**Principal’s Message**

This year, Easter Sunday falls on the first Monday of term 2. The relationship between the Church calendar and our School calendar provide an organisational challenge.

Normally the final week of term 1 falls on Holy Week and we are able to reflect on the dark suffering and death of Jesus. This reflection prepares us for Easter Sunday, when we celebrate light overcoming darkness through Jesus’ resurrection. However, this year we are left to consider – would this important reflection best occur at the end of term 1, or the beginning of term 2. Regardless, our Sacred Heart Parish offers liturgical celebrations over this important Christian event. Within the newsletter we identify days and times of Parish liturgies.

One central focus of the Easter Sunday Liturgy is the Paschal (Easter) Candle. This candle is lit at the start of the liturgy and is carried into a darkened church where the priest proclaims three times: Christ our Light, and the congregation responds: Thanks be to God.

Jesus spoke of himself as the light of the world. As Jesus was crucified the gospel of Luke records that darkness came over the whole land (Luke 24:44). It was also in the darkness of early morning that Mary Magdalene and the others went to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus. However, to their amazement the body was gone and there in the tomb was a ‘bright light’ – an angel to report that Jesus, true Light of the World, had overcome the darkness of death and was risen, alive forever.

Our world is filled with signs of the resurrection - signs that Jesus is alive today and is the Light that leads us from darkness into the fullness of life. Every little kind word or action, every generosity thought or deed, every effort to be a peacemaker in our homes and workplaces, is a sign of the resurrection. We are called to be people who walk in the light, and to bring that light into the darkness of our own lives and the lives of others.

Best wishes for a wonderful Easter holiday with your children!

Warmest regards,

John Hinton

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**NRL Tipping Competition**

Payment for St Joseph’s footy tipping ($20) is due in the first week of term 2. Please make payment at the office.

Further details regarding the split of prize money will be released asap.

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**BRONCOS BANNER**
St Joseph's Footy Tipping Leaders are:

- The Harney’s
- Chocolate Frog
- Wild Hair
- Inspector Rex
New School Classification

In the most recent Teacher Industrial Agreement, Childers has been reclassified as a IPRASS (Incentive Payments – Remote Area Staff Scheme) centre. Four other BCE school have also been reclassified. This classification leads to much additional funding for our school and two additional ‘travel leave days’ for our teaching staff. This will mean our school cannot open to students on these two days.

Pam Betts (BCE Executive Director) has considered the impact of these travel leave days on all of the IPRASS BCE schools involved (Childers, Murgon, Gayndah, Nanango and Kingaroy). The most likely days for two travel leave days will be the first day of term 2 and the first day of term 3. If you would like to discuss this with me further please make contact.

First day of term 2 for students will be Wednesday, 23rd April.

Parents and Friends Update

The March P&F meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday 2nd April at 7pm.

As a part of this month’s meeting, the P&F will discuss which projects they will fund throughout 2014. In recent years the P&F has funded the cold and filtered water taps, ipads, literacy resources and an upgrade of the technology in the hall. Please feel free to attend the meeting and be involved in the discussion. Alternatively, make contact with a member of the P&F Executive to put your ideas forward (2014 Executive members were announced in the previous newsletter).

Gary Monks

Last week, Gary Monks (Head of Junior School at Isis High) visited our year 6 and 7 students regarding their transition to secondary school in 2015.

Gary commented – “Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak with your Year Six and Seven students about Isis District State High School. Pupils listened, asked intelligent questions and were excellent representatives of their school community. It was a pleasure to work with them.”

Launch of New Sporting Team Names and Mural

St Joseph’s School community launched our new sporting team names, both of which are from the local Gabi Gabi and Buchelar language. Our Red Team has been renamed “Djaagan” meaning/representing Earth and our Blue Team has been renamed “Wira” meaning/representing Running Water. We have been extremely fortunate to be gifted a beautiful hand painted mural by Mrs Jenny Woodman as a permanent symbol of our new team names “Djaagan and Wira” and a true reflection of how we are A Connected Community. This beautiful mural will be displayed in the hall with an accompanying story put together by Mrs Woodman; we invite all community members to view this mural and story. We sincerely thank Mrs Woodman for talking to her friends and elders who permitted our school to use these words and for volunteering her time, heart and soul into the creation of the mural.

Upcoming School Mass

Friday, 4th April, the Year Four/Five Class will be leading our First Friday Parish Mass. This mass will begin at 9.00am. We invite all community members to join us as we celebrate.

Parish Mass Times

Sacred Heart Catholic Church Childers and Woodgate Beach Holy Week and Easter Program 2014

PALM SUNDAY: Blessing of the Palms and Mass: Saturday April 12: Childers 6pm; Sunday April 13: Childers 6.30am; Woodgate Beach 6.15pm

HOLY THURSDAY:

Mass of the Lord’s Supper & Washing of the Feet Childers 7.30pm

GOOD FRIDAY:

Celebration of the Lord’s Passion and Veneration of the Cross: Childers 3pm

Woodgate Ecumenical Service, Community Hall 7pm

HOLY SATURDAY:

Vigil Mass of Easter Night Childers: 7.30pm

EASTER SUNDAY: Celebration of Lord’s Resurrection

Childers: 6.30am Woodgate 6.15pm
ANZAC Day
Please be aware that ANZAC Day falls on the first Friday of term 2. We do not yet have information relating to the 2014 Childers March. However, assuming there are no changes, the following paragraph provides some information.

St Joseph’s will be participating in the local March in 2014. Children are encouraged to attend and march with the school group – school uniform and school hat are to be worn. Children participating are asked to assemble on the corner of North and Churchill Streets at 9.45am. The march is scheduled to commence at 10am.

Tuckshop
Tuckshop will reopen in week 3 of term 2. Please see the reverse side of this newsletter for further week-by-week updates.

HPE Reminder
Children’s fitness diaries are due to be handed back to Mrs Medley on Wednesday 2nd April. It would be much appreciated if you could remind your child to pack their completed diary in their school bag.

School Photos in Term 2
We will be having school photos on Wednesday, 30th April. This year we are using a different photography group with a new range of products to choose from. One of these items is a Photo Book, if you would like to see an example of this, please call into the office. You will receive an ordering envelope today and also a flyer in the newsletter. Family order envelopes may be collected from the office. Please return all envelopes to the office before photo day, including orders placed online.

Learning and Teaching
We make learning our first priority. This year for improvement in learning and teaching is literacy, in particular reading. I encourage you to check in with your child’s teacher about reading.

Co-Curriculum Programs at St Joseph’s School
Below is a list of co-curriculum programs at St Joseph’s School. I talk to other schools frequently and know how lucky we are to be able to offer these programs on top of great classroom teaching.

- Health and Physical Education
- Play is the Way
- Music (singing)
- Language Other Than English (Italian)
- Variety of Learning Support
- Enrichment

Extra-Curriculum Opportunities at St Joseph’s School
Many students are involved in extra activities both within and outside of St Joseph’s School. We offer extra-curriculum activities in:

- Instrumental Music
- Singing
- Tennis

Keep an eye out for students involved in extra curriculum activities and their achievements in other academic learning. I am sure you will see the connection!
Thank you to Graham Truscott (Grandad of Jamie Yr 3) and Kelly Ross (Mum of Finn Yr 2) who have volunteered to assist with grounds person responsibilities.