Principal’s Message

Our School’s Vision Statement is - A Connected Community.

The word ‘connected’ should be interpreted as our link with humanity, recognising that we are all interconnected. When we recognise this we make different choices. Our choices become more collaborative, selfless and good.

Creating A Connected Community at St Joseph’s starts within and moves outside of us. Lily Tomlin wrote “I always wondered why somebody doesn’t do something about that. Then I realized I was somebody.” I would argue the more we give of ourselves in the spirit of service, the more we create A Connected Community.

My vision for St Joseph’s School remains simple and constant: To see people unite and connect in common purpose – children and their learning.

As this school year begins, I would urge each of us to find small ways to help build A Connected Community here at St Joseph’s School. It begins with our interactions where we honour the divinity in everyone else around us.

Under the vision of A Connected Community we have a couple of dreams that we would like to see become a reality in the short term:

1. We connect with the Traditional Owners of this land – the Gubbi Gubbi and Butchulla people. This will occur through the renaming of our school sporting teams that are currently Red and Blue.
2. We connect with the wider world through the commencement of an language program throughout the school.

Further discussions will occur regarding these two dreams during the upcoming P&F meeting. If you would like to contribute in a positive way, please come along.

Warmest regards,

John Hinton

NRL Tipping Competition

A ‘St Joseph’s School’ tipping competition has been registered at http://tipping.nrl.com/

St Joseph’s School community are invited to participate. Registration is via the website above. Our tipping competition code is SNVJJRH4.

The cost is $20 which is due by round 5 of the NRL competition. Further details regarding the split of prize money will be released after round 5.
Year 7 to Secondary Update
Last year students, families and the P&F were consulted regarding the approach required in having both year 6 and year 7 students completing their primary schooling in the same year. This consultation resulted in the following considerations:

- Welcome/Induction of School Leaders Mass – This will involve all year 6 and 7 students.
- Selection of Ministry Groups – This will involve all year 6 and 7 students prioritizing their preferred Ministry Group choices.
- Appointment of students to the Ministry Executive – This will involve a year 7 and year 6 student both being appointed as Ministry Executives for each Ministry Group, where possible.
- Leadership shirts – This will involve each year group organizing their own shirt design.
- Special Awards at the end of primary schooling – This will involve a year 7 and year 6 student being recognised separately in each Special Award category.
- Accompanying graduation photos with school photos – This will involve all year 6 and 7 students.
- Farewell of families at the End of Year Mass – This will involve all associated families.

I hope this information helps to answer questions you might have. If further clarification is required, please contact Mrs Lindsay, Mrs Royan or myself.

Term 1 Swimming
Students in years 1-7 will participate in swimming lessons conducted by staff from the Isis Swimming Pool.

Lessons dates are:
Week 4 – Tuesday 18th and Friday 21st February
Week 5 – Tuesday 25th and Friday 28th February
Week 6 – Tuesday 4th and Friday 7th March
Week 7 – Friday 14th March (School Swimming Carnival)

Times will be:
- 12.00 – 12.30pm: Year 1/2
- 12.30 – 1.00pm: Year 3 (with 5 additional year 2 students)
- 1.00 – 1.30pm: Year 6/7
- 1.30 – 2.00pm: Year 4/5

School Swimming Carnival
St Joseph’s swimming carnival is being held on Friday, 14th March, 2014, commencing at 10:00am. Once again we are in need of your help to conduct the carnival. Your help is very much appreciated.

If you are available on that day and would be able to help, even if it was for a short time, please fill in the slip below and return it to the school office by Thursday, 6th March.

I/we ........................................................... am/are available to help at the Swimming Carnival on 14th March, 2014.

......................................................
Parent/Caregiver
Winter School Uniform Order

The cold weather will surely be upon us soon. To have winter uniforms here on time, we need to have your orders now. Winter uniforms are not held in stock and must be ordered in advance. We only order once a year, so be sure to order to avoid disappointment.

The school offers two types of jackets:

1. Fleecy Jacket - $22.00
2. Soft Microfibre Jacket - $30.00

Both of these jackets have the school emblem embroidered on the left hand side. There will be a display of the school jackets in the school office. Tracksuit pants can be purchased from major chain stores, as long as they are dark navy blue in colour.

Please fill in and return the order form (inserted into last week’s newsletter or available from the office) by Friday, 21st March, 2014.

School Board

The first School Board meeting of 2014 will be held in March. School Board Members include Father Sunny, Stacey Harney, Jody Blake, Julie Bonanno, Mark Burns, Denise Rapkins (Parish representative), Sandra Freeman (Teacher representative), Lauren Robba and John Hinton. The School Board acts as an advisory body for the Principal and assists with the attainment of School Goals.

If you are interested in being a part of the School Board, please make contact with the Principal.

Parent & Friends Committee

The Parents & Friends Association is an integral part of St Joseph’s School and provides a formal structure for parents and others interested in the welfare of the students to plan and organise activities for the benefit of the School, and the ongoing development of students.

The next P&F meeting will begin with the AGM at 7pm on Tuesday, the 25th February, 2014. I would encourage any interested parent to become involved in the P&F.

Softball Trials

Softball trials at Hervey Bay after school on 27th Feb. Please contact Joy Macklin if you require further details.

Workplace Health and Safety

A reminder that if a pet is visiting a school class, contact must be made with the class teacher the day before (minimum) to ensure appropriate paperwork can be completed.

Tuckshop and Subway

Please see the back cover of this newsletter for week-by-week arrangements regarding tuckshop and Subway. Subway order forms are held at the office and are available on our website. Please hand these in Tuesday. Subway again this week!

Extra-Curricular Activities

Please contact the school office if you wish your child/children to participate in Tennis or Instrumental Music. A reminder that these extra-curricular activities operate under ‘user pays’ arrangements (places are limited).
Volunteers Needed!
- We are seeking a volunteer grounds person to work one day per week.
- We are always looking for tuckshop volunteers. The commitment is 3 hours every second Wednesday, however flexibility exists.

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Junior Golf Childers

GOLF ...What is so good about golf??
- Make new friends!!
- No Travel!! Play weekly matches at Childers.
- Able to practice at home or on your local course
- Skills which you can enjoy throughout your life
- The opportunity to play a sport that the whole family can play

Childers Junior Golf is played every Saturday at 7:30am (except on the school holidays) for a small cost of $5 per person. Children’s yearly joining fee is $20 or $30 for a family.

We play 6/9 and 13 hole golf, so as to cater for the beginners through to the more experienced. Clubs can be borrowed.

Contact: Rob 0437 535 467