



# St Joseph's Primary School Gayndah

2014 Term 4

Week 7

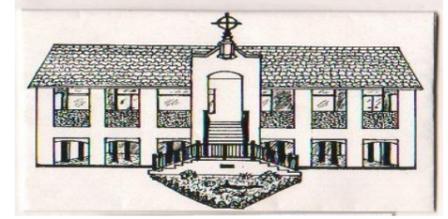
Newsletter Date

Wednesday

19 November 2014



## Principal's Letter to Parents



Dear Parents, Grandparents, Carers and Friends

Over the past decade in education there has been a shift away from what is known as the 'trickle down method' of professional development where by staff are sent off site to learn new practice and then asked to come back and report to staff on what they have learnt. One of the greatest downfalls of such a process is that it doesn't allow for consistency of practice. To ensure we (students, parents and staff) are all on the same page in moving forward, our attention this year has moved to progressively implementing key learning and teaching components across the whole school that is specific to the learning needs of our students.

Throughout this week I had the pleasure of taking members of our teaching staff to St Peter's Primary in Caboolture to observe demonstrations of literacy and numeracy sessions that match that of what we have been working to throughout this year. The visit provided the teachers with the opportunity to see the consistencies and alignment between their quality practice and that of another school whilst allowing them to see for themselves the long term benefits of implementing effective school wide practice.

It was extremely pleasing to reaffirm the quality of practice that our staff have been implementing on a daily basis throughout this year to support the learning of each and every one of their students. Whilst I knew this was the case, it was important for the teachers themselves to appreciate how much their teaching pedagogy has developed over the past year.

In 2015 parents can expect to see a deliberate effort to consolidate what has been introduced this year to ensure that effective learning and teaching practices continue to exist long after we have moved into new areas of professional development based on what our student results are telling us. As part of this continuity of practice, teachers will have deliberate time to observe literacy and numeracy sessions throughout each of our year levels. This will ensure that all of our staff can clearly see where it is that students are working from and where it is that they are going to. How do parents fit into all of this? Well the most important consideration in all of this school wide development is to ensure that parents/caregivers are kept informed, supported to understand and have the opportunity to experience what it is that is happening in classrooms so that they can actively support the development of their child. Parent information sessions and celebration of learning sessions will continue to provide this foundation of knowledge in 2015 and as a staff we will continue to welcome requests from parents to know more about the specifics behind each of our nominated practices.

It may be sad but I get a real kick out of hearing parents talk about Mathematics strategies and reading strategies that they use at home. 2014 has been a massive year but as we enter into the last fortnight of the year I'm already excited by the prospect of continuing to develop even further all that we have started this year.

Have a great week everyone.

Regards

Ben



# From the APRE....

## **A prayer for rain**

O God, the earth is thirsty for rain  
and we wait for you  
to refresh the land and all its creatures,  
the rivers and lakes, the crops and gardens.  
Send abundant rain, we pray,  
and teach us to be better stewards  
of all the blessings you provide,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



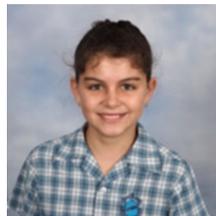
## **Catholic Faith Sharing Sessions**

Thank you to those parents who joined Fr. Jason and I for our faith sessions last week. If you weren't able to make it but would like the information shared a booklet is available to collect from the office.

Our final session will take place this **Thursday at 2pm** in the staffroom, and will address the key messages of Advent and Christmas.

## **Congratulations to our Sacrament Candidates**

A big congratulations to Hamish Driver, Lani Ezzy, Alex Gwin and Bridget Voigt who will receive the sacrament of First Eucharist at our Parish Mass on Sunday. It would be lovely to have as many members of our school community present to wish them well as they become fully initiated members of our Catholic community. It will also be a great opportunity to say Hello to Chukwudi Chinaka who will be visiting Gayndah this weekend.



## **St. Joseph's Nativity Play 2014**

Next Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November, we will be holding our Annual Awards evening. The children are asked to wear smart casual dress for the evening. All children will also be participating in the Nativity Play. The costumes for the play are below; please do your best to find a costume for your child. If you are not able to find a costume, please let me know.

**Mary** – School provided robe, small white towel and rope for head dress

**Joseph** - School provided robe, small brown towel and rope for head dress.

**Narrators** – No costume required.

**Magi / Wise Men** – School provided robe, small towel and rope for head dress.

**Shepherds** – School provided robe, small towel and rope for head dress. If they have a small stuffed sheep at home they are welcome to bring it along too.

**Angels** – White shirt and shorts/ skirt, angel wings if possible.

**Innkeepers** - School provided robe, small towel and rope for head dress.

**Caesar Augustus** - School provided robe, crown to be provided at school.

**Animals** – coloured dress in colour of animal (eg. wear white if a sheep), masks will be created at school.

**Prep** – Party wear (smart casual dress), and party hats which will be created at school.

**Other Students** – all other students are our choir of angels, local townspeople – children are most welcome to wear white, or their smart casual clothes.



## **What's On .....**

**Thursday 20th November**—Prep/6/7 Class Mass—9am Church

**Thursday 20th November**—Faith Sharing Session—2pm—Staff room

**Friday 21st November**—Year 6/7 Assembly—9am—Hall

**Monday 24th November**—Fr. Chukwudi Chinaka—visiting school.

**Save the Date!**  
**St Joseph's Parish Fete**  
**Friday 28 November**

**Please note the North Burnett Swimming Carnival is Friday 28 November, in Mundubbera. Notes have been sent home with students today.**



**ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH CENENTARY:** Wine drive forms and payment are due back to the school office by *Monday 24<sup>th</sup> of November*. The delivery date of the wine will be before Christmas. Your support is greatly appreciated!

**BREAKKIE CLUB:** Thank you to our fabulous helpers who provide breakfast for our students twice a week. Please note there will be no breakkie club in the last week of school.

**SCHOOL MAGAZINE:** This year every family will receive a complimentary copy of our school magazine. The magazine will be sent home in the last week of school.

### **Library News: Read All About It!**

Today was the last day of borrowing for the year. Can you please ensure any home readers/ library books are returned to the school before we break up for the holidays.

**Mr Gray's Reading Challenge:** Started last week (Week 6) and will conclude Week 1 of Term 1 next year. We have decided to run this challenge over the holidays because of information included in a recent newsletter about how children need to continue reading over the holidays in order to retain their reading skills.

Preps to Years 3 need to read 20 books, and Years 4 to Years 7 need to read 15 books (their books are generally longer). All students will receive a Record Sheet to write the titles of books that they have read and parents/ guardians or school staff will need to sign off on each title read. Home Readers, magazines, comics and novels are all acceptable reading material.

ALL participating students will receive a prize from Mr Gray should they read the required number of books. Years 6 and 7 students are still welcome to participate and will still be eligible for a prize if they drop the Record Sheet back to school and we will ensure the prize gets to you even though you will be attending High School.

If you would like some library books to read over the holidays you may borrow up to ten books on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> December from 3.00 pm to 4.00pm for an extended holiday loan. All students must be accompanied by their parent/guardian in order to participate (We do not want students carrying ten books home on their school bus!)

Please remember, you are welcome to read even more than the required number of books and the Town Library is available should you run out of books. Happy Reading!

## **Fete News**

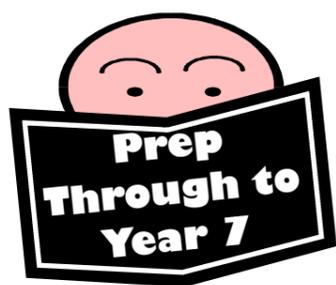
- Our fete is Friday, 28 November.
- Raffle tickets are due back the office by next Wednesday, 26 November.
- Unlimited ride tickets are available for purchase from the school office until **2.30pm on Fete day**, Friday 28 November for \$26. After this they will be available on Fete night, directly from Rides n Slides, for \$30 each.
- Snack pack orders need to be in by this Friday, 21st November.
- This year we are having a decorated cake competition. Students are invited to enter a cake, it will need to be delivered to school on fete day morning, Friday 28 November, and they will be judged during the day. There will be a prize for the best cake in each class, and cakes will be sold on the cake stall at the Fete. Mrs Andrea Baker will be visiting our classes tomorrow with a couple of examples. It doesn't have to be a work of art, and there are no particular categories. We have cake mixes available at the office if your child would like to take one home and get creative!
- If you are able to help at the fete on a stall, please contact the office, on 4161 1889.





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**“In All Things  
 Glorify God”**

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

**Diary of Coming Events**

<b>25 Nov</b> Awards Night	<b>28 Nov</b> NB Swimming Carnival
<b>28 Nov</b> Parish Fete	<b>2 Dec</b> Graduation Mass
<b>5 Dec</b> Last Day Term Four	

# Community Notices

**GAYNDAH LITTLE ATHLETICS:** Please note there will be no Little Athletics on Friday night, 28 November. Our final competition night for this year will be Friday 5 December.

**GAYNDAH SWIMMING CLUB**

Every Thursday night at the Gayndah Swimming Pool  
 All children welcome to come & join our club.  
 For more information contact - **Benita: mob 0427 612 250,**  
**Sam :mob 0428 734 022 or Lorinda: Ph 4161 1808**

**TENNIS:** Register now for ANZ Tennis Hot Shots Learning program for Beginners through to High School and Advanced children for Term 4 with Bundaberg Tennis Academy Tennis Coach, Kevin Banner. Times: Beginners: 3.45 - 4.30/5pm; Intermediate: 5-6.30pm; Advanced/High School: 6.30 - 8pm  
**ADULT CARDIO TENNIS:** Class available Friday nights - check it out and loose those unwanted calories, have fun. Time: 8.15pm - 9.15pm commences **Friday 10th October - 21st November 2014**

**JUNIOR CRICKET TRAINING**

Every Monday afternoon 4pm at the Gayndah Sportsground.  
 All ages welcome!

**GAYNDAH ART GALLERY:**

Current exhibition is “Centrefold” by Alice McLaughlan and Kim Connell of Childers. Artwork inspired by the Centre of Australia. Make sure you get along to see the exhibition. Some great paintings and pottery for sale at reasonable prices.

**GAYNDAH SWIMMING POOL:** Water aerobics Mondays and Wednesdays, 6pm, cost is \$7.