Dear Parents and Caregivers,

If you know of any family that has a Prep age child for next year, can you please inform them that we are welcoming enrolments now.

**STUDENT ATTENDANCE**
The importance of all students being at school every day (from 8:40am) cannot be understated. When deciding whether to keep your child home from school, please consider the following. A child should be at school unless:

- The child is too sick to leave the house.
- The child has an infectious / contagious disease like measles, chicken pox, vomiting / diarrhoea
- The child has an injury preventing movement around the school
- The child is going on a family holiday that cannot be arranged during school holidays. This must be arranged with the principal in advance (absence in excess of 10 days must be signed off with a Government Exemption Form)
- The principal is provided with any genuine and acceptable reason preventing the child’s attendance.

If your child is absent a note must be supplied to explain the days missed on their return to school. You should also contact the school in advance if you know your child will be away. Remember:

- If students miss the basic skills in the early years of schooling they often experience learning difficulties later on.
- There is a direct link between attendance and achievement.
- It has been shown that poor patterns of attendance in the early years can lead to poor patterns of attendance throughout the school years.

**FETE** Everyone is working hard and the children are getting more excited as they are starting to hear just what they can look forward to. Our fabulous and dedicated committee is planning and organising those last minute arrangements to make **Saturday the 5th September** a day to remember. Stall Convenors and so many more helpers are all preparing for the big afternoon and night – another example of how our community works well together.

Over the coming weeks we will be asking families to support, through the donation of items, ingredients, etc – these will be clearly explained and timed so that the impact upon families will not be excessive.

**LIFE EDUCATION** Today and tomorrow the Life Education Team visits St Joseph’s to conduct a session with each of our classes, aiming to empower children to make informed choices for a safe and healthy life. Life Education is the largest non-government provider of health education to children and young people Australia wide. It works with and through schools, encouraging and empowering children to exercise real choices and make informed healthy lifestyle decisions.

**NAPLAN RESULTS 2015:** We received the individual student reports last week. Your child’s report has been sent home in an envelope - if you do not receive it please let us know. We are analysing our results and we will formulate plans in order to keep supporting and developing programs in those areas where improvement is required. Our Learning project focussed upon Literacy and Enrich and Reteach are initiatives that will support our students in the long term.

*Continued over/page*
**ADOPT-A-COP PROGRAM**  At yesterday’s whole School Assembly, we had the pleasure of introducing Constable Christie Turner to the school community as our Adopt-A-Cop. Adopt-A-Cops are Police Officers and Police Liaison Officers who volunteer to participate in the program. The benefits of having an Adopt-A-Cop in the school community are many, including:

- The enhanced safety and wellbeing of children through education;
- Positive attitudes of children towards police and the community;
- The encouragement of law abiding behaviour.

We thank her for volunteering to participate in the program and look forward to sharing with you the various ways Constable Turner will work with our community throughout the year.

We also say thank you and farewell to Constable Amy Dalton who has been working in this role for the last 3 and half years. Amy has been a welcomed presence in our school community and through her attendance at school events she has built positive relationships with the children. We wish her all the best and thank Amy for her time at St Joseph’s.

**OPTI MINDS**  This Saturday, seven Year 5/6 students will travel to Caloundra to compete in the OPTI MINDS tournament. The children have been given a task to work on over the last six weeks which they are required to design and build a system that moves an object. As well as this the children needed to write a script to support their presentation to judges and an audience. Also on the day the children participate in a spontaneous task where they work as a team to solve a problem. Good luck to James, Romana, Jamie, Morgan, David, Bridie and Jack. A big thank you to Miss Marshall, Miss Parrott and Mr McCarthy for the time and effort they have put into preparing the children for the day and to Miss Parrott, Ms O’Connor and Mr Prendergast (Graham) for helping out on the day. This is yet another example of the great learning / teaching activities happening here at St Joseph’s.

**FATHERS’ DAY STALL**  The St Joey’s Father’s Day Stall is here again. The children will be able to preview the gifts on Monday 31st August and will have a chance to write their wish list. The store will open for business from Tuesday 1st September, before school and will be open until Thursday morning that week. The gifts range in price. The children are able to purchase multiple gifts, as the gifts are suitable for fathers, grandparents or the special man in their life.

A very big Thank You to Kris Baulch for organising the Father’s Day stall. We look forward to another successful stall with lots of satisfied customers.

**DISTRICT ATHLETICS**  Last week St Joseph’s sent over 40 students to compete at the South Burnett Athletics Carnival. Congratulations to all the children who competed. You all did a fantastic job. Well done!!! Special mention should go to Marion Riley who won the girls 9 year old 80m sprint, Jamie Atkins who was second in the girl’s 12 year old long jump and Sheldon Brown who was third in the boys 10 year old High Jump. Well done to Jamie and Sheldon who will represent South Burnett at the Wide Bay Athletics Trial.

**WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN**  It’s back! Yes, once again we are asking that you start collecting your Earn and Learn points for our school. The promotion started in August and continues until September 8. Every $10 spent earns a point for our school, so start collecting and we will be able to access more great resources for our students! The collection box will be stationed in the office.

**P&F NEWS**  Please find below a link to an on-line parent survey from the Parents and Friends Federation. Your information will help the P&F Federation with their future planning including their services to parents. To open this anonymous survey click on the link [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KWPR25K](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KWPR25K)

**LONG SERVICE LEAVE**  This Friday, Mrs Debbie Barry will be taking Long Service Leave until 9th October as she has a well-earned break with her husband Michael. We wish them safe travels and a safe return.

As this will be my last newsletter article until next term, I wish you all the best for a great rest of the term and a happy holiday. I am looking forward to taking some Long Service Leave and spending some time with my family.

Stay safe and have a happy holiday, see you all in Term 4.

*Greg Cran*

*Principal*
Welcome to Week 6!

It was lovely to see so many grandparents at St Joseph’s on Friday for our Grandparents’ Day Mass, classroom visits, morning tea and concert. Special thanks to Mrs Dunn and Br Tim for the organisation of the concert dances and music - we all enjoyed ourselves!

LEARNING!

As the term progresses, we are seeing more and more evidence of great progress in student learning, particularly in reading. The work of students who sit with their buddy to practice sight words during the week, is continuing in earnest. This week we begin regular cycles of Review and Response meetings designed to highlight a particular aspect of a student’s learning and to provide focused, team support for the classroom teacher in working with each student. Our teachers continue to work hard to meet the needs of every child in their classroom, and we congratulate and thank them for their wonderful work.

STAR READERS!

This week, Lucy and Tarnia are our featured reading stars! Both girls have shown tremendous achievement in their reading and sight words knowledge, and we congratulate them on their efforts! Sight words are very important for your child to master because, believe it or not, sight words account for up to 75% of the words used in beginning children’s printed material! Many of the over 200 “sight words” do not follow the basic phonics principles, thus they cannot be “sounded out.” Beginning readers need an effective strategy for decoding unknown words, and being familiar with sight words is an effective method. Other benefits of sight words include: Sight words promote confidence. Because the first 100 sight words represent over 50% of English text, a child who has mastered the list of sight words can already recognize at least half of a sentence!

Sight words help promote reading comprehension. When your child opens her book for the first time, instead of trying to decipher what ALL of the words mean, she can shift her attention to focus on those words she is not familiar with!

Sight words provide clues to the context of the text. If your child is familiar with the sight words, she may be able to decode the meaning of the paragraph or sentence by reading the sight words!

Consistent practice of sight words is encouraged at home as well as at school. Keep up the great work everyone.

Well done Lucy and Tarnia for great sight words and reading achievement!

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE!

Well we are almost at the end of the Premier’s Reading Challenge and my goodness we have read lots of books together! The challenge is not a competition but aims to improve literacy and encourage children to engage in reading for pleasure and learning. All reading record forms are due in to the classroom teachers by Friday this week, please.

Parents, guardians, teachers, aides, siblings, student buddies and classmates play an important role in encouraging students to develop a love of reading. We can continue to read, read, read long after the Premier’s Reading Challenge!

Here are some ideas to help:

• make time to read aloud to your child every day, even for a few minutes
• show the importance of reading in your daily life and let your child see you read - not only books but recipes, newspapers and text messages for example
• browse a bookstore together
• ensure reading time is fun and exciting
• visit the local library and let your child choose some books to borrow for younger children, let them hold the book and turn the pages.
RECONCILIATION
The Parish sacramental program for Reconciliation has begun each Tuesday evening, 7pm-8pm. Call Fr Michael at the Parish Office on 07-4168 1406 for more information.

BUDDY MASS
This Friday 21st August Prep and Year 2 will be leading Mass at 9:30am. All welcome.

NANO NAGLE FEAST DAY MASS
This will be held on Friday 4th September at 9:30am. This is an important celebration for our community as we come together to honour our Presentation Sisters’ long history at St Joseph’s and award special Nano Nagle Awards to our students. Everyone is welcome.
Wishing you a wonderful fortnight.

God Bless,
Celia O’Connor
Acting APRE/CST

This week in the You Can Do It Program we will be covering:
- Explain the concept of “peer pressure.”
- Identify peer pressure situations.
- Explain the difference between negative and positive peer pressure.
- Explain the consequences of giving in to negative peer pressure.
- Generate a list of positive thoughts they can use in peer pressure situations.
- To say “No” to peers who pressure them.
- To explain the “Needing Approval” (needing to be liked) way of thinking that can cause them to give in to negative peer group pressure.

Next week students will be covering:
- State a variety of conflict-reducing behaviours.
- Demonstrate conflict-reducing behaviours.
- Generate thoughts that alleviate anger (“Being Tolerant of Others” way of thinking).
- Explain how the “Acting Without Thinking” way of thinking can cause increased conflict in interpersonal problems.
- Generate alternative strategies for conflict resolution before taking action (“Thinking First” way of thinking).

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

Book week event - Friday 28th Aug - Dress up as your favourite character. Prize for best dressed.

Bookclub flyers will be sent home today. These orders are due back by 31 August. If paying by cheque please make your cheque payable to St Joseph’s Primary School.

Regards from the library
Nell Guteridge

Happy Birthday Greetings
Students

Prep
Bessie Barrett - 12th

Year 3
Caitlin Barnett - 3rd
Xander Hawkins - 4th

Year 4
Joanela Purcell - 26th

Year 5
Bridie Prendergast - 12th

Year 6
Josh Peterson - 2nd
Rebecca Palmer - 15th

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Week 4
Prep  Harriet Clevens
Year 1  Jack Riley
Year 2  Shontayne Cobbo
Year 4  Nathan Roderick
Year 5/6  Lachlan Zelinski

Week 5
Prep  Sharnali Diver
Year 1  Dylan Druery
Year 2  Lara Kapernick
Year 3  Sophie Purcell & Kaliarni Button
Year 4  Danika Dynevor
Year 5/6  Lachlan Bligh

Book Week: 22 - 28 August
"Books Light Up Our World"
St. Joseph’s
Parish & School

Saturday 5 September 3pm - 9pm

COME and DUNK Mr Cran!! Be the first! Up for dunking are teachers, police, Fr. Michael and others.

Double Lane Big Drop is the steepest. Be Afraid...this is the action slide of all time and fastest slide in town. Test your nerve and climbing skills when you are climbing to the top. Not for the faint hearted.

Watch as the children climb the Giant slide and scramble up the slide rope ladder!

Bucking Bull ...... Who will be the First to Ride and Stay On!!! Will it be Fr. Michael?

HOT FOOD & DRINKS • NOVELTY • CRAFTS
BIG DROP SLIDE • THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE
GET DUNK’D • BUCKING BULL • LICENCED BAR
RAFFLE • 2 JUMPING CASTLES • $25 RIDES PASS
CHILDREN PERFORMANCES • POLICE PIPE BAND
SCHOOL BANDS • FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN

See you there!
ST JOSEPH’S PARISH FETE - SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2015

Our Parish Fete is approaching fast and as it is our major fundraising activity for our school and parish community, we need your help.

⇒ Assistants for stalls
⇒ Plants & Cuttings, Cake and Sweet Donations.

All Donations will be very much appreciated.

Phone Fr Michael on 4168 1406 or the School Office on 4168 1627

Reminder……..

The Parish Sacramental Reconciliation Meeting tonight — Tuesday 18th at the Parish Office, 7pm — 8pm. Call Fr. Michael 4168 1406

ST JOSEPH’S PARISH HALL IS AVAILABLE FOR RENT FOR UNLICENSED FUNCTIONS

PHONE 4168 1406

Parish Mass Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saturday 22nd August</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murgon 5.00pm</td>
<td>Wondai 8.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proston 9.00am</td>
<td>Cherbourg 10.00am</td>
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Saturday 29th August (5th week-end)

| Wondai 5.00pm       | Proston 9.00am    |

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH HALL IS AVAILABLE FOR RENT FOR UNLICENSED FUNCTIONS

PHONE 4168 1406

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Carroll sm PH: 4168 1406

REMEMBER TO HELP WITH DONATIONS

P & F

Next P & F Meeting TBA in the Administration Block
All Welcome!

WANTED POSTAGE STAMPS

To help the
Mary MacKillop International Missions in Peru

All you need to do is send
Your used postage stamps

BLUE LIGHT DISCO
21st August 2015
School aged children 6 yrs to 14 yrs only

Cost: $5.00 includes a Sausage Sizzle
Time: 6.30pm to 8.30pm
Children are not allowed to leave unless accompanied by an Adult

TUCKSHOP MONDAYS

CHANGE OF WINTER WARMER SPECIAL

Mince rolls
$3.50
Replacing toasted sandwiches