Dear Parents and Friends

What a wonderful way to kick off the year with our Welcome BBQ. Thank you very much to each and every person who was able to make it on the night. I received a great deal of positive feedback regarding the centre and I can’t wait to see the space completed over the next couple of weeks.

This Saturday is our Working Bee and I thought I would take the opportunity to share a couple of the projects that we have on the cards so that parents and friends are able to help with particular equipment or nominate a task on the day that would suit them if they have other obligations Saturday and can only stay a short period of time.

**Senior Walk**
In front of our new sports centre there is a vacant block which will be transformed into a ‘Senior Walk’. As each student graduates they will receive a paver with their name and the year they graduated from St Joseph’s which will be laid as a memento that will stay here forever. On Saturday we will be laying pavers, planting trees, laying turf and spreading crusher dust in that space. Equipment required: wheel barrows, shovels and rakes. Anyone with brick laying experience would be greatly appreciated.

**Sand Pit Area**
Each year we like to turn over the existing sand in the pit and fill the remaining space with additional fresh sand. We will be laying artificial turf around the base of the pit and finishing off the junior vegetable garden at the same time. To create some separation from the sand pit area and the vegetable garden we will be laying pavers down before cementing in the stepping stones around the garden beds and spreading coloured rocks over the remaining area. Equipment required: wheel barrows, shovels and rakes.

**Windows**
In each of our classrooms the windows would benefit from a wash down and clean before replacing the fly screens. All the flyscreen, rubber and application tools have been purchased in preparation for the working bee. Equipment required: sponges and buckets.

**Other smaller jobs on the day:**
- Freshen up the fish pond area
- Paint the new basketball backboard
- Remove additional cardboard from waste area (a trailer to assist would be greatly appreciated)
- Paint the climbing frames
- Lay turf around the new sports centre.

Many hands always make light work so any amount of time on Saturday would be greatly appreciated. Thank you again for all of your support over the first three weeks of the year and I look forward to catching up over a snag and drink after the working bee.

Have a great week everyone.

Ben
From the Acting APRE

This week has certainly gotten off to a flying start! On Tuesday we celebrated Shrove Tuesday, the final day before Lent begins. Our annual ‘Race for the Golden Pancake’ was once again a huge success. There were many dropped pancakes and plenty of interesting strategies to try to keep the pancakes on the rulers from students, parents and teachers alike!

The winners in each race were:

Prep – Hunter Roberts                Year 1 – Kendra MacDonald
Year 2 – Nathan Banks                Year 3 – Loucas Sturgess
Year 4 – Abby Driver                 Year 5 – Declan Roth
Year 6 – Shardai Chapman-Sturgess and Tiffany Driver
Staff – Mrs Roth
Parents – Jacqui Kirk

Overall, the winner of the coveted Golden Pancake was Shardai Chapman-Sturgess from Year 6. Well done Shardai!

On Wednesday, we celebrated Ash Wednesday Mass. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the 40 day period in the Church’s calendar. Each of us received the ashes on our forehead as a sign of repentance and willingness to change ourselves for the better. This is part of the focus for Lent, and it is also a time of preparation for Easter, where we acknowledge Christ’s death and celebrate his resurrection.

During Lent, many people fast or give up certain foods or activities as a way of reminding themselves to be disciplined and to acknowledge the 40 days that Jesus spent being tempted in the desert before his death and resurrection. However, we need to be mindful that giving up something (chocolate for example) doesn’t really benefit anyone else. A more helpful activity during Lent would be to give up something and also take something on. For example, one might give up chocolate and donate the money normally spent on this treat to Project Compassion. Project Compassion is the annual appeal run by Caritas, where money is donated to those less fortunate. Boxes will be placed in each classroom and the office to collect donations. For more information, please visit http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

This Friday is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. This day is significant at St Joseph’s as one of our sports houses is named after this. ‘Our Lady of Lourdes’ is a title attributed to Mary, when she appeared on February 11, 1858 in Lourdes to a 14-year-old girl named Bernadette Soubirous. Mary appeared 18 times in total in that area, and on one particular occasion, she told Bernadette to dig in the stream. When Bernadette did this, she found water which continued to flow and still does today. Many people journey to Lourdes to visit the site where Mary appeared see the flowing water.

On Saturday, we hope to see as many helpers as possible at our school Working Bee, beginning at 7am. Many hands make light work!

Thank you for your support of our Welcome BBQ last Friday night. It was wonderful to have so many families in attendance and a great night was had by all.

Peace to you and your families,

Amy Glisson
Acting APRE
School Photos—Tuesday 1st March 2016

- School photos will be held Tuesday, 1st March.
- Envelopes were sent home yesterday, please let the office know if you did not receive one.
- Formal uniform is to be worn.
- Sibling photos are not automatically taken. If you would like a sibling photo please collect a separate envelope from the office.
- Orders must be in by Monday, 29th February.
- Photos will start at 8.40am.
- Please note the instructions on the envelopes for ordering photos.
- Girls with long hair are to have it up as per our normal school dress code.

**BUS ARRANGEMENTS FORM:** A reminder that if your child will be travelling to or from school on the bus this year, please complete and return the bus arrangements form that was sent home last week.

**NEWSLETTERS:** Newsletters are issued each Wednesday, and are available by email, hard copy or via our website. You may also choose to have the newsletter emailed and also receive a hard copy. If you would like to receive your newsletter electronically, please send an email to pgayndah@bne.catholic.edu.au and we will ensure a copy is emailed to you each week.

**SCHOOL FEES:** School fees are issued each term, and can be mailed or emailed. If you would like to have your school fee account emailed to you, please send an email to pgayndah@bne.catholic.edu.au. School fees can be paid by either cash or cheque, or we have EFTPOS facilities available in the office. You can also pay fees by either direct credit or direct debit. If you would like either our bank account details for direct credit or a direct debit form sent home, please contact the office.

**BREAKFAST CLUB:** Breakkie Club has resumed. It runs from 8.15am—8.30am on Mondays and Wednesdays. Donations are always welcome, items include: bread, milk, margarine, juice concentrate, promite, vegemite, jam and eggs.

**GET STARTED VOUCHERS:** Get Started Vouchers are part of the Qld government “Get in the Game” initiative to support sport and active recreation at the grassroots level. A maximum of $150 per voucher is available to eligible children and young people to help pay the cost of sport or recreation membership and/or participation fees. For further information about the vouchers, please contact the office, or visit www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports

**BOOKCLUB:** If you would like to place an order, please return the form and payment to the school office by Wednesday 17th February. If paying by cheque please make it payable to St Joseph’s School.
Diary of Coming Events

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<tr>
<th>Thurs 11 Feb</th>
<th>Sat 13 Feb</th>
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<tr>
<td>Parent info night</td>
<td>Working Bee</td>
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<th>Tues 1 March</th>
<th>Fri 4 March</th>
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<tr>
<td>School Photos</td>
<td>Opening of Sports Centre</td>
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<th>Tues 8 March</th>
<th>Fri 11 March</th>
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<tr>
<td>P &amp; F Meeting</td>
<td>Fish and Chips</td>
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ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL TERM DATES 2016

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<th>Term One</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 27 Jan—Thurs 24 March</td>
<td>Mon 11 April—Fri 24 June</td>
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<th>Term Three</th>
<th>Term Four</th>
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<td>Mon 11 July—Fri 16 Sept</td>
<td>Tues 4 Oct—Fri 2 Dec</td>
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Pupil free days to be advised.

CENTRAL BURNETT BRUMBIES:
Yes the season has started......
If you are Under 14 and 16 please get in touch with the Coaches as the Under 14 and 16 Carnival is on Saturday 5th March.

U14 - Warren Kenny on 4161 1279/0427 611 279 U16 - Rob Linsket 0429 611 096
Registration is $90.00 per player and for 3 or more $220.
This includes shorts and socks.

The Under 14 & 16 Carnival is on Saturday 5th March at Gayndah. We will be missing a number of our wonderful regular helpers - so please can we have assistance in the canteen, setting up the fields and cleaning up. This is one of our major fundraisers for the year. It is also used as a selection for representative teams.

Gayndah is also going to be hosting the 47th Battalion on the Anzac weekend. This is also where we will need assistance for the weekend with a number of jobs. So please keep some of that weekend free for the assisting at the football. Major event for the Football club and the Gayndah community.

GAYNDAH TENNIS CLUB: The Gayndah Tennis Club has great pleasure in inviting you to our free tennis day THIS Sunday, February 14. Time: 3pm – 8pm. There will be some great giveaways & games for the kids. We will have a BBQ dinner with free sausage on bread for the kids. The clubs welcomes everyone, so bring your friends, your family and your neighbours! For further details contact Greg: 0408 745 969.

GAYNDAH GIRL GUIDES: Girl Guides of Australia are girls and young women from all cultures, faiths and traditions aged from 5 to 17 years. It is a global movement with more than ten million members in 145 countries. Girls see Guiding as fun, friendship and adventure. Guides develop confidence and skills in leadership, teamwork and everyday life skills. In some countries, it is a school subject, used as a self development program. When guides learn new skills, they are rewarded with badges and achievement awards which recognise their skills. Long term benefits are significant. Guides go on to do great things in their Local communities and future careers. There is also the chance to travel to worldwide Girl Guide Jamborees and Rallies.

Let’s keep the movement in Gayndah, we need new members to start as soon as possible. Girls aged from 6.5yrs to 14yrs. Guides are starting again this year, at the Guide Hut on the hill in Fielding St. For further information contact Irene on 0409 227 355.

GAYNDAH AND DISTRICT NETBALL: Gayndah and District Netball Association Notice of AGM 8 March 2016 7pm YMCA.
An invitation is extended to all Senior players AND parents of Junior players to attend the AGM of the Gayndah and District Netball Association. It is essential that we have representatives from our Junior parents for the continuing functioning and existence of our Netball Club.

GAYNDAH SHOW SOCIETY: It is Gayndah Showgirl competition time again. We are seeking entrants for Gayndah Miss Showgirl 2016 (18-28yrs—18yrs by 1st Aug 2016) and Gayndah Miss Junior Showgirl 2016 (10-13yrs and 14-17yrs—inclusive of that age for 2016). Please contact Stacey Duncan 0407 030 143 for entry details. Presentations are Saturday 12th March.

GAYNDAH CORPORATE BOWLS: Every Friday night from 26th February to 18th March 2016. To register please contact Alex Colvin 0429 898 282. Bistro opens at 5.30pm and bowls start at 6.30pm. Open to all business and social groups.

2016 CENSUS: Apply now to be a 2016 Census Area Supervisor! The Australian Bureau of Statistics is seeking motivated and community minded project managers to work on the 2016 Census and make a difference to your community. More information is available from the ABS website. Apply online at abs.gov.au/careers