

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

EDITION 201902 WEEK 2, TERM 1 2019



Important Dates...

Friday 8th Feb - Meet & Greet BBQ 4.00pm - 6.00pm - POSTPONED

Tuesday 12th Feb – Parent teacher night Prep - Yr2 @ 5.00pm

Wednesday 13th Feb – Parent teacher night Yr 3 – Yr 6 @ 5.00pm

Monday 18th Feb - P&F AGM @ 7.00pm

Tuesday 19th Feb - Cross Country training 7.30 – 8.00am

Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 20th Feb – School review

Thursday 21st Feb – Cross Country training 7.30 – 8.00am

Friday 22nd Feb – Meet & Greet BBQ 4.00pm – 6.00pm

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

“MEET AND GREET”

We welcome most sincerely our new students, families and staff to our community and trust that in the coming years great relationships will flourish between yourselves and the school. All students and their families are invited to attend our ‘**Meet and Greet**’ rescheduled for **22nd February**, commencing at 4.00pm and finishing at 6pm.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

There will be a Parent Information Evening on Tuesday 12th February (P-2) and Wednesday 13th February (3-6). All parents will gather in the Flexible learning space for a general school information session before moving to classrooms for information specific to that year level. We would like as many parents to attend as possible and will be having a door prize for extra encouragement. First prize will be \$250 discount off school fees, second prize is \$100 discount off school fees and third prize is \$50 on your flexischool account.

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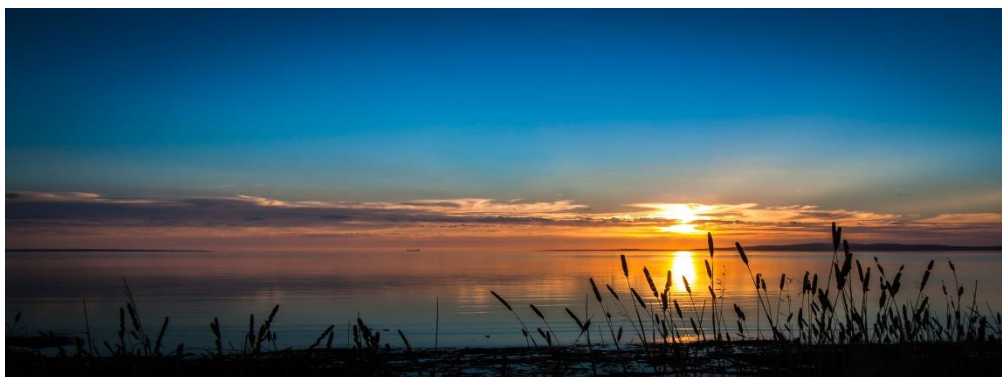
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News from the Principal - Mrs Megan Pearce



Dear Parents, Caregivers, Staff, Students and Community,

It is fantastic to see our classes so settled and working so well. I have visited many classes over the last few days and it has been the same story in every room – engaged students working hard. The children have also been enjoying catching up with friends and making new friendships. Thank you to all our parents for your co-operation and preparedness. We appreciate the organisation that goes into getting students ready for the start of each new school year.

Today Fr Darrius joined us to celebrate the new school year with a beautiful mass to mark the occasion. It was a pleasure to see our school community come together in prayer and song. Well done everyone and a special thanks to Mrs Saunders for organizing such a wonderful way to begin our year. There are some fantastic photos of the mass and we will put them up on our facebook page.

Our Parents and Friends AGM will be held Monday the 18th of February in the Flexible Learning Area. All are welcome to attend. The meeting will begin at 7.00pm. The P&F work alongside the school to support educational programs and future developments and direction of the school. Attendance at a meeting does not constitute any sort of commitment to a specific job or position but is a great way of connecting with things that are happening in the school community and contributing to making our school the best possible place for our students. I hope you are able to join us.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS

Please come along to our Parent Information Evenings next week. Prep to Year 2 will be held on Tuesday 12th February and Year 3 to Year 6 will be held on Wednesday 13th February. Both sessions will start at 5.00pm and finish at 6.00pm. A door prize will be drawn on the Friday at Assembly.

The most important aspect of these nights at the beginning of each year is establishing a working relationship and open communication with your child's class teacher. A large part of this is your understanding and support of class routines and expectations. Our very dedicated teachers are always hoping to work with you in partnership to ensure the year is successful.

SUPPORT FOR TOWNSVILLE

Our prayers go out to the people of Townsville. The disaster that confronts them is truly heartbreaking. Many families have sustained flood damage to their homes and have consequently lost personal possessions, clothing and household goods. Some would be insured, and others would not.

It is the recommendation of the Townsville Catholic Education office that the best form of support that can be given would be cash donations via the St Vincent de Paul Townsville conference.

St Vincent de Paul has an established process and infrastructure for distribution of funds and assessment of need. Townsville Catholic Education will direct any requests for assistance to St Vincent de Paul. Donations to the **Vinnies**

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North Queensland Flood Appeal can be made via credit card at the following link:

<https://www.vinnies.org.au/donate#!state=qld&appeal=185>

LEARNING SUPPORT

Learning Intervention- In addition to having a School Officer in every classroom to support student learning, we are very fortunate to be able to offer intensive learning intervention for students who are achieving below expectation in English.

This week we have been busy collating and analyzing our latest assessment data to identify students who would benefit from Intensive Literary Support. Students selected will work in a small group of usually 4 students and will receive 40 mins of intensive small group support 4 times a week for the rest of the semester or until they have reached the target level of reading achievement.

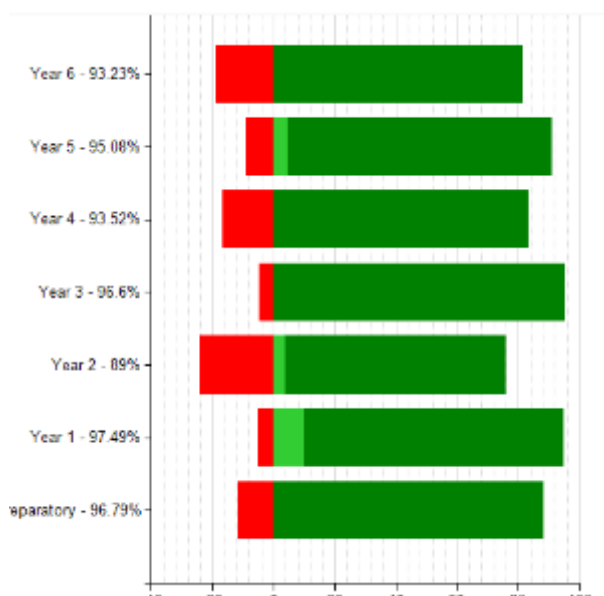
Personal Learning Plans – Personal learning plans are in place from last year and will carry over into Term 1. Plans will be reviewed at the end of this term. This gives students time to settle into their new class environment and for teachers to implement the current personal learning strategies. Please make an appointment with your child's class teacher if you have any concerns.

Kind Regards,

Megan Pearce
Principal

Every day counts!

Our current attendance for this year as follows



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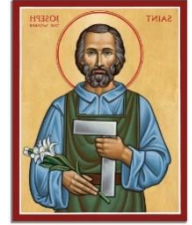
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News from the APRE



Week 2 has come and gone as quickly as blinking an eye. We are now in full swing with classes and next week is going to prove to be just as busy. Routines are being established and reviewing some of our systems from last year have started to take effect. Over the coming weeks and terms as the year progresses, I hope to keep you all informed about the events, celebrations within our school life and community.

Today we held our first Mass for the year and it was lovely to see so many families, visitors and parish members joining us to celebrate with the whole school. A thank you also goes out to Father Dariusz for joining us as well. The singing and reverence from the students was wonderful so thank you must go to them and their teachers.

In Week 6 this term we will hold our Ash Wednesday liturgy and open our doors again to any families, visitors or parishioners who would like to attend. Further details will be sent out via our usual forms of communication.

It is also that time of year when we are seeking an expression of interest from families who maybe wanting their children to undertake the Sacraments of Holy Communion or Confirmation. Consultations have started with Father Dariusz and the Parish Pastoral leader to determine whether this program will be held annually or every two years. The program is also dependent upon the Bishop's availability. If you are interested, please email myself on asaunders3@cns.catholic.edu.au

Thank you and blessings for a great weekend,

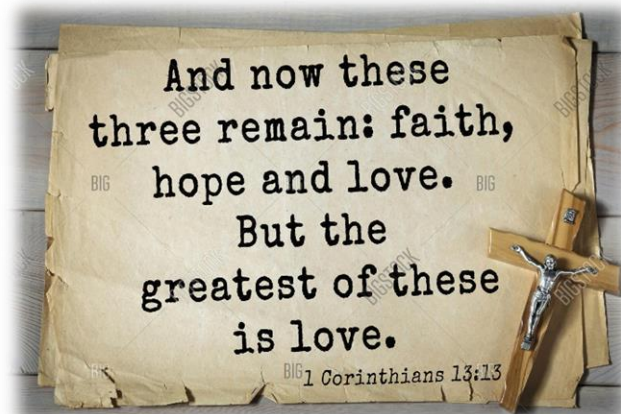
Amanda

Reflection:

Last week's readings spoke of love and here is a little snippet to remind us of our commitment to be more like Jesus each day.

In the reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians - it was written that there are three things that last:

Faith, Hope and Love; and the greatest of these is Love.



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to our *CLASSROOM NEWS*

- Prep:** It has been a busy couple of weeks, getting to know each other, setting up the classroom routines, learning about rhyming, syllables, counting forward from 1 and making new friendships.
- In Literacy we will continue to focus on the pure sounds and correct letter formation of the letters; m, s, t, a, p, i, f and r. Rhyming and Syllables are still a focus in the class as it plays a central role in learning to read and spell.
 - Mathematics will include orally counting forwards and backwards to 20, counting using concrete materials demonstrating 1:1 correspondence, subitizing (recognising a small amount without counting) and number recognition. Students will also sequentially order numbers and match the number's quantity.
 - In Religion we had the opportunity to visit the Cathedral with Mrs Saunders who explained some of the symbols in the church. This term we will explore the topic What is a Holy Spirit School? What makes our school different from other schools?
 - The topic for Health is: My body is amazing, and I need to look after it. Students will learn about what makes them special, different emotions that we can feel and how we can manage them.

At St Joseph's Parish School it is vital that your child attend school every day as research has shown that for everyday a student is absent it is a missed opportunity for optimal learning.

Year 1: The students have settled into school routine very well, and are enjoying the structure of our day. It is wonderful to see them interacting so comfortably in class, sharing ideas, stories and knowledge. Our class attendance rate is 97%, which means 6 days of school have been missed already this term. For the next couple of weeks, we will be focussing on sequencing. This will be interwoven through writing (learning to sequence events in the correct order in a story), maths (learning to skip count in 2s, 5s, and 10s, forwards and backwards), and History (learning about past, present and future). Our spelling focus words for week 1 and 2 were: you, very, was, said, are, and her. Our focus words for week 3 and 4 are: have, put, then, were, there, they. In Health and SEL, we will be learning about independence, resilience and what makes us unique.

Year 2: It has been a pleasure meeting all the Year Two students and I believe we are off to a great start. During these first few weeks we will be focusing a lot of our attention on setting up routines and transitions and explicitly teaching the expected behaviour to help maximise our learning throughout the year. At the moment, our Science unit "Watch it Grow" is a class favourite as we are observing mealworms and learning about how different animals change and grow. Sharing our own baby photos and discussing how we have changed was a highlight this week. In History, we have been having fun learning about technology and how changes in recent times have impacted on peoples lives. Keep your eye out for some Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) homework. The students will need to conduct a 'Parent Success Interview' with you about a time you have achieved something you set out to accomplish. This fortnight our class attendance percentage has been 89%.

Year 3: What a start to the school year. The Year 3 students have been busy learning about the 4R's (Responsible, Resilient, Respect and Ready to Learn) in all areas of our school. This has set us all up for what we will be a successful year of learning. In our English lessons we have been working on telling our stories. This has been done through a profile of ourselves and how we retell a series of an event we have experienced. Maths lessons have been about odd and even numbers. We learnt that an odd number always has a lonely friend and even numbers always have a buddy. We are also learning about numbers up to 10 000. Place Value is everything in Maths. The 10 Commandments have aligned perfectly with learning rules and routines. Moses and The Lord's meeting at Mount Sinai really spoke to us all. This week's attendance percentage for Year 3 was 96.6%. We look forward to many more weeks of eager learning in Year 3.

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Year 4: Two weeks down already and I'm thrilled that our class has an attendance of 93%! Firstly, I want to thank all the families and staff for welcoming me into the St Josephs community. We have developed classroom rules and have been striving to show respect, responsibility, resilience and a ready to learn attitude to kickstart our learning this year. In maths, we have been exploring the topic of place value and patterns. The students were able to relate where this maths is used in real life, for example number lines are used to measure the size of the fish when we go fishing! Every day we have been practicing our writing and coming up with some excellent stories. We have been learning about the church in preparation for our first church mass on Friday. Looking forward to what the rest of the term will bring!

Year 5: We have had a really positive start to our year in Yr 5 and have enjoyed many team building activities. We have engaged in several "Find a Classmate who...." games which help to build relationships and encourages the children to mix around and find out things about each other, particularly those class mates they don't know very well. We have compiled a **Student Profile** class book about each student which is a great read. We have 2 students to our class, Thomas and Liam who have both been welcomed warmly by their peers and have fitted in perfectly!

Many discussions and group work activities have been centred around forming our Yr 5 **Class Covenant**. This is going to be the basis of each student helping to create a happy and safe, creative and respectful environment so we can all work together to achieve success in their learning and emotional development. Each group has worked hard to create a PowerPoint presentation to share their ideas about the **4 R's** (Responsible, Respectful, Resilient, Ready to Learn) and what this looks like, feels like and sounds like in our room. I am extremely proud of how hard they have worked on this and the ideas that are represented in their presentations.

As a class, we have negotiated class expectations and rewards and worked hard to establish routines as well. I think the highlight for many students has been reading daily DELTORA QUEST, our fantasy novel which will centre many of our English and Literacy learning this term. Lots of other learning happening as well, particularly in Maths.

Every student is keen to STEP UP in Year 5. Great work

Year 6: Welcome to Year 6. It has been great to see the students starting to settle in to new routine and expectations. In year 6 there is a bit of a jump up in the level of learning and behaviour expectations as they prepare to transition to high school. This term is a great opportunity for our year 6 students to learn more about being the leaders of the school. In Term 2 we will celebrate their leadership skills with a retreat day and special assembly to recognise them as our school leaders.

Our laptops have arrived but we are still waiting for computer bags. Once we have our Cyber Safety lesson on Monday we will begin using them at school but not sending them home until the bags arrive.

In English this term we are learning about informative texts, they will plan, draft and write information texts using appropriate language features. In Maths we are focussing on number, problem solving, timetabling, prime and composite numbers,

We are excited about our Science studies this term as we explore electrical circuits and their components.



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ALL STAR STUDENTS!

Week 1 & 2

Prep.. Denson Drum, Charlotte Collins

Year 1.. Louie Lesic, Jack Potter

Year 2.. Kooper Bayliss, Silvie Hynes

Year 3.. Max Lawrence, Lincoln Scikluna, Evan Ah Shay

Year 4.. Jackeal Day, Ben Winaulin

Year 5.. Madison O'Connor, Thomas Kelleher

Year 6.. Charlie Hocky, Mia Wright

St Joseph's Cross Country 2019



The St. Joseph's Cross Country has been set for Friday the 29th of March, 2019 at St. Joseph's School Oval.

Training for the Cross Country will begin in Week 4 - Tuesday 19th of February and Thursday 21st of February on the Oval with Ms Libby, Mrs Bienvenu, Ms Briody and Mrs Turner at

7.30 - 8.00am.

This will continue every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the Term.

If you are able to assist with the Cross Country on Friday the 29th of March, 2019 please email mturner@cns.catholic.edu.au

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Parents and Friends

P&F ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

18 FEB 2019 - 7PM

Flexible Learning Area

Nomination forms are available at the office.



ALL COMMITTEE
POSITIONS OPEN

EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

GRANTS COMMITTEE

SUSTAINABILITY
COMMITTEE
(INCLUDES GROUNDS &
MAINTENANCE)

ALL PARENTS AND
FRIENDS WELCOME
TO ATTEND

ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mrs Megan
Pearce,
Principal.

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**P&F EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS
2019
NOMINATION FORM**



The P&F are now calling for anyone interested in becoming a member of the executive team to nominate.

The positions of **President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary** will be up for re-election.

We encourage new applicants and ask that nomination forms are returned to the school office by **Friday 15th February**, prior to the AGM.

Elections will be held at our AGM on **Monday 18th February** at 7pm in the Flexible Learning Area.

All are welcome.

NOMINATION

I _____ wish to nominate for the position of:

- President Vice President Treasurer
 Secretary

We also have other Committee Positions that need to be filled. Please indicate if you would like to hold a position in any of our subcommittees

- Social Grants Sustainability

Name: _____ Signature: _____

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