

### *Important Dates...*

- ✓ **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> & Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September - Year 6 Interschool Sports Carnival.**
- ✓ **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September - P&F Meeting**  
**Location: Flexible Learning Space Time: 7.00pm**
- ✓ **Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> September - Last day Term 3**
- ✓ **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October - First day of Term 4**

## **Classroom and Playground Rules**

Over the next few weeks, we will be sharing our virtues for St Joseph's Parish School's Classroom and Playground Rules.

This week we will focus on **GOOD MANNERS**. The habit of speaking and acting in a way which gives people a feeling of being appreciated, valued and respected. The habit of using the words and actions of good manners and with sincerity.

WE WILL:

- Listen with quiet hands, feet and mouths
- Look at the person speaking
- Listen from start to finish
- Listen to what is said and how it is used.

## **Exiting Families**

Planning for our 2019 school year is well underway. As our enrolment vacancies are limited and to aid prospective future families in providing certainty on possible enrolments for the new school year, we urge any families who will be exiting at the end of the year to please notify us accordingly.

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## *News from Ms Harrison..*

We have started to look at some of our school data in regards to the Naplan testing results for 2018. In doing so, we have looked at how St Joseph's Weipa is travelling in comparison to other Catholic schools in the Diocese of Cairns. The data reveals that St Joseph's Weipa has one of the highest non attendance ratings across our Diocesan schools. Understandably much of this is due to our community's remote location and the fact that our parents are predominantly employed in the mining industry where they must take leave time during school terms.

Quite alarming though, is that the data is telling us that there is a direct link between successful student achievement and attendance at school.

Encouraging regular school attendance is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your child for success—both in school and in life. When you make school attendance a priority, you help your child achieve better grades and develop lifelong social emotional and healthy life habits.

When students are absent for fewer days, their grades and reading skills often improve—even among those students who are struggling in school. Students who attend school regularly also feel more connected to their community, develop important social skills and friendships, and are significantly more likely to graduate from high school, setting them up for a strong future.

But when kids are absent for an average of just two days of school per month—even when the absences are excused – it can have a negative impact. These absences can affect kids as early as Prep. For example, Early Years students who miss an average of just two school days per month often have difficulty keeping up with their peers academically and tend to fall behind in reading. But when students are able to read on grade level by the end of third grade, which is when kids transition from learning to read to reading to learn, they are three to four times more likely to complete high school and attend tertiary level education than their peers who struggle with reading.

As a parent, you can prepare your child for a lifetime of success by making regular school attendance a priority. In doing so, you can help set your child on the path to lifelong success.

Every blessing for a great weekend.

*Rosie*

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## APRE News..

On Saturday this week we see the church celebrate The Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Mother of Jesus. Our Year 1 class presented a beautiful prayer in recognition of Mary and the sacrifice and dedication she displayed to be Jesus' Mother and be part of God's plan. Mary's birthday is recorded as being on the 8<sup>th</sup> September and is a very significant part of our faith story.

We know that everyone has a birthday and the Bible doesn't say anything about Mary's birth, but like all parents, Mary's parents—we call them Joachim and Ann — probably took one look at their newborn daughter and knew that she was special.

Joachim and Ann loved God very much, and they were filled with gratitude to God for the gift of a child. They raised Mary as a child of God, teaching her to love and serve God. When the angel Gabriel told Mary that she had been chosen to be the Mother of Jesus, she already had great faith in God. Her strong faith and trust allowed her to say yes to God's plan for her. We cannot be certain what the future holds for any newborn infant, but we do know that the life of each person has meaning and purpose.

Today we thank God for the gift of life and give honour to both Mary and Jesus by showing respect and concern for one another—remembering that God has created each person with love and with a call to something very special in life.

With blessings and gratitude,

## Amanda

### Prayer for Mary.

Hail Mary, full of grace.  
Our Lord is with you.  
Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb,  
Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.



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**Prep..** During literacy rotations the students will continue to learn the phonograms. The new phonograms being introduced are: 'ir' and 'ea'. The aim for the students is to know 52 of the 70 phonograms by the end of the year. The new beanie strategies this week and next for reading are: 'Digger the Dog' and 'Helpful Kangaroo'. Students are writing for different purposes and for the next couple of weeks we will be focussing on information writing. The students are also retelling stories using puppets and various materials. In maths we are going to revise some of the work we have covered before. This will include; simple addition and subtraction, numbers before and after a given number and ordinal numbers. In Religion we have been looking at the Creation Story. The students will be encouraged to retell the story using a story board. Play is the Way games for this week are: Back to Front, Around the Community and Rhythm games.

**Year 1..** In English, we have continued to write our adventure story and now we are up to the publishing part. We have been practising our oral phonograms reviews every day and together we now have learnt all of the sounds. We are now trying to say them as fast as we can so we can recognise them easily to help our reading and writing. In Maths, we have started learning how to share items and objects equally. In Religion, we have been talking about what God has created and writing prayers to God thanking him for creating something. On assembly the students presented a prayer to celebrate the birthday of Mary the Mother of Jesus. In Science, this week we were lucky to have a visit from the Flying Scientists where the students got to build a tower using some marshmallows, looked at fossils, made a cyclone in a bottle and looked at the reaction detergent did to the milk and food colouring when mixed together. The students all had a really good time. Please could all homework folders come back each day. Homework is due on a Monday and new homework is given out. Sight word books need to come in as well, every day. Library day is on a Thursday.

**Year 2..** Everyone is becoming very quick and confident with O.P.R and it is great to see children making connections when they are writing and spelling. Our focus book this week was Mr Huff and I was very impressed with the quality of the sentences written. We have been working on sentence structure and how to make them more interesting so wonderful to see such progress. In maths we have been exploring number patterns as well as properties of 3D shapes. We learnt how to draw them, label them and we even did some Year 4 work on Studyladder to show how clever we were. We made a Water Story in Science and retold the story of how water gets to our taps. We have been working hard on our books about My Identity and they will be finished next week. We are super excited about these, especially with all the great photos everyone has. We have also loved making our Father's Day cards and gifts last week, hope the dads appreciated them. The science workshops were lots of fun this week!

**Year 3..** Year 3 have finished off their English Retell unit, with a presentation of their version of the 3 Little Pigs story. We heard some very strong, clear voices and some lovely expression when the children presented to the class. For Maths we have been concentrating on measurement, looking at metres, centimetres and millimetres as a unit of measurement for length. The class has been comparing and ordering cm and mm lengths. In religion, Mrs Saunders came and taught Year 3 how to write a Psalm. We have included some of the children's examples in this week's newsletter. There have been some exciting afternoons in the classroom, continuing with the technology unit, most children have now started the final creations of their designs to re-purpose a piece of clothing into another useful item.

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**Year 4..** As we move through the term we are getting into our assessment for our units of work in Year 4. We have been working on finishing some fantastic responses to symbolic narrative art in our Technology unit where students identified symbols in our lives and how these shape our lives. In our English lessons we have finished analysing a piece of poetry and are now working with procedures. We will all have the chance to share a procedural text with the class through an oral presentation. So far these have been extremely informative and the students are enjoying learning how to make something new or in a different way. In Maths we have now moved onto looking at Volume and are getting the concept of how many millilitres are in a quarter, half and three-quarters of a litre. Another highlight has been the development of a timeline in Religion. We have learnt how to use a new app and have seen how this helps us link stories from the bible. Last week we had a fantastic session with Wilson McCaskill from Play is the Way. We learnt a great deal about ourselves and each other. On Thursday we got to have our Flying Scientist session where we learnt a little more about rocks and minerals which links perfectly to our Science unit. Learning in Year 4 is definitely busy and we can't wait to see what the last two weeks will bring us.

**Year 5..** Over the past two weeks year 5 have completed their work on decimals and addition and subtraction strategies. We revised multiplication of large numbers, using both the box and long multiplication strategies. Students are currently using these skills to budget for a week in Paris where they need to plan for daily outings and all necessary expenditure on the trip. We finished reading "Holes" by Louis Sachar and loved seeing the past link to the present in Stanley Yelnats' adventure to Camp Green Lake. We have started reading "How to Train Your Dragon" by Cressida Cowel and have already noticed many large differences between this book and the movies. Our week began with a discussion about the human impact on the environment and what we know about how the environment has changed since Captain Cook's arrival at Botany Bay. Students have also started thinking about Mother Mary and her impact on our lives, after completing their biographies about Mary MacKillop.

**Year 6..** We finished our class novel, "Because of Mr Terrupt" this week. The students have enjoyed reading about other students facing similar challenges to them. In Writing, students wrote a persuasive text on why all students should / should not have fruit break everyday. There were some VERY persuasive students. We finished our Maths unit on decimals and fractions. Next week we will be learning about chance and probability. In Science, we made our own circuits which transformed electrical energy into kinetic, sound, and light energy. In HASS we have been learning about global citizens and immigration. Next week we will skype a lady who worked at the detention centre on Naru. The students have been asked to come up with some questions to ask her during the session.

## Year 3 'How to write a Psalm' examples

God you are my loving Father  
You are one of my Fathers  
I'll never forget, and only worship you  
I shall never want from you  
You are my loving Father.

**By Judson**

God is the Father of the universe.  
He cares for us, he helps us with our needs.  
I'm extremely glad to serve God because he helps me  
and I help him.  
I think we should love him more than we love the  
universe.  
God is all our fathers.

**By Samantha**

Lord you light my day  
Thank you for my food and water  
If you were not here, we wouldn't be here either.

**By Hailey**

Lord you are like someone who guides me  
Thank you God for letting me pray to you  
You light my soul, I'll put my trust in you  
Thank you God for this, I'm glad you made it.

**By Ryan**

Lord, you are like my role model  
Someone who gives me what I give you  
Lord, you are my hero.

**By Darcy**

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# ALL-STAR STUDENTS!

## Week 7 & 8

**Prep..** Ben Warner & Domonic Johnston & Paetyn Nash & Dylan Spencer & Finn Alleyn & Archie Carroll

**Year 1..** Ruby Scarabello & Silvie Hynes & Summer-Lee van Pelt & Hayley Coultas & Sienna Hill & Philemon Agale & Jasmin Peet

**Year 2..** Ewa McNamara & Taj Kappu

**Year 3..** Hailey Merkel & Sarah Bond & Sydney van Pelt & Walter Raleigh & Cees Hagenmaier

**Year 4..** Kai Abbott & Jasmine Scikluna & Jack Rosewarne & Jaiden Kappu

**Year 5..** Lealand Gay & George Myall & Lily Jenkins

**Year 6..** Annabelle Clements & Patrick Dorahy



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