Dear Parents, Grandparents, Carers, Friends

This week we farewell Mrs Holden as she heads into a very exciting phase for herself, Brett and Mia in preparing to welcome a new member to their family. Bec has been instrumental alongside Mrs Colvin in supporting our Prep students to settle into the routines of school life over the past two months. Her presence around the school will be sorely missed, but I have been assured by Bec that she will be in and around after the new bundle of joy arrives. At Friday’s assembly we will take the opportunity to wish Mrs Holden the very best. My money is on a BOY!

Given that we are moving quickly towards the last few weeks of Term 1, I thought it would be the ideal time to outline some of the key events coming up on the St Joseph’s calendar. Please feel free to stick this front page up on the fridge as a reminder.

To ensure the safety and well-being of all students, St Joseph’s Primary is inviting all volunteers and prospective volunteers to participate in Volunteer Education and Training Program. The training will cover the volunteers Code of Conduct and Student Protection Processes. The session will take place in the Conference Room of the GACC Building this Thursday from 2:00pm and run for approx. 40min. If you are unable to attend please let the office know as a video training and sign off sheet is available.

As part of the leadership development program for year six students in 2015, we will be holding a Leadership Formation Day this Friday. The theme of the day is “Leaders within our Local Community”. Students will have the opportunity to listen and talk with inspirational members within Gayndah and surrounding areas to learn first-hand what it takes to be an effective leader of our school community. The day will put students in a good frame of mind heading into the remaining three terms where they will rotate through each of the three ministries; Faith, Community and Sport.

A Celebration of Learning Evening will take place on Thursday, March 26th. In addition to our open door policy for each of the classrooms, we take two opportunities per year to share with parents and family members the work that has been taking place. It will serve as a hands on opportunity for students to talk their loved ones through various pieces of work, and enables parents and caregivers to have a clearer picture of the outcomes achieved in the first term.

The Centenary Walk- A- Thon and Fish and Chip Day for Caritas will take place on Friday the 27th of March. As part of the fundraising effort students are asked to find up to five people who will sponsor them to complete the Walk-A-Thon and in doing so help to raise much needed funds to complete such projects as exterior painting and window renovations of our church. Money can be returned to the office at any time. Information regarding the Fish and Chip Day will be sent home next week.

Have a great week everyone.

Ben
God of infinite love,
I thank you for this reminder of your love
and your call that we be more patient,
gentle and compassionate with others.
Here in the middle of Lent,
I turn to you to beg for your help.
Please soften my heart.
Help me to let go of judging others.
I ask you this, in Jesus’ name.

Amen

Fantastic Fundraising

Did you happen to have some delicious scones on Saturday morning?
Or did you miss out because Shelby sold out?

Shelby Rowles had three generations of her family involved last weekend when she embarked on a mammoth cooking adventure all because she wanted to make a difference. She cooked pumpkin and plain scones and took pre-orders from the local community, hoping to raise $250.00 for Project Compassion. After setting up her stall outside Gayndah Guardian Pharmacy on Saturday morning, Shelby had lots of customers. In the end, she raised $373.00 for the cause. This is a fantastic effort, and we are all proud of her taking the initiative and working hard to ensure that all people have Food for Life. Great Work Shelby.

Choosing food for life

Project Compassion: Karen from Australia

The Centacare Wilcannia-Forbes ‘Manage Your Income, Manage Your Life’ program (supported by Caritas Australia) is helping First Australians, like Karen, to take control of their money, and choose and prepare nutritious food to ensure a healthier future for their families.

Your donation to Project Compassion 2015 helps First Australians in remote communities gain the skills to make healthier food choices, building a better future for their families.

Watermelons and Pumpkins for Sale

This Friday, 13th March our Year 5 students will be selling Watermelons and Butternut pumpkins under the school building before school, after assembly and in the afternoon. The pumpkins and watermelons have been kindly donated to the school by one of our grandparents, Mr. Eric Sturgess. They will be sold with prices as marked but will range in price from $2-$6. All money raised will go to support our own growing project being undertaken by our Year 5/6 class.

SAVE THE DATE
Thursday 19th March
Year 6 Leadership Ceremony
As part of our Mass to Celebrate St. Joseph’s Day

What’s On………
Friday 13th March—Assembly—Prep—Hall—9am
Friday 13th March—Year 6 Leadership Day
Orange Day—National Day of Action against bullying 20 March
Purple Day for Epilepsy—Thursday 26th March
Fish and Chip Friday for Caritas—Friday 27th March
Go Blue for Autism—Thursday April 2nd.
P & F NEWS: Last night we had our AGM. It was a great meeting and we’d like to thank outgoing office bearers Andrew Bryant, Melissa Ahern and Cindy Kemp for the tremendous contribution they have made to our school during their time on the P & F. We will formally acknowledge their efforts at Assembly on March 20. Our Committee for 2015 is:

President: Mrs Laura Parr  
Vice President: Mrs Kate Colvin  
Secretary: Mrs Jody Doyle  
Treasurer: TBA  
Uniform Coordinator: Mrs Kym Baker  
Tuckshop Coordinators: Mrs Sarah Webster and Mrs Shelley Weston

Thank you to our new and continuing members for taking on these important roles.

It was moved at last night’s meeting that the P & F donate $3000 towards the school for literacy support to focus on reading resources. Our meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month, in the school staff room at 7pm. As April’s meeting falls in the school holidays, our next meeting is May 12.

OFFICE NEWS:

- A reminder that if your child will be absent from school please notify their teacher or the office by phoning 4161 1889 or emailing pgayndah@bne.catholic.edu.au
- A reminder that Student Information forms are due back to the office by this Friday, 13 March. Even if there are no changes to be made please return the form. This will ensure that we hold the most current information for your child.
- Permission slips and sponsorship forms for the Walkathon are due back to the school by Thursday 26 March.

PAINTING OF THE CHURCH: Over the next couple of weeks the exterior of the Church will be painted. Children and parents are asked to please avoid the fenced off area around the Church for safety reasons.

VOLUNTEER STUDENT PROTECTION AND CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING: This training is for current volunteers at the school and also prospective volunteers (even those without a current Blue Card). This volunteer training will take place in Conference Room of the GACC Building this Thursday the 12th of March at 2:00pm. Starting at 2:00pm will allow time for completion of a registration sheet and plenty of discussion around the content matter. This training is free of charge but is a requirement of volunteers working at the school. If you are unable to attend this session, please let the office know as there is also an online version available.

DEADLY EARS: A staff member from Deadly Ears Ear Health Program will be attending our school on Monday 18 May. This program provides screening of all children from Prep to Year Three to identify communication or hearing difficulties. If you would like your child to be screened, please collect a consent form from the office.

BOOKCLUB ISSUE TWO: Is attached to today’s newsletter. Orders & payment due back by Thursday 26 March.

ORANGE FESTIVAL 2015
St. Joseph’s Primary and St. Joseph’s P&F are proud to announce that Miss Georgia Melville will be our Orange Festival entrant in 2015. The theme this year is “Going Mandarin in the Asian Century.” We would love some parents to help form a group to organise our parade float, assist with fundraising and preparing for Parade day.

We are also busily organising events and would like to ask all mum’s to SAVE THE DATE for ……

“THE MUM PROM”

When: Saturday 2nd May  
Where: Gayndah Town Hall  
What: A chance to drag out that old prom or bridesmaid dress (or support the OP shops and get a new one), put on your dancing shoes, find a babysitter and enjoy a night out with other mum’s (and ladies who enjoy a great night out, but are not mum’s), have some fun and let loose on the dance floor to your favourite 70’s, 80’s and 90’s dance tracks.

Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students:  
Week 6:  
Prep: Monique Hitchcock  
Y1/2: Daelen Maddern  
Y2/3: Levi Roth  
Y4: Shaylyn Allan  
Y5/6: Tiffany Driver
ACTING WORKSHOPS: Acting Workshops with Amie Gilholme & Neighbours star Kym Valentine (Libby Kennedy)

SAT 18 APRIL - Grades 1 to 7 students

SUN 19 APRIL - Grades 8 to age 19

At the Gayndah Arts & Cultural Centre Conference Room
10:30am-4:30pm

BOOKINGS REQUIRED (Limited places)
0427 551 973

SOUTH PACIFIC TAEKWONDO: Held at the Gayndah State Primary School every Tuesday and Thursday 6pm. Our classes include: family classes, children classes age 5 & up, adult classes, stranger danger and anti bullying, increase coordination and discipline, weight loss and stress relief, build your self confidence and self control. Unlimited training plus free uniform offer. You don’t have to be fit, flexible or have any prior experience! South Pacific Taekwondo is suitable for anyone of any age. Reach your goals with us! For more information contact 4724 1000 or www.southpacifictkd.com.au

KIAH PARK HORSE RIDING FOR LIFE: Horse Riding Camps for ages 6 years—teens, all riding abilities are welcome. 7 Day riding camps. Fun horse riding camps every school holidays. Includes arena lessons, learning how to keep and care for a horse/pony, trial rides twice a day, gymkhana and night activities. Easter Camps: 4—11 April ...includes Easter Egg hunt! and 11-18 April. Contact 07 5486 6166 or visit www.kiahpark.com.au

LEARN & PLAY TENNIS: - Gayndah Tennis Assoc. Inc and Bundaberg Tennis Academy's coach Kevin Banner are now taking registrations for new and existing members for Term 1, 2015.

The ANZ Tennis Hot Shots Learning Program has commenced at Gayndah Tennis Complex, Barrow St. Gayndah. 5-8 years 3:45-4:30pm for Red Ball; 8-11 years 3:45-5pm for Orange Ball; 10-12 years 5-6:30pm for Green Ball; 12 and up 6:30-8pm. Bookings are Essential. Contact Kevin Banner 4152 0753 / 0409 520 753 for further information.

GUNTHER GUMNUT PLAYGROUP: Every Tuesday at Gunther Village in the playground next to the Coffee Shop 9.30am – 11am. All parents with young children welcome to attend, an activity and morning tea provided. We look forward to seeing you there!

JUNIOR KIDS FISHING DAY: Sunday 22 March 2015 at Paradise Dam hosted by Biggenden Fishing Club. We are looking for 25 children from the ages of 7 to 13 who are interested in learning the basic fundamentals of recreational fishing and the environment. We will be taking registrations up to the 19th March. Interested children can register by phone or email to: John or Ruth 4127 7252 or email jnrrok@gmail.com

GAYNDAH SHOWGIRL: Young ladies of Gayndah. We need you! It is Gayndah Showgirl Competition time again. We are seeking entrants for: Gayndah Miss Showgirl 2015 (18-28yrs)—18yrs by 01/08/2015 Gayndah Miss Junior Showgirls 10-13 years and 14-17 years (inclusive of that age for 2015)

Please contact Stacey Duncan 4140 8899 for entry forms or further information.

DATECLAIMER: Gayndah Miss Showgirl Presentations Saturday 28 March—Gayndah Showgrounds.
Doors open 6.30pm, Wine & Cheese Evening.
$15 adults includes complimentary wine, beer or soft drink & nibbles.
Bookings—Cam and Sue's Meats 10 Capper St or Helen Cherry 4161 1119.