Dear St Joey’s School Community,

My vision for education in our primary school is simple. I believe children need a deep knowledge of, and experience in, literacy, numeracy, spirituality and getting along with others.

In previous weeks I have shared my vision of spirituality and getting along with others. This week, I share with you my vision for literacy and numeracy.

In 2028, the year the current preps finish year 12, our world will be a vastly different place. Regardless, there are some things that kids will need to be able to do, even though the reasons they will need to be able to do them will be different (I read once that 75% of the knowledge kids will need by the time they finish Year 12 hasn’t been invented yet). Kids will still need to be able to compose and comprehend literacy and numeracy.

Research suggests a 10 000 hour rule. It suggests that if you want to master something, it requires 10 000 hours of practice, i.e. if you want to be a master of reading, writing and numbers, it requires a commitment of time. I believe it also requires a commitment of bravery. During our 10 000 hours of practice, we must be brave enough to experience feelings of discomfort that is brought about because of an innate fear of failure. Teaching kids to be the masters of their feelings enables them to rise above this fear and participate to progress regardless of it.

As teachers, we continue to teach phonics, spelling, punctuation, tables, number patterns, algebra, reading, writing, genres because all kids have a right to be a master of literacy and numeracy. The challenge for kids is rise above the innate fear of failure by being brave.

Parents have a key role to play in this also. Providing extra time to make up the required 10 000 hours for mastery is crucial, as is instilling confidence in your child to embrace failure, for it is in the failure that learning happens.

Warmest regards,

John Hinton
Eisteddfod
St Joey’s School Choir performed at the Maryborough eisteddfod last week. The choir received 1st place, while the school’s strings group comprising of Jodie and Lukas Dodd, Jodie Fitz-Gibbon and Clancey Pryor received 3rd place in the strings section. Other St Joseph’s students to have commendable performances include Gabi Bonanno, Minia Deamer who received a Highly Commended for poetry, Rikki Gilbert who placed 3rd in Music Theatre Solo 9years and under, Bridget Woodman who received a 1st for her Sacred Solo and a Highly Commended in Musical Theatre in the 12years and under group, Clancey Pryor received a Highly Commended for Own Choice Solo and Stevey-Mae Harney placed 1st in U8’s Own Choice Solo. Congratulations to all participating students and special thanks to Twila Whittingham (school vocalist).

Book Week Update
Please note, we will be celebrating Book Week in week 10, including the book character dress-up day (not on 26th August as scheduled in the school calendar).
After School Clubs – Thursdays 3:00pm – 4:00pm
This term, children from years 4-6 have the opportunity to participate in a Cricket Club, facilitated by Billy Freeman. There are currently 10 students participating, with 5 places remaining. Students in years 3 and 4 are invited to take part in an Arts enrichment program, facilitated by Miss Heron and Miss Michelle. There are currently 10 students participating, with 5 places remaining. Please see Mrs Macklin if your child is in the appropriate year level and would like to participate.

Cricket Coaching
Mr Paul Trace from Queensland Cricket has visited our school on two occasions in the past two weeks. Paul has been working with all classes in developing the children’s small ball skills. He commented that he was very impressed with the level of improvement over the two lessons, especially with the girls and their bowling. He was also impressed with the application and behaviour of our students. Well done girls and boys!

N.B. At the end of August, we are intending to host another Y4-6 cricket game against Cordabla State School.

Pre-Prep Program
Our pre-prep program commenced last week. If you would like to include your child, or know someone who would, please contact the office.
**Year 1/2 Excursion**

On Thursday 4th August, the Year 1/2 class travelled by bus to the Gympie Gold Museum to explore gold and discover some facts about gold to write our own information report. Our guide, Mr Moore, was very friendly and knowledgeable. We discovered the name of the first person to find gold in Australia, where and how gold was found and its many uses. We also saw lots of different old types of machinery and even went panning for our own gold. It was lots of fun.

**The Many Story Treehouse Exhibition**

To celebrate the exciting opening of “The Many Story Treehouse” exhibition, celebrating Terry Denton’s illustrations for the phenomenal Treehouse series of books by Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton, The Bundaberg Regional Galleries are welcoming Terry Denton to a very special event, “A Mammoth Morning of Drawing Fun,” at Childers Art Space on Saturday, 15th October. For more information please contact Bundaberg Regional galleries on 41304750.