Dear Parents & Carers,

This Thursday, March 19 is the Feast of Saint Joseph, Patron Saint of our school and also of the Parish of Murgon. Everything we know about the husband of Mary comes from Scripture. We know he was a carpenter, a working man, “Is this not the carpenter’s son?” (Matthew 13:55). Despite his humble work and means, Joseph came from a royal lineage. Joseph was also a compassionate, caring man. When he discovered Mary was pregnant after they had been betrothed, he knew the child was not his but was as yet unaware that she was carrying the Son of God.

We know Joseph was man of faith, obedient to whatever God asked of him without knowing the outcome. When the angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him the truth about the child Mary was carrying, Joseph immediately and without question or concern for gossip, took Mary as his wife. When the angel came again to tell him that his family was in danger, he immediately left everything he owned, all his family and friends, and fled to a strange country with his young wife and the baby.

We know Joseph loved Jesus. His one concern was for the safety of this child entrusted to him. Not only did he leave his home to protect Jesus, but upon his return settled in the obscure town of Nazareth out of fear for his life. When Jesus stayed in the Temple, we are told Joseph (along with Mary) searched with great anxiety for three days for him (Luke 2:48).

Joseph is also patron of the universal Church, fathers, carpenters, and social justice. We pray in thanks for the example of St Joseph and that, like him, we will all be people of integrity. We pray also that St Joseph will bless our school and parish communities so they will be places where God is encountered, where there is justice and compassion for all.

Tomorrow as a school, we will celebrate the feast of St Joseph, with the children partaking in mass at 9.30am, a shared meal - sausage sizzle at lunch with cake and activities, from which they will learn more about St Joseph.

I would like to thank Ms O’Connor for organising and preparing the children for such a special mass. Well done everyone!

Thank You and Congratulations

A very big thank you to Mrs Kerry Dunn, the staff and children of St Joseph’s, for the effort they put into the design and set up of our School display at the Murgon show. Mrs Dunn’s leadership helped ensure that our school display was awarded 2nd PLACE. Great work everyone.

Well done to all the children who entered into other categories at the show and received a place.

Take a Stand Together: National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

Our school has registered to be part of the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence, being held nationwide on Friday 20 March 2013. The National Day of Action is a day where school communities across Australia, Take a Stand Together Against Bullying and Violence.

St Joseph’s is dedicated to creating supportive school environments, free from bullying, harassment and violence. By working together at St Joseph’s, we are sending clear messages to young people that bullying and violence, in or outside of school, is not okay - at any time. The National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence is a major activity organised by Bullying. No Way! (www.bullyingnoway.gov.au). The Bullying. No Way! website, created by all Australian education jurisdictions, offers practical resources and information to help schools work together against bullying, harassment and violence.

Activities have been planned to celebrate the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence at St Joseph’s on Friday, 20 March 2015.

To celebrate this day, children will be allowed to wear an orange shirt or orange ribbon.

Have a great week everyone,

Principal
St Joseph’s Feast Day
This Wednesday 18th March, is a very special day for us! We will be celebrating St Joseph’s Feast Day, beginning with a whole school Mass at 9:30am. Everyone is welcome to attend.
A sausage sizzle will be provided for all students for lunch that day. Students will still need to bring their own morning tea please.
Joseph our school and Parish patron, was a good foster father and friend of Jesus. Joseph is also known as Saint Joseph, Joseph of Nazareth and Joseph the worker. Through Gospel accounts, we know that Joseph was a skilled craftsman and today he is the patron of all workers. God blessed Joseph with a wonderful family. St Joseph had many personal qualities that we believe are part of our school life: Family, Faith, Work and Justice. He was a protector, he was brave, loving, and a wonderful role-model. We celebrate these qualities here at St Joseph’s.

St Patrick’s Feast Day
It’s that time of year again, when we put on our green clothes and celebrate St Patrick’s Feast Day (Tuesday 17th March)! But do we know much about why this day is celebrated? St Patrick, patron saint of Ireland, was born back in the late 4th Century in Roman Britain. At age 16 he was kidnapped and taken to Ireland as a slave. He did escape but later returned to convert the Irish to Christianity. Many legends have grown around St Patrick including that he drove the snakes out of Ireland. Since 1962 Chicago has coloured its river green to mark the holiday. Now green is commonly connected with the day.

Buddy Masses
The next buddy Mass is this Friday 20th March at 9:30am led by Year 3 & Year 5/6. The buddy Mass on Friday 27th March, will start at 11:30am and will be led by Year 1 & Year 4. Everyone is very welcome to come along and celebrate with us.

National Day of Action Against Bullying!
This Friday 20th March is National Day of Action Against Bullying. Our student leaders in the Respect group have been talking about what this means with our whole school. The messages from this campaign are being reinforced in classrooms and on the playground.

Harmony Day!
This Saturday 21st March, is Harmony Day. At St Joseph’s we already value Respect of others and ourselves. Every day we work on accepting others, valuing each other’s diversity, our talents as well as our culture. The message of Harmony Day is one that we try to learn about every day- Everyone Belongs. It is a day to celebrate Australia’s diversity. It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. By participating in Harmony Day activities in class, we can learn and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and make it a better place. Thank you to our beautiful Prep children who led our school in assembly prayer this week, showing us how important the message of Harmony Day is to all of us.

ICAS Academic Competitions
International Competitions and Assessments (ICAS) information has arrived at the school. Students from Year 2 to Year 6 may participate in English, Mathematics, Science. Students from Year 3 to Year 6 may also participate in Computer Skills, Spelling and Writing. Students receive a certificate acknowledging their level of achievement. There is a small entry fee for each subject competition. For more information visit www.eaa.unsw.edu.au If you would like your child to participate in any of the ICAS Competitions, please contact me for registration forms. Entries close early April.

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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APRE News continued

Project Compassion
Thank you to all families who have been able to make a donation to Project Compassion this season of Lent. This week’s story is about Sarita from Nepal. Your coins can help people like Sarita.

4th Week of Lent Project Compassion: Sarita from Nepal

Sharing food for life

Mother of three, Sarita, could barely grow enough food for her family on her tiny farm plot. In 2007, she joined a program, run by Caritas Nepal, that gave a community group the training and support they needed to start a fish-raising business. Thanks to their hard work, Sarita and the group now have a thriving enterprise and a life-long source of food and income.

Your donation to Project Compassion 2015 helps people in rural Nepal create a life-long source of food and income to benefit entire communities.

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion  1800 024 413

Enjoy the rest of the week,

Celia O’Connor
Acting APRE/CST

This fortnight in Program Achieve students continued their study of Resilience. Resilience is the ability to bounce back from adverse events that may happen in a child’s life.

Last week students learnt:

• that a helpful way of thinking that will help them manage their anger and boost their resilience is the “Being tolerant of others” ways of thinking; and

• to use the technique called “It’s unfair but I can cope” as a replacement for “It’s unfair and I can’t stand it” way of thinking to deal with unfairness and to manage their anger.

This week students will be adding additional resilience strategies to their arsenal. Students will be learning about visualisation and muscle relaxation techniques to help them deal with stressful situations.

Regards,

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

Year 3 have been studying Jeannie Bakers books in English.
They have been looking at her persuasive books with very little text, to try to identify her hidden meanings. Year 3 students each prepared a similar collage and they are exhibited in the school library, if you would like to take a look sometime.

ANZAC DAY MARCH on 25th April.
Marchers will assemble at 9:30am at the car park at the rear of the RSL building in Lamb Street, Murgon.
All students are invited to participate and march, in correct school uniform, with our school.
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Week 6

Prep  Bessie Watcho Barrett
Year 1  Catherine Voigt
Year 2  Solomon Bembrick
Year 3  Trent Aubrey
Year 4  DJ Olbes
Year 5/6  Bridie Prendergast

March Happy Birthdays

Year 1:  Catherine Voigt, Catelyn Purcell, Dylan Druery
Year 2:  Jaime McEffer
Year 4:  Riley Robinson, Tarnia Bligh, Nathan Roderick
Year 6:  Romana Ricketts

SPORTS NEWS

Taihya Cleary received an award for achieving her first 100 sight words. Well done Taihya

Our Age Champions at Wondai Swimming Pool
Under 10 boys—Damon Zelinski
Under 10 girls—Emily Campbell-Slatter
Under 11 boys—Lachlan Zelinski & Millar Shields
Under 11 girls—Kaitlyn Zelinski
Under 12 boys—Harry Perrett
Under 12 girls—Rebecca Palmer & Jamie Atkins

Please remember these dates for South Burnett Sports trials for 10-12 year olds.
* Rugby League, Netball, Tennis, and Soccer- 20/3/15 at Kingaroy.

LIBRARY NEWS from Mrs Guteridge

Book Club flyers have been sent home. Orders are due back Monday 23rd March. If paying by cheque, please make payable to: St. Joseph’s Murgon. Thanking You!
Next P & F (AGM) Meeting will be held Tonight Tuesday 17th March 6PM in the Administration Block. All welcome!

**FREE DRESS DAY**
27TH March
Please bring along an Easter Egg to support this fundraiser.

**FACEBOOK REMINDER**
Look up FIND GROUPS St. Joseph’s Primary School Murgon you should then be able to request permission to join the group. See our Leaders at Currimundi Camp.

**FOR SALE**
St. Joseph’s Stubby Coolers
Only $5.00 each
Great Collector’s Item

**ST. JOSEPH’S PARISH FETE**
The fete this year will include a Plant Stall. Have you got a green thumb or know someone who has? If you could start some cuttings that would be great. Donations of plants will be appreciated.

Also looking for helpers or people willing to join the Fete Committee. If you have any new ideas regarding the Fete, Leisa would love to hear from you. Phone her on 41 681293 after 5pm. Or email her on lmwalker@bne.catholic.edu.au.

**TUCKSHOP MONDAY**
Special—Chicken Chippies
ONLY $3.00 per cup or 50c each

**SLUSHIES FOR SALE**
BIG LUNCH
WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS
$2.00 EACH

**P & F EASTER RAFFLE TICKETS GOING HOME TODAY**
$1.00 PER TICKET
Please return all tickets by Monday 30th March
Raffle Drawn Tuesday 31st March
20TH MARCH, 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!

PARISH HALL

The St. Joseph’s Parish Hall is available for rent for unlicensed functions.

For further information phone Fr. Michael 41 681406

PARISH MASS TIMES

Saturday 21st March
Murgon 6pm
Proston 8am

Sunday 22nd March
Wondai 8am
Cherbourg 10am

Saturday 28th March
Wondai 6pm
Proston 8am

Sunday 29th March
Murgon 8am

Weekday Mass Times

Wednesdays— Wondai 5.30pm
Thursdays— Murgon 5.30pm
Fridays— Murgon 9.30am

Our talented Staff on International Women’s Day

Our Year 6 Leaders receiving a blessing from Fr. Michael in the church on Monday morning. Congratulations to our Leaders.

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Carroll sm  PH 41681406

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