

# ST JOSEPH'S PARISH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

EDITION 201724 WEEK 4, TERM 3 2017



## Important dates ...

✓ Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August Mary McKillop Liturgy 12.30pm

✓ Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August – School Photos

✓ 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> September – School Dentist Visit



### Earn and Learn is back!!!!

The program involves our school community getting to stick together and collect the stickers which becomes transferrable into educational equipment and resources for our school from MTA.

We are asking you to take part and start collecting the stickers from Woolworths from Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July. There will be a box in the School Office where you can drop your stickers and sticker charts into or drop off to the office. The more we collect the more resources we can purchase. For every \$10 spent you receive one sticker. So start collecting from Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July.

Feel free to drop them off to the office to Aimee.



***Humility - Justice - Compassion***

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## News from Ms Harrison..

Dear Families,

What a massive two weeks it has been for Catholic Education in the Cairns diocese hosting the state launch of Catholic Education week last week and a National Symposium on Teaching and Learning this week. Catholic education really has a strong and vibrant presence in far north Queensland.

This week all the principals from schools in the Cairns diocese gathered for our annual conference at Mission Beach. The conference explored how school leaders can inspire cooperation, trust and change in leading our school communities. At the forefront of the messages from all the keynote speakers was the importance of leading our catholic schools communities in partnership with our parents, clearly focused on quality relationships to inspire learning, growth and change for our children.

Over the past four weeks I have been conducting interviews for the 2018 Prep class and meeting for the first time new families to St Joseph's. One of the things I ask all new families is "What is it that has drawn them to enrol their child at St Joseph's?" The answer to this question gives credit to you, our existing families because almost all of the new parents express in their response that it is the feedback and positive experiences you have passed on to them out in the local Weipa community.

This week we acknowledge our school P and F for the work they have carried out in improving and beautifying our school surroundings. We especially thank Elissa Nash and Kylie Argent for their expertise and many hours spent preparing for the tree planting last Friday. The children have been delighted to take on the responsibility of planting and watering the variety of trees which were sourced for this day. This has been a lovely way for the children to experience firsthand the value of stewardship and respect for the nurturing and care of the natural environment. In years to come these trees will be a lasting reminder of the wonderful spirit of our foundation parents in establishing St Joseph's Weipa. Thank you.



Have a great week everyone,

*Rosie*

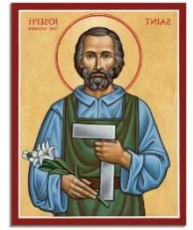
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Last week was such a wonderful celebration of our journey at St Joseph's and I truly hope all of our families were thrilled to see the work the students put into creating their Catholic Education week figurines. Next week we will see us celebrating the Feast day of our very own Saint – St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

We are planning a liturgy to be held at 12.30pm on Tuesday and welcome anyone who would like to attend.

### **Feast Day of Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross - Tuesday 8th August**

An Ordinary Australian who did extraordinary things for God...

The feast day of St Mary MacKillop will be celebrated on Tuesday the 8th August. Mary was an ordinary Australian like each of us but did extraordinary things for God.

The Cross was always a special sign to Mary. Her life was not easy. Like Jesus she suffered but always trusted in God. Mary believed God would provide everything she needed to do her work in helping the poor. Mary MacKillop helped homeless people, hungry people and taught children about God's love. She was kind and loving to every person she met as if she was meeting Jesus himself. Mary MacKillop used to say, "Never see a need without trying to do something about it."

Mary saw a great need to tell children about God's love for them and so began teaching in a small stable in Penola, South Australia. Soon she gathered other women around her who also wanted to teach children about God and Jesus – together they became the Sisters of St Joseph.

Mary was canonised as our First Australian Saint in October 2010. She is a great example to all of us. During my recent visit to Sydney I was very blessed and grateful to have spent time at Mary MacKillop Place including having mass and prayer in the chapel where Mary MacKillop is buried during week one of this term.

### **EARN AND LEARN**

Please don't forget to start collecting your stickers from Woolworths. This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school– and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.



From Wednesday 26th July to Tuesday 19th September or while stock lasts, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent. Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it's complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school. There are sticker sheets available from teachers in classrooms. At the end of the promotion, we'll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students.

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Just a reminder that I will also be away next week undertaking some study in Brisbane which relates to the Catholic Identity project we are currently involved in through our Diocese. This intensive study will provide us with the background to the project and how we can move forward as a school.

**Australia Zoo** talks were also attended this week at Western Cape College and what a great experience it was to listen to the Irwin family – Terry, Bindi and Robert speak about crocodile safety and how to attend to a snake bite. Some of us were extremely lucky to have our photos taken. We can never be too careful.

We were lucky enough also to have been given some free copies of the Crikey magazine so Mrs Smith will catalogue these into the library for reading. If you are interested at all in the trapping and tracking research being carried out with crocodiles you can access the following link below. This will take you to the information and a daily diary of what the Irwin's are doing during this year's research period and other history relating to crocodile research.

<http://www.australiazoo.com.au/conservation/projects/crocodiles/>

**National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August.**

Miss Tari has been busy co-ordinating our Year 5/6 leaders to organise some activities that all the children can partake in during the breaks this Friday. This day is all about sharing culture with the school and showing pride. Before school the students will prepare and set up the activities as follows:

Morning tea – face painting – ATSI children to paint the other students faces or hands.

Second break – a variety of Indigenous games

Thank you and blessings for a wonderful week ahead,

Amanda

**Prayer for the week:**

God of all creation,  
as we journey together in this Great Southern Land,  
we pray for healing forgiveness and unity,  
creating a path of good will, with justice and compassion.  
Jesus through the power of your love,  
You have given us the courage, wisdom and strength  
to share our gifts and talents in humility.  
In peace and understanding we share with each other.  
Creator Spirit, we come together in prayer and thanksgiving  
for the many blessings we have received.  
Allow your Spirit to wash over us and give us strength,  
to walk together, as one.

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**Prep..** We've had a busy week in Prep with lots of fun filled learning activities. In Science we continued monitoring the weather and recorded our observations. We did a 'rain cloud in a jar' experiment. We monitored our plants growing, making sure that they have had sunlight and water throughout the week. We are still waiting for our strawberry plants to surface. We looked at different types of rocks from the Year 3 class. The Year 2 class came in and read stories that they had written about Tiddalick the frog to us. In Technology, we got to watch R-Vac the robot vacuum cleaner demonstrate cleaning the Prep carpets as we learnt how digital technology can make some jobs easier for people. We practiced counting forwards and backwards from 0-20 from any given number on the number line, recognising shape and counting collections in our group work. We all did an oral presentation about the book called Mrs Wishy Washy by Joy Cowley. In our presentation we talked about events that happened in the beginning, the middle and at the end of the story. We continued with our Perceptual Motor Program (PMP). In our rotations we did Reading Eggs, sight word snap, reading groups, writing, spelling, dramatic play and fine motor activities. This week also included our National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) day and we had lots of fun selecting activities like face painting, cultural games and activities.

**Year 1..** This week the students have read the story called "If you meet a Dragon..." by Joy Cowley. We have started looking in more depth about how to write an acrostic poem. In Mathematics, the students have continued focusing on addition and subtraction and we have learnt more about what makes a calendar and why we need a calendar. The students have also written an addition number story and completed some additions using a calculator, the students were engaged and very excited they got to play with a calculator. We will be learning about 3D shapes next. We have also continued with the Perception Motor Program focusing on each student's motor development. In Science, the pea seeds have grown so fast that we have decided to plant them in the school garden and watch them grow there. In Religion, we have been doing a few minutes each day of Christian meditation, the students are enjoying this. We will continue with student reading in the Flexible Learning Area between 8:40am and 9:00am. Thank you to all of the parents for your continued support with reading in the mornings. Remember our Library day is on Friday, if your child forgets to bring their library bag in on a Friday, please feel welcome to see Mrs. Smith during the week to change them.

**Year 2..** This week has flown by but we have had a few highlights. The Irwin visit to WCC was really enjoyed by everyone and when we arrived home we had a brainstorm of ideas and what we all learnt about. Every student wrote an informative retell about their experience, using some descriptive words and very impressive sentence construction. Well done kids! We are going to type this up into a book for our class library collection. We have introduced the concept of multiplication in Maths, doing lots of arrays and making rows. This is repeated addition and it is all about doubling numbers at the moment. Next week we will start learning some times tables! We have explored The Creation Story in religion and sequenced these events, next week we will learn about creation stories from other cultures. In our Health unit, we are learning about Our Identity. This is an exciting unit which looks at each student producing their own story about themselves, family, school and their interests. Our focus in class this week has been about self-control, this might be worth discussing with your child to see how they went. Lots of learning and progress happening. Remember parent-teacher communication is vital to your child's progress. Happy weekend all.

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**Year 3..** This week we've continued working on our rock projects and have really focused on our guided reading and Thrass spelling strategies. On Wednesday, we went to visit the Australia Zoo family at WCC and learned about crocodile research and what to do in a snake bite emergency. We have focused on multiplication and division in Maths and Miss Cass is super proud of our class with their numeracy mental math score improvements! Mrs Saunders has been working with us and introducing us to more information about one of our patrons - Mary MacKillop.

Golden Pencil awards for immaculate bookwork goes to Matilda Machan

**Year 4..** This week we continued learning about Paul's letters that are in the New Testament part of the Bible. These letters give us ideas on how we should live in a Christian community. In English we are continuing to write down our ideas for the amazing narratives we will write. In Maths this week we focused on volume. Did you know there is a difference between volume and capacity? We are using the "Scratch Jnr" app on our iPads for digital technologies. In Geography we researched the population, annual average temperatures, annual rainfall and main farming for the countries of Australia & Brazil. We will compare these next week and then go on to look more closely at renewable and non-renewable resources in these countries. Mrs Haardt is away next week but can still be contacted via email.

**Year 5 - 6..** This week in Year 5/6 we have learnt about probability trees and how they can be used to work out the chance of an event happening. In writing we learnt about idioms. It was certainly no walk in the park but by the end of the class the students were bouncing off the walls with how many idioms were right under their noses! We will be using these when we start constructing our song lyrics next week. In French we learnt how to describe our family members using nicknames and we are slowly becoming more familiar with the language of some of our favourite French songs. In Religion we developed a timeline of important events in the Catholic Church since it was first established in Australia.

#### Sacramental Program.

If there are any families with children in Year 3 - 6 who are interested in the Sacramental program please let Mrs Saunders know before Thursday 3rd August. Father Dariusz will be returning mid- August and we will have to meet to determine dates for conducting the preparations and celebrations.

If there is anybody interested in Baptism please let her know as well.

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Prep.. Taylah Simpson + Brocton Gay + Aiden O'Connor

Year 1.. Ewa McNamara + Olivia Price

Year 2.. Aiden Clegg + Samuel Hancock

Year 3.. Maddison O'Connor + Jaiden Kappu

Year 4.. Eva Payne + Lealand Gay

Year 5-6.. Annabelle Clements + Delphina Day

### *Australia Zoo Visit 2017*



Visit with Australia Zoo on Wednesday learning about their crocodile research project and how to handle a snake bite emergency. Thanks to the Australia Zoo family and WCC for the invite!

### *School Photos 2017*

School Photo packs have been distributed and will be held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August. All forms need to be handed into the office no later than Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August. If you need a new form or a sibling photo pack come in and see us in the office.

### *School Dentist Visit in Week 10*

The Dentist will be visiting from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Notes have been sent home and are to be returned to the office.

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