Dear Parents, Grandparents, Carers and Friends

Let me begin by saying thank you to all of our families, and wider community who attended our Annual Awards Night. The students did an incredible job of presenting the Nativity Play. I know it means a great deal to them to have you all there to celebrate this special time of year. On behalf of the staff and guest presenters let me offer my sincere congratulations to all the award recipients, each of the awards were thoroughly deserved. Thank you to all the families who helped pack up the equipment after the presentation, many hands made light work of the large amount of equipment.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that teaching year 2/3 in 2015 will be Miss Georgia Melville. Georgia joins us off the back of completing a last term internship at St Ambrose Catholic Primary in Newmarket. Georgia is a motivated educator that enjoys being involved in a range of sports and youth activities throughout her community. Also joining the team in 2015 will be Mrs Jaimie Roth within the role of school officer. Jaimie comes into our school with an overwhelming enthusiasm to support the learning of the students of St Joseph’s. She was selected off the back of the interview process recently this year and will be a wonderful addition to our school officer team. It should be noted that whilst Jaimie is not a direct swap into Prep for Mrs Gwin (school officer positions will be announced with class lists next week). I am sure you will join me in welcoming these two wonderful ladies into their roles as part of our school community.

Please be aware that St Joseph’s will be returning to a final whole school gathering on the last day of school from 11.00am. Due to the change of date for the upcoming swimming carnival we have the opportunity to celebrate the end of the year together with our parent community on one special day.

Regards

Ben
A Prayer from the Senior Students for their fellow students:

Dear God,
Thank you for this school, we were grateful for so many opportunities in learning, and hope that you will be as well.
Help this school to continue to be a place where students can learn the truth.
The truth about the world, and the truth about themselves.
Help others to play their part, to make this school a happy place where they learn to succeed, without placing others down; where they can learn to face disappointment, without giving up.
Where they can learn the facts, without dismissing imagination.
Amen

Advent
This Sunday we celebrate the beginning of the Church’s liturgical year with the commencement of Advent. The Advent season is one of great celebration and anticipation. This Advent we focus on the many and varied ways our God acts in us, in our lives and in our world. Our God is an unexpected God. The way God encounters us and is revealed to us often occurs in extraordinary and totally unexpected ways. This Advent Season may we be open to God in whatever ways God so wishes to reveal God’s self to us.

Advent wreath
The Advent wreath is a symbol of growth and life. Traditionally adorned with purple and pink candles, it reminds us of the power of the Light of Christ overcoming evil in the world. The circle symbolizes the continuity of life. The four candles symbolise Hope, Service, Love and Peace – we take the time to show these values to others during the season of Advent and Lent.

Advent in your home
During the season of Advent, the beginning of the Church’s liturgical year, families may like to take the time to complete the Advent Calendar of Actions together. This is one way in which you can prepare the way for Christmas, have time with God and actively live out the message of the Gospel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADVENT CALENDAR OF ACTIONS</th>
<th>Sun 30 Nov</th>
<th>Mon 1 Dec</th>
<th>Tue 2 Dec</th>
<th>Wed 3 Dec</th>
<th>Thurs 4 Dec</th>
<th>Fri 5 Dec</th>
<th>Sat 6 Dec</th>
<th>Sun 7 Dec</th>
<th>Mon 8 Dec</th>
<th>Tues 9 Dec</th>
<th>Wed 10 Dec</th>
<th>Thurs 11 Dec</th>
<th>Fri 12 Dec</th>
<th>Sat 13 Dec</th>
<th>Sun 14 Dec</th>
<th>Mon 15 Dec</th>
<th>Tues 16 Dec</th>
<th>Wed 17 Dec</th>
<th>Thurs 18 Dec</th>
<th>Fri 19 Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td>Look for the signs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help out without being asked</td>
<td>Go for a walk with your family. Count the signs you can see.</td>
<td>Ask your teacher how they are feeling today.</td>
<td>Ask someone if they’re ok</td>
<td>Take notice rather than react</td>
<td>Did you see someone needing help today?</td>
<td>Count how many times you say something negative today…. And try to lessen the number tomorrow</td>
<td>Tell someone that you care about them</td>
<td>Prepare the way of your mind by reading and reflecting on the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday</td>
<td>Prepare the way for your friends by catching up or at least calling / emailing them</td>
<td>Prepare the way of kindness by doing a good deed</td>
<td>Prepare the way of your family by having some quality time together</td>
<td>Prepare the way of your home by giving your unwanted items to St Vincent de Paul</td>
<td>Prepare the way of your family by having some quality time together</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pray for someone else other than yourself today</td>
<td>Write a letter (not an email) to someone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advent Calendar of Actions.

Sat 21 Dec
Do for others
Pray for someone else other than yourself today

Mon 22 Dec
Do for others
Do something that is 100% unselfish

Tues 23 Dec
Feel blessed
Count your blessings!

Wed 24 Dec
Feel blessed
Take time to appreciate this time of year, your family, your friends and all who are in your life

Thurs 25 Dec
Feel blessed
Celebrate! Laugh! Love!
GOOD SAMARITAN AWARDS
PREP: Ella Smith
YEAR ONE: Nick Meyer
YEAR TWO: Shelby Rowles
YEAR THREE: Lachlan Maxwell
YEAR FOUR: Joseph Formica
YEAR FIVE: Kohdy George
YEAR SIX: Zarabella Bambling
YEAR SEVEN: Patrick Kirk and Lawson Kenny

PETER DUNN SPORTING ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD
PREP: Asher Bryant
YEAR 1/2: Tate Kirk
YEAR 2/3: Jayda Maddern
YEAR 4/5: Ainsley Bayntun
YEAR 6/7: Tom McGregor

DOUGHERTY ARTS ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD
PREP: Poppi Chambers
YEAR 1/2: Georgia Chambers
YEAR 2/3: Elizabeth Roth
YEAR 4/5: Courtney Bryant
YEAR 6/7: Shakia Murton

NORTH BURNETT REGIONAL COUNCIL ALL-ROUNDER AWARD
YEAR FOUR: Georgia Slack

MICK LUTVEY BURSARY
YEAR SIX: Sophie Young
YEAR SEVEN: William Roth

M & S CLUB CITIZENSHIP AWARD
YEAR SIX: Adam Pearse
YEAR SEVEN: Lawson Kenny

ST JOSEPH’S ACADEMIC AWARD
YEAR SIX: Sophie Young
YEAR SEVEN: Lauchlan Kemp

HEATHER BARBELER MEMORIAL ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD
YEAR SIX: Sophie Shadford

GAYNDAH PHARMACY SPORTING EXCELLENCE AWARD
YEAR SEVEN: Warwick Pearse

JB NOTES MUSIC ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD
PREP—YEAR FOUR: Torra MacDonald
YEARS 5-7: Sophie Young
Volunteer’s Morning Tea

To allow us to show our appreciation to all of our wonderful volunteers, we are having a Thank You morning tea.

Date:  Tuesday 2nd December
Time:  Approx 9am
Place:  The Big Orange
RSVP:  Monday 1st December

Our volunteers are invited to meet at the school at 8.40am for a special assembly, and from here we will go to the Big Orange to share morning tea.

P & F NEWS:  If any families have any second hand school uniforms in good condition they no longer need, we would love them for our uniform shop. A uniform order for new uniforms will be going out to parents early next year.

GAYNDAH LITTLE ATHLETICS:  Please note there will be no Little Athletics this Friday night, 28 November. Our final competition night for this year will be Friday 5 December. We will resume again in early January.

GAYNDAH ART GALLERY:  Concert at the GACC hosted by Gayndah Arts Council Choir. Performances by the choir, and local soloists. Tuesday 2nd December, 6.30pm. Admission is a gold coin donation, supper provided.

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

FOR SALE:  Very Good Condition Essex Guitar, model OM160BK, with case, music book etc. Less than 2 years old $150. Contact Carolyn Kenny 0447785168