Dear Parents, Grandparents, Carers and Friends,

Let me begin by saying, welcome back everyone. I hope over the past two weeks you had the opportunity to spend time with your loved ones, granted that it may have been with several more layers of clothing on.

Some of you may not be aware that over the holiday period Chris Prygoda underwent knee reconstruction surgery. When I visited her late last week she seemed in great spirits and making very steady progress with her physiotherapy. I’d ask that you keep her in your prayers as she moves through the difficult process of rehabilitation.

A significant effort has been made this year to ensure that we are establishing quality academic classroom practice across the whole school. Whilst we continue to make further development in our learning and teaching, I feel that if we are to be successful in providing opportunities for our students to achieve their full potential, we must provide a range of opportunities outside of the classroom for students to showcase their talents. To do so St Joseph’s is looking to encourage all of our students to strive for success not only academically but artistically and sportingly as well. As we enter second semester students will be introduced to a number of exciting new initiatives kicking off throughout the school.

From the second week of term three St Joseph’s will be re-instating a school choir to be led by Mrs Bryant. The choir will provide an opportunity for all students to come together in a relaxed and supportive environment to share in the joy of singing. Jen is extremely passionate about putting a contemporary spin on the presentation of group pieces and has a vision for the group beyond simply practicing a set of songs repetitively. I can’t wait to see their first performance.

Also beginning in term three will be a Dance Crew initiative to be led by Miss Lake. Kathryn comes to us having developed an impressive repertoire of dance routines and performances. Dance Crew will kick off in week three (dates and times to be published in the newsletter next week) and focuses on students learning a routine which they will perform for important occasions and designated school celebrations. This after-school initiative is open to both boys and girls across the school. The list of positive outcomes that exist through dance is endless and once our students get a taste of just how fun it can be to dance with a group of friends, there will be no turning back.

Earlier this week we were kindly given a donation of approx. 100 pumpkins from the Sturgess Family. Eric has kindly offered the pumpkins as a means to raise funds for our school which we are truly grateful for. His kind donation will not only support upcoming camps for our upper school but serve as a reasonably priced form of produce for your family to share. Our 6/7 leadership students as well as members from 4/5 will be offering the pumpkins for sale before and after school as of tomorrow. The pumpkins will be priced according to size and will range from $3.00 to $5.00. Get them while they are available as I’ve been told our pricing is ¼ of what you would expect to pay normally. Once again I would like to extend a huge thank you to Eric and his family.

I haven’t forgotten about our next stage in the Reading from Home series but I wanted to give everyone an opportunity to settle back into the routine of school again before presenting the focus of questioning.

Stay warm and have a wonderful week.

Sincerely
Ben
Welcome back to Term 3! I trust all families had a safe, relaxing and enjoyable break. During the holidays, some special events occurred. These include:

**Feast of St Benedict**

Thursday 11 July marked the feast of St Benedict. Born at Nursia into a noble Roman family, Benedict left his studies in Rome to become a hermit in the mountains near Subiaco, and after a while many followers joined him. He moved to Monte Cassino, where he completed his Rule: a written guide for those living a monastic life, with a strong emphasis on obedience, moderation and community life. Although Benedict never became a priest or ever intended to found a religious order, his Rule, “put Christ before all else” guided monks and became the fundamental monastic code in Europe into the early middle ages.

**St Benedict’s Prayer**

Gracious and holy God,
Give us the wisdom to perceive you, intelligence to understand you.
Diligence to seek you, patience to wait for you.
Eyes to behold you, a heart to meditate on you and a life to proclaim you.
Through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, Our Lord.
Amen.

**NAIDOC Week 6th - 13th July 2014**

NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) represents Indigenous Catholics in Australia. The theme for NAIDOC Week 2014 was “Serving Country: Centenary & Beyond.”

**Prayer for Special People**

Father, Our Creator
You created all things seen and unseen. Listen to my silent prayers as I stand here before you.
As my weary eyes look back over distant horizons, back to those days where my people walked. The footprints of my Grandfathers are imprinted on the earth, and the images become real to me.
I see my Grandfathers standing tall and strong, Warriors of long ago.
I hear them singing. I see them dancing, and my Spirit moves within me.
They told of the emus fighting, and the kangaroos picking up the scent or our hunters.
The images fade away as I feel the hurt of my people.
I can hear the cries of my Grandmothers as they cry for their children.
Grandfather, you can see me as I stand here and feel this hurt. Father Creator, is this the purpose of my being here.
Or is it your plan to reshape my people, to be once again the proud race it once was?
Let me walk with you and my Grandfathers, towards the dawning of a proud and new nation.
I thank you for my Sacred Being.

This is my final week here at St Joseph’s. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here and would like to thank everyone for welcoming me into your beautiful school community.

Shannon Cattell
FRIDAY ASSEMBLY: This Friday morning at assembly we will be having a Leadership Badge Presentation for our 6/7 students.

SPORTS NEWS: Our District Sports Day is next Friday, 25 July at the Gayndah Sports Ground, commencing at 9am. High Jump events will be held next Wednesday, at the State School Oval.

Approximate times for High Jump (Wednesday 23 July) are below:

- 9-10am - 12yrs & open
- 10-11am -11yrs
- 12pm - 10yrs
- 2pm - 9yrs

Please note if your child wishes use the Fosbury Flop technique, they must be 11yrs or older, and have a signed letter from their coach confirming that they have been trained in this method.

P & F NEWS:

- Attached to today’s newsletter are uniform order forms for Term Three. Forms and payment are due in to the office by Friday, August 1st. A reminder that if you are paying by direct deposit, payment needs to go into the P & F account, details of which are on the back of the order form.
- Tuckshop will be held next Monday, 21 July, order forms will be sent home today. Please return forms and payment by this Friday, 18 July.
- We will be running the canteen at the District Sports Day next Friday. If you are able to assist with preparation, serving or baking, could you please complete the form below and return to the office by this Friday, 18 July.

Name:..............................................................

I can help with the Sports Day Canteen in the following ways (please circle):

Preparation  Serving  Baking

Signed:..............................................................
GAYNDAH SOCCER (5-18yo) Training every Thursday, 4—5pm Gayndah Sports Fields. New players always welcome. Ph 0428 931 151

CENTRAL BURNETT BRUMBIES JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE: Parents and Players of Under 6s, 8s, 10s and 12s you need to be at the Wondai Football grounds at 8.30am. All teams are to meet near the group of gum trees at the end of the football oval. Coaches will be able to give parents the information in regards to times and fields etc then.

Under 14s you have a game at Cherbourg on Saturday at 11.30am
Under 16s you have a game at Cherbourg on Saturday at 12.30am.

If you have any queries please contact Robert Linsket 0429611096 or Sandra Kenny 41612116.

GAYNDAH JUNIOR TOUCH SIGN ON: Next Wednesday, 23rd July 4-5pm. Ages include children turning six this year, through to Grade 7. Anyone wishing to help in any small way on Wednesday afternoons would be greatly appreciated. Contact Leisa Darlington 0402 869 032 or Maria McCosker 0400 844 681.

ZUMBA: A fun filled fitness class incorporating world dance styles and aerobics. If you’re looking for an exciting, enjoyable way to work out come along and have a go. All ages, fitness abilities catered for, everybody welcome!!

Adults: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5.30pm at St Joseph’s Hall, Fielding St, Gayndah.
Cost: $10
Children: Thursdays 4.30pm—5.15pm Cost: $8
Instructor—TJ Viney, phone 0401 465 066.

GAYNDAH YMCA TRIVIA NIGHT: “Let’s Get Physical” Trivia night. This Friday, 18 July. Gayndah Town Hall, $5 per person—teams of six. Bar opens 6.30pm, register by 7pm for 7.30pm start. Great prizes to be won and lots of fun on the night. Prizes for best dressed to theme. Contact Dael 0418 246 595.

TEENAGE: Vacancies exist for children to learn tennis and have fun, every Friday afternoon after school, conducted by Bundaberg Tennis Academy Coach, Kevin Banner at Gayndah Tennis Club, Barrow Street, Gayndah. Inquiries and to register, please contact Kevin 0409 520 753.

ASHTON CIRCUS: Gayndah Showgrounds, 25—27 July 2014. Show times:
Friday 25th—7pm
Saturday 26th—4pm & 7pm
Sunday 27th—11am

Under the heated Big Top. Booking or information 0407 120 953. www.ashtonentertainment.com