Hi Everyone

This week we take time to acknowledge one of the more challenging aspects of both schooling and youth development as a whole, how to prevent bullying from occurring. To say we don’t see negative situations occurring in our playgrounds would be a real oversight and I know that at some stage or another you will have a conversation with your child around the poor choices they have made or that of another student. Our focus as a school community is to empower students when faced with difficult situations by following a process of identification, communication and action to move forward. These three stages manifest themselves through four key characters within the Bully Bulldozer Program: Crazy Conflict, Roving Random, Icy Isolation and Bully Bulldozer. To ensure everyone is up to speed on what each of these characters represent I have provided a short blurb below.

**Crazy Conflict**
- There is conflict with an equal balance of power between parties.
- Both parties are feeling upset by the situation.
- Both parties want a win-win solution to the problem.

*Example: A low level verbal argument whilst playing soccer.*

**Icy Isolation**
- Individuals or groups have different interests from the perceived victim/s.
- Individuals or groups choose not to play with the perceived victim/s.
- Hurt or distress is caused unintentionally.
- Groups or individuals may feel threatened by the inclusion of another person/s.

*Example: A group is playing a game and refuses to provide a legitimate reason why an individual can’t join the game.*

**Roving Random**
- Hurtful or harmful actions are not premeditated.
- There is no specific target, but there is an intention to hurt or harm.
- Acts of verbal and/or physical aggression are random.
- A victim happens to be in the path of an individual who has lost self-control.

*Example: A student may be feeling the strain of pressures outside of school and brings that into the classroom which manifests itself in acts of lashing out.*

**Bully Bulldozer**
- An individual targets the same or similar people over and over again.
- There is an intention to hurt another person.
- An individual thinks that he/she is stronger, bigger and more powerful than the victim/s.
- Only one party (the victim) wants a resolution to the problem.

*Example: A student makes a deliberate decision to make someone feel unsafe or unwelcomed on more than one occasion.*

In the case of any of these situations occurring, each has a different process in moving forward or consequence attached so that students can see action and closure. Identifying the situation through the characters also allows staff to be clear in what their actions are in moving forward.

At the end of the day, our greatest aspiration should be to ensure that the language that we are using with our students here at school is shared with our loved ones and family members. In doing so, we are talking openly about negative situations to ensure such incidents don’t go unnoticed and that our conversations both at school and home empower your children to feel supported, confident and resilient, when presented with difficult situations. As in adulthood, there will always be situations that we find difficult, but the tools we provide our youth with now will set them up to see them as opportunities to learn and grow as opposed to feeling isolated, uncomfortable or unsafe.

Bring the newsletter out at dinner sometime this week and have a chat about what these characters mean to your child. I would be really keen to hear what comes up.

Ben
From the Acting APRE

Today you will have received a ‘Christian Initiation for Children’ pamphlet, which outlines the Sacramental Policy for the Archdiocese of Brisbane. Some changes have been made to this policy recently which affect the timing and age eligibility for the Sacraments of Confirmation, Eucharist and Penance. The policy was adjusted to allow children to have more time to grow and learn between each sacrament, rather than completing several sacraments within a short window of time. Students now complete their Confirmation from the year they turn eight, and their Eucharist from the year they turn nine. Preparation for Penance is begun while students are preparing to receive Eucharist for the first time, and the Sacrament of Penance is celebrated more fully from the year a child turns ten.

This year, Saint Joseph’s Parish will be offering preparation for, and participation in, the Sacrament of Confirmation. A Q&A session will be held on Tuesday 26 April, where Father Jason and I will be available to answer any questions you may have about the Sacrament of Confirmation, and the preparation that will be involved. The formal preparation will consist of an orientation session on Thursday 5 May, followed by some other formation and information sessions in the lead up to the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday 24 July. Much of the preparation will be done at home, and a booklet will be provided for parents to work through with their child. Please mark these dates in your diary and come along to the orientation session on 5 May if you intend to have your child/ren confirmed this year.

Thank you to all the family members who were able to come along to our Celebration of Learning on Tuesday. The students enjoyed showing what they have been learning this term and we all appreciate your support.

This Friday 18 March is a very important day in our calendar, as we commemorate our school’s patron saint, as well as recognise the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. Students and staff are invited to wear orange to school on Friday, to make a stand against bullying and violence. Further information is contained in the fliers in the glass window at the front of the school.

Our St. Joseph’s Day celebrations will commence on Friday with an assembly led by Year 4. Following this, the students will enjoy a celebratory cake before heading back into the classroom. During the day, the students will be engaged in activities to acknowledge the significance of St. Joseph’s Day and the Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. At lunch time, the fish and chips will be served to the students who ordered them, with all proceeds going to Caritas. Some students will be at the North Burnett Regional Trials on this day, so if they have ordered fish and chips, it will be delivered to them. We wish these students all the best on Friday.

Our patron saint, St. Joseph, is best known for being Jesus’ earthly father. Not a great deal is known about him; only what is contained in the scriptures. While Joseph was of royal lineage, being descended from the great King David of Israel, he was a poor carpenter who lived and worked in Nazareth. Despite being faced with great uncertainty when Mary discovered she was pregnant, he ultimately stood by her when he realised Mary was carrying God’s son. The scriptures show that Joseph respected God’s commands and cared greatly for Jesus and Mary. St. Joseph is the patron saint of the dying, given that he most likely died before Jesus began his public ministry, but he is also the patron saint of families and fathers.

Next Wednesday 23 March, we will celebrate Purple Day for Epilepsy. Staff and students are invited to wear purple to show support for those living with epilepsy. A donation tin is available in the office, along with merchandise that students can purchase from this Thursday. All proceeds will go to Epilepsy Queensland.

Holy Week begins this Sunday, with the celebration of Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday (or Passion Sunday) remembers the time when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, and the people waved branches and put cloaks down for him. Sadly, only days later, these same people called for Jesus’ crucifixion. Next week, we will begin to retell the story of Palm Sunday, the Last Supper, and Jesus’ death and resurrection. Each class will present an element of this story and perform a song for us next week. Parents and caregivers are most welcome to join us for these presentations, which will be held in the Sports Centre. The presentations will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Day and Time</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Monday 21 March 2:30pm</td>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1/2</td>
<td>Tuesday 22 March 2:15pm</td>
<td>The Last Supper and The Garden of Gethsemane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6</td>
<td>Wednesday 23 March 2:15pm</td>
<td>The Trial, Crucifixion and Death of Jesus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 and Year 3</td>
<td>Thursday 24 March 2:15pm</td>
<td>At the Tomb and the Resurrection of Jesus</td>
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</tbody>
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ICAS ASSESSMENTS: The annual ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) testing is open to students from Year 2-6. Entries forms and fees due back to school by Friday March 18.

CROSS COUNTRY: Students are currently training for the Cross Country which will be held on Friday, 15 April. Students will be running the following distances:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>200m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>400m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>600m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>1000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students born 2007</td>
<td>2000m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students born 2006</td>
<td>2000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students born 2005</td>
<td>3000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students born 2004</td>
<td>3000m</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Students will travel to and from the event by bus. They are to wear sports uniform and bring a hat, sunscreen, water bottle and their lunch and snack as normal.

SAINT MARY’S CATHOLIC COLLEGE EQUESTRIAN: Saint Mary’s Catholic College will be holding an Equestrian Competition for schools on Thursday 28 April 2016. The competition will feature events related to stock work, and will therefore be called a Cowhorse Competition, with events such as team penning, working cow horse, Western bending, barrel race, whip cracking and lead and ridden stock horse. Information packs are available at the office.

P & F NEWS: Our next tuckshop is next Thursday, 24 March. Orders forms are being sent home today, please return to the school office by Monday, 21 March.

Purple Day for Epilepsy
At St Joseph’s we will celebrate Purple Day next Wednesday, 23rd March. Merchandise is available from the school office from tomorrow.
We have limited stocks of the following items:

- Printed awareness ribbons $2
- Silicone embossed wristbands $3
- Purple crystal pens $5
- Purple masks $5
- Silicone key ring $5

Students of the Week
Back from left: Rosie Halt (Y4), Kaida MacDonald (Y3), Isabella Bryant (5/6)
Front from left: Kiera Driver (Prep), Tori Bayntun (1/2)
Central Burnett Brumbies:
Training for Under 12’s to 16’s is in Mundubbera. Bus is travelling from Gayndah Sports ground. Gold Coin Donation to travel on the bus. Leaving 3.30pm.
All registrations are DUE BY 29TH APRIL. Mary Cooper is going to be at each training session accepting all monies.
You can transfer directly into the account
Gayndah Junior RLFC.
BSB: 064560
Account: 147656020
Registration: $90 which includes socks and shorts - once you have paid you can get the shorts and socks.....more stock is coming soon.
Central Burnett Brumbies play at Cherbourg at Mundubbera this Saturday 19 March.
Early start as Mundubbera Senior Rugby League have Clash for Cash on as well. Times are:
Under 6s and 8s at 8am
Under 10s play at 9am
Under 12s play at 10am
Under 14s play at 11am against Chinchilla Gold
Under 16s play at 12pm.
If you have any concerns or queries please contact your coaches. Training in Gayndah next Tuesday 22 March at 4.30pm at the Gayndah Sports Oval. Any other concerns please contact Sandra Kenny 4161 2116 (night time only).

Gayndah Swimming Club:
Club Break Up night. Come along and have some fun! Presentations, trophies and games. Thursday 24th March, 6pm at the pool. Bring a plate to share, savoury or sweet. Epilepsy awareness raffle tickets $2 each or 3 for $5. Purple jelly cups $2ea. All proceeds to Epilepsy QLD.

Tennis Hot Shots:
Do you want to become a Tennis Hot Shot? Friday afternoon at the Gayndah Tennis complex, Barrow Street, is the place to be. Come and join Tennis Australia’s National program conducted by Bundaberg Tennis Academy Tennis Professional, Kevin Banner at Gayndah Tennis Association, Barrow Street, with lots of fun & games to suit all levels. The program commences Friday 15th April, 2016. Times: 3.30pm-4.00pm (5-7 years); 4pm-4.45pm (7-10 years); 4.30-5.30pm (9-12 years); 5.15pm - 6.45pm (Advanced & High School). Registration is essential - confirmation to join the program must be given, for old and new players - to guarantee your spot, phone Kevin: 4152 0753 / 0409 520 753

Gayndah and District Netball:
Junior Sign On and Come and Try Days for girls aged 5-15years and boys aged 5-12years. Monday afternoons, 4pm at the Gayndah State School Courts.

Gayndah Soccer:
Soccer Soccer Soccer in Gayndah, starting after Easter school holidays. Training Thursday 4-5pm Gayndah sports ground
For all junior players 3yrs old up to high school students.
Only $25 for the season
Also seeking parents interested in helping with coaching
For more information phone Laine Collins 0428 931 151