

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Gabbie for receiving the Student of the Week award for her recount writing.



Swimming Carnival

Lexi and Joel's first full week at school.



Please add these events and dates to your Term Calendar

DATES

Thurs 21 Feb
Diocesan Swimming Carnival at Moree

Fri 22 Feb
Opening School Mass 9 am in the church

Welcome BBQ from 5.30 pm @ Captain Cook Park

Mon 25 Feb - Fri 1 Mar
Intensive Swimming Program 11 am - 12 pm

Fri 1 Mar
Clean Up Schools Day

Sat 2 Mar
Honey Festival

Tue 5 Mar
Shrove Tuesday pancakes

Wed 3 Mar
Ash Wednesday Mass 9 am

Sun 10 Mar
First Sunday of Lent

St Joseph's Primary School

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Term 1 2019 Week 4
18th February

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Our students had a great week of engaged learning. Our Kinders took part in the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment and we held our Combined Swimming Carnival with Gravesend Public School. We thank Mrs Jackie Todd and her staff or inviting us and thank our parents and friends for attending. It was wonderful to see the collaboration between our schools. The girls and boys are to be commended for their school spirit and participation. A special thank you Lisa Moore for her tireless work behind the scenes in planning for our carnival and to Darcy, Bree, Scarlette and Miss Logan for supporting our junior students and reassuring them in the novelty events. Place winners will be named and ribbons will be given out at Friday's school assembly.

Last week Mrs Higham announced that she was expecting later this year. We wish Katie and Matt all the best as they prepare for the little one; a brother or sister for Harry.

WELCOME BBQ (Sausage Sanga)

Don't forget that our Welcome BBQ will be held at Captain Cook Park this Friday 22nd from 5.30 pm. In the event of extremely hot weather or rain, we will move to our COLA at school. This year, the P&F will supply sausages for "sausage sanga". Families are asked to bring a salad or dessert to share and BYO drinks and chairs. This will also be an opportunity to say goodbye to Fr Joseph who will be leaving us for Wee Waa in March.

Notes

Thanks to all our families for returning the replies to the notes that were sent out last week. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Our students reflect on the week's learning every Friday afternoon before the weekly school assembly. This year the staff will be introducing a number of wellbeing activities as part of this reflection. The girls and boys reviewed the Class Charter that they developed last year and have decided not to change any part of it. This charter is based on our Five Class Responsibilities and this plus the children's positive outlook help make St Joseph's a happy and fun place to learn.

Our Class Responsibilities

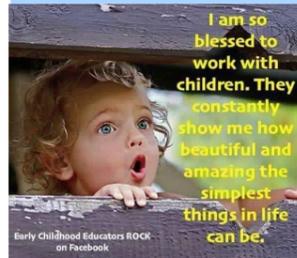
1. We will look after our things and each other.
2. We will treat everyone with respect.
3. We will take pride in our school.
4. We will always try our best.
5. We will be safe at school.

Blessings for the week ahead.
Joe Dimech
Principal

Our Week



Special Delivery!



Try always to be generous with God.

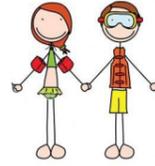
Mary MacKillop 1882



SCHOOL NEWS

SWIMMING PROGRAM

Our Swimming Program will take place at Warialda Pool over five days in Week 5 (Monday 25th February to Friday 1st March). Students are reminded to wear their uniform to school and bring their swimming gear in a bag to change into together with a rashie and sunblock. The cost of the lessons and pool entrance fee is covered by a Sporting Schools Grant.



BEING SUN SAFE

A reminder that St Joseph's is a Sun Smart School. Students need to apply sunblock at home, wear their school hat going to and from school and bring their water bottles. St Joseph's is blessed to have our COLA to play under and on extremely hot days the children have many indoor spaces where they can play.

FOOD HYGIENE

The students place their school bags and lunch boxes in the middle room each morning. A reminder that they should place food items such as chicken, yoghurt, Yakult etc in the class fridge as they may spoil due to the hot weather. We encourage parents to place an ice brick in their children's lunchboxes to keep their food cool.

BIG WRITE

All schools in our diocese have adopted the "Big Write" approach to improving children's writing. This teaching method is based on the research of Ros Wilson, an expert based in the UK. It aims at developing the writing through talking and listening skills and expressing opinions and ideas before writing takes place. Last week the note on changes to homework explained that **Talking Homework** will be sent home during the term. It will ask the students to talk to you about the writing topic that will take place in class. This will help build their vocabulary and knowledge on the writing topic. Big Write also focuses on four main aspects of the writing process; vocabulary, connectives, openers and punctuation (**VCOP**). It provides children with the skills to improve their own writing through feedback and self-assessment. This method complements our approach to literacy as each term we focus on various text types (ie: writing recounts, narratives and persuasive texts etc.) as well as revising the Super Six comprehension skills.

Vocabulary We have planned to focus on each aspect of **VCOP** throughout the term and have already started to work on vocabulary. The students are asked to think carefully about the vocabulary they choose in their writing and the effect that it has on the reader. Talking games are used to build up word knowledge and exciting / powerful words are called "**WOW**" words. The children are taught that they can improve their writing by using these words. Grammar is incorporated through studying the of nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs in their sentences.

How can I help at home? You can use this grammar guide when your child brings Talking Homework home.

What is a noun? A word that names a person, place or thing:
Example: The exhausted, frightened **youngster** trudged slowly through the thick **mud**.

What is an adjective? A word used to describe a person, place or thing:
Example: The **exhausted, frightened** youngster trudged slowly through the **thick** mud.

What is a verb? A word to describe action; what is happening in the sentence:
Example: The exhausted, frightened youngster **trudged** slowly through the thick mud.

What is an adverb? A word to describe how the action is taking place:
Example: The exhausted, frightened youngster trudged **slowly** through the thick mud.

We'll keep you informed with the other areas of **VCOP** (connectives, openers and punctuation) throughout the term.

VOCABULARY

Words Are Important!



REC NEWS

Last Saturday I helped Fr Joseph move his belongings to the presbytery in Wee Waa. He will take up his post of Parish Priest of St Andrew's on March 13th. You will have an opportunity to say farewell to him at this Friday's Welcome BBQ.



Opening School Mass

You are invited to celebrate our Opening School Mass on Friday February 22nd at 9am. During the Mass we will welcome Lexi and Joel (our Kindergarten students), commission our Year 6 school leaders and Mini Vinnies.

Baptisms at St Joseph's

It's with great joy that I announce that Gabbie, Luca and their brother Marco, as well as Breeanna will be baptised during the Family Mass on Saturday March 30th. The children will undergo their preparation at school in the coming weeks. Details of the Family Mass and dinner will follow later.



With Deepest Condolence

It's with sincere and deepest condolence that we remember the passing of Mrs June Shephard (mother of our groundsman, Kevin Bell) and Bernie O'Keefe (father of Carmel Ann Stevenson, School Advisory Council member). Mr O'Keefe's funeral will be in Toowoomba on Tuesday with the burial at Warialda Cemetery at midday this Wednesday.



*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord;
and let light perpetual shine upon them.
May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.*



Reflection on Sunday's Readings

The theme of the readings at Mass on the weekend was **trust in the Lord**. "It is hard to imagine families on the land having no worries in a year of drought. They are fortunate if they are able to put their hope in God in such difficult times." (Introduction to the Readings from the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C, Sunday Missal). Our thoughts and prayers are with those on the land who are dealing with the effects of the drought and those affected by the recent bushfires.

*A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord,
with the Lord for his hope.
He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream,
when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green;
it has no worries in a year of drought and never ceases to bear fruit.
(Jeremiah 17: 7-8)*



May God bless,

Joe Dimech
Religious Education Coordinator



Our Stage 3 students made Old Testament Godly Play figures for our 10 Commandments RE unit.