

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

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Newsletter—Week 7 of Term 1, March 14th 2023

Saint Mary MacKillop said,
"Never See a Need Without Doing Something About It !"

At St Joseph's We: Need to have a **Positive Attitude**

Need to be **Aware** and Need to Take **Action**.

Our next fortnight's Triple A Social Skill is **Assertiveness**

Our focus within the three areas are as follows

Attitude : Confident Without Being Bossy

Awareness : Of the Needs to Stand Up For Oneself and Others

Action : Positive Voice and Body Language



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Our Fun Run has come and gone for another year with the day being a resounding success. Thanks to the P&F and our Fun Run Committee ably led by Tam Martin for such a well organised event.

As we work through this time of Lent we can take a moment to reflect on our roles as parents, carers and teachers which are often difficult but certainly most rewarding in the long term. As we ask of our children, we can set our own personal goals in working to be better at what we do and being better at who we are. Our children follow our example, not always our advice!

Next week, we celebrate our patron, St Joseph. We will have a day of fun activities on Monday with the Ninja Warrior Team Building Incursion as well as Mass with Fr Rob Galea at 9:30am on Friday (all are welcome).

P&F 2024

Our P&F AGM was held last night. Its function is to serve the school community and organise fun and fundraising events.

The executives for this year are:

President – Michelle McCracken

Vice President – Ron Watson

Treasurer – Brooke Voigt

Secretary – Helen Osborne

Big thanks to Bryan Schreenan and Wayne Dyson for their many years of service. They step down as their children move to Secondary School and now pass the baton on to others. New members are welcomed!



Our Afternoon Assembly : Mondays at 2:45

Yr 6 Leaders & Class Prayer

March 18: Zen F, Addi S, Logan J & Josh A; Jun East

March 25: Bindi L, Blake B, Ayden W & Will F; Year 6

All Welcome!

Dates to Remember

Thursday March 28: Last Day of Term 1

Early finish 2.15pm

Friday March 29: Good Friday

Saturday March 30: Holy Saturday

Sunday March 31: Easter Sunday

The Resilience Project

Did you know ...

We spend 49% of our waking hours thinking about something other than what we're doing!

Regular mindfulness practice can improve our:

- Immune system.
- Energy levels.
- Sleep quality.
- Awareness.
- Memory.
- Productivity.



Why don't you give it a go? Find a mindfulness activity that suits you and that you enjoy, everyone is different.

Below are some suggestions:

- Listening to music.
- Exercise (eg: walking).
- Colouring.
- Puzzles.
- Meditation.
- Yoga.

Recently our Juniors explored mindfulness by going on a mindful walk during the MacKillop Garden and labyrinth. They were challenged to walk slowly, not overtake anyone else and no talking. Some students focused on counting their steps. This was a very interesting exercise and we realised we need to work on our mindful stamina as we started off really well but as time went on, we struggled to remain focused on the moment.



Office News

SCHOOL FEES:

If any family would like to commence having their fees directly debited fortnightly or monthly this can be done at any time!

Next Fortnightly Debits: 22nd March & 5th April

Monthly Debits 18th of each month.

If your circumstances have changed and you are now eligible for a Health Care Card, please complete a CSEF application if you haven't already done so.

The Term Planner can be viewed from the school website under news & events \ newsletters

If you have any queries, please ring Gayle or Donna at the office on 5862 1804

CARITAS

FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

Written by Michael McGirr



Jeremiah 31:31-34 | Ps 50:3-4. 12-5. R. v.12 | Hebrews 5:7-9 | John 12:20-33

The word 'heart' occurs almost a thousand times in the Bible, more than three times as often as the word 'soul.' Perhaps this is just another item of trivia but surely it gives us a clue about Christianity. It is a religion of the heart. It gets our blood pumping.

As we approach the climax of our Lenten journey, this week's readings ask questions about our hearts. The psalm begs 'a pure heart create for me, O God.' Those words invite the Lord to come right inside us, into the very core of our being. The prophet Jeremiah quotes the Lord as saying, 'deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts.' In other words, we won't find God's most intimate whisperings to us just in books or lectures. We will find it when we are genuinely in touch with our core, our most intimate space. God's love is inscribed on our hearts.

In his letter *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis speaks against 'a culture of walls.' He asks us to treasure the hope found in every heart:

Hope 'speaks to us of something deeply rooted in every human heart, independently of our circumstances and historical conditioning. Hope speaks to us of a thirst, an aspiration, a longing for a life of fulfillment, a desire to achieve great things, things that fill our heart and lift our spirit to lofty realities like truth, goodness and beauty, justice and love... Hope is bold.'

The word 'caritas' means love. The work of Caritas Australia is a heartfelt response to the needs of the world, one that gives expression to our shared hope. Caritas always works in partnership with others. During Lent, as we have listened to the experience of people we have helped through our support of Project Compassion, we will have noticed that life-giving partnerships with groups on the ground in many countries make this possible.

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the grain of wheat that must die to create a rich harvest. Of course, he is referring to his own passion. But there is a message here for us all. 'Anyone who loves their life will lose it.' We are called to wear our hearts on our sleeves. To be led by love for others.



Jen (centre) teaches a class of students as part of the Alternative Learning System (ALS). Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia.

PRAYER



We pray for all who go out of their way to bring God's love to others, especially to those most in need. We pray in gratitude for the many partners of Caritas Australia who ensure our contributions to Project Compassion reach the places they are needed.

Amen



Caritas Easter Raffle

\$1 A TICKET

EXTRA TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE FRONT OFFICE WE KINDLY ASK YOU TO RETURN TICKETS AND RAFFLE DONATIONS BY FRIDAY 22ND MARCH

Drawn Monday 25th March

PROJECT COMPASSION

The Slushies were a huge hit over the past hot days. Congratulations to the Middles for raising over \$700 for CARITAS



2024 Sacramental Program

If your child is in Grade Three or above and you would like them to take part in the Sacramental Program it is time to register! Those children enrolled in the program will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during term 2 at a date to be confirmed. Confirmation and First Communion will take place on Sunday 15th September at St John the Baptist Church, Numurkah.

In order for children to undertake the sacraments they must have been baptised. If you would like your children to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Communion and they have not been baptised please feel free to contact me for further information.

Please return the below slip or email details as per below to rhartnett-carr@sjnumurkah.catholic.edu.au to register for the program.

Please include a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate.

Ruth Hartnett-Carr
Religious Education Coordinator

Child's Name:

Residential Address:

Date of Birth:

Mother's Name:

Mother's Maiden Name:

Father's Name:

Parent Contact Number:

Date and Place of Baptism:

Preps

Wow isn't the term flying by! We have been so busy living and learning in the Prep room. The children are well and truly settled into our daily routines and are confident in our wonderful learning environment. There is always something exciting happening in Prep, so we will keep you updated through the SeeSaw App.



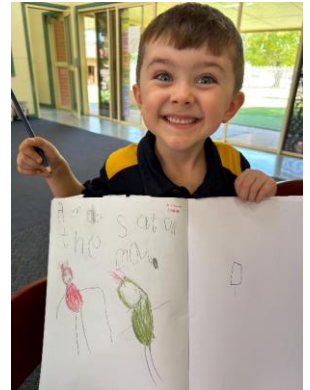
Frankie works with the
Prep Classes every
Thursday Morning

Reading Routine

Your child will change their reader at school twice a week. They will also read with the teacher at least once a week on their designated reading day. This way the teacher gets to check in on their progress and make sure your child is taking home the correct reader. We ask that you continue reading with your child at home each day and make an entry in their diary.

Literacy

In Literacy, we are participating in lots of activities that support our Phonological and Phonemic Awareness. We are also participating in daily Sounds-Write lessons that support the children in becoming effective readers and spellers. This is done in groups where your child can learn at their own pace, whether that be learning new sounds or consolidating their understanding from the previous week. We have continued our focus on developing correct pencil grip, formation, starting points, size and posture to support our writing skills.



Numeracy

In Numeracy, we are mastering counting to 20 and beyond. It is so important at this young age that children gain a good understanding of numbers, how to read them, how to count them, and also how to create them using concrete materials such as counters or unifix blocks. The children have also been learning about Patterns where they have been exploring how to copy, continue and create their own patterns with objects and drawings.

Religion

In Religion, we have looked at how we can be more like Jesus during this period of Lent. The children have been exploring the significance of Lent and Easter and are developing an awareness of the signs and symbols associated with this time.

Inquiry

In Inquiry, we have been exploring our emotions through the use of The Resilience Project. The children have been exploring emotional literacy and how we can show our emotions and see how others are feeling.



Specialist Timetable

The children have been enjoying Art and Library and will now participate in Sport and Music in addition to this. These lessons are held weekly as follows:

Art/Library/Sport/Music – Tuesday
Sport – Friday

Thank you for your ongoing support,
The Prep Team - Tan, Dave, Shay and Emma.



Preps & their Buddies out and about on a Nature Hunt.



Juniors

Our living and learning at St Joseph's continues to thrive, and as always we are proud of each and every one of our amazing students and how they have learnt the routines of the Junior School!

Sounds Write

Students have settled into their SoundsWrite groups and routines. We are pleased with students' sounding out, blending skills and recall of sounds they focused on last year. Your child will have a list of words in their take home phonics book which you can practice for the week.

Writing

We have just finished writing autobiographies which we published on the iPads. These look great and students enjoyed the process, particularly when designing their page. It was a great way for us all to get to know each other further.

We are now exploring fairy tales and making alterations to a classic in order to make it our own narrative. We are excited to see what mashed up fairy tales students will create.

Readers

Students are receiving decodable readers each week that match their SoundsWrite phonics focus and some texts selected by their teacher. We are encouraging students to read these books (even if they are on the easier side) because it is increasing recognition of our phonics focus sound and seeing this sound used correctly in spelt words. They will also read with the teacher at least once a week on their designated reading day. This way the teacher gets to check in on their progress and make sure your child is taking home the correct reader. We ask that you continue reading with your child at home each day and make an entry in their diary (either morning or night).

Numeracy

In Maths we have been exploring addition and subtraction strategies. We have seen students use lots of different strategies and discussed how all strategies are ok but some are more efficient.

Some students have worked with Mrs Arnel taking on the challenge of adding numbers in the hundreds using trading.



Religion

In Religion we are learning all about Lent. On Shrove Tuesday we shared pancakes and learnt about the importance of this day. The following day, Ash Wednesday we shared a special prayer together. We continue to discuss Caritas and the importance of raising money for those less fortunate. We have also been looking at acts of kindness and what we can do during Lent to show kindness to others.

Inquiry

Our focus in Inquiry has been about Brains. We have looked at how our brains are different and how we can build up our brain through our actions and words. We are encouraging students to use growth mindset language such as "I don't know this yet", "mistakes help me learn" and "I can try hard things".

Show and Tell

Our new show and tell routine this year has started well. Students are benefiting from having prepared their information before they present. A note for parents: you can scribe on their sheets if that makes the process easier. Show and tell for next term will start in Week 2.



Easter Egg Raffle

As part of the Junior and Foundation area fundraiser for Caritas, we are holding an Easter Egg Raffle. We are asking for Easter themed donations (eggs, baskets, activities). Raffle tickets have been sent home. There are extra tickets available in the front office. Raffles will be drawn Monday in the last week of Term 1. Good luck!

Specialist

Students have specialist classes on **Wednesdays**. The children need to continue to wear their **sports uniform** every Wednesday and Friday. They also need to bring their Library bag each Wednesday.

Wednesdays Weeks 6-9
Junior West: PE/LIBRARY
Junior East: LOTE/ART

Fridays Weeks 6-9
Junior East: PE
Junior West: MUSIC



Please send us a message on SeeSaw if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child.

Makayla, Jai, Sara, James, Joanie, Anna, Ally, Bern and Jane.

Middles

Caritas Slushies

Thank you to any families that supported our Middle's slushie fundraiser for Caritas. We are pleased to announce we raised a total of \$702.

Literacy

We are well and truly in our Literacy routine now. It is fantastic to see students organising themselves each morning ready for the day. From these Literacy groups, students will be given homework each Monday that needs to be completed and returned by Friday.

Mr Booth & Mr Arnels group are enjoying reading and investigating 'James and the Giant Peach'. During Spelling they are also looking at word morphology.

Miss Levesque, Mrs Griffin/Mrs Keane are focusing on SoundsWrite Extended Code sounds and enjoying their shared novel of 'Mr Stink'.

Numeracy

In Numeracy, students have just completed a unit on Addition where they developed their mental and written strategies. Moving into next week we will begin working on our strategies surrounding Subtraction.

Religion

In RE we are looking at Lent and Easter. Students are given the opportunity to explore how the community prepares for Easter through prayer, penance and almsgiving. Students will be encouraged through the events of Holy Week to remember and celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Inquiry

In Inquiry, our unit is Healthy Me, Healthy Classroom. This unit allows us to establish positive classroom expectations, rules and values. Furthermore, we aim for students to understand what helps them to be the healthiest and happiest version of themselves at both school and home.

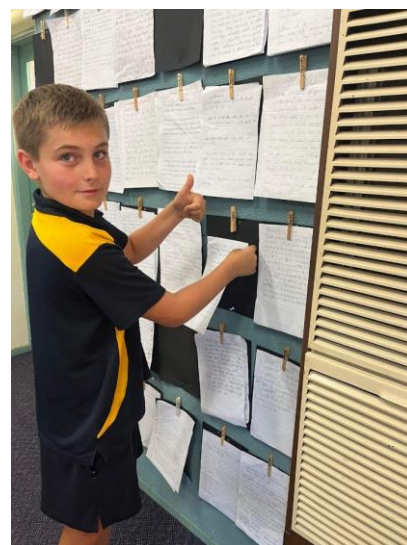
NAPLAN

We would like to congratulate all our Grade 3 students for their focus and determination this week as they completed four different NAPLAN tests. By the end of Friday students will have sat a Writing, Reading, Language Convention and Numeracy NAPLAN.

While our Grade 3's complete their official NAPLAN's, our Grade 4's have been using the opportunity to practice the same skills as it will be their turn next year.

Thank you,

The Middle Team – Jordyn, Liam, Georgia, Lorena, Tim, Bre, Amanda, Laura, Tay & Kloe.



Seniors

NAPLAN

This week, our Grade 5's have been completing their NAPLAN tests this week. We remind all of our students to do their best, and to give it a go.

Project Compassion - Walk for Water

This year to raise money for our Project Compassion campaign, the Senior School will be having a "Walk for Water" event on Wednesday 27th March (Week 9). This will involve groups of five, each carrying a bucket of water around our school oval. Our aim is to build a stronger awareness and understanding of the journey that millions of people go on to collect safe and clean drinking water.

We encourage families to support their child by talking about this at home. If you wish to sponsor your child and help them fundraise, you can add money to their small Project Compassion box.

Senior School Sports Championship

The first-ever Senior Sports Championship occurred in weeks 5 and 6, when the students competed in a T-ball tournament. The Seniors played for their different house colors. After playing each team once, Rohan played off against McCarthy in the grand final, which saw Rohan take the victory. The Senior Sports Championship continues with the students battling it out in the Chair-ball tournament throughout weeks 7 & 8.

Specialist Updates

Students will be having Specialist Classes on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This means that students will be able to wear their Sports Uniform on this day.

Weeks 6 - 9	
<i>Tuesday</i> Senior South (T/M) - Music Senior North (S/DT) - PE	<i>Wednesday</i> Senior South (T/M) - PE & Library. Senior North (S/DT) - Art & LOTE.

*****ALL STUDENTS ARE PERMITTED TO WEAR SPORTS UNIFORM ON FRIDAYS*****

Homework

Homework will be handed out each Friday and collected the following Friday. If students need help with their homework, there will be a Homework Club run each Wednesday lunchtime in Senior North (S/DT) classroom.

If a student is away when homework is handed out, it is their responsibility to collect it.

In the Senior School our homework expectations are:

- Reading for at least 15 minutes (completed nightly)
- Daily diary GEM task (completed nightly)
- Parent/carer signature
- Differentiated Maths Sheet (due end of week)
- Handwriting or Literacy Sheet (due end of week)

Thank you,

Senior School Staff

Adam, Jeremy, Ali, Jody, Trevor, Karlene, Di, Sam, Ray and Clayton.

Student of the Week

Sen S **Gabe Waters-Beaton**

For going above and beyond to work with others, especially helping Andrew with his writing and checking in to see how he went. Your leadership is outstanding Gabe! Keep it up!

Sen D/T **Brooklyn Few**

For consistently displaying maturity and completing all tasks to a high standard. You are a joy to teach Brooklyn.

Sen T **Josh Alexander**

For taking the time to help his classmates complete their Holy Week posters. Awesome effort mate!

Sen M **Lilith Beaton**

For getting more involved in outdoor activities. She performed well in the T-Ball round robin and has pushed herself in class exercise breaks. Keep up your efforts and participation Lilith.

Mid A **Louis O'Callaghan**

For his wonderful attitude and coming into class every morning and saying "G'day Mr A" with a big smile. You are a pleasure to teach Louis.

Mid L **Georgia Brassil**

For the exceptional learning habits she displays during learning time. Georgia is always organised, actively listens and completes all set tasks with pride. Keep it up!

Mid B **Jonny Moon**

For his fantastic have a go attitude that he is displaying in the classroom. Keep it up mate!

Mid G/K **Mikayla Penny**

For always displaying leadership qualities in our classroom.

Jun O **Lewis Robertson**

For being a great leader in our classroom and taking on the challenge of extension Maths with Mrs Arnel.

Jun M **Mia Thompson**

For going above and beyond with her vertical addition this week with Mrs Arnel. Keep up the great work Mia.

Jun P **Jack Hicks**

For making a positive effort to have a go and do his best in all classroom focuses. Well done Jack.

Jun W **Georgia Reade**

For always accepting challenges and giving her all. You can do hard things Georgia!

Prep N **Beau Rossborough**

For making great choices on the floor and trying his hardest in our Sounds Write sessions, Well done Beau, keep up the amazing work!

Prep J **Emily Farrant**

For trying hard to improve her handwriting skills. Well done Emily!

Triple A Social Skill Award

This is awarded to students in each class who display excellence in the Triple A Social Skill that we focus on each week. At St Joseph's we need to have a positive **Attitude**, need to have **Awareness** & need to take **Action**.

Congratulations to the following students who received the social skill award in Week 6

Leadership:

Sienna Sprunt, Mavis Keane, Mason Green, Elijah Watson, Isla Luxford, Lainey Alexander, Jobe Morris, Maya Curtis, Billy Hicks, Henry Bau, Sophia McPherson, Hazel Alston, Darcy Oswald and Will Feltham

Principal's Award

Term 1

Week 4: Brooklyn Few

Week 5: Logan Jasper

Week 6: Zen Frost

Living out the values of

Saint Mary MacKillop

through what they say and what they do



Canteen

March

15th Crystal Trimby

18th Closed

19th Closed

20th **Volunteer**

21st Gayle Morgan

22nd Tammie Rees

25th Closed

St Joseph's School - Newsletter

26th Closed

27th Volunteer

28th Elodie Aldridge

April

15th Closed

16th Closed

17th Volunteer

18th Gayle Morgan

19th Crystal Trimby

If you are unable to attend on your day, can you please arrange a swap with someone else or as last resort let Marcella know in advance, so she is aware that she has no helper that day. Also, please let Marcella know if you are free on a day when we need a volunteer; 1 hour would really help her out and your children love to see you helping out.

St John's Parish OSHC News

The children are enjoying themselves with making slime, bracelets & downball tournaments. We have started our Easter Craft with Easter baskets and stress balls. There is also an Easter colouring competition that the children can enter.

We recently reached our maximum limit on children in care in the afternoons, so please make sure you book early and notify us asap if your child will be absent from care, otherwise you will be charged.



VACATION CARE

Vacation Care shall be running again during the next school holidays, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursdays 8am to 5pm. Bookings are now open. The cost shall remain the same, \$60.00 per day with Child Care subsidies also provided. Spaces are limited.

If you are current users of the program, then you can book via the My Family Lounge App, or contact the school office.

If you wish to start using the program, please contact the office for enrolment information.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Shannon, Sue, Georgia, Tash, Shay & Anna.



Audrey, Tess, Zara & Jobe represented our school proudly last week in the Big Time at the Regional Championships in Shep.

Community Notices





come find your awesome



WAAIA AUSKICK
Waaia Football Netball Club
Thursday's in Term 2, 5pm



play.afl/auskick



NUMURKAH FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

NUMURKAH BLUES

GIRLS & BOYS



FOOTY SEASON IS BACK!!

NUMURKAH JUNIORS BEGINS
Under 9s, Under 10s & Under 12s

Training begins **Sunday** 17th March, **9.30am**
@ Numurkah Showgrounds.
On the 21st March, Thursday Night Trainings shall begin.
Mark O'Callaghan '0415 101 247 for enquiries

AUSKICK
Coming Term 2!








Join us for a fun filled day of activities, connect with local groups and clubs, and enjoy the benefits of being active.

EVENT: Free Community Fun and Activities

VENUE: Numurkah Skate Park

DATE: Wednesday April 3

TIME: 10am - 1pm



COME AND TRY:

Inflatable Obstacle Course | Valley Sport Activities |
Smoothie Bike | Giant Lawn Games | Maternal Child
Health | Primary Care Connect

Valley Sport
Goulburn Valley Sports Assembly Inc.

**PRIMARY CARE
CONNECT**

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2024 Fun Run



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