Hi Everyone

Following the events of last night, I would like to pass on a sincere thank you to all of the parents, friends and extended family who were able to join us to help celebrate our annual Awards Evening. The students did an incredible job of reading, singing and dancing. It was an absolute pleasure to share such a lovely evening in our school grounds. I would love for any members of our school community to catch me over the next week and let me know of the elements that you really enjoyed, and how we might be able to make any adjustments for next year.

Staffing for 2016

Over the past two years the leadership team in consultation with the school board, parish council and P and F Committee have sought to find an ongoing class configuration that is sustainable long term. Matched with the consideration for class groupings has been a strong focus on how we can provide the best learning opportunities for all students, regardless of multi-age or single stream classes, given the challenges faced by a small school that isn't able to offer single class year level education.

In 2015 we saw further implementation of school wide practices and an increase in school officer support across all year levels. In 2016, we have coordinated to continue that model and below you will see the classroom configuration for 2016, where I intend to see students from years 1-3 and 4-6 given the opportunity to work specifically at their capabilities across all literacy and numeracy components.

What does this mean on the ground? The way that the classroom teachers will be planning in 2016 is that all students from years 1-3 and 4-6 will be working on the same components of literacy and numeracy at the same time. The teachers will plan each of these sessions based on individual levels and coordinate reading, spelling, writing and all numeracy tasks to the abilities of students across each of the three levels. Students across both the lower and upper years will be receiving student specific learning and teaching experiences, explicitly catering to where they are at in their development. A practical example of this would be if a child in year 2 has the capacity to read higher level texts, he/she will be grouped for guided reading (small group reading development) with other students of the same capabilities in order to continue their development. In spelling, students from years 4-6 will continue to work at their individual levels as part of 'Words their Way' and students in years 1-3 would continue their spelling development as part of the Phonological Program in year level specific groups. Writing and numeracy tasks will use the foundation of the National Curriculum to ensure students are either supported to meet, work at or exceed the nominated capabilities for his or her age. Prep will continue to be a stand-alone year level and will continue to be the first point of introduction for all school wide practices.

If you have any questions or would like to speak specifically about how the classroom configuration will work for your child(ren) please come and see me I would be more than happy to talk with you about the practicalities and research behind our decision.

Classroom Configuration for 2016

Prep – Miss Georgia Melville and Mrs Lorna Doyle
1/2 - Mr James Wren, Mrs Shirley Warwick and Mrs Jaimie Roth
3 – Mrs Kate Colvin, Mrs Shirley Warwick and Mrs Jaimie Roth
4 – Mrs Jennell Bernie, Mrs Sue Baker, Mrs Jayne Evans and Mrs Leah Lancaster
5/6 – Mrs Inge Oppermann – Mrs Jayne Evans and Mrs Leah Lancaster

Mr James Wren has been teaching in primary schools for the past 9 years both here and overseas. He was involved with the FOGS (Former Origin Greats) organisation for a year before returning to teaching in Brisbane. James has taught in both the Catholic and State systems and is very keen to join our school community.

It will be announced to the Brisbane Catholic Education Community today that Michelle McClafferty has accepted the position of Acting APRE at Holy Cross, Wooloowin for 2016. Over the next week, Michelle's position will be advertised to the broader Catholic Education community and we will conduct interviews and appoint a replacement before the end of the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank Michelle for all of her hard work and dedication to the role. She has given a considerable amount of time and effort to not only the role of APRE but head of curriculum and student release. I wish her all the very best for the future and know that she will continue to frequent our school community in the future.

Have a wonderful week and I look forward to seeing you at the Fete!

Cheers
Ben
We Welcome the Season of Advent.

Loving God,
We wait with joy for the coming of your Son. Like all people who have come before us, may we be ready to welcome Jesus. May the coming of Jesus fill us with peace and joy and may God bless us all. Let us watch out and let us be ready! 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.

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.

Advent Calendar of Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 29 Nov</td>
<td>Look for the signs Look at your family, see who may need a hug today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 30 Nov</td>
<td>Look for the signs Ask your teacher how they are feeling today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 1 Dec</td>
<td>Look for the signs Ask someone if they’re ok</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 2 Dec</td>
<td>Look for the signs Take notice rather than react</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 3 Dec</td>
<td>Look for the signs Did you see someone needing help today?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 4 Dec</td>
<td>Look for the signs Count how many times you say something negative today... And try to lessen the number tomorrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 5 Dec</td>
<td>Help out without being asked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 6 Dec</td>
<td>Look for the signs Go for a walk with your family. Count the signs you can see.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 7 Dec</td>
<td>Look for the signs Can you see signs of God? Were they in people or things?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 8 Dec</td>
<td>Prepare the way Prepare the way of kindness by doing a good deed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 9 Dec</td>
<td>Prepare the way Prepare the way of your heart by forgiving someone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 10 Dec</td>
<td>Prepare the way Prepare the way of your family by having some quality time together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 11 Dec</td>
<td>Prepare the way Prepare the way of your home by giving your unwanted items to St Vincent de Paul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 12 Dec</td>
<td>Prepare the way Prepare the way of your mind by reading and reflecting on the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 13 Dec</td>
<td>Prepare the way Prepare the way of your spirit by finding some time alone with God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 14 Dec</td>
<td>Prepare the way Prepare the way of your heart by forgiving someone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 15 Dec</td>
<td>Do for others Phone someone today that you’ve been meaning to catch up with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 16 Dec</td>
<td>Do for others Turn off the TV and have a family night playing board games or talking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 17 Dec</td>
<td>Do for others Offer to help a neighbour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 18 Dec</td>
<td>Do for others Write a letter (not an email) to someone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 19 Dec</td>
<td>Do for others Tell someone that you care about them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 20 Dec</td>
<td>Do for others Pray for someone else other than yourself today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 21 Dec</td>
<td>Do for others Do something that is 100% unselfish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 22 Dec</td>
<td>Feel blessed Count your blessings!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 23 Dec</td>
<td>Feel blessed Take time to appreciate this time of year, your family, your friends and all who are in your life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 24 Dec</td>
<td>Feel blessed Celebrate! Laugh! Love!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 25 Dec</td>
<td>Feel blessed Enjoy the birth of Christ with family and friends.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What’s On

Thursday 26th November—Gunther Village—Prep
Friday 27th November—Year 2/3 Assembly—Hall—Advent 9am
PARISH FETE—Friday 27th November
Thursday 3rd December—Gunther Village Christmas Concert—Whole School—9.45am
Thursday 3rd December—Year 6 Graduation—6pm
Friday 4th December—Final Mass and Farewells—10.30am Church
Awards Night 2015

**Good Samaritan Award**
- Mac Ahern—Prep
- Poppi Chambers—Yr 1
- Zoe Baker—Yr 2
- Mark McCosker—Yr 3
- Bridie Worland—Yr 4
- Georgia Slack—Yr 5
- Drew Messer—Yr 6

**Peter Dunn Sporting Encouragement Award**
- Monique Hitchcock—Prep
- Daelen Maddern—Yr 1/2
- Abby Driver—Yr 2/3
- Wyatt Martin—Yr 4
- Shae Baxter—Yr 5/6

**Dougherty Arts Encouragement Award**
- Hillary Waldock—Prep
- Sienna Slattery—Yr 1/2
- Kaiden Ratcliff—Yr 2/3
- Levi Bryant—Yr 4
- Isabella Bryant—Yr 5/6

**The St Joseph's P & F Passion for Reading Award**
- Bella Roth—Prep
- Loucas Sturgess—Yr 1/2
- Cadence Webster—Yr 2/3
- Torra MacDonald—Yr 4
- Joe Formica—Yr 5/6

**North Burnett All Rounder Award**
- Ainsley Bayntun

**The Heather Barbeler Memorial Encouragement Award**
- Olivia Doyle

**The Mick Lutvey Bursary**
- Jackson Kemp

**St Joseph’s Staff Academic Award**
- Harrison Kemp

**The Gayndah MS Club Award**
- Matt Roth

**The Gayndah Guardian Pharmacy Sporting Excellence Award**
- Jess O’Brien

**JB Notes Music Encouragement Award**
- Indianna Hitchcock, Lani Ezzy
VOLUNTEER’S MORNING TEA: We would like to extend an invitation to our wonderful volunteers to join us for morning tea, next Thursday at the Big Orange at 10.30am.

LOLLY JAR: As part of the Fete fundraising we are holding a ‘guess how many lollies are in the jar’ competition. Guesses are .20c each and will be on sale tomorrow and Friday and at the Fete.

LIBRARY NEWS: Library borrowing has now finished for the year.

BREAKY CLUB: Our last day for Breaky Club is next Monday, 30 November. Thank you to everyone who has donated goods or money to Breaky Club and to our wonderful volunteers who come and provide breakfast to our students. Thank you also to the P & F for your ongoing financial support of Breaky Club.

LOST PROPERTY: A size 8 sports shirt belonging to Blake Harris was misplaced at our Interhouse Swimming Carnival on Friday 30 October. The shirt is named; could you please check to see if your child has brought the shirt home by accident.

DANCE CREW: Our last Dance Crew for the year will be tomorrow Thursday, 26th November.

FETE RIDES: Ride tickets are available for purchase from the office.

PARISH FETE: Please return all sold and unsold raffle tickets to the office by tomorrow, Thursday 26 November.

GAYNDAH ART GALLERY: Will be open Fete night, come and see our current exhibition “From Bush to Beach”.

BINJOUR PLATEAU STATE SCHOOL P & C: Raffle—1st Prize Thermomix TM5 valued at $2089. 2nd prize—Hamper of Goodies. Tickets $10 each. Drawn 4th December, 2015. All funds raised are going towards our 2016 School Camp. Contact Julie 4161 3241 or Jas 4161 3101.

ST MATTHEW’S ANGLICAN CHRISTMAS FETE: Friday 4th December, starting at 5.30pm. BBQ, Ham Wheel, Stalls, children’s games, Jumping Castle. A fun night for all the family.

ST LUKE’S ANGLICAN SCHOOL: Homestay for Rural Students. St Luke’s Anglican School based in Bundaberg offers Homestay options for rural students. For more