

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

EDITION 2017/15 WEEK 5, TERM 2 2017



Important dates ...

✓ Friday 26th May - Sorry Day

✓ Thursday 1st June - Ribbon Day for Student Protection

✓ Friday 9th June - Track & Ball Games Athletics Carnival

✓ Friday 16th June - Field Athletics Carnival (Years 3-6 only)

✓ Friday 23rd June - Last Day Term 2 School resumes 10th July



Thank you...

P&F would like to thank all the mums that helped on the Mother's Day Stall last week. A very special thank you to Rachel Steel in particular who organised the entire stall.

Humility - Justice - Compassion

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News from Ms. Harrison...

As Principal of our school community, there are plenty of opportunities to receive feedback from parents about the experiences their children have at St Joseph's. In the majority of cases the experiences are positive and it is always rewarding to hear these stories.

Naturally, at times children may experience a hiccup or two along the way. Whatever the issue is, whether it be strained relationships amongst peers; a drop in effort levels or a breakdown in communication between school and home. The teachers, admin staff and especially myself regard receiving this information very useful in order to seek and implement positive solutions. The least useful information is anonymous contributions which cannot be responded to at all. I urge all parties to refer to our school communications policy which guides the best way that smooth communication can occur between home and school. Here is the link to the policy on our website:-

[Parent Communication](#)

I will always encourage parents who may have a genuine concern with a school orientated issue or activity to share this with those who can actually create solutions. There is no gain in discussing perceived or preferred outcomes with others who cannot make a change or a difference. In any given day, many decisions are made in relation to the operation of the school and its associated extra-curricular activities. I know that every decision I make or those of others in positions of responsibility are not going to please everyone. However, we do ask that you understand that there is always a very good reason behind the decisions we make and always in the best interests of the wellbeing and learning of children. Many factors can affect the decision making process, such as OHS and Risk Management regulations, which are not always clearly evident to those not associated with education. A school community is a complex body involving, administration, Parish, Catholic Education Office, teachers, support staff, visiting specialists, parent groups, students and community organisations. Add to this mix our remote and very isolated location and one realises that we face challenges daily which have to be resolved as best we can with the resources available to us. As educators of children, we understand the concerns of parents and we ask that parents in return understand that roles of the teacher continue to become more demanding and complex. The education of our students is a partnership.

Another important point is to keep an open mind about what you hear. We love and cherish our children, however it is wise to remember that they can sometimes embellish and misinterpret things. Checking "stories" with those concerned in a courteous manner usually resolves any misunderstandings that may occur.

Don't forget our Information session for parents on Monday night at 7pm on 21st Century Classrooms. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Finally, congratulations to students who are running in the Peninsula cross-country event today in Cairns. I am sure Delphina, Patrick, Damian and Mia will represent St Joseph's well.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Rosie

PRINCIPAL

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WE NEED HELP IN OUR TUCKSHOP... If you have some spare time in the mornings from 9am, even if it is just half an hour, please write your name in the Roster we have placed on the Noticeboard to help Thu in the Tuckshop.

Remember, many hands make light work ☺

We appreciate every bit of assistance..

If anybody has any old uniforms that are torn, damaged or irreparable we are in need of the uniform fabric for a craft activity to fundraise for charity. Any old or disused uniforms can be left at the Administration office with Ms Harrison. Thank you.

 **Your
donation
is greatly
appreciated**

Prayer for the Week

God be with our family,
From the youngest to the oldest,
Lighting up our relationships,
Sowing grace into our troubles.

God be with our family,
Weaving love into our work,
Our rest, and our play.

Amen

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We say goodbye to another week and I truly hope that Mother's Day was something special and rewarding for all our mums. This week I would like to say a very big thank you to those parents who were able to complete the surveys for me and appreciate your patience.

Next week will see us begin some of the ICASS testing for those students who registered their interest. On Tuesday they will be completing the Digital Technologies test and I will be in contact with you via email to let you know when we will be undertaking the tests.

In week 9 we will have some visitors from Natural Fertility Services in Cairns visiting us to undertake and conduct the Wonder of Living Program (including Year 5 & 6 Puberty talks). Natural Fertility Services Cairns will present a Personal Development Program based on the "Wonder of Living" series. NFS is a Catholic Diocesan Service and has been educating in the area of age appropriate sexuality for over twenty years in the Cairns diocese. The program is values-based and family-orientated and has the full support of Bishop James Foley. The presenters are accredited Family Life Educators. Students will view a movie and then spend time in discussion.

Parents are a child's primary source of formation regarding their sexual development and this program seeks to assist parents in this area. **Parents are most welcome to attend the movie session with their child.**

A one hour '**Parents Only Session**' will be held on **Wednesday 14th June 7.00pm – 8.00pm**. This session will provide you the opportunity to understand the program and how it can support and encourage the relationship between parent and child in this vital area of development.

The objectives of the program are:

- To **provide** an opportunity for students, parents and teachers to obtain a greater knowledge base and confidence in discussing personal development/sexuality issues.
- To **provide** students, parents and teachers with the opportunity to discuss openly personal development and sexuality issues.
- To **encourage** communication between students, parents and teachers.

More information will be distributed at the beginning of Week 8 for parents in the form of a letter and permission strip. It is vitally important that this is returned and we encourage you to attend the parent session the evening before.

As you may also be aware from last week's newsletter Rosie is taking some long service leave from Week 7 until the end of Term 2. During this 4 week period, I will be Acting Principal and will be replaced as the Year 3 teacher by Mrs Amanda Scicluna. We have made every effort to maintain consistency with the class and as Amanda is known to the students through the Arts lessons we felt this was valuable. I will still have daily contact with the students when teaching the Religion lessons so they will not be without Cassie's or my presence. We trust that you are aware we have not come to this decision lightly and we will be available anytime to catch up if needed.

Reminders:

Parent Information Sessions being held this term:

- Contemporary Learning environments – Monday 22nd May
- Reporting & Parent Portal – Tuesday 6th June
- Wonders of Living – parent session Wednesday 14th June 7-8pm
- 1:1 Devices – Tuesday 20th June

Thank you and blessings for a wonderful weekend,

Amanda

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Classroom News..



Prep

In Prep this week we enjoyed participating in the whole school Wildlife Art Show. Leading up to this, we have looked at wildlife around Weipa and this week Miss Cass came and talked to us about Weipa Wildlife Care. She showed us some of the animals that have been in care and how they have been cared for. Prep students were very excited to see a real bearded dragon Miss Cass had brought with her. Throughout the week, we have been looking at short texts like signs, long texts that tell a story and imaginary texts. We have been practicing writing letters as well as making word lists together that rhyme with the words sat, pan and jet. This week we have been learning about vowels and saying words together while clapping the syllables. We have been learning about number line and filling in the missing numbers. We have been playing snap games with the days of the week. We have been matching quantities to numerals as well as matching tangram shape puzzles. In Science we had mystery objects and had to work out what they were without looking. With these objects, we explored the materials they were made from including wood, plastic and metal. We looked at some of their properties including their colour, size and weight. Prep would like to ask if any families have any children's role play items that they'd like to donate (to Prep and Year One) we'd be pleased if you could bring them in. I'd also like to thank parent helpers who have been able to do reading in the mornings.

Year 1

Our focus this week was on showing respect towards others and doing our best. This week all of the students should be very proud of themselves for the effort they have all put into creating their wildlife art creations, for our school art show. In English, our big book this week was called "Mrs Wishy-Washy". We have also been focusing on writing and always putting in our best effort. In geography, we have looked at the seasons in Arnhem Land and discussed what we could do during each season. We have a new book for our homework this week. All homework sheets, from now on, will be glued into a red and blue lined book, so the children have the chance to write a sentence using their spelling words. Please remember to record all home reading in their reading folder. To help support our Prep and Year One students with role playing, we are asking if anyone has any children's dress ups they would like to donate to help assist us. Thank you in advance.

We would love your help! We will continue with parent reading every morning from 8:30 - 9:00 am if any parents are available to help, you can come in on any day your available. Thank you all for your wonderful support.

Year 2

This week our class has continued to enjoy the History presentations each student has presented about a local place of interest. The quality of the students speaking skills and research has been amazing and I know that all our class have learnt something new about many places around Weipa. Many comments from parents have been positive about it connecting the places they love to go with some historical aspect. Thank you parents for your support and guidance with this task. In Maths we have been busy measuring with different units of length and learning how to use a ruler to measure. We learnt what area means by measuring the surface of our feet and hands and enjoyed measuring the height of ourselves and a partner and many objects in our room. In Religion we have been exploring Old Testament stories from the bible, Noah's Ark was very appealing to all. We learnt about a covenant and how this applies to our covenant at St Joseph's. The Art Show was amazing and displayed such depth in our artistic abilities across the school. Busy week but lots of learning happening!

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Year 3

This week we have worked hard on our manners and what a good learner looks and sounds like. Mrs Saunders and Miss Cassie have reviewed with us our commitment to being a learner who is ready to learn. We have also started working on our Technology assessment portfolios and have revised in Religion the Sacrament of Baptism. In Maths we have worked on our addition strategies and being able to explain our mathematical thinking when solving problems.

Year 4

What a terrific week we have had in Year 4. We completed our Plants in Action Science unit, and drew the life cycle of a flowering plant to demonstrate EVERYTHING we learned this term. This week our seeds have started to sprout so we could see this life cycle in action. We practised our problem solving skills by solving some tricky Maths riddles. Sadly, we finished reading our class text, Charlotte's web. We really did not want the story to end. We are applying what we learned by creating a character profile for Wilbur or Charlotte. In Religion, we retold the story of Joseph and the Coat with some fantastic word choices and pictures. We explored the message of this narrative and identified how this message is relevant to us today at St Joseph's. Can't wait for next week!

Year 5 - 6

This week has just flown by! We continued to focus on persuasive texts and wrote persuasive letters to Ms Harrison, trying to convince her to add more amazing things to our school. Some students wrote about how incredible it would be to have a swimming pool, others wanted a sushi bar, and some begged for a woodwork class! There were heaps of fantastic ideas and superb uses of persuasive techniques. Next week we will start researching and writing our final persuasive pieces; speeches on whether Australian schools are better than French schools! Maths was very tricky this week and we made good use of our "thinking bands" whilst we learnt to add fractions. Year fives added fractions with the same denominator and year sixes extended themselves to add fractions with different denominators. We found that knowing all about equivalent fractions came in very handy for the latter! Our science unit has raised a few questions about what defines a solid or liquid. Next week we will study gases and add to our knowledge and questions so far! Early in the week we had a special visit from Miss Cook's grandparents who have travelled all the way to Weipa from Melbourne. They were very interested in our religion unit and loved the world that we made about Jesus. Finally, the art show was thrilling. Thank you to all parents, carers, family and friends who made this a successful evening. All year 5/6 students should be very proud of their creations as they really shone on the night.

Cross Country - Cairns

Today we celebrate 4 students representing St. Joseph's School, Weipa participating in the Peninsula Cross Country held in Cairns at TAS.

10 Year Old Girls – Mia Wright
11 year Old Boys – Patrick Dorahy
11 Year Old Girls – Delphina Day
12 Year Old Boys – Damien Parr

We wished them every success and are very proud of all their efforts and training.

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Prep..	Summer-Lee Van pelt, Lopeti Huni + Nate Robinson
Year 1..	Evan Ah Shay, Lincoln Scikluna + Tre' Bobongie
Year 2..	Jessica Hoqd + Sisco Bosuen
Year 3..	Jasmine Scikluna + Jaiden Kappu
Year 4..	Alyssa Carlsen
Year 5 – 6..	Ava Steele + Jedda Booth

Influenza Vaccination and Prevention Measures

Queensland Department of Health has issued a request to disseminate information to schools so that staff and parents/guardians are informed, prepared and proactive as we enter the influenza season.

The Department of Health advises:

With the influenza season just around the corner it is an opportune time to actively encourage influenza vaccination. This year the vaccine covers two strains of Influenza A and two strains of Influenza B. The inclusion of a second Influenza B strain provides additional protection for staff, students and the school community as it is Influenza B that particularly affects younger age groups.

As you are aware, the sustained and close learning environment and boarding accommodation (when applicable) in schools increases the likelihood of infections spreading. We know that once influenza has been introduced to a school it spreads easily and can result in a significant number of affected students and staff. Increased awareness and ongoing attention to prevention and control measures, such as vaccination and good hygiene, are steps that we can all promote to reduce the impact of influenza.

Queensland Health is encouraging staff and students to be vaccinated for influenza as well as promoting other prevention and control measures, such as using tissues for coughs and sneezes and hand washing. Resources and information on seasonal flu including a poster for schools (attached) can be found on the [Queensland Health website](http://www.health.qld.gov.au).

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Spread fun not flu!

Even healthy kids can get seriously sick from the flu and they can spread it to others.

To learn more visit
www.qld.gov.au/flu



Protect your child and others this flu season:

- Keep sick children at home
- Teach children to wash their hands and cover their coughs and sneezes
- Vaccinate—children over six months can be vaccinated.



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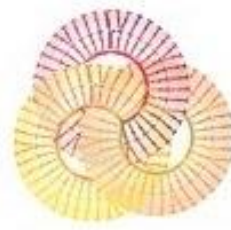
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Wholefood, Health and Wellness workshops running this month

Nikki Di Costa Health



All you need to begin or further develop your wholefood, unprocessed, low sugar diet, your holistic health and wellness status. Maybe you have all this sorted but just need extra inspiration or a refresher.

A 2 part workshop which runs as 2 separate 2.5-3 hour sessions on May 24th and June 1st at 630pm.

Topics covered include

- How to implement a wholefood, low sugar and chemical/additive free diet that is sustainable in a remote setting with a busy family life.
 - Debunking popular diets and health theories that leave us confused and frustrated.
 - Debunking weight loss theory to work towards healthy and long term and sustainable weight loss and maintenance
 - Easy staple recipes and kitchen and lifestyle procedures to maximise sticking to a healthy diet and lifestyle where the wheels stay on!
 - Diet and lifestyle essentials for stress and sleep management, hormone balance, optimal mood, energy and happiness
 - An introduction to gut, adrenal and hormonal health, essential oils and alternatives to chemicals in the home.
- The first session is focused on nutrition, the second on lifestyle, stress, sleep and wellness, and other body system theory. Cost is \$120 for the both sessions or \$70 for one session.

A yummy wholefood supper will be served; sessions include comprehensive notes and recipes and the opportunity to network with like-minded Weipa families.

Limited places remaining so book ASAP. Contact Nikki Di Costa to book or with queries on 0400 884 404 or at ndchealth@iinet.net.au



Kylie Argent is Hosting Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

When: Friday 26 Ma

Where: 13 Anzac Ave, GOLF LINKS ESTATE

Time: 10am -12 noon

If you have a favourite morning tea item you would like to cook and share feel free to bring along a plate of food

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Who will you Relay for?



Register your team and raise money to help beat cancer!

Weipa Relay For Life

22 & 23 July 2017
Andoom Oval



Follow us on Facebook

facebook.com/weiparelayforlife

You can make a difference and give hope for a cancer free future. By taking part in Cancer Council's Relay For Life you will be raising money to fund cancer research and provide support services for patients and their families.

Join your community in an incredible overnight experience celebrating cancer survivors, honouring loved ones, and taking positive steps to fight back against cancer.

Get involved, visit relayforlife.org.au!



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