Dear Parents & Carers,

Last Wednesday evening we had a positive response to our annual ‘Parent Information Night’. Feedback from parents in attendance indicated that the evening was informative, and I would like to acknowledge the efforts of our teaching staff in preparing for the evening. In the event that you were unable to attend on the night, please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s classroom teacher directly to discuss any questions or concerns. We have noticed a decline in attendance in recent years and if there is any feedback concerning the content or timing of the evening please feel free to communicate this with me directly.

For those who were unable to attend the parent information evening I outlined our Areas of Focus in 2015: Literacy P
- Positive Behaviour for Learning
  - Restorative Practices
  - Building Relationships

I recently came across this reflection that I thought appropriate to share with you at this time of Parent-Teacher meetings. It is titled ‘A Letter to Parents’.

Dearest Parents,

There are many ways you and I can help each other with your child’s education. We’ve a lot in common! Teachers, after all, are mostly parents; and parents are of course a child’s first teachers.

Please don’t underrate your importance as a teacher. Do you realise that every child brings to school an attitude to learning that he/she acquired in the home in those early years of learning from parents - to talk, play and so much more!

You, as a parent, have held that first key to your child’s learning, while we teachers hold the second key - to reading, writing, number and other school subjects. But there is also a third key and it should be held equally by parents and teachers.

This third key, because it unlocks the practical use of learning, is in some ways the most important of all. It takes the form of interest which adults (you and me) take in how your child is using what she/he has learned and is learning.

For instance, if you can find time to listen, to talk things over, to encourage writing...it is this sort of interest that stimulates your child to turn ‘school knowledge’ into ‘action knowledge’ - that is, into an ability to think out problems, arrive at informed opinions, communicate effectively, make decisions and take action.

An increasing complex modern world is our reason for suggesting that parents and teachers should work together on these lines more closely than we have ever done before.

Your sincerely,

Your Child’s teacher

YEAR 6 STUDENT LEADERS

Last Thursday morning our Year 6 Student Leaders participated in a commissioning ceremony where they pledged their commitment to be school leaders in 2015. This ceremony and their badges will symbolise the role of the Senior Leaders in our community. The students will work under the guidance of Jessica Marshall Year 6 teacher, Celia O’Connor and myself in committees. All students will work across all committees throughout the school year. As the majority of the leadership tasks are ‘behind the scenes’, I provide a brief outline of the responsibilities associated with each committee:

FAITH COMMITTEE
- To coordinate opportunities to help others by raising money, collecting what is needed or doing activities.
- To assist in the various liturgical celebrations.
- To assist teachers and students in organisational matters in classrooms and throughout the school
- To encourage unity and harmony among class groups.

NURTURE COMMITTEE
- To organise maximum participation of children in lunchtime activities.
- To offer different physical activities during break times.
- To arrange activities to let the school community enjoy and be in each other’s company.
RESPECT

- To raise awareness of the need to care for our school environment.
- To find and organize ways to improve our school environment.
- To investigate ways the school could become more environmentally responsible users and act on this.

The Senior Leaders will also be presented with their Senior Shirts and Badges at next week’s leadership day. We wish them all the very best for the year ahead!

Have a great week everyone,

Greg Cran
Principal

Welcome to Week 4!

Tomorrow is an important day in our liturgical calendar. It is Ash Wednesday. It marks the beginning of Lent, a time of ‘getting ready’, and ‘preparation’ for something special - Easter. Easter is the time to celebrate how much God loves us and that God is the giver of life. It is the most important feast that Christians celebrate!

**Tomorrow morning from 8:40am to 9am, is our Ash Wednesday prayer service,** at which we will receive ashes on our foreheads. The ashes are to remind us that we need to try to be more like Jesus. The theme of ‘give up, take up’ asks us to consider going without those things that give us short-term happiness like new toys or chocolate, and instead, ‘take up’ a cause where we offer our help to another.

During the 40 days of Lent, we prepare for Easter by taking time to be quiet in our hearts, by helping others, by being forgiving and asking for forgiveness. Every year St Joseph’s students and Parish help others through Project Compassion.

**Project Compassion 2015** The theme for Project Compassion 2015 is “Food for Life”.

Food is essential for all life, yet many of the world’s poorest people do not have food security. That means they live from day-to-day, uncertain of how to afford or how to access their next meal. Without food, the rest of life is impossible to contemplate: how can you plan for the future when you fear you will be hungry?

As Pope Francis says: “It is a well-known fact that current levels of production are sufficient, yet millions of people are still suffering and dying of starvation. This is truly scandalous.”

Project Compassion 2015 explores how Caritas Australia is helping the world’s poorest people establish sustainable food, walking with them as they free themselves from the burden of food insecurity and develop new, improved income streams for a better future.

Stories from Fiji, Niger, Indonesia, Peru, Nepal and Australia show how our supporters help people to grow and access food for life. Find out more via: [http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/about](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/about)

**ICAS 2015**

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools are available again this year. A number of students from St Joseph’s participated in these tests in 2014, and received certificates of Credit and Participation. This competition is again open to our students. If students are interested in participating in any of the following tests, they can collect an entry form from their class teacher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS Subject</th>
<th>ICAS Sitting Date</th>
<th>Prices (incl. GST)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Tues 19 May</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wed 3 June</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Mon 15 June — Fri 19 June</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Tues 16 June</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tues 28 July</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tues 11 August</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
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Enjoy the rest of the week,

Celia O’Connor
Acting APRE/CST
Resilience

The Program Achieve class lessons over the next 6 weeks will focus on the development of the students’ Resilience. Resilience is referred to as “the capacity to manage the stresses and strains of growing up”.
Some examples of Resilience behaviour include:

- Staying calm in the face of difficult or challenging situations, people and events.
- Controlling one’s behaviour when one gets extremely upset.
- Calming down within a developmentally-appropriate time.
- Bouncing back to work and play.

Goals of Resilience Lessons:

- Provide students with an understanding of emotions and also provide them with an emotional vocabulary.
- Examines that certain situations can evoke emotional responses.
- Teach students that emotions vary in intensity.
- Provide students with understanding that they choose how to feel about an adverse event.
- Teach the students a variety of emotional resilience skills to help them through difficult situations.

This term students will be learning through the You Can Do It frame work while using games from Play is The Way to enhance their learning. Last week students learnt about the different types of emotions and they then played Piccadilly Circus which evokes a range of emotions. These emotions then became a discussion point by which students gained a more in-depth understanding of the content matter taught this lesson.

This week students learnt about the emotional thermomotor and how an emotion can have different strengths. The students played a game called “All or Nothing” and afterwards students discussed the different strengths of emotions that they felt through the game.

David Francis
Guidance Counsellor  St Joseph’s Primary School, Murgon,  
Mon, Tues, Wed  Ph 4168 1627

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Week 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Ameleia Murray</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Frank Boney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Jaime McEffer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Saffron Sandow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Joanela Purcell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6</td>
<td>Romana Ricketts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Week 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Harriet Clevens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Jaquan Clevens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Caylen Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Kaliarni Button</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>David Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6</td>
<td>Yolande Riley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BOOK FAIR will be held from Monday March 9th to Wednesday March 11th in the Multi Media room in the Nano Nagle Resource Centre from 8.30am to 3.30pm. Remember, having books in the home encourages children to read, so come along and take a look for yourself.

Book Club flyers were sent home last Tuesday, Orders are due back Monday 23rd March. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to: St. Joseph’s Murgon.

Thanking You!

SLUSHIES FOR SALE
BIG LUNCH
WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS
$2.00 EACH

LIBRARY NEWS from Mrs Guteridge

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FACEBOOK REMINDER
If you look up FIND GROUPS St Joseph’s Primary School Murgon you should then be able to request permission to join the group. Keep up to date with the wonderful things happening in and around the school here at St. Joseph’s Murgon.

Happy Birthdays
Prep: Liam Oberle
Year 1: Rubin Smethurst
Year 2: Isaac Watson, Shontayne Cobbo
Year 3: Joseph Atkins, Kali Button
Year 6: Kaitlyn Zelinski, Ryan Heness, Yolande Riley

FEBRUARY

Special—Chicken Chippies
ONLY $3.00

Please see our new Tuckshop Menu.
Please disregard the previous menu sent as it has incorrect content and pricing.
Thank you to our new Volunteers.
If anyone else has any spare time on a Monday to spend some time in tuckshop — your time would be very welcome.
CASUAL POSITION VACANT
A casual position exists for a
School Crossing Supervisor at this school

The School Crossing Supervisor will be required to work three
days per week in all weather conditions. The hours of work for School Crossing Supervisors are
normally 1.2 hours a day and usually comprise forty five minutes in the morning and thirty
minutes in the afternoon.

The successful applicant is dependent on:
The favourable outcome of a health assessment carried out by a Government Medical Officer and
having a current Blue Card or being eligible to apply for a Blue Card.

Address application to:  Private and Confidential to The Principal, St. Joseph’s Catholic,
Primary School, P.O. Box 212, Murgon.
Or phone the office for further information on 41 681 627.
20TH FEBRUARY, 2015

BLUE LIGHT DISCO

SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN
6 YEARS TO 14 YEARS ONLY
COST: $5.00 Includes a Sausage sizzle
TIME: 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Children will not be allowed to leave the premises unless accompanied by an adult!

South Burnett Saints AFL

Come and Try Aussie Rules Football

AFL— (8—16 year olds)
Free Saturday morning clinics
Saturday 21st and 28th February
SATURDAY 7th and 14th March, 2015
Time 9.30am—11am
Venue: Wondai State School, Kent St, Wondai.
Further info contact:- Dan Clacy—0413 853 103

Girls in Soccer Pink

Football South Burnett Inc are holding a number of Free Girls only training days across the South Burnett. Whether you’re 13 or 40 come along and have a go!!
Session Times
Nanango – 1/3/15 - Nanango Soccer Fields 9am
Barambah – 8/3/15 - Wondai Soccer Grounds 9am
Registration Closes:
Nanango 23 February 2015
Barambah 1 March 2015
To register please contact:-
Danielle Maudsley 0402 466 681
Sarah Vanderkolk 0429 686 001
Emma Sippel 0487 183 658

TENNIS COACHING

will resume on Wednesdays
45 minute lessons.

Maximum 8 students per class.
$8.50 per student,
payable by term account.
Please contact Leanne Sippel
0438 684 705

CHILD DENTAL BENEFITS SCHEDULE

Is available for eligible families at the Murgon Dentists

Contact Murgon Dentists Dr. John Watt and Dr. Stella Miller
Phone 41 681540 for more information also visit
humanservices.gov.au and search for Medicare Services

GIRL GUIDES MURGON

Girl Guides
Murgon Meet every Thursday 5pm
Fun, educational and caring

Contact Alison
0419 657 129

CHILDREN will not be
allowed to leave the
premises unless
accompanied by an adult!