PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

School will resume for Term 2 on Wednesday 23rd April

Dear St Joseph’s Families,

One of the privileges I have as the principal of St Joseph’s is to meet with new families who would like their child to attend our school. During our discussions, the conversation of parenting generally comes up at some stage. It is always reassuring for them and myself to think that there is no such thing as the ‘Perfect Parent’! Thank heavens for that! The reason is that being a parent is one of humankind’s most difficult tasks. Of course, there are many pleasures and rewards but parenting can be demanding, challenging, exhausting – and there’s no time off.

What makes it challenging and demanding is that every day parents act as models for their children. Every day they are watching and learning from them; they learn from their actions and conversations, they absorb their attitudes and copy their expressions. They are doing this mostly without parents being aware that it is taking place. The family is the first school for children and parents are powerful models. What parents say and do, is recorded by their children and possibly used as evidence against them, if they are seen to be inconsistent in their expectations of them, yet fail to have an equal expectation of themselves as parents. Because parents are the main caregivers, they provide the major influence on their children’s lives. Parents constantly demand respect from their children but it is not something that they should take for granted. Like most things of real value, respect has to be earned. The best way for anyone to earn respect is to give respect.

Children want to see parents express real feelings in a healthy way; they want to see them being able to handle anger in an appropriate way; they like to see parents making healthy choices about their lifestyle; they like to hear them speaking positively about other people. They like to witness positive reinforcements as to how they would like their life to be.

It is not easy to be a model for another human being but it is a big part of every parent’s role. There is a saying that, “Wrinkles should merely indicate where smiles have been”. Hopefully that will be the explanation for our wrinkles as our turn of role model gives way to our children making their own grown-up choices and, perhaps, taking upon themselves the mantle of role model.

God, our Father,
You have gifted us with parenthood.
Strengthen us when we have feelings of inadequacy and are fearful of our own failings.
Give us courage when we underestimate our own capabilities.
Encourage us to open our hearts fully to the working of Your Spirit in our lives.

Amen.

Have a great week!

Greg Cran
Principal
Welcome to Week 9

A special mention goes to our youngest members of our St Joseph’s classes, who under the guidance of Miss Cittolin and Mrs Walker, presented a beautiful prayer assembly yesterday. Prep students shared the story of the Rainbow Fish, about sharing with others, friendship and happiness. An important message, and a great effort, Prep! Thank you to the parents who came along to assembly on Monday. Everyone is most welcome to attend these Assemblies.

Lent

As we come closer to the end of Term 1, we are also coming closer to the end of the Church season of Lent. During this time, we are asked to put our energy and action toward assisting those who have much less than we do. During our Ash Wednesday liturgy, we were challenged to turn away from material things that momentarily fill us up with happiness, like toys, games and lollies. Instead the call is to turn back to God, to nurture a deeper happiness through almsgiving and fasting. Giving up our own luxuries, and giving to the poor and needy. Like the Rainbow Fish story, happiness can come from acting in the way Jesus taught us - to share, to love one another, and to show compassion.

The Faith Group student leaders continue to encourage our students to contribute to Project Compassion, a program run by Caritas. This organisation targets those people across the world, who do not have a safe and secure home to live in, fresh water supply, good food, access to medical attention, or education.

This week’s featured Project Compassion story is about Martina, who lives in the Solomon Islands.

One rhyme at a time  Martina, a teacher in the Solomon Islands, enjoys clapping and singing with the children in her classroom. She knows they are not only having fun but also learning life-saving skills.

“Nursery rhymes break down the fear associated with natural disasters.” Martina

Using well-known tunes and simple lyrics, children learn what to do in the event of potential disasters that face the Solomon Islands such as cyclones; floods; earthquakes and tsunamis.

“Nursery rhymes break down the fear associated with natural disasters, and also help children memorise the rhymes and the emergency response,” said Martina. “They enjoy the singing.”

Martina’s school in Ngossi is in a region, much like many in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, that is prone to all manner of natural disasters. It’s very important for the young children to learn strategies to be safe during disasters and emergencies.

“Our homes are under threat. We have the cyclone season that runs from November to March annually, so this type of disaster is a big risk,” said Martina.

Adam Elliott, Caritas Australia’s Solomon Islands and Vanuatu Program Manager, said disasters often occur early in the morning when the children are at school.

“The children take this disaster risk management to their homes,” said Adam. “They sing songs and talk about what the songs have taught them. “They have really taken it and made it their own, writing the songs in their local languages.”

“This season we’re better prepared and know how to respond, and in an emergency this can make all the difference.”

Martina

Caritas collection boxes remain in each classroom for the remaining two weeks of school this term. If you can spare some coins for Project Compassion, that would be wonderful.

Thank you so much!
Earth Hour!
As Catholics, our model of social teaching includes stewardship of Creation. Earth Hour 2014 is scheduled for this Saturday March 29th from 8:30pm to 9:30pm.
"I Will If You Will" (IWIYW) is the Earth Hour campaign to encourage positive action for the environment. At home, the actions required are up to the individual or group. They could be big or small and it might be a simple lifestyle change.
At school, access to Australian Curriculum aligned teaching resources will add another dimension to ‘Sustainability’, an embedded aspect of what we are expected to teach our students.
The Earth Hour campaign intends for people to become the inspiration to their friends, family, colleagues and communities by sharing what they’re willing to do to protect the planet.
What originally started out as a one city event in 2006, soon turned into a global phenomenon, blackening out major landmarks across the world from the Colosseum to the Great Pyramids of Giza.
During this Saturday’s Earth Hour, join millions of people worldwide in taking action against climate change, and turn out your lights.
Visit http://coolaustralia.org for all the info!

Mass
This Friday Buddy Mass will be by Year 5 and their buddies in Year 1 and in Prep. We are looking forward to celebrating with students and parishioners. All are welcome.

Next week St Joseph’s students will share a series of short prayer celebrations which tell us of the story of Holy Week, the important events that lead up to Easter and the Resurrection. These will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:50pm.

ICAS Academic Competitions
If you are interested in registering your child/ren for any of the ICAS competitions, please contact the office for details. More information can be found at: www.eaa.unsw.edu.au

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS Sitting Dates</th>
<th>ICAS Entry Closing Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills (Years 3-7)</td>
<td>Tuesday 20 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science (Years 2-7)</td>
<td>Wednesday 4 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing (Years 3-7)</td>
<td>Monday 16th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling (Years 3-7)</td>
<td>Tuesday 17 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English (Years 2-7)</td>
<td>Tuesday 29th July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics (Years 2-7)</td>
<td>Tuesday 12th August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Have a brilliant week!

Celia O’Connor
Acting APRE/CST
SOFTBALL

Brenna Prendergast and Brooke Heness will participate in Softball Trials for Wide Bay Selection today and tomorrow at Maryborough.

AFL

Alex Cran and Jeremy Hobbs will participate in AFL Trials for Wide Bay Selection today and tomorrow at Gayndah.

TOUCH FOOTBALL

Alfred Watcho, Floyd Aubrey and Brenna Prendergast have been selected to represent South Burnett at the Wide Bay Touch Football Trials to be held in Kingaroy during the first week of Term 2.

We Congratulate all of the above mentioned children and wish them all the best at their trials. Travel safe and have fun.

South Burnett Primary School Sports

ZONE SELECTION TRIALS - GIRLS NETBALL
Date: Monday 31st March, 2014
Venue: Kingaroy State School
Starting Time: 9:30am

ZONE SELECTION TRIALS – Rugby League (U/11 & U/12)
Date: Monday 31st March, 2014
Venue: Kingaroy Rugby League Grounds
Starting Time: 9:15am

Remember our Easter Raffle  All tickets need to be returned to the office by 31st March. More books are available if anyone needs them. The Multi-draw Easter raffles will take place at school on Wednesday 2nd April. Our free dress day is on Friday 28th March, to support this day & we require each child to bring in an Easter Egg. Thank you for your continued support!

Our Family Holiday Canberra Fund Raising Raffle

1st Prize -
Zagame’s Paradise Resort
5 Night Theme Park Thrill Package
(Including Dreamworld)
Tickets will be $2.00 each - drawn on 06/06/14

2nd Prize -
$150 Murgon Money

Mothers Day Stall (Week 5th - 9th May) will be held in the Nano Nagle Resource Centre, more information will be provided in Term 2.
Fr. Elton Fernandes, a Canadian Jesuit, is coming to Murgon to facilitate the first stages of the *Ignation Retreat Exercises*. This is a wonderful experience to deepen our faith in Jesus Christ. Those involved in the program will be expected to pray for 15 minutes each day from Monday to Thursday and attend Sunday Eucharist. The program will last one month. For those who want to be involved there will be a meeting on 16th April at 10.30am and 7.00pm in St. Joseph’s Staff Room. All Welcome!

There will be a Mass on 25th March at 5.30pm at St. Joseph’s, Murgon to celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation.

**Scripture Activity Day**
There will be a Scripture Activity Day on Wednesday 9th April commencing at 9am and finishing at 3pm. The Activity will be in the school Library. Cost is…… $5.00 Any enquiries contact Fr. Michael 41681406

Our talented and comical staff celebrated St. Joseph’s Day, entertaining the students in true style at the lunch time disco! Students also celebrated with Mass, a cake and a sausage sizzle, and special activities in the afternoon. Thank you to Fr. Michael for conducting our St. Joseph’ Day Mass.

### March Birthdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Catherine Voigt, Catelyn Purcell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Jaime McEffer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Taylor Forrest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Riley Robinson, Tarnia Bligh, Nathan Roderick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Romana Ricketts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6/7</td>
<td>Brooke Heness</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Student of the Week – Week 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Eden Shields - Respect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Logan Robinson - Respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Sophia Purcell - Respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Emily Campbell-Slatter - Nurture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Sheldon Brown - Nurture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>James Olbes - Respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6/7</td>
<td>Emma Cran - Respect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Parish Mass Times

Saturday 29th March
  9.00am Mass – Proston
  6.00pm Mass – Wondai

Sunday 30th March
  8.00am Mass – Murgon
  10.00am Mass – Proston

Parish Phone No: 4168 1406

TUCKSHOP
Wednesday 26th March, 2014
MARCH Special

Toasted Sandwich
(Ham or Chicken with or without Cheese)
Includes a Popper
$5.00

Hot Cross Buns also available from
Menu for…. 80c each

Junior Golf
Starts Sunday 30th March
9am
$5.00 per child

Further Queries
Ring Mark Smith
41 681355

NOTE: Change of Venue for Charity Ball for Shona to Murgon Town Hall