

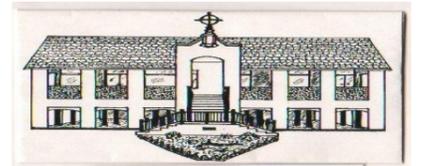


St Joseph's Primary School Gayndah

2018 Term One

Week Four

Newsletter Date
Wednesday
14th February 2018



Principal's Letter to Parents

Today we celebrated Ash Wednesday with Mass at 9am.



Even the darkest moments of the liturgy are filled with joy. Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lent fast, is a day of happiness, a Christian feast. It cannot be otherwise, as it forms part of the great Easter cycle (Thomas Merton).



The season of holy Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, a solemn day of fast and abstinence. The day receives its special name from the blessing and imposition of ashes in the form of a cross on our foreheads. "Remember man that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Ashes, made by burning palms blessed the previous Palm Sunday, symbolize the transience of our earthly status. The body must fall temporarily into dust. This fact should serve as a challenge to spiritual accomplishments. Through grace we were "buried" in Christ that we may rise with him and "live unto God." We explain ashes with the "seed" idea. "They are not a sign of death," Fr. Merton says, "but a promise of life."

Ashes are a sacramental. Their reception with humility is a sign of penance. We wear them publicly to acknowledge our need to atone for our sins. "God desires not the death of the sinner." He is moved by our humiliation, and his justice is appeased by satisfaction.

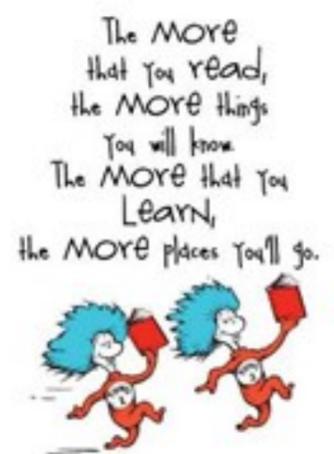
<http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=537>

Homework:

In response to some queries/concerns about 'no homework':

The issue of homework is finally being reassessed in our modern society. Too much repetitive needless homework is given and the wrong type. This has mainly been the result of parents wanting to prepare their children for future study. The reality is, however, that homework has now been a major contributor to childhood obesity and is an impediment to quality family life. At all levels of the education system, homework is being reconsidered.

(Dr. Ian Lillico)



No homework is not quite correct as children are expected to read for a minimum of ten minutes per day. The following research explains what 10 minutes per day of reading can do:

The Benefits of Extensive Reading

As important as early language experience is for establishing a child's learning trajectory, reading experience is critical for the academic development of students beyond 3rd grade. In a series of carefully constructed studies, Cunningham and Stanovich (1998) isolated the benefits of reading experience from the effects of other factors. They found that, even among students with lower general intelligence and weaker reading skills, extensive reading was linked to superior performance on measures of general knowledge, vocabulary, spelling, verbal fluency, and reading comprehension.



Differences in Print Exposure

Despite its importance, students' exposure to print also varies widely. In a study of the out-of-school activities of fifth graders, Anderson, Wilson, & Fielding (1988) found that time spent reading books was the best predictor of a student's reading proficiency. They also noted that many of the students in the study rarely read books on their own; indeed, around 20% of the students devoted less than a minute per day to book reading.

Whilst reading for pleasure and enjoyment is vital, reading improves literacy, and therefore, access, engagement and success across the curriculum.

Success in any learning area depends on being able to use the significant, identifiable and distinctive literacies that are important for learning and representative of the content of learning areas. (Australian Curriculum Literacy)

Percentile Rank	Minutes of Reading Per Day	Baseline - Words Read Per Year	Plus 10 Minutes - Words Read Per Year	Percent Increase in Word Exposure
98	65	4,358,000	5,028,462	15%
90	21.1	1,823,000	2,686,981	47%
80	14.2	1,146,000	1,953,042	70%
70	9.6	622,000	1,269,917	104%
60	6.5	432,000	1,096,615	154%
50	4.6	282,000	895,043	217%
40	3.2	200,000	825,000	313%
30	1.8	106,000	694,889	556%
20	0.7	21,000	321,000	1429%
10	0.1	8,000	Based on reading level, ~300,000 words	
2	0	0		

Distribution of time spent reading books outside of school, with estimated words read per year and projection of increased words per year if each child's average daily time spent reading were increased by ten minutes. Adapted from Adams (2006), with baseline data from Anderson, Wilson, & Fielding (1988).

Parents and Friends Association:

Thank you to all who attended our AGM last night. We welcomed new faces from our Prep cohort. We congratulate, and look forward to collaborating with, the executive and committee for 2018:

President: Nathan Hitchcock

Vice-President: Kym Baker

Secretary: Jody Doyle

Treasurer: Helen Smith

Uniform Shop: Kym Baker

Tuckshop Convenor: Sarah Webster & Lisa Baker

The working bee date of Saturday 17 March was decided on. Please join us from 7am. A list of tasks and further details will be sent home soon.

There are many ways you can be involved in your child's education. Please join us at the next meeting on Tuesday 13 March @ 7pm.

Volunteer Student Protection:

It is a mandatory requirement that all who volunteer or work in a Catholic school, undergo annual student protection training. Staff are required to complete this annually as are parents, grandparents and other volunteers. The training can be confronting at times, but student protection is everyone's responsibility. Sadly, many of the scenarios are taken from real life situations that have happened in schools. The link for the online training can be accessed on the Brisbane Catholic Education Home page. The course completion certificate needs to be printed off and given to the school office before you commence in any volunteer capacity. Thank you for attending to this.

Leadership Cluster:

Tomorrow and Thursday, Miss O'Connor and I will be taking part in the North Combined Clusters Symposium. This conference of leadership teams from schools on the North side of the Archdiocese, provides time for us to plan for the year ahead, collaborate with other leaders and listen to the expectations of BCE. Mrs Bernie is in charge whilst we are away.

School Photos:

A reminder that school photos are on **Monday 19 February**. Please ensure your child is in the correct uniform, including hair, long hair tied back with ribbons and ties in school colours, shoes cleaned. The staff photo will be at 8am with classes being called through the day. Please ensure you have returned your envelope with payment. Sibling photos are available to order as well.

Year 5/6 Sydney/Canberra Trip:

A reminder there will be a parent meeting next Tuesday at 6pm in the staff room. Information will be sent home after the meeting if you are unable to attend.

Terese



From the APRE



Welcome to another wonderful week at St Joseph's! Thank to those that joined us for Shrove (Pancake) Tuesday celebrations and/or our Ash Wednesday Mass. Donations received from the Pancake Tuesday races, totalled \$75 for Caritas. Congratulations St Joey's...let's keep the donations going!

Lent is a time when we are encouraged to make an extra effort to renew our relationship with God, by praying, fasting and being generous to the poor and disadvantaged. With Lent, often comes the very Catholic anxiety about what we are "giving up for Lent". My suggestion is perhaps not to focus on what to give up, but rather what can you give back or focus more on. Here are few ideas...



Give up complaining ... focus on gratitude.

Give up pessimism ... become an optimist.

Give up harsh judgments ... think kindly thoughts.

Give up worry ... trust Divine Providence.

Give up discouragement ... be full of hope.

Give up bitterness ... turn to forgiveness.

Give up hatred ... return good for evil.

Give up negativism ... be positive.

Give up anger ... be more patient.

Give up pettiness ... become mature.

Give up gloom ... enjoy the beauty that is all around you.

Give up jealousy ... pray for trust.

Give up gossiping ... control your tongue.

Give up giving up ... hang in there



Each year at this time, we focus our awareness and generosity on the work of Caritas - Project Compassion, a Catholic charity which assists communities in Australia and the world. We encourage students to think of others and the difficult lives they lead in poorer communities.

Thinking about them and praying for them is great, but we can do more than that. Each week students will be invited to donate to this very worthwhile charity, knowing that what they give will make a huge difference in the world. We made a great start on Tuesday with our students making a GOLD coin donation before racing in the annual Pancake Tuesday race.

Thank you for your contributions to this extraordinary charity who do amazing things in communities far and wide.

Keep smiling

Bec

Curriculum Corner - How to get the most from reading at home



Students often think they need to read fast so they can get through a text they're asked to deal with. But there's no point reading and not understanding or remembering what you've seen. A more important skill is to read with comprehension and memory.

Comprehension and retell of the events from the text is equally important when reading and will affect your child's reading ability. Your child may draw events in sequence, talk about the character's emotions or comment on why they did/did not like the book. All the discussion and dialogue you have with your child about their books will enhance their reading ability.

The same approach should be taken with their library book. Take the opportunity to read to your child and then discuss the events, what strategies you used for 'tricky' words or what they thought of the characters.



Here are few questions to ask your child before, during and after reading.

Before Reading

What do you think this book will be about? Why do you think that?
What do you know about the topic of this book?
Does the topic of this book remind you of anything you have done or seen before?
What are you wondering as you look at the front cover?
What are you wondering as you look at the front and back of the book?

During Reading

What do you think will happen next?
How do you think the character will handle this situation?
If you were in the story, what would you taste, feel, smell or hear?
What emotions is the character feeling? How do you know?
What does that word mean?

After Reading

What is the main message of the book?
What questions would you like to ask the author right now?
Tell me the story in your own words?
What were the most important events in the story?
If this story had a sequel, what do you think it would be about?
Did you like this book? Why or why not?

The Gratitude Project

Who can participate?	Anyone (Families, Staff, Students, Visitors)
Who do we thank?	Anyone (Families, Staff, Students, Visitors)
What do we do?	<p>Write a thank you note</p> <p><i>Example One:</i> Thank you Mrs Smith for helping me out with that Maths problem. I can now solve similar problems by myself.</p> <p><i>Example Two:</i> Thanks Mum and Dad for the sandwiches...they were delicious. The treat was awesome too.</p> <p><i>Example Three:</i> Thank you Harry for playing with me at lunchtime. I was feeling a bit sad today. It was nice to have someone to play with.</p>
Where do we put our notes?	A box will be left outside the school office - drop your notes in. A sample of thank yous will be read out at assembly each week - the rest will be delivered to the recipient. You do not have to sign your name if you want to remain anonymous.





FROM THE OFFICE:

- Don't forget to 'follow' our **St. Joseph's P & F Facebook** page!
- Spare 2018 calendars are available, please let the office know if you would like an extra for family members
- If you would like a Direct Debit form for 2018 school fees, please let the office know.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Thank you to all who attended the P & F meeting last night. It was great to see some new faces. Welcome to the incoming committee for 2018:

President:	Nathan Hitchcock	Vice-President:	Kym Baker
Secretary:	Jody Doyle	Treasurer:	Helen Smith
Uniform Shop:	Kym Baker	Tuckshop Convenor:	Sarah Webster & Lisa Baker

Agenda for the next meeting will be Term 1 levy allocations.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Classes are still available in a variety of instruments for both new and existing musical students. Please contact the office for more details or another information sheet/permission form.

VOLUNTEER STUDENT PROTECTION:

It is a mandatory requirement that all parents/grandparents and other personnel who work in *any capacity* in the school (not just in class, working bees, BBQs, fete), are required to complete the Brisbane Catholic Education Volunteer Student Protection online course prior to commencing. The course can be accessed on the right-hand side of the BCE Home page.

<http://www.bne.catholic.edu.au/students-parents/student-protection/Pages/Code-of-Conduct-Training.aspx>

After completion, please print off the completion certificate and bring to the Office. If you are experiencing difficulty with this, David Francis, Guidance Officer is happy to work through this with you on Thursdays. Please contact the Office to arrange an appointment.

The online course must be completed by **Friday February 23**. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter. Student Protection is everyone's business.

ICE CREAM SANDWICHES- Year 5/6 will be selling their ever popular ice cream sandwiches this Friday. Beat the heat for \$2 each!

TUCKSHOP:

Due to volunteer numbers, Tuckshop days will be once a month soon. If you can help, especially on a Thursday morning for 2-3 hours (even just once a term), please let the office know on 4161 1889 ASAP or contact Sarah Webster or Lisa Baker.



Sports News

PE with Miss O'Connor is on **Wednesdays**. Please ensure students are in sports uniform and have a hat and water bottle for PE lessons.

South Burnett trials are just around the corner. Any girls and boys from Yr 4-6 are welcome to attend a softball training session with Miss O'Connor in preparation for this. Sessions will on:

Wednesday Mornings: 7.45 - 8.30am

If there is interest for more training, I will gladly organise more time.

Sports Gala Day for Gayndah team trials is **next Wednesday 21st February**.

Around the school.....





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Primary
School**
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**“In All Things
Glorify God”**

**ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL TERM
DATES 2018**

**Term 1: Tuesday
23 January to
Thursday 29
March (10
weeks)**

**Term 2: Tues-
day 17 April to
Friday 29 June
(11 weeks)**

**Term 3: Tuesday
17 July to Friday
21 September
(10 weeks)**

**Term 4: Tues-
day 9 October
to Friday 7 De-
cember (9
weeks)**

Community Notices

GAYNDAH ART GALLERY PRESENTS:

MOUNT PERRY FINE ARTS GROUP COLLECTION

'A new exhibition of fabulous art and craft!'

16th January - 24th February 10am-2pm (closed Mondays)



GAYNDAH HOSPITAL AUXILIARY - CENT SALE

Where: Bowls Club

When: Saturday 24th February

Time: Doors Open 12:30pm, start 1:30pm

Lucky Door Prize: Basket of fruit

Raffle: \$1 a ticket

Raffle Prizes: Coffee Maker, Coffee set and Meat Tray

Entry: \$5.00, includes afternoon tea

Enquiries: Phone 0438612453, 0429875363, 0419671206

TENNIS HOT SHOTS:

Vacancies exist each Friday afternoon for Term 1, 2018 at the Gayndah Tennis complex, Barrow Street, for players, to come and join Tennis Australia's National program, conducted by Bundaberg Tennis Academy Tennis Professional, Kevin Banner, with lots of fun & games to suit all levels. Registration is essential. Phone Kevin: **4152 0753 / 0409 520753**

WOODMILLAR BUS MEETING

Monday 26th February 4:30pm at St Joseph's lunch tables

Contact Ros O'Brien **0428 260 146**

YENDA BUS MEETING

Tuesday 20th February 4pm at St Joseph's lunch tables

Contact Helen Smith **0429 964 454**

GIRL GUIDES – GAYNDAH - A GIRL GUIDE FUN

AFTERNOON

Wednesday, 14th February, At Lion Park from 4pm to 5pm .

Theme: - How girls can help to make our community a better place.

For all Gayndah girls, 6 to 14 years old and Families who like to challenge themselves to do fun Activities in the outdoors. Come and Join us.

Any Questions phone Irene on **0409227355**



CASUAL POSITION VACANT - SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISOR

A casual position exists for a School Crossing Supervisor at this school. The School Crossing Supervisor may be required to work five days per week in all weather conditions. The hours of work for School Crossing Supervisors are normally 1.5 hours a day and usually comprise of one hour in the morning and ½ hour in the afternoon. These times vary. Applications close Friday 23rd February.

For an application pack, please contact the school office in person or on 41611889 or call Gayndah State School on 07 41603333.