Principal’s Message

This year, our School celebrates its 90th anniversary, and we bought ourselves a present – a school bus!

In 1926, the Sisters of St Joseph’s (founded by Mary Mackillop, Australia’s first Saint) accepted an invitation from the Parish Priest of Childers and founded St Joseph’s School to cater for the primary and religious education of children from the Isis District.

The school was originally located in the convent on Ridgeway Street in Childers. The first Sisters were Sylvia, Cassin and Teresa. In 1944, the FitzGerald home on Taylor Street became the school. In 1948, the main school building was erected, due in part to the financial generosity of Mr J.J. Butler (the building remains named is his honour even today).

In 1988, the Josephite Sisters were farewelled by being honoured and thanked for their commitment to Catholic education in Childers. Since 1988, the Parish and School have continued to build upon the founding work of these fine Josephite Sisters.

During various points throughout the year, we will be acknowledging our School’s 90th anniversary and celebrating accordingly.

Special Awards

During the Graduation Dinner of 2015, it was my pleasure to announce the Special Awards recipients and runners up for graduating students. The Special Award categories align with our School Motto - Christian Values, Catholic Family and Individual Growth. The key differences with these Special Awards, as opposed to the End of Term awards, are they require consistent achievement across years of school as opposed to one term, and they are voted on by all staff as opposed to one classroom teacher.

The recipient of each Special Award had their name inscribed on the perpetual shield (that lives in the School Office), received a framed certificate to keep and received a $75 cash prize from Isis Central Mill and St Joseph’s School. Our sincerest thanks to Isis Central Mill for this community sponsorship.

Warmest regards,

John Hinton

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 6</th>
<th>Runner Up</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian Values</td>
<td>Chris Carney</td>
<td>Julianne Cox</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic Family</td>
<td>Amber Thompson-Klumpp</td>
<td>Jade Krieger Celia Freeman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Growth</td>
<td>Ella Buckland</td>
<td>Meg Williams</td>
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School Times
School begins each day at 8.35am. Drop off can be any time after 8.15am (morning supervision begins at this time). Pick up time is 2.50pm.

Uniform Policy
All parents and students must be aware of the uniform policy contained in the parent handbook. This handbook is available on the school website; alternatively a copy of the policy can be collected from the school office.

Prep students wear the sport uniform every day. All other students are as follows:
- Monday - Formal
- Tuesday – Choice
- Wednesday - Sports
- Thursday - Sports
- Friday - Formal

Medication
A reminder that all medication must be handed in at the school office (not kept in school bags). Paperwork is also required for administering medication. Please see the school office for further details.

Student Information Update
Please notify the office if you have changed your address, email, phone numbers or emergency contacts.

Newsletters
School newsletters will be emailed to parents, usually on Monday of each week. If you desire a hardcopy and do not have access to a personal printer, please contact the office to make arrangements.

We are always happy and pleased to include the personal achievement of students (past & present) in the newsletter. We rely on parents to inform us of these details and request that it be put in writing to ensure accuracy. We need articles/information for inclusion in the newsletter by the previous Friday afternoon.

Term 1 Swimming
Students from years 1-6 will participate in term 1 swimming lessons on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in weeks 3, 4, 5 & 6.

Our swimming carnival will occur on Friday, 4th March (week 6). This carnival does not involve the prep students due to their age and development. However, prep students may make a visit and have a quick splash in the small pool. Once again we are in need of parent volunteers to conduct the carnival.

If you are available on the 4th March 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 Monday, 29th February.

Wide Bay Swimming
Students born in 2004, 2005 or 2006 may request Wide Bay Swimming information from Mrs Macklin directly.

I/we ………………………………………………………. am/are available to help at the Swimming Carnival on 6th March, 2015.

……………………………………………………
Parent/Caregiver
Be Sun Smart
St Joseph’s is a Sun Smart School. We are experiencing some very hot weather so it is a good time to remind students that they need to bring their hats to school every day so that they are protected from the harmful rays of the sun while they are in the playground, and to drink plenty of water throughout the day. The bubblers in the undercover area provide cooled and filtered water. Children are also encouraged to wear sunscreen.

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 our students and school. The P&F AGM and subsequent 1st meeting is set for Wednesday, 17th February from 6.30pm and will conclude by 7pm. Please consider becoming actively involved in your child’s school.

Open School Mass
The Opening School Mass will be held this Friday at 9am. We warmly welcome our entire community for this Mass.

Children’s Liturgy
The first Childers Liturgy for the 2016 year will be held next Saturday, 6th February at the 6pm Mass. Following the conclusion of Mass, a light supper will be shared while children enjoy the beauty of play. If you have any questions about this, please see Mrs Hinton or Mrs Royan.

Welcome BBQ and Parent Information Evening
On Tuesday, February 9th, parents and carers are invited to a welcome BBQ, followed by a parent information evening. The welcome BBQ is a social opportunity to meet and welcome new families. As it will be Shrove Tuesday, the day prior to Lent, pancakes will be served instead of the usual sausage sizzle. The purpose of the information evening is to communicate our new homework policy to all parents and for all parents to meet their child’s teacher, see the classroom and hear about some of the expectations each teacher has for their students. One of the greatest influences in your child’s learning progress is you, the parent. The more interest you show in what is happening at school, the more influence you have on your child’s learning.

Invitation is from 5.00pm. All parents will be invited to hear from the Principal at 5.45pm in the hall. Parents and carers are then invited to attend the classroom information session. Each class teacher will run two sessions: Session 1 is from 6.00pm; Session 2 is from 6.30pm. Each session is the same. This gives parents and carers who have children in more than one class the opportunity to visit each class.

Subway Orders
Every second Wednesday, we offer Subway orders to our students. The order forms can be found on our school web page or at the front office. Order forms and money must be handed into the office Tuesday mornings.

Tuckshop Menu
Please find attached a copy of the tuckshop menu. Tuckshop begins next week. Thank you to tuckshop coordinators Katie Banting and Graeme Truscott. Additional tuckshop helpers are desperately required – the commitment is 3 hours every second Wednesday.

Extra-Curricular Activities
Instrumental music lessons and tennis lessons begin this week. Please contact the school office if you wish your child/children to participate in these ‘user pay’ programs (places are limited). If your child participated in music and/or tennis in 2015 and you wish for them to continue, you will need to inform the office.
School Banking

School banking will be on **Wednesdays** this year. Please ensure that your child’s banking is handed in to the office on their arrival to school. Packs are available for any new students who wish to join School Banking. Please enquire at the office. The Banking Rewards program will be running again with some great new rewards to collect.

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Isis Junior Golf

The first week of junior golf is set for **Saturday, 6th February at 8.00am.**

The event will be a golfer/non-golfer 6 hole ambrose.

All interested families are welcome.