

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



From the Principal's Desk, Week 9 of Term 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the close of the school year, it is an appropriate time to pause to thank all who contribute to the school community of St Joseph's and serve the learning needs of the students.

I firstly thank all staff who constantly work to improve the learning outcomes of the students by a committed and professional approach to their work. We particularly thank Mr Fox and Mrs Yates who are leaving our school and wish them well for their future in education.

I also thank all parents and families for their ongoing support of the school. This support is very important and shows the value of partnership in ensuring the holistic education of all the children in our care.

Thank you also to the parish support of the school. We are very fortunate, indeed, to enjoy a close relationship with the Myall Coast Parish. It is through this connection that our children feel that they are part of a larger parish family as they grow into the people they were born to be.

May I take this opportunity to wish all families a blessed and peaceful Christmas and a joyful new year. I feel very blessed to be part of the St Joseph's community.

End of Year Liturgy and Awards Presentation

Please join us next Wednesday for our End of Year Liturgy and Awards Presentation. The liturgy will commence at 9:30am and the awards will take place during the liturgy.

Every one of our students has achieved something incredible this year. It may have been making gains in their reading or learning how to tie their shoelaces. It may have been forming new friendships or scoring their first goal at netball or soccer. Today and next week we acknowledge the effort and many milestones that were achieved this year. Well done and know that your achievements were seen, were noticed. Kindness, creativity and tenacity often don't get the recognition they deserve.

Important dates:

December

- 13th Christmas Craft Day
- 13th Final Newsletter published and 2:30pm Awards Assembly in the Learning Hub
- 16th Yr 6 Graduating Liturgy commencing at 5:30pm
- 17th Swimming for sport (Tuesday)
- 18th Last day of the school year for students
- 18th End of Year liturgy commencing at 9:15am and Awards presentation
- 18th Christmas luncheon
- 20th Last day of school for staff

May you and your children revel in small but significant victories that you have both experienced this year, as I will with my beautiful wife, children and grandchildren. For every year there is progress and growth, we don't need a podium or handshake or a room of applause to be seen. I have seen all students this year as unique individuals on the journey of life as equals.

Stationery Requirements for 2020

These following items are required every day at school by all children:

Scissors
Wind-up crayons or coloured pencils
Wind-up glue stick
Erasers
Ruler (no metal rulers)
Sharpener
Lead pencils (2 or 3) or pens for students with a pen licence
Textas (optional – only used occasionally to outline)
Perhaps these items could be Christmas presents!!

School Uniform

We believe that it is important that children learn to present themselves well and take pride in their appearance. We also expect each child to wear the correct school uniform. Things to consider over the Christmas period:

- Children are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times.
- **Black** school shoes are to be worn daily
- Hairstyles and accessories should be conservative. e.g. no rat tails, no hair colouring or streaks, and no radical haircut styles (severely shaved undercut, shaved lines in hair).
- Long hair needs to be tied back.
- Hair ribbons or scrunchies must match the colours of the uniform.
- No earrings are to be worn except for sleepers or studs (must be in both ears).
- No other jewellery is to be worn.
- Sports uniform is worn on sport days.

Thank you for assisting the school in maintaining a high standard of dress.

Beachthon

Last week the children participated in a Colour Run at Bennetts beach, Hawks Nest. This was a fundraising event to raise money for iPads for the classrooms. A wonderful time was had by students and teachers alike. A prize will go to our two students who raised the most funds:

K-2 highest fundraiser was Georgia Hardy who raised \$115.00

Year 3-6 highest fundraisers is Nathaniel Matheson who raised \$327.80. Well done to all students who raised money and for all students who participated. A total of over \$1500.00 was raised. A terrific effort!!

Enrolments 2020

If you have a child or know of a child wishing to enrol at St Joseph's for 2020, please have the parents/caregivers contact the office for an enrolment pack. We would like to have all enrolment information returned to the office for processing in Term 4.

If you have a child enrolling in a High school next year, please ensure that you make contact with their new school. We have Catholic school enrolment books here at St Joseph's if you require one.

RE News

Vinnies Christmas Appeal

You can help local families put food on the table this Christmas by donating to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Over the next week, students are invited to bring in food suitable for a Christmas hamper e.g. any non-perishable items such as puddings/cake, biscuits, tea, coffee, condiments, tinned vegetables etc. These items will be collected to create a hamper for our local Saint Vincent de Paul Society. We will gather these items together for our end of year liturgy next **Wednesday 18th December at 9.30am**.

RFS Fundraiser

The students are also holding an out of uniform day next Tuesday with a gold coin donation for our local RFS. There will be a talent quest at 10.30am organised by Amarli Watson from Year 6. Families are encouraged to bring in donations of muesli bars, packets of lollies, trail mix, chips, other non-perishable snack items and cans of soft drink for our local volunteer fire fighters. A big thank you to Amarli who was behind this initiative! Another student at St. Joseph's who 'makes Jesus real' in our community.

Making Jesus Real

This fortnight we will be focusing on our attitude. We are acknowledging that we are in charge of our attitude and that having a positive attitude is contagious to those around us.

Here is a selection of the amazing things that occurred in our school community this fortnight:

Mia helped Zaybien get ready for swimming.

Savannah was serving her class community. She was putting up all of the computer chairs.

Elke has been a great sharer.

Anikah helped Jack log into Lexia.

Ezra plugged the computer in for Deanna.

Nevaeh helped Jack pack away his 'tricky words' and passed Breanna her book (two separate God moments!)

Deanna asked Ezra to dance with her during a Go Noodle and passed Nevaeh her pencil jar (two separate God moments!)

Kieran asked Aimee to play with him.

Kian tucked in Deanna's chair.

Literacy and Numeracy News

Summer Book Blitz

The book blitz is back this year! It's one way to encourage your children to continue to read and write throughout the holidays! Students and staff (and parents if you're keen!) will record and comment on the reading materials (books, magazines, paper, letters, websites etc) they have read from the 19th December to the 28th January on the Summer Book Blitz Log. These will be handed out in class, but I will also put extra log sheets on Compass for the holidays. Happy reading!

Amanda Pomplun

Religious Education Coordinator and Leading Teacher – Literacy and Numeracy.

School Awards

Principal awards

Elke Madden- For her quality Student Representative Council speech.

Charles Patino -For his developing leadership qualities regularly displayed.

Kinder/Yr 1 Awards

Nevaeh Huckstadt- For working hard to read and draw the time on clocks.

Aimee Grey- For always being willing to help your classmates. Thank you.

Yr 2/3/4 Awards

Mitchell Hardy-For showing an improved focus and dedication to his studies.

Ayla Matheson- For excellent participation in the Christmas craft day.

Yr 5/6 Awards

Charles Patino- For always trying his best in class.

Sienna Sams- For always being a responsible and reliable member of 5/6.



Birthdays this Fortnight



Happy birthday to the following students who have celebrated their birthdays this fortnight:

**Fayaaz Kabir, Shania McNamee, Tanya McNamee, Shaylee Jordan, Corban Matheson-Clough,
Summer Watson**

The St Joseph's community wish all these students a very happy birthday!!