Dear Parents, Grandparents and Carers,

Earlier this week I spent time attending a system wide professional development day that focused on the importance of identifying how schools best support every student to achieve their full potential. The presentation was headed by Lyn Sharratt, an expert in this area of education and having worked all over the world she recently released a book entitled ‘Putting faces to the data’. At its core, the text focuses on the importance of schools recognising where each student is at in their learning and how that can have a significant impact on implementing school wide practices. It goes on to provide a framework for educators to ensure that each child is given the best learning experiences, assessment opportunities and feedback to enable them to make significant progress throughout their schooling.

The question I hope that comes to mind for you when reading this is, how does this fit into our school plan and vision for the future? As you would be aware from conversations with your child(ren) and visits into their classrooms throughout the year, St Joseph’s have been very deliberate in the school wide practices we implement and the support that we are providing in the classroom. So much so that in some of our classrooms, school officer support has been further bolstered in the last two months. This isn’t because we think one particular child needs additional support. It’s actually the opposite. Our school officers are upskilled and supported to know exactly how they can best work alongside our classroom teachers (the main educational leader in the room) to provide the most effective adjustments in their classrooms for all students.

It’s a well-known fact in the field of education that teacher support will have a greater impact on student development than that of a school officer. With that being said, the significance of involving school officers in the termly planning meetings, professional learning opportunities and one on one professional support from specialists and the leadership team ensure that the support they provide to each student is grounded in good practice and tailored to each learning environment. In short, our teachers tailor their day to best support every student and our school officers don’t only provide support to students with special learning needs.

Schools are always places of evolution and development. One practical impact of our intention to support all students is that earlier this week we approved the appointment of a Speech Pathologist to work in our school community on a weekly basis right through to the end of 2015 (continuing into 2016). It is our intention that if we are to ensure every student is achieving their full potential we must seek out the right people to help us to do so. I can appreciate that we have further development to make in the fields of learning support and support of gifted and talented students but rest assured that with your support we will continue to make big steps in the right direction now and into 2016.

A big thank you to all the parents who came along last Friday night, it means a great deal to your children that you were able to take the time to view and appreciate their artistic efforts.

Have a great weekend.

Ben Gray
Prayer for those with Cancer
Vienna Cobb Anderson

Bless, O God,
all who struggle with cancer.
Empower them with hope
for each and every day.
Provide them with loving
and tender care, laughter,
and the support of love.
Grant them
courage when they are afraid,
comfort when they are in pain,
and your blessing
when all else seems hopeless,
that in their fight with illness
they may continue to praise you
and glorify your name.
Amen.

Arts Evening
Thanks to all those who were able to join us last Friday night for our Arts Evening. I think it was a fantastic community event and great fun was had by parents and students alike. A special thanks to Sue Daw, who is currently exhibiting her works in the Gayndah Gallery, for judging our artwork and choosing the winners in each category. If you missed it—here are some of the winners, and their art pieces for you to see.

Woolworths Earn and Learn Update
Thank you to all those who have collected Earn and Learn stickers to assist the resourcing of our school. So far our tally stands at 1640 stickers. The collection period ends 8th September, let's try and hit the 2000 mark!

Upcoming ..........
Friday 28th August – Year 1/2 Assembly – Hall – 9am
Thursday 3rd September – Year Prep / Year 5 – Class Mass – 9am
Thursday 3rd September – Year 2/3 – Gunther Village
Friday 4th September – Father’s Day Breakfast – 8.20am – Outside the Hall
Friday 4th September – Father’s Day Assembly – Prep – 9am - Hall
Students of the Week

Back: Torra MacDonald (Yr 4), Rosie Halt (Yr 2/3)
Front: Daelen Maddern (Yr 1/2), Tate Kirk (Yr 1/2), Archie Webster (prep)
Absent—Drew Messer 5/6

Students of the Month

Kendra MacDonald—Prep
Lachlan Maxwell—Year 4
ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL TERM DATES 2015

TERM ONE
Wed 28 Jan—Thurs 2 April

TERM TWO
Tues 21 April—Fri 26 June

TERM THREE
Tues 14 July—Fri 18 Sept

TERM FOUR
Tues 6 Oct—Fri 4 Dec

Monday 20 April—Pupil Free Day
Monday 8 June—Public Holiday
Monday 13 July—Pupil Free Day
Monday 5 October—Public Holiday
Monday 19 October—Pupil Free Day

PREP: In preparation for our special Fathers Day Assembly, we would love to have photos of all student’s Fathers, Grandfathers or father figures please. Email pgayndah@bne.catholic.edu.au or hand in to the office to be copied before 3rd September.

TOY CATALOGUES: If you would like to place an order, please complete the order form and return with payment to the school office by Friday, September 18. Delivery will be towards the end of term four.

BOOKCLUB: If you would like to place an order, please return the forms and payment to the school office by Wednesday 2nd September.

DANCE CREW: Reminder there is NO Dance Crew this week.

P & F NEWS: Next meeting is now Tuesday 15th September. The P & F is looking for an extra hand or two for a couple of hours for the next couple of tuckshops. If you are able to help in any way, please contact the school office.

ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL TERM DATES 2015

“IN ALL THINGS
GLORIFY GOD”

GLENEDEN ORGANIC FARM: Double Workshop—Bush Blacksmithing and Sourdough Breading. Sunday 13th September. 1-5pm $45 pp Ph 0429137224

GAYNDAH LITTLE ATHLETICS: Sign on date this Friday, 28 August, 6pm at the Gayndah Sports Ground. Two weeks free trial. Run Jump Throw—Give Little Athletics a go! Enquiries to Helen Smith, 0429 964 454.

GAYNDAH TOUCH ASSOCIATION: 5-A-Side Touch Carnival Saturday, 12th September. Nomination Fee of $80 per team in 4 divisions: Open Men’s, Open Women’s, U16 Boys and U16 Girls. $250 Prize money per division! Money raised will go towards Burnett State College’s All Schools Touch Team and Gayndah Touch Association. For more info and a nomination form contact Nic Banks on 0438314609 or nbank11@eq.edu.au

GAYNDAH SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY: Walkathon & Bike-athon “Ks For Kids”. Saturday 29 August. Total walk distance is 10kms; walkers may go the whole distance or conclude at one of a checkpoint along the route. Cyclists have the option of riding the loop once or twice, covering either 10km or 20kms. This event is not a race. Register between 7.30am and 7.45am at the front gates of Burnett College on Saturday 29 August. Students need permission of parent/guardian. Cyclists start at 7.55am, walkers start at 8am. Sausage sizzle in grounds of Gayndah Primary School to welcome finishers. Participants are asked to pay a $5 entry fee and collect sponsorship in cash or written promises on forms before the event. Forms available at the schools. All funds raised will support the work of the School Chaplain in Gayndah, Binjour and Coalstoun Lakes. iTunes Gift Cards valued at $30 for the highest student fundraisers from BSC and the local Primary Schools.

NORTH BURNETT REGIONAL COUNCIL: “Movies in the Halls” All inclusive free community event. Watch two family movies on the ‘big screen’ inside each Town Community Hall. Included: movie admission, free inflight meal and meal kit, popcorn, tea/coffee/cold drinks. Bonus: Plane paper throwing competition, giveaways and more. Don’t forget to pack warm clothes and a blanket. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Gayndah Town Hall: Saturday 29th August. 3pm: Planes, 6pm: Paper Planes. Book by email to admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au or call 1300 696 272.

DISCO: The SES Cadets are holding a disco to raise funds to purchase new equipment. It will be held at the Gayndah Town Hall, on Saturday 12 September. Juniors (5-11 yrs old) 5.30pm to 7pm, Seniors (12 to 18 yrs old) 7.30pm to 10pm. Juniors—$3, Seniors—$5. Animal theme.

GAYNDAH ART GALLERY: Children’s workshops with artist Sue Daw, October 10 & 11. More details to follow.