



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Wandal, Queensland

~ To Love is to Serve ~

Newsletter 34/2017 18 October 2017

Come to the party!

My mother didn't have green fingers but she really loved gerberas. Finally, she grew a bed of them and one flowered. She was so pleased. Not so pleased when she heard a little voice trailing in saying, 'Mummy, I picked a flower for you!' Yes, there was the gerbera on a stem shorter than his three year old's finger. But she entered into his joy, took it graciously and effusely thanked him.

In last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus gave us one of his favourite images of the Kingdom of God - a wedding banquet, which in his Middle Eastern society was the ultimate party. A king invited people to his son's wedding and many of those invited refused to come because they were so preoccupied with their own affairs - business, work farming - that they couldn't enter into his joy and celebrate at the party.

We have tendency to think that religion just concerns love of God, shown in praying (especially in a church) and love of neighbour, shown in care for the poor. But essential to our faith is the ability to enter into joy, to stop being preoccupied with our own concerns and engage with the wider world and see the greatness and joy of life. This can be as simple as enjoying with our children what delights them, watching them at swimming lessons, stopping to notice and revel in a sunrise or wishing another parent a 'happy birthday' at the school drop off. Life itself is holy, celebrating it is worship.

Loving God, open my mind and heart to the wonder that is around me: in my family and friends, in my community and in creation. Let me enter into all the joys you offer me. I ask this in Jesus' name confident that you will hear me.

Sr Kym Harris osb

From the Principal

Staffing Changes - It is with some sadness that I share with you the news of Vicki Standen's resignation as one of our wonderful, hardworking Prep Teacher Assistants. Vicki has been offered the opportunity to take up a full time role in another career path and will finish with us on Friday 27th October, 2017.

Leilani Nelson (formerly Brian), one of our OSHC assistants, will fill the role of full time prep Teacher Assistant until the conclusion of the 2017 school year. Leilani has just completed her teaching degree and is eagerly awaiting a teaching position next year. Leilani will commence on Monday 23rd October.

Vicki and her family have been involved with our school for many years. Vicki has been both a parent and a valued staff member and her cheerful outlook and caring way with our students will be missed. I know the Preppies in particular will be sad to see her go.

Wishing you the best, on behalf of the school community, Vicki.

Thank you - to the many parents who booked a Parent Interview last week. We have received mostly positive feedback about the setup in the hall, and have plans to 'fine-tune' this process for next year. If you did not make a Parent Teacher Interview, I urge you to make contact with your children's teachers as soon as possible to negotiate a suitable time.

Trivia Fun - Due to a last minute surge in ticket sales, our Trivia Night was a great success and much fun was had by all.

Thank you to our P and F Committee for their organising and running of this event and to all who attended on the night. There was certainly some interesting 80's fashion to be seen! Special thanks to our resident MC, Brad Villiers for hosting the evening.



Repeating in Prep - After some enquiries, I thought a reminder about the process for repeating in the Prep Year might be timely. If a teacher, after considerable observations of the child and communication with the parents, considers a repeat of prep might be in the child's best interests then the following must occur:

- Dependent upon the area of need, evidence of some form of formal assessment by a specialist or paediatrician must be provided to the school by the parent/s
- The Regional Co-ordinator: Inclusive Curriculum from the Diocesan Catholic Education Office must observe the student and provide a written report
- The Principal then provides this evidence to the Assistant Director: Schools from the Catholic Education Office who will discuss this decision with the Assistant Director: Curriculum before reaching a decision.

If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or the school's Learning Support Teacher, Mrs Christine Gawne.

In the Media - A reminder that tomorrow, weather permitting, we will welcome Studio53 Productions to produce a promotional video for our school. The video will be utilised by the school and the Catholic Education Office for a variety of advertising and promotional purposes. I thank our Director and the Catholic Education Office for funding this exciting opportunity.

A plea from the Principal!

I am writing to you now, with a request. As parents of students enrolled at St Joseph's Wandal, you are automatically part of our Parents and Friends Association. At the conclusion of this school year, all

positions in the current P and F Executive Committee, including President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will become available. I am somewhat concerned that due to the very minimal numbers of attendees at recent meetings, that these positions may prove difficult to fill.

I am extending an invitation to you, to become more involved in your children's school experience by attending our P and F meetings, or by putting your hand up to take on an Executive role in 2018.

Our P and F plan and organise fundraisers and events which this year included our High Tea and Trivia Nights as well as determine how funds raised are spent in the school. When we have a substantial group, the workload is greatly reduced and the creative ideas are enhanced!

I would love to see some of our 'newer' parents at these meetings and taking on a role in this capacity. I will also be extending this invitation to our 2018 Prep parents. If you feel this is something you may be interested in, please feel free to contact me at school, or alternatively, contact the current P and f President, Emma Singleton, for more information. You can contact Emma on 0423402767.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on **Thursday 9th November 5pm - 6pm** in the school library. Child minding will be available. During this meeting we will also be discussing organisational aspects of the upcoming Christmas concert and breakup, which may be an opportunity for you to 'test the waters' and offer assistance.



Have a great week,
Kellie

APRE News

Prayer Assembly

Thank you to Year 3 who presented last week's assembly on the Holy Rosary. It was a lovely prayerful experience. Well done.



Prayer Assembly with Year 1 - Please join Year 1, Mrs Egan and Mrs Moon for Prayer Assembly on "Our Church." Assembly will be held in the Hall at 8.35am this Friday.

Socktober

Socktober is an initiative of Catholic Mission and one way which we can engage in advocacy for Catholic Mission during World Mission Month in October. The 'sock it to something' concept is an Australian expression that means to strike out at. We want to invite our students to help us strike out at social issues, such as poverty, child labour, child trafficking, homelessness and lack of education.



To support the Catholic Mission we invite students to bring to school a spare sock or socks to create their very own Sock Puppet. This activity will be held during Lunch Time with Mr Robertson and Miss McLennan next Thursday 26 October from 11.20 am.

St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal

St Joseph's Wandal is once again called to serve the local community. St Vincent De Paul

has launched their Christmas Appeal hampers. This year we are collecting items to donate to Christmas hampers for families within the Rockhampton community. Hampers will be kept in the classrooms. Some items which may be donated include tinned vegetables, cereals, long life milk, soft drinks, juice and snacks such as chips, nuts, biscuits and lollies.



Mini Vinnies Summer Fundraiser

Mini Vinnies will be selling Icy Poles for 50c each Tuesday and Thursday on second lunch break to raise money for the Josephite Association. Each Week the Mini Vinnies Team will publish the amount raised. It is great to see our students practising our school motto: *To Love Is To Serve*.

Children's Liturgy of the Word - A reminder that Children's Liturgy is held most Sundays at St Joseph's Cathedral at 9.30am during the school term. It is wonderful to see our students attend.

Scott Robertson



APC News

POETS AND WE KNOW IT!

The year five students are busy writing poems this term. We love learning about poems and writing them ourselves. Here are some of our fabulous 'colour' poems.

Red

Red is the red rose in summer.
Red is danger.
Red is the colour of fury.
Red is anger.

Red tastes like freshly picked strawberries.
Red smells like freshly cut cherries.
Red sounds like the yep of a red fox.
Red feels like the setting of the red sun.
Red looks like Santa's coat.

Red makes me stop.
Red is my favourite colour.

By Baden Yr 5

Red

Red is.... rushing blood from my head.
Red is.... a rose opening in the garden bed.
Red is.... A thick line through a rainbow.
Red is.... Rudolph's nose.

Red smells like.... the salty ocean breeze.
Red sounds like.... my heart pounding.
Red feels like.... soft leathery texture.
Red looks like.... paint dripping in rhythm.

Red makes me.... think of a fierce fire.

Red is.... my favourite colour.
By Aliviah Yr 5

Blue

Blue is the sails of a small boat.
Blue is the waveless ocean.
Blue is my tears running down my face.
Blue is sadness deep down.

Blue tastes like rain drops from the clouds in the sky.
Blue smells like freshly blue printed paper.
Blue sounds like a baby blue bell.
Blue feels like soft feathers on a blue bird.
Blue looks like.... my blue coloured runners.

Blue makes me think about beautiful things.
Blue is my favourite colour.

By CeiJay Yr 5

Magenta

Magenta is the colour of a majestic carpet.
Magenta is a dash of paint.
Magenta is a beautiful rose dancing in sunlight.
Magenta is joy.

Magenta tastes like a delicious starburst.
Magenta smells like pens being used for the first time.
Magenta sounds like laughter.
Magenta feels like a gorgeous satin dress.
Magenta looks like ...a calming, warm scarf.

Magenta makes me creative.
Magenta is an extra special colour.

By Sarah Yr 5.

Shameless Advertising: As I am sure you have all heard, the Rockhampton Musical Union Choir Inc will be presenting 'Les Miserables' at the Pilbeam Theatre next week! (Friday, 27 October 2017 - Sunday, 29 October 2017 St Joseph's Wandal is well represented in the cast and crew in this production, with not only myself in the cast, but also hugely talented parent Brad Villiers in the lead role, and Hayley Hutchinson (Yr 3 teacher) behind the scenes as stage manager. If anything happens in the show at all, it is because Hayley told us to do it! Les Mis does have some themes that may not suit younger viewers, but it is a moving study of the strength of the human spirit for more mature theatre goers. Get your tickets at <http://www.seeitlive.com.au>



Have a great week,
Janette



Awards

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

Charlie Davis - For your application to your learning, you have reaped the rewards of your efforts.

Sienna O’Brien - For consistently applying yourself in all tasks. Your dedicated approach to work is exemplary.

Zavier Baxter - For being actively involved in all our learning experiences, and your eagerness to always increase your knowledge!

Grace Fraser - For your outstanding effort towards improving your reading. Well done and thank you for all your hard work.

Riley Clarke - for being an excellent role model for your peers. You consistently demonstrate our school expectations.

Liam O’Meara - For your excellent participation and focus during classroom activities.

Ewen Lodewikus - For your outstanding results in spelling. Keep up the great work!

Thomas Chippendale - For great participation and meaningful contributions in our literacy activities.

Sienna Brown - For your amazing reading and creative writing this term. Keep it up!

“To Love is to Serve” Award - (for a student who has consistently displayed leadership qualities)

Poppi Wilkes - For always modelling great choices to your friends.

Maddi Busby - For always displaying a positive attitude towards your learning.

“MacKillop Award” - (for a student who has consistently displayed leadership qualities)

Ashley Semple - For the great compassion you showed towards a fellow classmate.

Illness -Please be advised that we have had a reported case of Chicken pox.

P & F Pitch - The P & F have been busy over the last couple of months with the High Tea. We would like to thank all who helped, whether it was attending, donating prizes/cash, cooking up a storm, or helping on the day.

The trivia night was held in the school's hall on Friday 13th and fun was had by all. Thank you to all who assisted with this making it a great success.

The End of Year Function will be held on November 24 in the undercover area. We will have ordering through Flexischools again this year, more information on that later.

Term 4 for most of us is just the end of another year but for some of our families, it's the end of their time here at St Joseph's and the start of a new chapter. Every year a number of our amazing and dedicated families move on from St Joseph's, this doesn't just change our school community but it does leave a hole in our P & F and volunteer bank. I remember when my family first started at St Joseph's, I didn't give much thought to the P & F meetings. The P & F can always do with more helpers, more new ideas or just new faces to get to know. Our next meeting is November 9 and will be our AGM. If you are interested in making a difference why not take up a P & F executive role. Please feel free to talk to or express your interest any of the current members or Kellie Jenkinson, Emma Singleton-President, Kalie Green-vice president, Anna Harding-secretary or Trish O'Hanlon- Treasury.

Ensemble Music

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Please complete the online enrolment form for our final RSCS Chamber Music Concert:

<https://goo.gl/forms/TCM8F4vnnv8tlypEq2>

Absences will affect the performances of the groups so it is important that parents please **email** me if a student is **not available** for the RSCS Chamber Music Concert.

The Chamber Concert will be held at **2:00pm on Sunday, November 5**. All Year 5 and 6 string students from St Peter's, St Paul's Gracemere and St Joseph's Wandal, will be performing in their Chamber Groups at this final Chamber event for the year. This will act as a **dress rehearsal for the final Music Evening** which will take place on Monday, November 6, so it would be appreciated if **all students** could **attend**. Students are requested to **arrive at 1:15pm**.

Would **parents** please **email** me if a student is **not available** for the RSCS Chamber Music Concert?

It would be wonderful if **families and friends** give their **support** to this concert.

Regards,

Dr Hall.

Outside School Hours Care

This term at OSHC we are very much back into the swing of things. The children have been heavily focussed on beading and group games (limbo, musical chairs, freeze etc.). It is wonderful to see all of the children, of all different age groups, playing together so well.

The dates of OSHC closure throughout the Christmas break have recently been released by the Catholic Education Office. Our last day of operation throughout vacation care will be Friday the 22nd of December. We will then re-open on Monday the 8th of January 2018. From our re-opening on the 8th of January we will be welcoming some of our new preppies of Saint Joseph's Wandal to the remaining weeks of vacation care.

We would love some ideas/input from parents/families in regards to our vacation care program for the Christmas break. Please feel free to come and see us at OSHC in the afternoon. Alternatively, you can either text or call us on 0400 011 870 or you can email us on sjwl_oshc@rok.catholic.edu.au.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Important Dates to remember:

20 October	Playgroup outside adventure to Oasis Café & Play Centre
20 October	Year 1 Prayer Assembly
23 October	TCC Music Tour
25 October	Debating Round 2
	Playgroup in the Hall - Playdough fun
26 October	Year 3 Instrumental Music Testing
27 October	Year 2 Prayer Assembly
30 October	Preps to visit TCC
31 October	Amber Hill Indigenous Liaison Officer Visit
1 November	Mass in the Hall
	Playgroup - Water play at the Rockhampton Southside Pool
3 November	Year 4 Prayer Assembly
6 November	Primary Schools Music Workshop and Evening

Debating - Round 2 is Wednesday 25 October. Please find the topics below.

Round 2 Wednesday 25 October (12:30 - 1:30pm)

<i>Harry Potter books are better than the films</i>		
12:30pm	AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE
St Joseph's, Wandal Hall	St Peter's 1	St Joseph's Wandal 2
<i>Fact is better than fiction</i>		
1:00pm	AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE
St Joseph's, Wandal Hall	St Joseph's Wandal 1	St Peter's 2

Gymkhana Success - On Sunday 15 October the annual Interschool Gymkhana was held again this year at the Alton Downs Pony Club. This is an annual event for riders and horses over a day of competition which included: flag race, bending race, diamond flag, barrel race, running Time trial, riders class, trotting race, sporting figure of eight and the Mintie race.

Schools around Rockhampton who participated in the Gymkhana were The Grammar School, Caves SS, TCC, Emmaus, St Joseph's Park Avenue and St Joseph's Wandal to name a few. Some of our competitors from St Joseph's Wandal



were; Jayde Lyons, Ella Stewart, Hannah Abotomey and Baden Abotomey.

The results achieved from St Joseph's Wandal are as follows: Jayde Lyons - 1st - Rider Class, 1st - Trotting Race, 3rd - Barrel Race, 4th- Sporting Figure of Eight and 3rd overall in Grade 2. Ella Stewart placed 2nd - Rider Class, 4th- Bending Race, 2nd - Flag Race, 2nd - Running T, 3rd - Figure of Eight. Hannah Abotomey came 4th - Mintie Race and I came 4th - Time Trial. I'm ever so happy with our team, they worked so hard to present their horses and themselves to a very high standard.

Written by Baden Abotomey

Touch Football - Not available at the time of printing. Please also check Rocky Touch Facebook page for wet weather cancellations.