



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Wandal, Queensland

~ To Love is to Serve ~

Newsletter 14/2017 10 May 2017

Too much on your plate?

That caught your eye, didn't it? It seems to me that nearly all of us, and especially parents and carers of families, seem to be racing through life with more on their plate than they can cope with. Demands and expectations seem to come from all directions: family, work, society, and yes the various media outlets we connect to. Then we have our own internal taskmasters who often make contradictory demands. It wasn't meant to be like this. When Jesus said he wanted us to have the fullness of life, it wasn't meant to be a blur that we can't catch hold of.

Last Sunday was Good Shepherd Sunday and the Gospel reading called us to listen to the voice of Jesus as the primary influence shaping our lives. Now that is scary. Not because of what he might challenge us to take up but rather what we might have to put down. Many of the demands we put on ourselves give us a false sense of security or importance that really isn't life-giving. When I grew up, there was a high expectation for women to have a well-run, clean to the point of pristine, tidy house. Thank God, Mum didn't buy into that! She chose to do other things - like be a good cook. The point I want to make is that she chose, she chose for something she really wanted to do and what gave her life.

May I put a challenge to you? If you feel overwhelmed in your life, during this coming week take some time to ask Jesus, the Good Shepherd what it is you should drop out of your life. Then don't fill it with something else. Just take as time to be. 'Just to be is a blessing, just to live is holy.' (Abraham Heschel)

Loving Jesus, people can expect so much of me. I can expect too much of myself. Help me to share with you all the demands that are made on me. Let your Spirit show me what is truly good for me and those around me and let me drop what I don't need to do.

Sr Kym Harris osb

From the Principal

Federal Government changes create uncertainty for school funding

Over the last week you will have heard significant discussion in the media about school funding and Catholic schools in particular.

The funding package announced by the Prime Minister and the Education Minister includes a number of changes that should be of concern to us as a Catholic school community. While the package includes a base funding increase beyond what had previously been proposed by the Federal Government, it also alluded to a number of changes to the existing funding system which may impact on the overall level of funding to Queensland Catholic schools.

The model used to generate the figures does not accurately show actual funding received by our school. The 2017 figures for our school have been generated using projections and assumptions which the Government has not fully disclosed to Catholic School Authorities. The projections must therefore be viewed with considerable caution. Furthermore, the Government's projections do not take into account the way Catholic schools operate as a system. The Government recognises the benefit of local knowledge and allows the Catholic sector to redirect funding to ensure that these locally identified areas of particular need for students and schools are most appropriately supported. This enables our Catholic systems to most effectively provide students in all our schools with the best possible opportunities for success. Information about actual funding received by schools from all sources is available on the My School website.

The Catholic education sector is concerned the Federal Government has, to date, been unable to provide the necessary detail to allay concerns about potential funding reductions.

Some key points of concern include:

- The absolute failure of the Federal Government to consult with the Catholic sector before announcing its proposed changes
- The lack of detail and so a heightened sense of uncertainty about our future funding position
- Proposed changes to the funding model which target Catholic school systems and which will potentially reduce our funding and impact on fee levels in schools.

The Catholic education sector has urged the Federal Government to urgently meet Catholic education representatives to provide more detail about how the proposed changes will impact on schools, teachers and parents and to negotiate an acceptable outcome.

NAPLAN - Our Years 3 and 5 classes are undertaking NAPLAN testing this week. NAPLAN tests are designed to assess the skills of Australian students in literacy and numeracy. Whilst NAPLAN provides us with some useful data, we remind our students and parents that this is just one small part of the overall assessment picture. While we will encourage all of our students to do their very best work, we do not wish any of our students to feel under pressure or stressed about undertaking these tests.

Code of Conduct (Sporting events) - The commencement of Season B sport for ALL YEARS 4, 5 AND 6 STUDENTS is Friday 19th May. Please refer to the note which was distributed separately outlining required equipment and associated costs. Friday afternoon sport is compulsory for all students except in the case of injury or illness. Our emphasis is on 'having a go', being part of a team, being a good sport and learning new skills rather than being overly competitive! Please ensure your children have the correct equipment for their respective sport and that the online CODE OF CONDUCT FORMS have been completed. If you are not sure how to access these, please pop into the office. Students will not be permitted to participate without the appropriate paperwork and equipment.

Reminder: As of next week years 4 - 6 students will wear their sports uniforms on Friday only.

Mother's Day - Mother's Day is this Sunday and on Friday we will once again be holding our Mother's Day stall here at school. Students are asked to donate a gift to the value of \$5- \$10. On Friday, students can purchase a gift for their mum (or other special person in their lives) from the stall for \$5. This stall is organised and staffed by our parents and all proceeds go to the school. Please note, if your child wishes to purchase two gifts, they are asked to donate two gifts also. Assistance is required for set up on Thursday after assembly and Friday again after assembly for wrapping the purchases. Thank you.

Parish of Rockhampton South Fun Day - Please do not forget to return your tickets for our Parish Fun Day. I thank you in advance for supporting our Parish. Bills Amusements will also be offering their discounted ride tickets and these are available at the office. Ticket costs are \$25.00 (unlimited rides) and if purchased on the day of the event, \$28.00.

High Tea - Unfortunately, we have not received ANY expressions of interest to be our Volunteer Coordinator of the school High Tea. This is the school's major annual fundraiser, and we usually raise an impressive \$5000. It would be such a shame to cancel this event. Responsibilities of the coordinator include advertising and monitoring ticket sales; coordinating volunteer baking, decorating and assistance, clean up and return of items; and liaising between school staff, committee, P & F and parents. Please contact the school office if you are interested.

Congratulations to our very own talented Miss Janette McLennan who has successfully auditioned for the part of Madame Thenardier in the upcoming local production of Les Misérables. We are looking forward to seeing Janette perform later in the year.

School Fees are due this Friday. If you are experiencing difficulties in meeting your fee commitments then please contact me at your earliest convenience. A reminder that this year Catholic Education has introduced a new school fee discount scheme to further support families in our schools. Parents with an eligible, means tested Australian government health care or pensioner concession card will automatically receive a 70% discount on tuition fees (does not apply to school levies). This initiative is intended to

assist those families who genuinely lack the financial capacity to pay tuition fees in full. For further information please contact the school office.

Soundfield Systems - You may have noticed some new technology appearing in our classrooms. All learning areas have now been fitted with Soundfield Systems. These systems include a microphone-type device for the teachers to wear around their neck and a wall mounted speaker. The systems benefit our hearing impaired students by sending the sound wirelessly to their hearing aids or cochlear implants. Everyone else in the classroom benefits too; the clarity of the teacher's voice is improved for all students and the systems also help with the voice-care of our teachers.

The Catholic Education Office has generously supplied these systems for all learning spaces at St Joseph's Wandal and I thank them for their continued support in improving our teaching and learning experiences.

In this photo, you can see Mrs Starr wearing her neck device and the speaker mounted on the wall behind her.



Have a great week,
Kellie



APRE News

Prayer Corner

"God's love is too deep for words to express" 1870

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

See Greatness/Goodness In Others

There is much goodness in people. Positive people see it but negative people pick out the human weaknesses that we all have. There are so many people with wonderful qualities that we can imitate. Positive people see goodness; negative people become jealous and insecure.

What are some good qualities in my family or friends at school? Am I a person who looks for the bad in people and draws attention to it?

Think of some good qualities that you admire from home and school.

make Jesus real

Prayers for Father Chris Schick

We keep Father Chris who is currently receiving treatment, in our prayers. We invite our students to create Get Well Cards, letters and pictures for Father. If any other member of our St Joseph's Wandal community would like to send some well wishes please feel welcome to contribute.

Mother's Day PRAYER ASSEMBLY with Prep B

Please join Miss Murphy with Prep B for Assembly celebrating Mother's Day. Assembly will be held in the Hall at 8.35am this Friday.

Sacramental News

Please find below a reminder regarding the forthcoming workshops for your family. The Ritual will be celebrated on Sunday at the 9.30am Mass. We will go through the Ritual with all families at the forthcoming workshop. We also thank you for your responses requesting confirmation names too. May the Lord continue to walk with your family during this final part of our journey, God Bless.

Tue 9 May OR Wed 10 May	Family Confirmation Workshop:	HH1 (The Cathedral College)	5.30pm - 6.30pm
Sun 14 May	Ritual of encouraging the candidates for the sacraments to follow Christ more closely	St Joseph's Cathedral (for St Peter's, St Paul's and St Joseph's)	Mass at 9.30am

Children's Liturgy of the Word

A reminder that Children's Liturgy is held most Sundays at St Joseph's Cathedral 9.30am during the school term. It is wonderful to see our students attend. All students (particularly those preparing for sacraments) are encouraged to attend.



Scott Robertson

APC NEWS

Eisteddfod Update: Congratulations to our Year 4 to 6 Speech Choir who were awarded the 'Geldard Cup'. This trophy is given to the speech choir with the highest marks in any section. Winning this trophy has been the hope of many choirs, and we are thrilled to have received it this year.

Next week our Novelty Choirs will be competing.

Years 1 to 3 Novelty Choir: All students in Years One, Two and Three will take part in a Novelty Choir on Thursday 18 May. A bus will depart school for the Pilbeam Theatre at approximately 1:00p.m., and will return to school at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Students are required to wear a 'costume' for this choir. All Year One, Two and Three students will need to wear something bright and colourful - with 'crazy' hair and bright clashing colours. This can be worn to school for the day. Wandal has a long tradition of both eisteddfod participation and creative and inexpensive costuming of novelty choirs. The expectation is that costumes are found and created rather than costing a lot of money. Supervising staff will be class teachers and a number of support staff.

Years 4, and 5 and 6 Novelty Choirs: All students in Years Four to Six will take part in Novelty Choirs on Monday 15 May. A bus will depart school for the Pilbeam Theatre at approximately 1:00p.m., and will return to school at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Students are required to wear a 'costume' for these choirs. Students will need to wear free dress a la 'rock star'. This can be worn to school for the day. Wandal has a long tradition of both eisteddfod participation and creative and inexpensive costuming of novelty choirs. The expectation is that costumes are found and created rather than costing a lot of money. This can be worn to school for the day. Supervising staff will be all class teachers and a number of support staff.

Parents who wish to attend the performance will need to purchase a ticket from the Pilbeam Theatre Box Office prior to the commencement of the session. Parents who do not give permission for their child to travel to and from the Theatre are asked to contact the school.

NAPLAN: Students in Years three and five are almost finished their NAPLAN tests for 2017. Tomorrow sees the students completing the last of the assessments. A reminder that all students need to be at school before 8.35 am to ensure that tests may start promptly. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day.

Have an amazing week,
Janette



Meet the Teacher -



Hello everyone! I'm Carmel Byrne. I am delighted to be on the teaching staff at St Joseph's Wandal, the school I attended for seven very happy years of primary school myself. In the interim, I have taught in indigenous communities in the north, in other regional towns closer to home and for ten years in China. This year, I'm thoroughly enjoying working four days a week in Learning Support as well as the luxury of three-day weekends.

Awards - Week 3 Term 2

“MacKillop Award” - (For a student who exhibited gospel values in their words and actions).

Marshall Green Year 3 H for offering assistance to younger students when you saw them struggling.

“Striving for Excellence” - (for a student who has exhibited academic improvements and/or has been applying themselves to the very best of their ability).

Gabrielle Egan Prep B - for consistently using your reading and writing skills in all areas of Prep learning.

Lara Gilliland Year 3 C - For striving for excellence and immersing herself in all set tasks.

Tuckshop -

Rosters for tuckshop have been dispersed today to our wonderful tuckshop volunteers.

Roster for tuckshop for Term 2 as follows:

12 th May	Kylie Harte & Carmila Seabra Moreir
17 th May	Tania Cuskelly
19 th May	Dallas Hogan & Judy Jensen
24 th May	Louise Brown
26 th May	Kellie Cole & Carmila Seabra Moreir
31 st May	Judy Jensen

Playgroup - Mother's Day gifts were our creation today at playgroup. Have a look at our wonderful gifts!



Next week we will have an adventure to the Dinosaur Park (Alf Kele Park) Victoria Parade. Look for the blue and yellow balloons.

Netball Training - Students in Year 5 and 6 who have chosen Netball as their Friday sport will commence training tomorrow at 7.30 - 8.00 am.

Rugby Training - Thursday 3.00 - 4.00 pm on school oval.

Headlice - We have had a reported case in our classrooms. Please treat as required if eggs or live headlice are found. Remember to retreat in 5 - 10 days to ensure life cycle is broken.

Tuckshop Reminder: Our fresh baked Apricot Chicken and Rice is still available for sale in two sizes, Small \$4.20 & Large \$5.00. Ingredients List: Chicken, Onion, French Onion Soup, Tinned Apricots, Apricot Nectar, Curry Powder, Carrots and Rice. This meal will be available for the month of May only and only available on Fridays. Limited numbers are available; children will be offered an alternative if orders exceed stock. Flexi-orders will have preference on these orders.

Have your say in our next Meal of the Month!

Choose from:

- Option 1 - Beef Stroganoff
- Option 2 - Pumpkin Soup
- Option 3 - Pea and Ham Soup
- Option 4 - Spaghetti Bolognaise

To place your vote, go to our eform titled 'Meal of the Month' and choose 'yes or no' for your favourite option.

Premier's Reading Challenge 2017

Hi Everyone,

The Premier's Reading Challenge begins next week, 15th May and finishes 25th August. Students record the books that they read on their record sheet, they return these to school and we add their names to the reading challenge website and they will receive a certificate.

P-4 students only need to read 20 books so it is very easily achieved. Older grades read less books due to the expectation of their books being longer.

The following activities can be counted towards the challenge:

- reading independently
- shared reading
- being read to (Prep – Year 2 only).

The following literature forms can be counted towards the challenge:

- printed books
- e-books, virtual books and digital publications
- graphic novels and comic books
- audio and braille books
- newspapers, magazines and recipe books.

All the record data needs to be entered by 8th September.

Certificates will be posted to the school in October.

Hopefully I've covered all you need to know, please let me know if you have any further questions.

Anna McKenzie

Important Dates to remember:

11 th May	NAPLAN Testing - Years 3 & 5
12 th May	Mother's Day Stall
14 th May	Happy Mother's Day
15 th May	Amber Hill to visit Indigenous Students Rockhampton Eisteddfod - Novelty Choir Years 4 - 6 Afternoon Session
16 th May	Rockhampton Eisteddfod Resumes 16 May - 22 May
17 th May	Mass in the Hall 9:00 am Playgroup - Dinosaur Park Math Olympiad
18 th May	Rockhampton Eisteddfod - Novelty Choir Years 1 - 3 Afternoon Session
19 th May	Season B Sport Commences for students in Years 4 - 6
22 nd May	Life Education Van Visits
23 rd May	Life Education Van Visits
24 th May	Playgroup
25 th May	Amber Hill to visit Indigenous Students
26 th May	Sorry Day

30th May

ICAS - Science Test

Rockhampton Eisteddfod - combined Southside Catholic schools section 558

Rockhampton Eisteddfod - Chamber Music Group Primary section 549

Rockhampton Eisteddfod - String Ensemble Primary section 551

Rockhampton Eisteddfod - Woodwind/Brass/Percussion Ensemble section

553 (NOTE STUDENTS TO BE COLLECTED FROM PILBEAM THEATRE)

31st May

Mass in the Hall

Playgroup

The Triple P - Positive Parenting Program now has an online app to help you decide what type of free parenting support is right for you. In just three clicks you'll answer two simple multiple-choice questions and be matched with a positive parenting program that suits your parenting needs. You can find the Triple P Selector at [at www.triplep-parenting.net.au/qld-uken/get-started/which-triple-p-is-right-for-me/](http://www.triplep-parenting.net.au/qld-uken/get-started/which-triple-p-is-right-for-me/)