Hi everyone

My message is brief this week as I am keen to have the opening of the New Sport Centre take centre stage (no pun intended). The opening will comprise of two elements; a formal blessing and the civil celebration. Mr Ken O’Dowd MP has kindly offered to open the centre and Fr Jason will lead the blessing ceremony. Our Area Supervisor Alain Pitot will be joining us for the opening, alongside a number of other representatives from Brisbane Catholic Education and our local community. I would welcome all parents, extended family and any past students who may be interested to join us for this special celebration. Following the opening, a morning tea will be served in the centre.

Finally, I would like to briefly mention how appreciative I am to have welcomed Mrs Kathy Ratcliff in to share her wealth of knowledge surrounding the significance of Ban Ban Springs to the Wakka Wakka and surrounding Indigenous communities earlier this week. I know the students learn so much and have an absolute ball when Ngutana-Lui come out to visit (which they will be doing again this year), but having a member of our school community taking the time to build the understanding and appreciation for the cultural significance of this location is just wonderful. It was the first of what I hope will be many insightful conversations we look to engage in as the year progresses. To know more of the presentation from this week, please take the time to read Mrs Glisson’s piece on the next page.

Have a great week and I hope to see you for the opening on Friday.

Ben.
From the Acting APRE

It is hard to believe that we have passed the half way mark for this term already! There have been many wonderful things happening in our community, including a visit from Kathy Ratcliff on Monday morning. Kathy spoke to all the students about the Indigenous presence in the local area, particularly Ban Ban Springs, and how this land is sacred. The students really enjoyed hearing from Kathy and we are very appreciative of her time and expertise.

Tuesday was photo day and our students all brought their best smiles to school, ready to say, “Cheese!” Thanks to all the children for behaving beautifully, and to the parents for ensuring they were dressed in their best!

Today, the Year 6 students and I ventured to Xavier College at Hervey Bay for a leadership day. The students were all very excited about this opportunity and will be keen to share what they learnt upon their return.

In my newsletter piece last week, I began to explore the Jubilee of Mercy that our Pope has proclaimed. The idea of a Year of Mercy can be summed up by the following piece from Luke’s Gospel:

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The statement ‘give, and it will be given to you’ in the above reading resonates particularly well in this time of Lent. There are many ways that we can give to others, including donating through our Caritas boxes, supporting schools events such as the Working Bee, reach out to those around you for friendship and companionship, visit facilities such as Gunther Village to spend time with the residents…the list goes on. Many of our students have already visited Gunther Village this term, with Year 1/2 due to venture there on Thursday.

On Friday, we will officially open our sports centre. All community members are welcome to join us for this special occasion, which will be followed by morning tea. We will have many special guests from around Gayndah and from further afield, and we look forward to blessing and opening this wonderful space.

Next week, Year 4 will celebrate mass on Monday at 9am, and the Prep and Year 5/6 classes will celebrate mass on Thursday at 9am. All are welcome to join us.

All the best for a wonderful week!

God bless,

Amy Glisson
Acting APRE
**TUCKSHOP:** Thank you to our volunteers who helped out with tuckshop last week! Shelley Weston, Ros O’Brien, Lisa Baker, Jody Doyle and Jen Hitchcock.

**ICAS ASSESSMENTS:** The annual ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) testing is open to students from Year 2-6. Please find entry information and forms with the newsletter. Entries forms and fees due back to school by **Friday March 18**.

**BREAKFAST CLUB:** 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.

**PAEDIATRICIAN VISIT:** Please return expression of interest forms by **Monday 7th March** to help us co-ordinate this service.

**BOOKCLUB:** New order forms will be sent home today. Please return your orders by **Wednesday 17th March** to enable delivery before the end of term!

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**Students of the Week**

From left: Olivia Doyle (Y3), Mark McCosker (Y4), Mackenzie Ung (Prep), Shardai Chapman-Sturgess (5/6), Rex Messer (1/2)
**Central Burnett Brumbies:**
Under 14 & 16 carnival is on this **Saturday**. All participating players need to be registered before going on the field.

The first round of fixtures start on **Saturday 12th March**

HELPERS ARE REQUIRED URGENTLY IN THE CANTEEN. REMEMBER THIS IS OUR ONLY FORM OF FUNDRAISING FOR THE CLUB. PLEASE CONTACT MARY COOPER OR SEE HER AT TRAINING.

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK AND LESS STRESS.

COME AND WATCH THE BIG BOYS PLAY AND CHEER THEM ALONG.

**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.

**Clean Up Australia Day:** Sunday, 6th March 2016 at Lions Park starting at 7am. Free BBQ following. Enquiries to Dael on 4161 1904.

**Yenda Bus Meeting:** Wednesday 2nd March, 5.30pm. 365 Smith’s Road, Ideraway. Stacey Smith’s house. Ph 0417 079 904.

**Micah’s Car Detailing is Coming to Gayndah by Popular Demand!**
Special discounted rate for Gayndah residents on Monday 7 March:
- $30 for interior or exterior clean
- $50 for interior and exterior wash and clean any size car!
- *$10 surcharge for extra dirty cars

Location: Meson St car park outside St Joseph’s
Phone 0438895769 to book in a time!

Alternately, Micah can come to your location on Tuesday 8 March if you want more specialised services (upholstery cleaning, polishing etc). Phone 0415315678 to discuss and book in. Check out micahscardetailing.webs.com for more information.

**Shred PT:**
Personal training sessions available with Brienna. 45mins-1hr Personal or Group (Up to 3 people). Sessions now open.
For more information and bookings call or message Shred PT. Some afternoon sessions still available also, call and enquire now. Kirsty: 0429 628 432

**ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL TERM DATES 2016**

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<tr>
<th>Term One</th>
<th>Term Two</th>
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<td>Wed 27 Jan—Thurs 24 March</td>
<td>Mon 11 April—Fri 24 June</td>
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<th>Term Three</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.

**Diary of Coming Events**

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<th>Thurs 3 March</th>
<th>Fri 4 March</th>
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<td>NB Touch &amp; Basketball Trials</td>
<td>Opening of Sports Centre</td>
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<th>Tues 8 March</th>
<th>Fri 18 March</th>
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<tr>
<td>P &amp; F Meeting</td>
<td>NB RL, Netball &amp; Soccer</td>
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<th>Thurs 24 March</th>
<th>Friday 25 March</th>
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<td>Last Day School Term 1</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
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**SHRED PERSONAL TRAINING**

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<tr>
<th>MON: 7:30am</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
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**In All Things Glorify God**