Principal’s Message

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.

This week, I share with you my vision for spirituality in our school. I believe spirituality is about having reasons for the things we say and do. We are a Catholic school, this means we are a part of 2000 year old tradition. Our tradition has had awful and despicable moments, like the Royal Commission Inquiry or the Inquisitions of the 1100, 1200, 1400 and 1500’s. At its best our 2000 year old tradition has much to say about having reasons for the things we say and do.

All children are frequently asked “why did you do that?” Too often children say “I don’t know.” My vision for spirituality at our primary school is that children do know. They do know why they helped an injured child get an ice pack, they do know why they said “hello” to a visitor, they do know why they smiled at a friend and they do know why they included the naughty boy or girl in their game. My vision for their reason is simple and clear – because we are made in the image and likeness of God. Your child (and you) and the hearing impaired child and the autistic child and the different child and the golfer and the rat bag and the Interrupter and the avid reader and the average speller and crafty child and the traumatised and the abused child and the cranky child and the physically disabled child and the friendly child and the intellectually impaired child and the rep athletics child.

Whatever we do in our school my vision is that we have reasons. When the reason is – because we are made in the image and likeness of God, then we have struck something truly spiritual.

I look forward to sharing my vision for literacy and numeracy in the coming weeks.

Thank you:
- To tuckshop volunteers Val Walkington, Amy Bretherton, Tanya Gilbert and Lynda Ricca.
- To Mrs Royan for leading this month’s Children’s Liturgy during the 6pm Saturday evening Mass.

Warmest regards,

John Hinton
From the APRE

St. Mary’s Prayer

Ever generous God,
You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop
To live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and constant in bringing hope and encouragement to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.
With confidence in your generous providence and through the intercession of Saint Mary MacKillop
We ask that you grant our request
We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit so that we too, like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage, trust and openness.
Ever generous God hear our prayer.
We ask this through Jesus Christ.

Amen

Have a great week.
Helen Freshwater

Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop Mass
This Thursday, the 8th August, is the Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop. We celebrate the life of a woman who gave so much to help the needs of the poor and marginalized. The Year 4/5 class has been preparing for this special Feast Day and would love you to join us for Mass followed by morning tea.

Children’s Liturgy
Children’s Liturgy commenced on the 3rd of August at the Saturday evening 6pm Mass. Thank you to the many families who prioritised their child’s participation. Children’s Liturgy will occur on the first weekend of each month (Saturday evening at 6pm). All children are welcome to come along and join in this wonderful experience.

Parish Sacramental Program- Reconciliation
We will be holding the first parent meeting for the Sacred Heart Parish Sacramental Program for Reconciliation on Wednesday, 21st August, in the Hall at 4.30pm. Reconciliation is a prerequisite 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 are in year 2 or older. Please contact a member of the Sacramental Team for further details. Sandra Freeman Ph: 41 261 866; Helen Bonanno Ph 41 261 538 or myself.

Calling all Grandparents!
On Friday, 6th September, Grandparents in our parish and school communities are invited to come along to St. Joseph’s where we will celebrate the important role Grandparents play in the lives of our children. Further details of the morning will follow in upcoming newsletters. Of course, ‘Stand-In Grandparents’ are most welcome.
Hervey Bay Zone Athletics Trials
On Friday, 3rd August, eleven of our students travelled to Hervey Bay as part of the Isis Tigers Athletics Team. There they competed in the Hervey Bay Zone Athletics Trials. All children participated with determination and displayed great sportsmanship during the day. Callum Nugent and Brooke Fitz-Gibbon were successful in making the Hervey Bay Zone Athletics Team. Well done!

St. Joseph’s My Kitchen Rules
Last year the 4/5 class decided that there were many families in our community that needed a ‘helping hand’ from time to time. They decided to organise “helping hands” activities in small groups to raise money to purchase a freezer to house meals. At the end of the year there was enough money raised to purchase the freezer. They had planned on making meals and sending them home to families. Our job this year is now to fill the freezer with meals made at school, with the intention being that over time, families in the school could donate extra meals to add to the freezer if they have made extra at home to send home to families in need.

In week 7, from the 19th - 23rd of August each class will have one day to prepare some meals that they will put in the freezer to freeze. It will be run like a ‘My Kitchen Rules’ cook off. We are hoping to be able to fill the freezer with yummy meals so when a family needs a ‘helping hand’ we can send home a meal to relieve them of one less job.

Year 6/7 Visit to Forest View
On Friday, the 21st of June, Year 6-7 ventured up to Forest View. Squeezing under a few umbrellas to keep the light rain off them, and with their notes protected in plastic sleeves, the students had a pleasant stroll to the retirement village. Though only a few residents joined us, they were quite excited to see the class. After they were seated, the students partnered up with each of them. A little nervous, the students bravely introduced themselves (with a little encouragement from their teacher, Mrs Durnan) and then read their work about Greek Mythology, the unit they are studying in class. The residents listened intently, enjoying every minute of it. The stories inspired some of the listeners to ask questions, which gave the students the opportunity to talk about their work. A few of the residents chose to read and study the stories themselves. Each student showed a lot of patience as they waited for a turn to share their work. Year 6-7 learnt a lot from their experience sharing their work with their elderly listeners. Their visit was thoroughly enjoyed by all.
Happy Birthday

Sophie Martell 07/08
Rhys Blake 10/08
Benjamin Gardner-Smith 11/08

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If these dates do not suit tuckshop helpers, please contact the school office. If you are available to assist please contact the school office.

Golf Clinic at St Joseph’s School
Two weeks ago all students at St Joseph’s School took part in a golf clinic. Doug Walters from the Greg Norman Academy facilitated this clinic. Doug had a wonderful manner with our children and taught them many unique golfing skills. If your child or children are showing an interest in golf, Brett Martell (Father of Sophie (Yr 7) and Will (Yr 5) runs a junior golf program at Isis Golf Club. The program is run on Saturday morning. Please contact Isis Golf Club if you would like more information.

QLD Karate Titles
The Qld Karate Titles were held in Bundaberg on the 20th July. Brooke, Kate and Jodie Fitz-Gibbon, Bridget Woodman and Brook Davis competed from our school. They all competed very well and were great sports. They are pictured below with Sensei John Russo and Kerry Fitz-Gibbon with the medals they won.

Brooke Fitz-Gibbon - 2nd Kumite, 3rd Kata and 3rd Team Kata
Kate Fitz-Gibbon - 2nd Kata
Jodie Fitz-Gibbon - 3rd Team Kata
Bridget Woodman - 2nd Kata and 3rd Team Kata

Student Details Forms
At the beginning of the term all parents were requested to update their family’s details. Forms were distributed and we are keen to have these returned as soon as possible.