



St Joseph's Primary School Gayndah

2014 Term 3

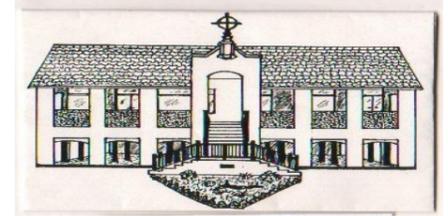
Week 4

Newsletter Date

Wednesday
6 August 2014



Principal's Letter to Parents



Dear Parents, Grandparents, Carers and Friends,

Yesterday I had the pleasure of meeting some of our potential Prep students for 2015, what a fun loving and spirited group of students we are set to welcome into our community next year. I couldn't help but notice how each and every one of them arrived at school with a sense of anticipation and wonder.

Sadly, throughout my time in education I have found that as students grow and develop, they come to adopt a mindset based on limitations. Why is it that when students begin their first days of schooling they aren't held back by the thoughts of "I'm no good at mathematics" or "I can't spell big words"? The simple answer is, that through comparisons with others and a lack of conviction in supporting them to believe that they are capable of achieving success, students soon believe that they no longer possess the ability to achieve their full potential in a range of areas.

Granted my singing leaves a great deal to be desired, but I know that as an adult, singing is something that I could definitely work on to improve. The point in all of this is that in order for us to provide the best possible education for your children, we need start giving students a language they can use that expresses where they are at in the learning processes. That is where the phrase "*IN THE PIT*" comes into play. The reason we use this terminology with the students is to allow them to articulate where they are on the learning journey; are they deep in the pit i.e. working hard, asking questions and trying to complete set tasks or are they standing on the outside of the pit looking in i.e. being distracted from completing tasks, copying the work of others.

I posed the question to a set of 4/5 students last week having just completed a range of mathematical questions, where are you at in your learning? In all honesty, I didn't give them enough credit because they blew me away with some of the responses they gave;

"I'm poking my head out of the pit Mr Gray, I think I've just about got it but I'm not 100% yet".

"I'm deep in the pit..... I need to work hard to understand this mathematics but I have completed a few questions and I'm getting better".

The reality lies in knowing that the prospect of using "In the pit" won't change a student's personal ability to understand the concept, rather it seeks to ensure that students own their learning and know exactly what they need to do to be successful.

My homework for you now, is to sit down with your children this week and ask them what they believe "*In the pit*" is all about. I can't guarantee that all students are well versed on the "In the pit" mentality just yet, but I can tell you that from here on out, we will be seeing a whole lot more lessons starting with teachers explaining how students can well and truly get deep "*In the pit*".

Finally I would like to say a huge thank you to Shelley Weston, Jennifer Prendergast and Amanda Imhoff who kindly offered to clean the tuckshop out this week and arrange all of the goods and resources. The tidy up ensures that the space is well set out and very functional for tuckshop and P and F events.

Sincerely

Ben



From the APRE....

May the abundant blessings of God
and of God's friend Mary MacKillop be with us:
May we embrace life wherever we are
and, with fresh hearts, put our faith in God.
May we see the suffering, neglected ones of our societies
and do something to relieve their plights.



St Mary MacKillop rejoice with and through us!

Feast Day St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

This Friday 8th of August we celebrate the Feast Day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. St Mary of the Cross is the patron saint of our Archdiocese and on Friday morning we will gather as a school community to honour her and the contribution she made to the lives of Queenslanders and all Australians, in her work for the poor, the uneducated and with rural communities. Her legacy lives on today in many outreach programs of the Catholic Church and within the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

The Church does not make a saint – it recognises a saint. Canonisation is the act by which the Holy Father declares in a definitive and solemn way that a Catholic Christian is actually in the glory of heaven, intercedes for us before the Lord and is to be publicly venerated by the whole Church. Canonisation is a double statement; about the life of the person and also about the faith of the people who are alive at this moment. On October 17, 2010 at St Peter's Basilica, Rome, Mary MacKillop was canonised as Australia's first Saint. Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed Mary's sainthood during the Canonisation Mass.

Mary MacKillop was a young woman with a dream to make a difference in our world. Her dream encompassed opening simple schools where there was no class distinction, offering refuge to the most neglected, and bringing practical help to families. She touched many lives leaving a legacy that endures today.



School Prayer / School Song

This term we will begin the process of creating a unique school prayer and school song for our community. Later this term we will welcome two ladies from Music Fire, the music evangelisation team from Brisbane Catholic Education to assist us with our song. Prior to that, we hope to illicit ideas from our students, staff, parish and parent community about what it is that makes St. Joseph's special, and who we are as a community. It is our hope to have our school prayer created prior to the arrival of Music Fire.

If you would like to contribute your ideas to this process, or have any suggestions please feel free to get in touch with either myself or Mr Gray.

Feast of the Assumption

Next Friday, 15th August our Catholic Church celebrates the Feast of the Assumption. The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary and her bodily assumption (rising) into Heaven, before her body could begin to decay. On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII, declared that it is a dogma of the Church "that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." Because it signifies the Blessed Virgin's passing into eternal life, it is the most important of all Marian (Mary) feasts and a Holy Day of Obligation. That is, it is a day that we as Catholics are asked to make a considerable effort to attend mass.



Our Parish will be holding a special mass on Friday 15th August to celebrate this Holy day along with the Confirmation of 4 of our young members of the parish. Mass will be held at 6pm and presided over by Bishop Brian Finnigan and Fr Jason.

Confirmation Mass

All families at St. Joseph's School are invited to join with the Parish to celebrate the Confirmation in the faith of **Allana Ezzy, Alexandra Gwin, Hamish Driver and Bridget Voigt**. Bishop Brian Finnigan will be presiding at the ceremony which is to be held in **St. Joseph's Church on August 15th at 6pm**. This will be followed by a shared supper in the Parish Hall. Please come along to support these young people with your prayerful presence.

Catholic Education Week

A lovely time was had by all last Friday when the staff and students of St. Joseph's, Childers visited us to celebrate Catholic Education week. We look forward to making further links with our buddies throughout the rest of the year and visiting them again in 2015.



What's On

- *Thursday 7th August—Year 4/5 mass—9am Church
- * Thursday 7th August—Year 6/7 Gunther Village
- * Mary of the Cross Feast Day—Friday 8th August—Year 6/7 leading liturgy.

LIBRARY NEWS: "READ ALL ABOUT IT"

Book Week: 11th to 22nd August (Week 6)

Book Week Parade: *Tuesday 19th August*. Dress up ideas coming very soon!

Half an Hour – Every Day!

I am sure you have been enjoying Mr Gray's Six Stages of Reading at home and have found them informative and helpful to use with your child for Home Reading. Ben has asked me to address another strategy, of equal importance to your child's development as a future reader; and that is finding the time to read to your child on a daily basis. Over the coming weeks I will be discussing ways in which you can support your child to develop a love of reading.

Parents play a vital role in keeping children engaged as readers. This is done through the very simple, but profound process of reading aloud to your child for: **Half an hour- Every day!** This is in addition to your Child's Home Reader.

Daniel Pennac, in his book: "*The Rights of the Reader*" discusses the: **'The Holy Trinity of Reading'**. He is referring to:

1. The Child
2. The Parent/Carer, and
3. The Book

He reminds us that when we snuggle up with our small child and read them a great story, we could, for example: travel to different lands, have amazing adventures, soar with dragons, win battles, defeat monsters and sometimes, the characters we love even assist us to conquer our own fears. All this, without even leaving our lounge room, or bedroom! Our children and "Us" (the Reader) have entered the "...*the World of the Book...*", and have left the real world behind. We have become emotionally attached to the story and it is here, emotionally engrossed in the story, where we **must return daily, to remain engaged with literature.**

So, select a suitable time and place for you and your family. Allow your child to choose a book he or she loves, and allow yourselves to re-visit or experience anew, the joy of "*falling into a book*".

Next week we will look at how children begin to disengage from "reading".

Kind Regards, Suze McGregor

P & F NEWS:

- Our next P & F meeting is *next Tuesday, 12 August*, at 7pm in the school staff room. All welcome.
- We are currently running a numbers board to help raise money for the 4/5 & 6/7 camps. Tickets are available at the office.
- **Dateclaimer:** We plan to hold a working bee at the school, on *Saturday 11 October*.

JULY BOOKCLUB: Orders and payment due by *tomorrow, Thursday August 7*. Please make cheques payable to St Joseph's School.

SCHOOL CHOIR: Our school choir meets each *Tuesday* at lunchtime in the Arts Centre. All students are welcome.

SCHOOL PHOTOS: School photos were sent home yesterday. Should you have any queries regarding your order, please contact the office.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY: A reminder that *next Monday, 11 August* is a public holiday.

PRIVACY NOTICE: Please read the attached Privacy Notice from the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority regarding information collected during our recent Commonwealth Government Census.

St Joseph's Art Evening

Friday 22 August from 5pm–9.30pm.

Students are reminded that they can enter their own pieces of visual art that they have completed at home for judging. Work can be done by any of the following mediums—paint, pencil, pastel, charcoal. No pieces are to be greater than A3 size. The deadline for submission is Thursday 21 August.

Dance Crew News

From this week Dance Crew will be split into two groups. The Preps to Year Three will have their session directly after school, at 3.05pm until 3.35pm. During this time the students from years Four to Seven will go to the 1/2 classroom and complete afternoon studies (ie homework). Their dance lesson will then begin at 3.45 and run until 4.15pm. Parents will need to collect Prep to Year Three students at 3.35pm, and Year Four to Seven students at 4.15pm.





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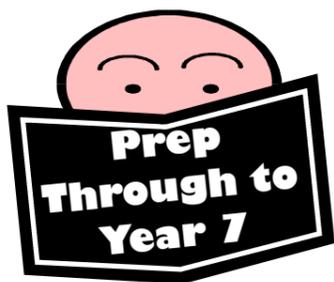
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**“In All Things
 Glorify God”**

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL TERM DATES 2014	
<u>Term One</u> Wed 29 Jan— Fri 4 April	<u>Term Two</u> Wed 23 April— Fri 27 June
<u>Term Three</u> Tues 15 July— Fri 19 Sept	<u>Term Four</u> Tues 7 Oct— Fri 5 Dec
Monday 20 Oct—Pupil Free Day	

Diary of Coming Events

11 August Show Holiday	19 August Book week parade
22 August St Joey's Art Evening	27 August WB Sports
29 August 4/5 Sleepover	4 September 6/7 Entertainment Night

Community Notices

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH RAFFLE: Attached to today's newsletter are raffle tickets for a Parish Raffle. If you would like to buy tickets, please complete & return with payment to the school office. Please also return any unsold tickets.

COLOURING IN COMPETITION: Gunther Village are running a colouring in competition to celebrate Senior's Week. Information is attached to today's newsletter. Please return to the school by **Tuesday, 12 August**.

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:

Central Burnett Brumbies play in Wondai **this Saturday 9 August 2014**. Times are as follows:-

9.30am under 6's

10.30 am under 8's

11.30 am Wynnum Manly Captains Run (this is one of the teams playing on Sunday in Kingaroy out of the Intrust Cup)

12.30 pm Under 10's

1.30pm under 12's

No Games for Under 14s or 16s

If you have any queries or concerns please contact Robert Linsket 0429 014 502 or Sandra Kenny 4161 2116.

GAYNDAH & DISTRICT LITTLE ATHLETICS SIGN ON: **Friday, 29 August** 6pm at Gayndah Sports Ground. Ages 5—17. Enquiries to Helen Smith, 0429 964 454.

GET STARTED PROGRAM: The Get Started program is part of the Qld government's Get in the Game initiative to support sport and recreation at the grassroots level. Vouchers of up to \$150 are available to successful applicants to help pay the cost of sport or recreation membership and/or participation fees. ***It is not compulsory to have a Centrelink card.*** Fact sheets are available at the office, or visit www.nprsr.qld.gov.au/getinthegame ***A representative from Sports & Recreation will be at the school tomorrow, Thursday 7 August until 2pm to help you complete the forms.***

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.