Dear Families,

At the beginning of 2015, St Joseph’s was invited to be part of a new initiative being implemented across a number of schools in the Archdiocese - The Delivering Excellent Learning and Teaching Strategy.

Purpose:

The Delivering Excellent Learning and Teaching, 2014 - 2016 Strategy seeks to inspire high expectations for learning that maximises engagement, progress and achievement for each student across our community of schools.

Alignment:

This strategy aligns perfectly with one of our school goals which is: Encourage a culture of collective responsibility for the learning progress of every student.

Who is Involved?

We are now into our second year of implementing the strategy across our school. Throughout last year, the Principal, Mr Cran, the Literacy Lead Teacher, Mrs Gerrard and Mr McCarthy and all classroom teachers were involved in Professional Development to help us understand the expectations of the strategy. We worked alongside some of the leading professionals in the business, such as, Professor Lynn Sharratt, and Mr Michael Fullan, authors of Putting Faces On the Data. Professional Development will continue this year to ensure that high quality teaching and learning is evident in our classrooms. We are also very fortunate to be provided with great support from Brisbane Catholic Education Curriculum Officers who often travel out to the South Burnett to work with us.

What does it Look Like in our School?

Three high yield strategies were used including, Data Walls, Review and Response Meetings and Learning Walks and Talks. All three strategies provide teachers with quality feedback which then informs the teachers on the direction they needed to take to move their students forward in their learning.

Can we see Progress?

Yes! Teachers are beginning to speak a common language, in regards to literacy and have developed a shared understanding of the high expectations we have for our learners. The majority of students’ literacy skills are continuing to improve, especially in the areas of reading and writing. We are looking forward to seeing our students’ results continue to improve this year.
Principal’s message continued

Last Tuesday 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.

Staff Commissioning Mass

Last Sunday, Fr Michael welcomed and blessed our staff for 2016 at the Sunday Mass in Wondai. It was excellent to be welcomed into the parish to which our school belongs. St Joseph’s belongs to the several churches around the district, and while we have our immediate school community we also belong to our parish community which is led by Fr Michael.

Greg Cran Principal

APRE News

Dear Parents,

Thank you to families and members of our community who were able to join us for our Commissioning Mass last Sunday. It was a wonderful celebration of welcome for our new staff and a time to recognise the important role our teachers have in the lives of our students.

Last Wednesday, as a school and parish community, we celebrated Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent. Lent is a special time when we are encouraged to think about the mystery of Jesus’ life and death and how we can grow to be more loving by following Jesus’ way. During the season of Lent, we reflect upon our lives and turn back to God in preparation for the coming season of Easter. All members of our community at the mass had the sign of the cross marked on their forehead with ashes. The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year.

The ashes remind us that we belong to God and that it is a time of preparation for Jesus’ death and resurrection. These ashes are a reminder that we believe Jesus is the source of all life; that just as a forest or bush burns and ashes fall to the ground and in time seeds of new life are sown, so too does new life come from Jesus.

During Lent we remember our brothers and sisters throughout the world who are affected by poverty and injustice and are not as fortunate as ourselves. By giving through prayer and showing kindness and consideration for others during Lent, we are moving closer to a fairer world. Each year we support Caritas through Project Compassion and this year the theme is “Learning more, creating change”. We know that improving one thing like providing clean water, has an enormous flow on effect. Children can go to school instead of collecting water and they are less likely to miss school through contaminated water illness’.

Our Faith Committee are educating our students with a:

“Message a day, can change a child’s way”

Each day they deliver a message to the students to educate them on the needs of others.

1 John 3:17
But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

Blessings,

Tracey Gerrard APRE
This week in the You Can Do It lesson, students recovered what resilience is. Students also re-examined the catastrophe Scale from the previous week.

This week students will look at
- real life examples of what resilience looks like,
- students will examine how we can avoid making a bad situation worse,
- students will be exposed to the concept of a catastrophe scale,
- through the use of the catastrophe scale, students will examine how bad a situation is through real life examples which will promote discussion.

Next week students are learning strategies that will help them be calm, which in turn assists them to remain resilient. These strategies include:
- The 5-3-5 breathing strategy
- Finding someone to talk to.
- How exercise helps us remain calm,
- Accepting ourselves

This week, students are playing the game “Dead Ants” which is a challenging game that will present opportunities for the students to use these strategies.

David Francis  Guidance Counsellor  St Joseph’s Primary School, Murgon: Mon, Tues & Fri

Library News

**Book Fair is coming to St. Joseph's**

8.30am to 3.30pm from Monday 7th March to Thursday 11th March.

In the Nano Nagle Resource Room, see you there!

Nell Guteridge  Librarian
Hi everyone,

As a result of our Tuckshop meeting this week, we have decided to hold Tuckshop days on a Friday as from 4\textsuperscript{th} March. It will follow the same process just the days will be changed.

Therefore on Monday 29\textsuperscript{th} February there will be NO TUCKSHOP. However it will be available that Friday 4\textsuperscript{th} March. If anyone is available to assist in the Tuckshop on a Friday, please let us know at the office.

A reminder that an Information night will be held this Thursday night 18\textsuperscript{th} February, regarding the Canberra trip.

Scott Prendergast  P & F President

**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

**Tuckshop Monday 22nd February**

Special toasted Cheese Sandwich $2.50
Bottled water $1.50

**SLUSHIES FOR SALE**

As A Fund Raiser for our Year 5/6 Canberra Trip

We will be selling SLUSHIES
Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays AVAILABLE AT BIG LUNCH ONLY
Starting this Thursday 4th
$2.00 per cup at Office Block

**Appreciation message**

A very big thank you goes out to Tracey Atkins for her dedication and commitment as our Tuckshop Convenor. We were very fortunate to have Tracey donate so much of her time to the successful running of our school tuckshop. Thank you kindly Tracey from all the staff and students at St. Joseph's who have benefited from your help and support.
Greetings to our February Birthday Students

Year 1
- Ta Jaylah Willmot 24th
- Rubin Alberts 14th

Year 2
- Isaac Watson 9th
- Bella Barrett 18th
- Shontayne Cobbo 18th

Students of the Week

Week 2
- Prep: Morris Byers-Bond
- Year 1: Quinci Costello
- Year 2: Mary Aubrey
- Year 3: Emily Palmer
- Year 4: Sophia Purcell
- Year 5/6: Oliver Bembrick

Week 3
- Prep: Dante Douglas
- Year 1: Emily Gleeson
- Year 2: Jaquon Clevens
- Year 3: Solomon Bembrick
- Year 4: Trent Aubrey
- Year 5/6: Sheldon Brown

Receiving Ashes on Ash Wednesday
ST. PETER CLAVER — CHERBOURG BAPTISMS

If you would like to have your child baptised, there will be Baptism preparation on Saturday 27th February at 11.30am. Baptisms will be celebrated at Mass on Sunday 28th February at 10am Mass.

Any queries ring Fr. Michael on 41 681 406

Parish Mass Times

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<th>SATURDAY 20TH FEBRUARY</th>
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<td>Wondai 6.00pm</td>
<td>Murgon 8.00am</td>
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Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Carroll sm PH: 4168 1406

What’s on?

Keepin’ the Dream Alive FUNDRAISER
Mates helping mates
Sat 27th — Murgon Golf and Bowls clubs proudly present

Cost: only $15 per person, which includes:

**Burrumbuttock Golf & Barefoot Bowls fundraising Day**

With special guest:- Brendan Farrell

- A game of Golf or Bowls (no green fees) PLUS a delicious burger
- Raffles & auctions throughout the afternoon
- Lunch 12pm
- Dinner 6pm
- Followed by LIVE entertainment at Murgon Golf club

More Information contact: Paul 0419 720 310 or Kristy 0429 683 121