Dear Parents and Caregivers

Wow, it is hard to believe that another week of our school year has passed by already. I have quickly learnt that St Joseph’s is a very busy place where lots of quality learning and teaching takes place. In the classrooms, unit work and many activities are well underway. Students have been busy writing stories, doing maths, engaging in reading, answering quiz questions, cutting, pasting, drawing and much, much more. Most importantly, the spirituality and commitment to our Marist, Nano Nagle and Edmond Rice Heritage is present through the actions and words of all community members. I have witnessed many ways in which we are all living the Gospel values and fulfilling the mission of carrying out the work of Jesus Christ each and every day. Keep up the great work!

Over the last two weeks I have managed to visit all classrooms. The children have all made me feel very welcome as well as those parents I have met around the school. At last week’s assembly I told the children one way to respect people and make them feel welcome is to introduce themselves and smile. I also encouraged them if they were to see someone sitting alone then they should go over and talk to them and ask them to play. I must congratulate the children on the way I see them greeting not only other students but also the staff, keep the smiles and hello’s coming.

This week the Executive Director of Brisbane Catholic Education, Ms Pam Betts, has sent out a letter for parents whose children attend Catholic schools. Please see attached letter.

All Stars Game

We had the most wonderful night on Saturday night when 19 students and 5 Staff went to the All Stars league game at Suncorp Stadium.

I send my sincerest thanks to the Kedron Supporters Club, Edinburgh Castle Hotel, Mr Woodforth and Marist College Ashgrove for their amazing support of our students. I send particular thanks to Mr Terry Mellifont for all his organising of the trip; in particular for providing the tickets, spending money and delicious lunch for us all. Our students had a brilliant night.

Also to Marist College Ashgrove for the way they welcomed us, allowed us to use their facilities and also for supplying us with breakfast.

My sincere thanks also goes to Uncle Eric, Aunty Shirley, Br Mick, Mr Boles and Elise for all of their organising and care of our children. We are very lucky to have you with us.
Swimming and Swimming Caps

Beginning this Wednesday 13th February and continuing every Wednesday, children will participate in one swimming lesson per week for the rest of the Term (depending on the weather).

All swimming lessons will be held at the Murgon Pool and conducted by Miss Amber our PE teacher. Children will walk to and from the pool, accompanied by a teacher.

Each child will require togs. All children are required to have a swim shirt and must wear a swimming cap. For the children that do not have a swimming cap, one will be provided. Any child without a swim shirt or swimming cap will not be allowed in the pool.

I send my sincerest thanks to Clem Jones Centre, Steve Healy and Terry Mackenroth for their amazing support of our school. They have kindly donated swimming caps so all children at St Joseph’s are able to swim this term.

LATE ARRIVALS / EARLY DEPARTURES

- We understand that at times it may be necessary for you to collect your child early or arrive at school late. Please be aware that late arrival means that your child may miss essential instructions given at the beginning of the school day. Children also may feel uncomfortable and embarrassed arriving at the classroom when everyone else is already settled.

- Please note that late arrivals and early departures must come through the school office. Attendance records will be inaccurate if your late arrival or early departure is not recorded on our system. It is necessary for you to accompany your child to the office to sign them in or out.

Supervised Crossing

- We are very fortunate at St Joseph’s to have a safe environment provided by the Department of Transport to help our community members cross the road safely. It has been noted, however, that a number of parents, sometimes with young children, do not use the crossing or cross before the supervisor has time to instigate the proper procedure. Parents are encouraged, for their own safety and the safety of their children, and as a good example to others, to use the crossing correctly.

School Newsletter

- The newsletter is sent home on the first school day of each week, generally Monday. Parents and caregivers please be aware of this and ask your child for your copy as it contains information about the school. If you would prefer an electronic version of the newsletter, please provide the office with an email address.

Greg Cran
Principal

ACTIVE AFTER-SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

The Australian Sports Commission’s exciting Active After-School Communities (AASC) program is set to continue this term and will begin TOMORROW Tuesday 12 February. It is a great chance for kids to have fun with friends, learn sport and get active.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Coach</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Lawn Bowls</td>
<td>Paula Nunan</td>
<td>Bowls Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Judo</td>
<td>Stan Munday</td>
<td>Salvation Army Hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activities commence at 3.15pm from under the Jacaranda Tree and students will need to be collected from the Bowls Club and the Salvation Army Hall when activities conclude at 4.15pm. Afternoon Tea is provided. To sign up for lawn bowls and judo this term, you can collect a form from the office. Forms must be returned by tomorrow morning (Tuesday). It’s great fun and it’s all FREE. Look forward to seeing you there.
This week begins an important season in the Church year – Lent. During Lent you will notice that the colour used in the Church will change to PURPLE. Purple is used for two reasons: firstly because it is associated with mourning and so anticipates the pain and suffering of the crucifixion, and secondly because purple is the colour associated with penance (saying sorry) and royalty, and celebrates Christ’s resurrection.

Tomorrow, 12 February, the students will participate in Shrove Tuesday. On this day, also known as Pancake Tuesday families would eat pancakes to use up rich ingredients such as eggs, milk, and sugar, before the fasting season of the 40 days of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. The liturgical fasting emphasized eating plainer food and refraining from food that would give pleasure: in many cultures, this means no meat, dairy, or eggs. Some families still observe this tradition by only eating fish on Fridays and giving up eating chocolate during Lent.

This Wednesday, 13 February, is Ash Wednesday the first day of the Season of Lent. Its name comes from the ancient practice of placing ashes on worshippers’ foreheads and is a sombre day of reflection on what needs to change in our lives; we reflect on turning back to God and saying sorry.

Everyone is invited to attend the school Ash Wednesday Liturgy at 9.00am in the Church. Students in Years 4/5/6/7 will attend the Ash Wednesday Liturgy and the upper school students will then visit the younger classes to distribute the ashes.

May we all attempt to take on the true meaning of this Lenten season by continuing to pray, fasting (giving up something for the period of Lent, for example chocolate and using this money to give to others) and almsgiving (giving to those in need).

Dates to Come

**Year 7 Leadership Induction and Beginning School Mass**
Friday 22 February, 9.30am in Church. All students, families and friends are invited to attend. Morning Tea will be provided for Year 7 students, families and parishioners following the Mass. Please RSVP to the office by Wednesday 20th Feb if you will be attending.

**Archbishop Visit**
His Grace, The Archbishop, will be visiting St. Joseph School on Friday 22 February to meet all students and staff. During the weekend he will remain in our parish centre to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with the candidates. Staff, students, families and parishioners are all invited to meet the Archbishop during our regular Church Masses - Murgon 6pm Saturday night or Wondai 8am Sunday morning. He will also visit Cherbourg and Proston.

May we continue to pray for those students who are preparing to receive the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Confirmation - Alfie Watcho, Heather and Stafford Sandow, Francis and Jeremy Hobbs, Claire Walsh and Alex Cran.

**Staff Induction Mass**
Sunday March 3, 8am at St. Joseph Murgon. All students, their families and parishioners are invited to attend the staff induction Mass and be involved in the blessing of our school staff for the year.

*Mrs Emma Lunney, APRE.*

**Tuckshop (URGENT!! URGENT!!)**

Before we can begin tuckshop this year we need a **CONVENER** (Tuckshop opens on Mondays each week or Tuesday when Monday is a holiday). The role of the convener is not an onerous one – the responsibilities are arranging and co-ordinating the roster and taking responsibility for the ordering of supplies. (Counting of money, banking, and accounts are managed by the P & F Treasurer). If anyone is willing to take on this role or for further information please contact Sheree in the office.

We are also in need of workers or suppliers. Rosters are one day a month and suppliers $50 for the year. Please let Sheree know if you are able to assist as a worker or supplier.
Slushie Machine

In the interim while we are trying to find a convener for Tuckshop we will start selling Slushies on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday big lunch.

However there is some cleaning involved with the machine and we are seeking interested parents who may be willing to help with this process. It will involve one half hour a week, if a few parents would be willing to do this job it may only involve one half hour per month. It is a very simple task of pulling the drums off, washing and re-lubricating them and refilling.

**********************************************************************

Book club flyers are being sent home today. These orders are due back at school by Monday 18 February. Please note that if you are paying for your order by cheque, kindly make the cheque payable to St Joseph’s Primary School.

Nell Guteridge, Librarian

**********************************************************************

Student of the Week 2012 – Week 2 Term 1

**LOVE OF WORK:** Riley Robinson (2); Joanela Purcell (2); Ivan Saltner (4); Jaiden Hill (5/6); Jarrod Oberle (5/6); Hayden Boney (7); Jenai Fisher (7); Kyeisha Warner (7)

**WAY OF MARY:** Rebecca Sambo (3); Lloyd Langton (3)

**PRESENCE:** Riley Gleich (Prep); La’ Tayah Purcell (Prep); Jaime McEffer (Prep); Isaac Watson (Prep); Rebecca Palmer (4); Dylan Saltner (5/6)

**SIMPLICITY:** Emma Cran (5/6)

**FAMILY SPIRIT:** Landon Law-Palm (1); Alex Cran (4)

COMING EVENTS

- **February 12** Shrove Tuesday
  - Active After School Communities - Lawn Bowls
- **February 13** Ash Wednesday - Liturgy in Church 9.00am
  - Swimming
  - Active After School Communities - Judo
- **February 18** Book club orders due back
- **February 22** Year 7 Leadership Induction and Beginning School Mass - Church 9.30am
- **March 3** Staff Induction Mass - 8.00am

Parish Mass Times for February 16 & 17

- **Saturday February 16**
  - 9.00am Mass – Proston
  - 6.00pm Mass - Wondai
- **Sunday February 17**
  - 8.00am Mass - Murgon
  - 10.00am Mass - Goomeri

**Mass Times Phone Number: 41681046**

Come along to

**$$$$$$$$$$$$$$BINGO**

**Strike it rich $$$$$$$$$$$**

St Joseph’s Hall

**Thursday nights**

**7.30pm**

Murgon Newsagents and Toyland

85 Lamb St Murgon Ph 41681046

For all your –

Gold Lotto

Casket

Stationery

Books

Magazines

YOUR BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIALISTS