



St Joseph's Primary School Gayndah

2020 Term One
Week Four

Newsletter Date
Thursday
February 20 2020



Principal's Letter to Parents



Dear families, students and staff,

Why do we keep talking about a **Growth Mindset**?



Last week, Year 4/5 presented assembly around growth mindset. But why do we keep talking about it and what is it?



What Is a Mindset?

A mindset refers to whether you believe qualities such as intelligence and talent are fixed or changeable traits.

People with a **fixed mindset** believe that these qualities are inborn, fixed, and unchangeable.

Those with a **growth mindset**, on the other hand, believe that these abilities can be developed and strengthened by way of commitment and hard work.

The Two Types of Mindsets

Stanford psychologist Carol Dweck began her research on this topic by tackling a question: What happens if you give kids a difficult problem to solve? Some children viewed the problem as a challenge and learning experience. Other children felt that it was impossible to solve and that their intelligence was being held up for scrutiny and judgment. The kids in the first group had growth mindsets. When faced with something difficult, they believed that they could learn and develop the skills they needed to solve it. The second group of kids had fixed mindsets. They believed that there was nothing they could do to tackle a problem that was out of the reach of their knowledge and abilities.

Why Mindsets Matter

Your mindset plays a critical role in how you cope with life's challenges. In school, a growth mindset can contribute to greater achievement and increased effort. When facing a problem such as trying to find a new job, people with growth mindsets show greater resilience. They are more likely to persevere in the face of setbacks while those with fixed mindsets are more liable to give up.

Fixed mindsets, Dweck explains, tend to create a need for approval. "I've seen so many people with this one consuming goal of proving themselves in the classroom, in their careers, and in their relationships," Dweck explains in her book *Mindset*. "Every situation calls for a confirmation of their intelligence, personality, or character. Every situation is evaluated: Will I succeed or fail? Will I look smart or dumb? Will I be accepted or rejected? Will I feel like a winner or a loser?"

Growth mindsets, on the other hand, result in hunger for learning. A desire to work hard and discover new things. To tackle challenges and grow as a person. When people with a growth mindset try and fail, they tend not to view it as a failure or disappointment. Instead, it is a learning experience that can lead to growth and change.

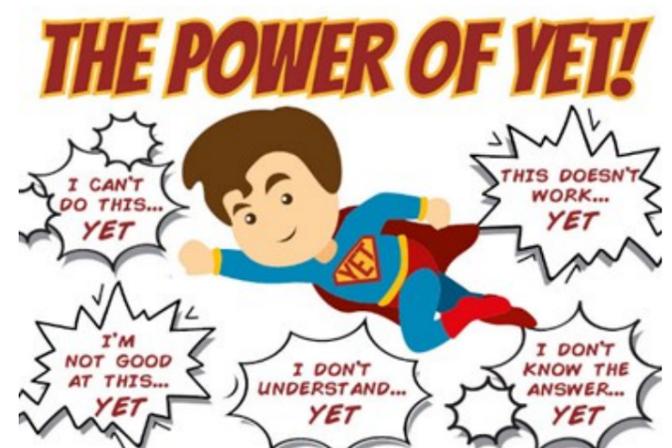
What Is Your Mindset?

Do you have a fixed or growth mindset?² Start reading the following statements and decide which ones you agree with most.

1. People have a certain amount of intelligence, and there isn't any way to change it.
2. No matter who you are, there isn't much you can do to improve your basic abilities and personality.
3. People are capable of changing who they are.
4. You can learn new things and improve your intelligence.
5. People either have particular talents, or they don't. You can't just acquire talent for things like music, writing, art, or athletics.

Studying, working hard, and practicing new skills are all ways to develop new talents and abilities.

If you tend to agree with statements 1, 2, and 5, then you probably have a more fixed mindset. If you agree with statements 3, and 4, 6, however, then you probably tend to have a growth mindset.





School Photos:

Thanks to MSP for the seamless organisation of the school photos on Tuesday. My thanks to Jody Doyle for her liaising with the photographers prior to, and after, the day.

The photographers have said the photos should be back to us prior to the end of the school term of **Friday 3 April**.

Please contact MSP directly if you have any questions or still wish to order photos.

Rural Aid Fundraiser Opportunity:

John Zahl has contacted the school regarding the following fundraising opportunity:

As you may be aware, Rural Aid has selected Gayndah as one of only ten town in Australia to receive the benefits of its \$100K makeover packages. They will be bringing 50-70 volunteers to Gayndah for seven days from the 20th. March. They bring nothing in a sense except the clothes they stand in – they purchase all food, fuel, supplies locally – query, would your P&F be interested in providing meals as a fund raiser? Rural Aid require Breakfast, lunch and dinner, you may be interested in doing cut lunches – if So, Rural Aid would contact you and discuss numbers, price etc – yes, they pay for it all.



For the school to be involved in this community event would be wonderful.

However, we can only say yes if a significant number of families offer to support in the preparation and cooking of food.

Could you please contact the Office as soon as possible to indicate your support for this event and how you are able to assist.

The army band looks likely to be scheduled for a concert at St. Joseph's on **Wednesday 25 March**. Keep an eye out for further details as we receive them.

Rural Aid have contacted the school and have offered to provide the school with resources to support the music program for which we are extremely grateful.

Gala Sports Day:

Congratulations to our students who participated in the Galal Sports Trial Day held across St. Joseph's and Gayndah State School on Monday. Further congratulations to those who were selected to represent Gayndah District at the North Burnett trials.

Apologies that the calendar with trial date sent home included dates for Gayndah State School events.

Parent Conversations:

A reminder that parent conversations will be held in Week 6. Notes were sent home last week. Please contact the office asap if you did not receive one. Please send preferred days and times back as soon as possible.

Sydney/Canberra Meeting:

Pam Walsh from Educatoours will be holding a parent and student information session on **Tuesday 25 Feb at 3pm** in the library. We hope to see many of our Years 5 and 6 families there.

In all things Glorify God,

Terese



From the APRE



Easter seems only just around the corner, so the season of Lent begins next week with **Ash Wednesday on February 26**. This begins the special time of preparation for Easter. We will be holding two events during next week, with the students, to prepare and begin our Lenten season. This is a time we also begin our collections for Project Compassion and more details will be sent out once our boxes and information has arrived from Caritas.

Shrove Tuesday/ Pancake Day

On **Tuesday 25 February**, we will begin preparing for our Lenten journey by celebrating Shrove Tuesday. This follows the tradition where people used up all of the fats in the house that they would go without until Easter. We will begin with a small prayer on Shrove Tuesday followed by the annual Pancake Tuesday race. We are asking that before each student races, they give a **GOLD** coin which will begin our collections for Project Compassion.



Lent is a time for self-discipline. Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, is fast approaching and with it the very Catholic anxiety about what we are "giving up for Lent." Many of us focus so much on what we give up - a practice not made mandatory by the Church - that we neglect the three pillars of Lent; prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Throughout the 40 days of Lent, people are called to fast and pray, but just before Lent starts, has become a time of merrymaking, culminating on Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Tuesday, the day before Lent begins. The name Shrove Tuesday comes from the custom of ringing the 'shriving bell' to summons the people to church to be 'shriven,' that are to confess their sins at the beginning of Lent. At that time, certain foods like eggs, milk, meat and rich buttery dishes were given up for the duration of Lent. One way that they used up the eggs, milk and fats in the house was to add flour to make special pancakes. In England, the popularity of pancakes caused Shrove Tuesday to be called Pancake Day, a tradition we also follow here in Australia. Students will have the opportunity to cook Pancakes on this day, and will also explore and learn about "Shrove Tuesday" and its significance at the beginning of Lent.

Ash Wednesday Mass

Our Ash Wednesday Liturgy will be held on **Wednesday, 26 February at 9am**. Families and friends are all most welcome to attend and students will be joining the parishioners for this occasion. Ash Wednesday begins our special time of Lent.

Ash Wednesday begins the forty days of preparation for celebrating the resurrection of Jesus. The word 'Lent' actually comes from the old English word meaning "springtime". In Australia, in the Southern Hemisphere, Lent usually falls in the season of summer and autumn and the experience of what comes with springtime is therefore different. However, it is still a time with rich meaning and symbols. Lent is a time for strengthening our faith, a time to reflect on who we are and where we are going. It is a time of quietness and prayer, a time of penance and meditation, a time to become aware of our strengths and weaknesses. During our Ash Wednesday Mass, ashes are placed on our foreheads, in one of the most counter-cultural acts of our faith. It is done for two reasons: a personal act of remembrance and as a sign or a witness for others.

During Lent, we try to make a conscious effort to prepare ourselves for Easter. We can do this by increasing our prayer, helping others, fasting, giving up things we particularly like, and supporting Project Compassion. Lent urges us to identify and walk with Jesus as he travels towards Jerusalem and the place of his death and resurrection. In the spirit of renewal and conversion we observe Lent by reflecting on the central events of Jesus' life and welcoming the opportunity to grow through changing our lives.



Phonics in Context - So What Does It All Mean

Brisbane Catholic Education values and places priority on the early literacy experiences of our students. We build on their literacy capability through meaning-focussed learning that engages early learners in a variety of contexts as they participate in the Australian curriculum. English places **literature** as the central strand of the English curriculum. Phonics is explicitly taught in the development of each child's ability to read and write meaningfully, however it must be done in context. The English language is certainly peculiar...meaning is everything. Take the word WIND for example...



'*Wind* up the blind before
the *wind* gets too strong.'

Letters and sounds cannot be taught in isolation alone. Phonic knowledge alone does not enable the pronunciation of the word WIND. A context of meaning adds clues for students when they read the word WIND. You won't find many schools doing a Friday spelling test anymore. Just because a child can memorise words for a test does not mean they understands the logic or reasoning behind the spelling of words.

Spelling lists don't provide students with an understanding of why words are spelled certain ways, which would help students figure out how to spell the new words they encounter. Lists can easily confuse the young spelling student, making the subject of spelling seem difficult and unlearnable. Instead, teachers are using literature (Mentor Texts) to teach spelling, writing and reading strategies. For example, currently our Prep/One class are using the text, *The Green Sheep*. This text is used throughout a short cycle (3-4 weeks) to teach spelling, writing and reading strategies. Already our learners are investigating the double e sound (as present in green and sheep), as well as single sounds (g, p) ... just to name a few. Much more is explored during the three weeks. The literature does the work! The literature gives our students a context of which to make meaning. This is also a reason why we should NEVER teach a letter or sound a week. Letter-of-the-Week programs are outdated, ineffective, and do not help our students learn the alphabet.

Using authentic texts, teachers use gradual release of responsibility strategies to teach phonics in context and in alignment with the appropriate year level in the Australian Curriculum. If you asked your child if there is a particular text/book they are looking at in class, I am sure they will be able to tell you. As mentioned, our Prep/One class is currently exploring the text, '**Where is the Green Sheep**'. Our 2/3 class are using, '**Stellaluna**'. Our 4/5 class are using, '**The Rabbits**' and our Year 6 class are exploring the text, '**Mahtab's Story**'. Many of the texts teacher use also connect with other learning areas like History and Geography. Giving context around phonics, spelling, reading and writing creates classrooms filled with authentic, enjoyable literacy learning.

Have a great week!

Keep smiling

Bec

TUCKSHOP 2020

We are still looking for a volunteer or two who would be interested in taking on our Tuckshop Coordinator position.

✓ Tuckshop is held once a fortnight.

✓ You can choose a day of the week that suits you.

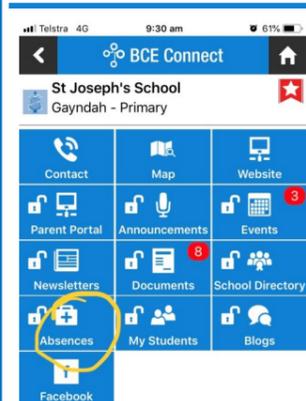
✓ You will be fully supported & given any help necessary to get you started.

✓ Job includes: Organizing a roster, setting menu, ordering foods and other goods. (We have templates, supplier contacts etc.)

If this interests you, we'd love to hear from you! Contact the office, come to our P&F meetings or send Lisa Baker or Sarah Webster a message! ???

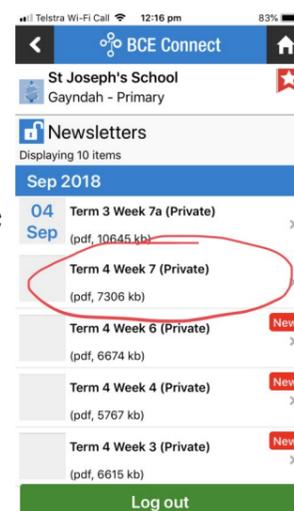
Please consider if you can volunteer your time for a couple of hours once or twice a term!

PARENT PORTAL NEWS:



Did you know? The **FREE BCE Connect app** and Parent Portal can be used for:

- Direct links to the Parent Portal, newsletters and more!
- Reporting student absences at any time 24/7
- Changing student and parent details such as address and phone number contacts.
- Downloading reports such as NAPLAN and semester reports (**NOTE: Student report cards are now accessed through the parent portal and are only able to be accessed for the current and previous academic year. Please download and save these documents to your files!*)
- Links to the school Facebook page, class blogs (newsletters) and school calendar.



SPORTS NEWS:

SPORTS TRIALS 10-12 YRS - Please return medical, permission forms and **\$5 per sport** to the office. ***Please note: some of the dates in the included sports calendar are Gayndah State School events dates therefore won't be applicable.*

Week 4 at St Joey's!





Congratulations!



**Congratulations to our Award
Recipients for Week 3!**

**Archie Webster, Asher Bryant, Shylah Terry, Isaiah Sturgess, India
Webster, Savannah Roth and Hudson Euler!**
Well done guys!



St Joseph's Primary School
 38 Meson Street
 PO Box 119
 Gayndah
 Queensland 4625

Phone: 07 4161 1889
 Fax: 07 4161 2655
 Email: pgayndah@bne.catholic.edu.au
 Website: www.stjosephsgayndah.qld.edu.au
 St Joseph's Primary Gayndah

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL TERM DATES 2020

Term 1: Wednesday 30 January to Friday 3 April

Term 2: Tuesday 21 April - Friday 26 June

Term 3: Tuesday 14 July - Friday 18 September

Term 4: Tuesday 6 October - Friday 4 December



"In All Things Glorify God"



Community Notices

WOODMILLAR BUS MEETING

5pm Thursday 27th February at the school lunch tables.
 Contact Ros O'Brien 0428 260 146



ROTARY CLUB OF GAYNDAH

2020 CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY
7AM SATURDAY 29TH FEBRUARY
LIONS PARK, ANZAC PARADE,
GAYNDAH

GAYNDAH ROTARY WILL AGAIN BE CO-ORDINATING THE CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY FOR THE GAYNDAH COMMUNITY. COME ALONG AND JOIN IN WITH OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS . BRING ALONG YOUR WATER, SUNSCREEN AND A HAPPY FACE. A FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE WILL FOLLOW THE CLEAN UP.

THIS YEAR MARKS THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY AND GAYNDAH CAN BE PROUD THAT THEY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THIS FOR MANY YEARS. GAYNDAH LIONS AND FREEMASONS WILL ALSO BE ASSISTING ON THE DAY WITH THEIR ADOPT A ROAD CLEAN UP.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT DAEL GIDDINS 0475006544

LACE UP AND GET READY FOR A LAUGH, IT'S TIME TO

GET YOUR RACQUET ON!

OPEN COURT SESSIONS

NO SKILL, NO RACQUET, NO MATES REQUIRED.

Gayndah & District Tennis Assoc
 Starting Thursday February 27th 6:30 - 8pm
 \$15 per person (includes food & drink) 18 years & older
 Assoc courts, Barrow St, Gayndah
 Contact: Greg 0408 745 969 Claire 0428 304 350
 Search "Gayndah / 4625"

BOOK NOW AT

<https://play.tennis.com.au/opencourtsessions>



WHEN: 20/2/2020 - 26/3/2020
LENGTH: 6 weeks
WHERE: School Oval
 Gayndah State School
 Gayndah
TIME: Thursdays
 3:15pm - 4:15pm
AGE: 5-12 Years
COST: \$75



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