Principal’s Message

Congratulations to the Harney family, winners of the P&F Ipad raffle.

My thanks to the organisers and the supports of this raffle. Thanks to the generosity of our community, students will share in the profits of the raffle through greater access to technology here at St Joseph’s.

Throughout 2012, I have been amazed by the contributions of our community. We have a dedicated staff who provide opportunities for students to learn and give extra of their time to ensure the opportunities are deep and meaningful. We have parents who contribute through various committees, volunteer their time in classrooms, the tuckshop or on special projects. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, we have students who value being a part of Catholic Family.

The 2012 Ambassador for Catholic Education in Queensland is General Peter Cosgrove AC, MC. General Cosgrove was educated from year 1 to year 12 in Catholic Schools and has described the Catholic faith as ‘a glue blinding communities together’.

In his message for Catholic Education Week General Cosgrove wrote:

“People of faith should rejoice in a strong sense of community and nurture these attitudes wherever they find them. We should acknowledge that these values are not just Australian, they are also Christian.

We thank God this week for all those who work to build a strong community here at St Joseph’s, and ask God to bless them for their generosity and fidelity.

Warmest regards,

John Hinton
From the APRE

**Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop Mass**
On Wednesday we celebrate the Feast day of Saint Mary of the Cross Mackillop, Australia’s first saint. Mary MacKillop was born on the 15th January, 1842 in Melbourne, Victoria. She dedicated her life to doing God’s work and was the founder of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph. As more and more young women joined Mary as Sisters, they were able to establish Catholic schools in poor and isolated country areas of Australia. We know Mary of the Cross spent some time in schools within our diocese and her influence is still present in our schools today. On August 22nd, we will be visited by the Sisters from the Jospehite order who are taking part in a pilgrimage of Mary MacKillop. Mary saw the need to give all children the opportunity of going to a Catholic school.
We can be inspired by the saying often said by Mary, “Never see a need without doing something about it” Mary MacKillop 1871

Mary clearly lived by this saying through her vision to help those in need, especially children.
We would love you to join us for this special Mass followed by morning tea hosted by the Yr 1 and 2 class.

**Assumption Mass**

Next Wednesday we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, another woman of the Church who we can draw inspiration from. On this Feast of the Assumption of Mary, we gather to give thanks and praise for the holy and blessed life of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. We celebrate how God has honoured her and welcomed her into heaven. The Yr 4 and 5 class will be organising the Mass and hosting the morning. Please join us if you can.

**Parish Sacramental Program- Reconciliation**

We will be holding the first parent meeting for the Sacred Heart Parish Sacramental Program for Reconciliation on Tuesday, 21st August in the Hall. Reconciliation is a pre-requisite for receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion. This is the enrolment meeting and the first session for both parents and children. The program is for Catholic children who have already received the Sacrament of Baptism, and in are year 2 or older. Please call me for further information.

Have a great week.
Helen Freshwater

**Hervey Bay Athletics Carnival**

On Friday we had seven of our students travel to Hervey Bay as part of the Isis Athletics Team. Riley Tomlinson, Callum Nugent, Maicey McKey, Tracey Hoffman, Will Martel, Emily Bowman and Brooke Fitz-Gibbon (unfortunately Josh Maroney was sick on the day) represented our district with pride. They are to be commended for their wonderful behaviour and sportsmanship on the day. Brooke was successful in making the Hervey Bay Zone Team, coming second in the high jump and will travel to Bundaberg to compete in the Wide Bay Carnival.
Jo-Anne & Nigel Allwood

Author Visit

Last Wednesday, the children were visited by a local author Colleen Heathwood. Colleen has written two children’s nature books about our local wildlife. The children were impressed with the beautiful photographs in the books taken by Colleen on her many walks around our region. We thank Colleen for her visit and the donation of both of her books to our school to put in our library.

In the Classroom – Prep/One

Prep/One students have been learning about Earth by identifying features in the sky and the ways they change. Students enjoyed lying on the grassy oval while they made their initial observations. After returning to the classroom students discussed what they saw and completed artworks to demonstrate what they had observed.

Environment Ministry

This term, the Environment Ministry are creating worm farms. We are also providing fruit bins for each class. The scraps will be food for the worms, and any left overs will go to the prep’s chooks and the garden compost bin. We would very much appreciate the donation of any empty ice-cream containers from home. Please drop them off at the office. Thank you.

Congratulations Fitz-Gibbons

At the recent State Karate Championships Kate placed 4th and 5th, Brooke placed 3rd and Kerry placed 1st. Plans are now in place to make the Fitz-Gibbon family a part of our school security!

2013 Prep Enrolments

Please be aware there are up to five prep places still available for 2013. Please let extended family and friends know.

Jeans for Genes Gold Coin Day

This Friday, 10th August, the children are able to help with medical research by wearing their jeans to school and donating a gold coin. Your support for Jeans for Genes helps scientists at Children’s Medical Research Institute create a healthier future for all children. $1 can buy the supplies to test one patient for an aggressive form of cancer. The children can wear their jeans along with the rest of their normal school uniform. Thanks for your support.

Ethan and Fletcher
Happy Birthday

Sophie Martell 07/08
Benjamin Gardner-Smith 11/08

Farewell & Thank you!

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish Childers invites you to join us in a Mass of Celebration and Farewell for our Parish Priest of 6 years, Fr Emmanuel Sebastian at 3pm, Sunday 26th August, 2012 followed by ‘Afternoon Tea’.

P&F Special General Meeting
The P&F will be holding a Special General Meeting at 6:45pm on Tuesday, 14th August, to discuss and pass a new Constitution and By-Laws. This will be a new constitution directly based on the P&F Federation template.

Copies can be obtained from the school office or by emailing the P&F directly on our email address, pchilderspandf@bne.catholic.edu.au

The Special General meeting will be followed by a normal General meeting at 7pm.

Please remember all families of our school are members and are welcome at our meetings.

Student Information Update Forms
Last week we sent home the student information update forms. Please check the details and make any adjustments so that we have your correct information for our records. You can return them to the office.

Tuckshop
Don’t forget tuckshop is this Wednesday; the tuckshop menu is the same as Term 2. Thank you for the continuing support.