



# St Joseph's Primary School Gayndah

2017 Term Four

Week Five

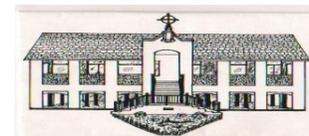
Newsletter Date

Wednesday

1 November 2017



## Principal's Letter to Parents



Hi Everyone

### Student Voice

Last week I was lucky enough to experience one of the most moving sessions I think have ever experienced with the students of Year 5 and 6. They blew me away.....

Following our cyclical review, it was highlighted that we needed to spend more time considering the views and considerations of the students of St Joseph's. Something I felt would be suitable would be to create an opportunity to give students the chance to voice how they were going, the elements that they would change if given a chance, the areas of their schooling that they loved and subsequently how they viewed components such as behaviour, classroom and ground facilities and other key elements within the school. The feedback would not only be useful to the leadership team in developing plans for the future but provided real time feedback for staff.



Offering opportunities for feedback from students is a very deliberate and measured process. We're not creating an open slather approach whereby we just lay everything out to be discussed or analysed. Rather the opportunity to talk with students about how they are feeling is powerful in ensuring that students understand alongside all of the responsibilities they have within the school, there is value in giving consideration their thoughts and ideas.

I wanted to start with the most mature group of students we have in the school which fell to our upper years where I asked Mrs Oppermann if she would consider opening her classroom up for a Student Voice Session. She was very obliging and recognised that the conversation would highlight for her the positives and the considerations around growth and adjustment. Asking students for their opinion always starts in a reserved manner if it hasn't occurred before. However as the session progressed the students valued the opportunity to speak/be heard and recognised that they were in the presence of adults who wanted to listen and who keen to hear their thoughts without offering suggestions or instant solutions. As I said at the beginning I was over the moon with their mature and well thought responses.

My aspirations would be to give all of the students the opportunity to be involved in the processes based on its initial success and hope that it becomes a regular occurrence in the future. As the data becomes available from the sessions, I am hoping to share that with the parent body to ensure everyone is aware of the thoughts and ideas existing in our most precious commodity, our students.

### Fete Sponsorship

Earlier this term I took the liberty of sharing with you the local businesses supporting our Fete. We have been overwhelmed with support again this year and below are the businesses who have provided funds to support our Major Raffle. On behalf of the school community, thank you very much for your support.

Have a great week,

Ben

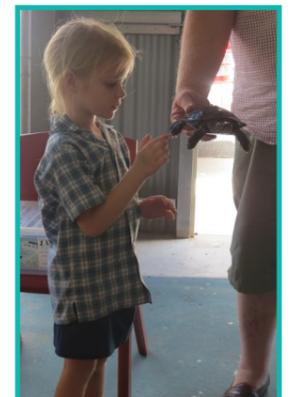




# From the APRE

We are now at the half way point of Term 4, and it seems incredible to think there are only a few short weeks left of the year! We've already achieved a lot this term, but there are many great things to come!

I was simply overwhelmed by the support and generosity of our school community in donating items for the **Samaritan Shoebox appeal**. While I had hoped to have enough for 3 shoeboxes initially, anyone who has been near my office in the past week will see there are probably enough donations for at least 10 boxes! Thank you so much to everyone for supporting this worthwhile cause. I will be packaging the items up in the boxes this Friday after the Grandparents' Day morning tea at around midday, so if anyone is available to assist with this job, I would love to have some help. Drop me a line or catch me around the school grounds if you are available.



We had some cold-blooded, slippery and slimy visitors on Tuesday with the **Deadly Australians team**. Students were able to learn more about a variety of creatures, both venomous and non-venomous, and had a great time being able to touch some of them too.



This Friday, we celebrate **Grandparents' Day**. We warmly invite all grandparents and special family friends to attend an assembly led by Year 3, followed by morning tea on the deck overlooking the oval. Grandparents play an important role in so many children's lives, and we are looking forward to taking the opportunity to acknowledge and thank them.

Today, the Catholic Church celebrates **All Saints Day**, with Thursday being All Souls Day. On these occasions, Catholics remember firstly all the saints who have gone before us, particularly those who they share a special connection (for example, here at school we honour and remember St Joseph, our patron saint). On All Souls Day, Catholics remember all those who have died, and in particular, those who have died and not yet reached heaven.



Next week, we begin **swimming lessons** on Monday and continue these on Tuesday and Thursday. A note was sent home with details last week, so please contact the office or your class teacher if you are unsure about the arrangements. Essentially, students in P-3 need to come to school with togs underneath their uniform and be ready to swim in the morning session. Students in 4-6 will get changed later in the day to be ready to swim in the afternoon session. All students need to have a towel, rash vest and sunscreen in addition to their togs, and may also bring goggles, thongs, and a swimming cap. We have purchased brand new swimming caps in house colours for students to use, so it is not essential for students to provide their own.

Our **Parish Fete** is fast approaching. In today's newsletter, we have attached flyers with information about the fete – with a few extra copies for you to distribute to family members or neighbours. Thank you to Lil Maxwell for her hard work in designing these for us. Information about ride wristbands went home last week, and these can be purchased from the school office. If you are able to assist with the fete in any way, be it via donations for the multi-draw, baking for the cake stall, volunteering some time in setting up or working on a stall, please contact either Rebecca Holden, Helen Smith, Brooke Gray or myself.

**Don't forget about Year 4's class mass on Thursday at 9am. This will be the last class mass for the year.**

God bless,

Amy

**TUCKSHOP:** Tuckshop orders for next Thursday are due with payment Monday 6th November.

**OFFICE NEWS**

- Prep and new enrolments for 2018 are open. Please contact the office for an enrolment pack or further information.

**LIBRARY NEWS** Our “Buy One Get One Free” Book fair is on NOW!

Monday the 30<sup>th</sup> October to Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November. A great Fair to purchase books for Christmas presents.

**Opening times** for sales are as follows:

All day **Wednesday 7.45 am to 8.30 am** AND **3.00 pm to 4.00 pm** Monday and Friday

**7.45 am to 8.30 am**, with late closing at **5.30 pm** Tuesday and Thursday afternoons

We look forward to seeing you there and we value your support.

NB Our school does not get the proceeds from this Book Fair. This is a thank you to all our families and community members who supported our Book Fair in May.



Kind Regards, Mrs Karen Madden and Mrs Suze McGregor

## In The Classroom.....

*Mrs Oppy recently had a wonderful trip to China where she learnt lots of amazing facts about their vibrant culture.*

*Stay tuned as next week as the journey continues to The Temple of Heaven*

### *Forbidden City*



*The Forbidden City is a fascinating place as there are many significant and interesting things for tourists and locals to admire. It sits on 170 acres and is surrounded by a moat and a wall that is 10 to 12 metres high to stop intruders. Another way they tried to protect the city was they placed big cauldrons around the palace to collect the rain to put out any fires that broke out. As you can probably imagine this was quite ineffective. It was built between*

*1906 and 1920 and has 980 buildings.*

*The tallest building in the city is where the Emperor lived. No other residents were allowed to have a taller one. It has unique characteristics and fascinating features. On top of all the rooves are little carved animals. The more animals on the roof the greater is its importance. It is also believed that they ward off evil.*



*When you enter the buildings you will either enter through a heaven or earth gateway. A heaven gateway is curved and the earth gateway is square. Another interesting fact is the floor near the main palace is 15 layers of brick thick. This was to stop intruders from digging tunnels underground to invade the city.*

*Jacob Smith, Jess Cooper, Torra MacDonald*

## Students of the Week!

**Week 4**

Mark McCosker, Abby Driver, Jess Cooper, Tilly Doyle, Hamish Baker and the entire Year 4 class!





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**“In All Things  
Glorify God”**

# Community Notices

## GAYNDAH SWIMMING CLUB SIGN ON Swimming Club is back!

Thursday nights from 5:30pm

Membership is free for 7yr olds and under. All ages and abilities welcome.

Enquiries ph **0455237177** or follow us on our

Facebook page **Gayndah Swimming Club Inc.**



## DRAMA GAMES 4 KIDS!

TUESDAY AFTERNOONS - 6 weeks on **7, 14, 21 & 28 Nov.**

Grade 1-6 aged students in Gayndah. Sign up for all weeks or just a selection.

**3:15 start to 4pm** - \$6 per child per session.

Super fun & interactive drama games, great for self expression, focus, teamwork, confidence building & imagination.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL – Limited Spaces Phone/SMS Rachel: **0427 551 973**

## TENNIS HOT SHOTS:

Vacancies exist each Friday afternoon for Term 4, 2017 at the Gayndah Tennis complex, Barrow Street, for players, 8 years and over, to come and join Tennis Australia's National program, conducted by Bundaberg Tennis Academy Tennis Professional, Kevin Banner, with lots of fun & games to suit all levels. Registration is essential. **Phone Kevin: 4152 0753 / 0409 520753**



## ST JOSEPH'S 2017 PARISH FETE - FRIDAY NOVEMBER 24TH

The annual St Joseph's Parish Fete is here again! There will be many of the usual stalls and attractions, including fruit, plants, raffles, ham wheel, rides and novelties. Also lots of great food and drinks on offer so join us for this wonderful occasion and support the parish!

Unlimited Ride passes available through the school also! If you are able to help in any way either through manning a stall, or multi draw donations please **Contact 4161 1889**



## ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL TERM DATES 2017

<u>Term One</u>	<u>Term Two</u>
<i>Tues 24 Jan— Fri 31 March</i>	<i>Wed 19 April— Fri 23 June</i>
<u>Term Three</u>	<u>Term Four</u>
<i>Tues 11 July— Fri 15 Sept</i>	<i>Tues 3 Oct— Fri 1 Dec</i>

*Grandparents Day Assembly - 3rd Nov*  
*Parish Fete - 24th Nov*  
*Volunteer Morning Tea - 27 Nov*  
*Year 6 Graduation - 28 Nov*  
*Town Christmas Tree lighting - Thur*  
*16 November*

## **Photos Needed!**

As part of our Grandparents Day assembly this Friday, we would love to have lots of photos of grandparents or very special people! Bring to the school office or email **pgayndah@bne.catholic.edu**

**Blue Gum Farm TV Presents:**  
**Young at Heart PREMIERE**

Where: Gunther Village - Conference Centre  
When: Monday 11th December 2017  
Time: 10:00am - 10:45am

Please RSVP by: Monday 4th December on  
07 4161 3699

**Date Claimer**

## Carols by the River

Saturday, 9th December  
5.30pm to 8pm  
St Joseph's Primary School Oval

**A Contemporary Christmas Carols Evening Not To Be Missed!**

Guest Appearance by Santa • Fireworks  
Food Stalls • Dessert • Coffee  
Children's Entertainment  
Local & Visiting Singers & Musicians

5.30pm - 6.45pm Children's entertainment, food stalls etc  
6.45pm - 7pm Rides shutdown, ready for carols to start  
7pm - 8pm Carols

Hosted by Gayndah Churches with support from local sponsors