 3

Welcome to Mrs Rachel Clements who has replaced Mrs Saunders while she's away. She's been amazing and the students have really enjoyed having her. We had a record 100% attendance at this week's Student Prefect Lunch and Miss Cass made fried rice for the class picnic which was 1000x times tastier than her horrible bone broth the week before. In English the students have just started their first assessment piece which is an imaginative narrative. In Maths this week, Year Threes have extended their practise of addition with and without regrouping to ensure all students could get the concept or be extended. Next week we start subtraction. The rule is "If there's more on top, no need to stop. If there's more on the floor, go next door and borrow 10 more!" Next Week Cass will fly to Cairns for complete further training and a leadership program. Mrs Rachel Clements will have the Year 3 class fulltime.

Year 4

The Fab Fours have been learning about fractions this week in Maths. We learnt about equivalent fractions, that the denominator tells us how many groups to break the whole into, and also by looking at the denominator it shows us which fractions are bigger or smaller. We ended the week with some fun Maths games. In Science we are continuing our experiments about materials, whether they repel, soak or absorb water, as well as the tensile strength. Technology has us looking at renewable and non-renewable resources. Our novel, "Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing" is nearing the end and we are making connections with the book and ourselves. Mrs Bienvenu continues teaching with us next week.

Year 5 - 6

Week 5 has been exciting and productive! We have been working hard on our Choose-Your-Own-Adventure stories and creating our first drafts. They are sure to frighten Miss Cook! We have been focussing on prefixes, how these can help us to spell and know the meaning of words. In Maths we are making our own word problems, using mathematical language to create meaningful questions. We conducted two scientific investigations to learn more about yeast as a microorganism. We learnt that it produces a gas when mixed with water and sugar, and that it loves the warmth! Not too hot, not too cold, but juuuuuust right. We are all keyed up to make bread next week and know the science behind it.

Reminder - Cross Country..

The Cross Country date has been set for the last Friday of the Term (31st March). Cross Country Training has commenced and will be held each Tuesday & Thursday morning until Cross Country... Training will start at 7.30am, please wear your running shoes, bring a water bottle and remember to pack your school uniform to change into afterwards.

A schedule for the day will be available in coming weeks. If you can assist in any way with training, Carnival set up or duties throughout Carnival day, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Turner mturner@cns.catholic.edu.au



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Prep..	Jayce Christie, Ashton Childs + Sylvie Hynes
Year 1..	Mya Ward, Summer Alleyn + Olivia Price
Year 2..	Brendan Ward + Isabella Fahey
Year 3..	Jessica Hynes + Swaroop Bhat
Year 4..	Alyssa Carlsen + Kate Merkel
Year 5 – 6..	Brianna Peet + Emelia Haardt

Tuckshop needs volunteers please...

Our Tuckshop would love some helping hands each day, if you can lend a hand please contact Thu in our Tuckshop on 4069 9500...

From Karen in the Library...

We are still in search of any fishing magazines laying around that they would like to donate to the school, we would love to receive them...

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