



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Wandal, Queensland

~ To Love is to Serve ~

Newsletter 39/22 November 2017

It was like a text from Jesus...

When I read this line early last week, it set me thinking. If I received a text from Jesus what would it say? I haven't yet worked out what he would say in a pithy manner but I know there would be things in it that I truly need. It would definitely include support. I know I beat myself up too much for not meeting unrealistic expectations. Which leads me to ask what are these expectations and are they really what God wants of me? Quite often not. I think Jesus would tell me to be myself - the unique person he wants to dance with in the crazy music of life. I think he would tell me to dampen the negative voices, enter into myself, be the person he wants me to be...and love and serve others as that person.

And what would I send in reply? It has to be 'Thank you!', in one of the myriad of ways in which 'thank you' can be said. But what else would I say? I think 'joy' should be in there and maybe a commitment to be creative with the person he calls me to be.

And, you know what, unique as I may be, I think the things he would say to me would not be much different to what he would say to most of you. God wants to delight in the person he has made and who is making in you. When we realise that, a lot of the rubbish in our lives can be dealt with, even falls away, and we have the capacity to say 'Thank You' and let joy loose in our lives. So what text would you like to receive and how would you reply?

Loving God, my life gets cluttered with all sorts of unrealistic expectations. Give me the wisdom to listen to what you truly want to say to me and the insight and courage to respond from the depths of my heart. I ask this in Jesus' name confident that you will hear me.

Sr Kym Harris osb

From the Principal

End of Year Christmas Concert - excitement is mounting for our end of year whole school gathering to be held in the undercover area this Friday night. All classes have been busily practising their items to perform on the night. Please come along in your Christmas best to celebrate with us. Thank you to those who have volunteered their services to assist with setting up, cooking and serving the BBQ and working behind the bar.

We are still in need of helpers - please complete the e-form on the school app if you are able to assist in any way.

A couple of reminders about this night:

- A small amount of extra food will be available on the night; however, we cannot assure you of meals if you have not pre-ordered and paid (preferably by Flexischools - please contact the office if you cannot access this). **Flexischools orders cut off at 5pm this afternoon.**
- If your child will not be in attendance, please notify your class teachers as soon as possible.
- Performances will commence at 6pm sharp. Please be on time to avoid your child missing their item.
- All children present **MUST** be under the direct supervision of their parents. Staff will not be providing supervision after the performances on the night and students are not to be on school premises without their parents or guardians.

- Out of bounds areas will be marked and made explicitly known to our children and they are expected to adhere to these requests at all times.

Year 6 Graduation Mass - All families are invited to the Year 6 class's Graduation Mass which will be held this evening at 5.00pm at St Joseph's Cathedral. It would be lovely to see other members of the school community at this special Eucharistic celebration. A dinner will follow for the Year 6 students and their parents.

Christmas Cards and Candy Canes - * **Reminder** * As children begin to write their Christmas cards we ask that you refrain from sending along candy canes. Please encourage your children to write thoughtful messages as they spread some Christmas cheer through card giving. Supporting projects in our school and community such as the St Vinnie's Christmas Hamper Appeal is an alternative way to give, with quite a different message for children.

Report cards/ class groupings/booklists- *Reminder* Report Cards will be distributed via Parent Lounge **next Thursday, 30th November**. Families leaving our school at the end of this year will need to access these documents straight away before details are 'archived'. If you are experiencing issues with your home internet, please remember that we have computers in the library available for your use (during school times - please contact the school office for further information). Please ensure your login details for Parent Lounge are correct and working *before* this date.

I understand that some parents are anxious to find out their children's class groupings and teachers for the 2018 school year. Please understand that our priority at this point in time is the quality teaching, learning, assessing and reporting occurring in our current classrooms. It is an expectation that our students continue to learn until the very end of the school year. Class lists and the like are still being finalised and will be communicated to families by post in December. Booklists will also be posted on the Skoolbag App.

Congratulations to the following people who are joining our staff next year:

- Mrs Kellie Cole will be joining our staff as a Prep Teacher Assistant. Kellie has been a parent and active volunteer at our school for a number of years and has previous experience as a Teacher Assistant at a couple of schools.
- Mrs Selina Pitt will be joining us as a classroom Teacher Assistant. Selina has a wealth of experience supporting children in schools and we are very excited about having her on staff.
- Mr Stuart Douglas has been appointed as Grounds/Maintenance Person for the commencement of the 2018 school year. Congratulations, Stuart.
- We have two new teachers joining our staff next year. Mr Stephen Hunt joins us from Our Lady's of the Sacred Heart School at Springsure. Stephen has taught at a number of schools in the Diocese and has experience as both Assistant to the Principal Religious Education and as Acting Principal. We look forward to welcoming Stephen to our team next year. Mrs Sarah Clark also joins our teaching team. Mrs Clark joins us from St Anthony's, North Rockhampton.

Help Needed! I have been tasked with organising a small reflection during the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass on 24th December at 6pm at St Joseph's Cathedral. I will coordinate a group of children to participate in a small telling of the Christmas Story. If you are intending on being at this mass, and your children would like the opportunity to participate please let me know at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

Mrs Jenkinson.



Tuckshop - Best wishes to Mrs Brady, our Tuckshop Convenor, who is currently unwell. Due to a lack of available volunteers, we had to cancel our Tuckshop service today. Tuckshop will be available this Friday and next Wednesday. Next Wednesday, the 29th November will be the last day of Tuckshop for the 2017 school year. A thank you to all of the Tuckshop Volunteers who have assisted this year, we appreciate your time and energy in providing this service to our children! If you would like to assist in this capacity next year, please notify the school office or complete the e-form 'Tuckshop Volunteers for 2018'.

Please be aware that at the commencement of the 2018 school year, we will no longer be accepting cash orders for Tuckshop. All Tuckshop orders will be required to be placed via Flexischools.

Library Books - A reminder from Mrs Westgarth regarding library books. All school library books are now overdue. Please ensure any books your children have borrowed are returned by this Friday to avoid being charged a replacement cost. Thank you.

School Fees - Thank you to those families who have addressed their **outstanding school fee accounts** this week. As I mentioned in last week's newsletter, significant outstanding amounts have the possibility to impact on our school budget for the 2018 year, which in turn can result in school and classroom funding cutbacks. If you have not made contact with me regarding your account as yet, please do so as soon as possible.

Talent Quest - Please be advised that nominations for "Wandal's Got Talent" will be taken by our Year 5 students in the coming week. This is an event which is held in the last week of school. All of our students are welcome to showcase their special talents. Please note that this is a very informal event - our priority is our students 'having a go' and having fun! All students are welcome to participate. Students in Prep - Year Two will perform on Tuesday 28th December from 11.40am onwards. Years 3 - 6 students will perform on the following day, also from 11.40am. Please feel free to pop along for some entertainment by our talented students!

Vacation Care - A reminder that Vacation Care is available over the Christmas Holidays. The OSHC staff have some exciting activities and excursions planned! Please call Hailey on 0429316543 for enquiries or bookings.

Some upcoming dates to keep in mind:

- Thursday 23rd November - Combined School Board and P and F 2017 Executive Committee Dinner at 6pm. (Board to meet at 5.30pm)
- Friday 24th November- Christmas Concert and BBQ. Items commence at 6pm sharp.
- Monday 27th November - Capricorn Animal Aid visiting on assembly to be presented with donations from our students.
- Monday 27th November, 2018 School Captains speeches commencing at 9am in the Hall
- Tuesday 28th November, 2018 House Captains Speeches commencing at 9am in the Hall
- Tuesday 28th November and Wednesday 29th November - 'Wandal's Got Talent' commencing at 11.40am
- Thursday 30th November - Whole School Spelling Bee Finals in the Hall 11.40am
- Thursday 30th November - 5pm Report Cards distributed via Parent Lounge
- Friday 1st December - End of Year Mass and distribution of Year 6 Graduation Certificates at the Cathedral at 11.00 followed by a shared lunch on the lawn. Students not being collected by parents after Mass at the Cathedral will be transported back to the school by bus.



Have a wonderful Week,
Kellie

APRE News

Rite of Passage Mass 2017 - All welcome to our Year 6 Rite of Passage. Please join us today at the St Joseph's Cathedral to celebrate as a school community. Mass will commence at 5.00 pm.



St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal

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** during 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*.

Sing With Joy

If you enjoy singing in church, you are invited to Our Lady's Hall at The Cathedral College on **Saturday 2 December** from **1:30 - 3:30 pm**. Claire Stitt, Joy Philippi and Di-Anne Rowan will be sharing ideas and music from the Australian Pastoral Musicians Conference held in Perth. Please RSVP to Di-Anne d.rowan@rok.catholic.edu.au or ring 0418 875 377 so that we can make sure we have enough copies of handouts and music for you.

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

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)

Mila Upton - For your creative responses to demand writing tasks. It has been so wonderful to read your exciting writing!

April Jenkinson - For your outstanding effort and hard work when completing your spelling activities. Well done!

Maisyn Steele - For the great effort you have been putting in to preparing for our liturgy. Well done Maisyn.

Marcus Brown - For confidently and accurately using dramatic elements and techniques to sustain his role during his drama performance.

Gabriella Page - For using your knowledge of letters and sounds to quickly and correctly complete your word sort.

Sebastian Anderson - For quick recall of maths facts. Well done Sebastian!

Texas Carolan - For dramatic elements and techniques to sustain her role during drama performance.

“MacKillop Award” - (for a student who exhibited Gospel values in their words and actions.

Taya Bettiens - For the positive attitude that you bring to school each day. Your attitude is infectious to those around you. Thank you!

Logan Sawley - For showing kindness to all and always including others. You are a great friend Logan!

Ella Leonard - For the joyful way in which you share your singing voice with us during masses and assemblies.

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

Laura McClelland - For modelling active participation and enthusiasm to your peers during assembly rehearsal. Well done Laura.

Outside School Hours Care

Don't forget to ensure you have completed your Vacation Care requirements. Please see separate flyer on skoolbag app or call into the school office and collect a copy.

Hailey Baumann
OSHC Co-ordinator



If you would like your child to commence or continue Instrumental or Vocal Lessons in 2018, would you please complete the instrumental enrolment form for 2018 as soon as possible:

<https://goo.gl/forms/8DuwcQFelvbmky1>

Students may learn a second instrument. Piano enrolment forms are available at the School Office.

Information about instruments available for hire or purchase at Green Brothers is available in the document below:

- https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Kkt3ToT34QMTwBsjOfoDoAexqR_UXZNw/view (Band)
- <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Y78YL-Q8phmb882MQ86DDceZ1nWDBFsG> (String)

If you require further information, please contact Dr Ayesha Hall: ayesha.hall@tccr.com.au

All the best,

Ayesha.

Dr Ayesha Hall

Coordinator of Instrumental Music