In gratitude to volunteers

Most of us are aware of the extraordinary contribution that volunteers make to our Australian community. Many, many of us do something to build up the community around us. It doesn’t take much thought to draw up a wonderful long list of what is done around our school: library support, reading support, gardening working bees, sports coaching... What we see here is the phenomenon of different people bringing out their different talents in differing situations. When this happens strong bonds of community are made. And this runs very deep. This is the way God has made us: to be a community sharing and receiving from each other.

But there is something that builds even deeper bonds between us. It is the expression of gratitude to these volunteers for what they have done. Every now and then we hear of the monetary value of the work of volunteers, ‘They have saved the economy x amount of dollars.’ That, to me, is an odd way of giving it value. The best way we can give value is to say ‘Thank you.’ Expressing our gratitude to those who help us and our community releases a peculiar form of love that inspires others to do the same. Expressing our gratitude draws us into the very life of God where the Father, Son and Spirit give and receive from each other in joy. Expressing our gratitude fosters joy both in our community and within us.

Loving God, let me express my thanks and appreciation to the many people who build up my community by their volunteer work. Let their work be guided by your Spirit. I ask this in Jesus’ name confident that you will hear us.

Sr Kym Harris osb

The reflection above from Sister Kym outlines the importance of and gratitude we hold for those who volunteer. In our school community, we have so many people who give up their own time to assist us. This takes many forms; from supervising our pedestrian crossings, to helping in the library, tuckshop or classrooms, or contributing to our P and F or school board...the list is endless. We truly appreciate the time each of our volunteers gives from their own busy lives to help our school endeavours.

Speaking of which, the P and F are currently planning our whole-school end-of-year Christmas function. To alleviate the long queues for food, we are calling for more BBQ cooks this year. With this newsletter is an e-form, asking each family to contribute in one way for this function. Please indicate on the e-form how you may be able to help. Food will be pre-ordered via another e-form this year. Food ‘tickets’ will then be sent home, and these are to be presented when collecting your food on the night. The e-form for food ordering will be shared via the School App next week.

Each class is preparing a small item to perform on the night. Please inform your children’s teachers if they will be absent on the night. A reminder that our end of year function will be held on Friday, 27th November. Class performances will commence at 6pm sharp. Please be advised that food and drinks will not be served until after the children’s performances.

School Leadership Team
Principal: Mrs Kellie Jenkinson
Assistant to the Principal Religious Education: Mr Scott Robertson
Assistant Principal Curriculum: Miss Janette McLennan
From the Principal:

Congratulations to Hunta (prep) and Bianca Lee have welcomed a new son and brother to their family. Welcome baby Winston!

We also congratulate Will (Year 2) and Annie (Prep) Stephenson, and their parents, Wade and Hannah, on the birth of baby Elsie Aberdeen.

We wish both of these families many blessings with their new arrivals!

Thank you to those families who supported our very first “Taco Tuesday”. This was a successful fundraiser for our graduating Year Six class raising nearly $500.00 and we will certainly look to have another type of these days next year. Thank you to Mr Robertson and the Year 6 parents for organising and coordinating this fundraising lunch.

All families are invited to the Year 6 class’s Graduation Mass which will be held at St Joseph’s Cathedral on **Wednesday 24th November**, commencing at 5.30pm. It would be lovely to see other members of the school community at this special Eucharistic celebration. A dinner will follow for the Year 6 students and their parents. I would urge any Year 6 parents who have not rsvp’d for the dinner to do this as soon as possible please so that we can finalise our numbers for this event.

Attached with this week’s newsletter is the newly developed **St Joseph’s Wandal Social Media Guidelines**, which have been developed by the school board over the last couple of months. I ask you to take careful note of the content. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries.

Today of course is Remembrance Day. The staff led our school community in a moving prayer tribute today. On the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month every year, a minutes’ silence is observed and dedicated to those soldiers who died fighting to protect the nation. We also pause to remember all of the men and women of the Australian Defence Force who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

We will remember them. Lest we forget.

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**Important Message Regarding School Fees**

Please be advised that Fees for Term 4 are now overdue. Kathy and I have reviewed outstanding accounts and reminder letters have been sent today. Unfortunately there are a significant amount of outstanding fees at this point in time. If these outstanding amounts are not reduced, this has the potential to have a significant impact on our 2016 budget. This in turn may cause budget cutbacks with regards to school and classroom resourcing. I do wish to thank those families who consistently pay within the required time frame and those of you who will address this matter in the next couple of days. As always, please make an appointment to see me if you are having difficulty meeting the due date for your account.
**APRE NEWS:**

**Prayer Corner**

*Jesus teaches us how to give.*

**Sunday**

_In his teaching Jesus said,_

‘Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market places, to take the front seats in the synagogues...’

_(Mk 12:38-39)_

*Religious exhibitionism, Jesus has some of his harshest criticism for this type of behaviour. These scribes, supposedly the experts on the Law of God, had failed to understand its fundamental message: love of God and love of neighbour. They had used their knowledge for self-promotion.*

*Loving Jesus, give me the humility that accepts your teachings as a way to lead me into loving you and others more deeply.*

_on behalf of; Take 2 with Jesus, Diocese of Rockhampton <prayer@rok.catholic.net.au_

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**SACRAMENTAL NEWS**

Thank you to our Sacramental Team who participated in the Ritual of Belonging on Sunday. Our Family Crests can be found in our school hall with student profiles.

A reminder that the Reconciliation Family Workshop 3 will take place this weekend **15 November**.

Suggested readings for this Workshop are page 4, page 22 and activity one page 23 as these pages capture the essence of the content of Workshop Three Reconciliation.

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Reconciliation Family workshop 3</th>
<th>St Paul’s Gracemere</th>
<th>St Joseph’s Wandal &amp; St Peter’s Allenstown &amp; St Mary’s Nth R’ton</th>
<th>Mass Details</th>
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<td>St Paul’s Gracemere</td>
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<td>St Paul’s Gracemere</td>
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**CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Children’s Liturgy is held most Sundays at St Peter’s Church during the school term at 9am. All students (particularly those preparing for sacraments) are encouraged to attend.

**PRAYER ASSEMBLY**

There will no prayer assembly this week due to a special Remembrance Day Assembly on Wednesday.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

St Joseph’s Wandal is once again called to serve the local community. St Vincent De Paul has launched their Christmas Appeal hampers. This year we are collecting items to donate Christmas hampers for families within the Rockhampton community. Hampers will be kept in the classrooms. Some items which may be donated include tinned vegetables, cereals, long life milk, soft drinks, juice and snacks such as chips, nuts, biscuits and lollies.
Prayer Expo

Thank you to Year 5 and Miss Janette McLennan who held a ‘Prayer Expo’ for the school this week. Year 5 demonstrated and led Prayer in their different forms for visiting classes in the Performing Arts room. Students acted out Scripture with Godly Play, listened to Guided Meditation, created Mandalas and visual art pieces on prayer and much more. Well done Miss McLennan and Year 5.

The prayer expo was fun, the most enjoyable thing to do there was praying with art. I made a picture of God folding a phoenix. I learnt that just by looking at a picture you can see a prayer with the colours and the shapes. Art has long been a way the Church has tapped into the divine. For centuries artists and sculptors have been commissioned to add this divine life to grand cathedrals and churches. The Vatican houses thousands of pieces of art in its museums, which are visited by millions of people every year. Dre Lorian Year 6

The things that we could do were prayer in meditation, prayer setup, prayer mandalas, prayer table setup, music in prayers, traditional prayers and prayer drawing. My favourite was the prayer table setup. I liked it because everyone was doing it with the most concentration and the concentration was paying off. It looked beautiful! We learnt that by making things in the church beautiful, you are showing compassion and love for God’s House. Ethan Cao-Lee Year 6

My favourite prayer space was listening to music. Euen and Tyler were the leaders of Prayer Space. I liked this particular prayer space because the music was relaxing yet a happy song and they made the song themselves; they didn’t get it off the internet. I learnt that you can pray in many different ways like listening to relaxing music. Libbie Osbourne Year 6

My favourite activity was writing my own prayer. It was relaxing writing your own prayer because you can take your time and you did not need to take it from the top of your head.

You could do it as fast or as slow as you want to because it is your own prayer. The prayer I wrote was: “Dear God Help me through the tough times and to be nice to my brothers. Amen.”

Taliesha Munns Year 6

Scott Robertson - APRE
APC NEWS:

Remembrance Day 2015

Thank you to the staff who helped lead the celebration of Remembrance Day this year. This marked the 97th anniversary of the Armistice which ended World War I. It is a tradition to celebrate this solemn occasion at the eleventh hour of the eleventh month. Originally known as Armistice Day, the day has been called Remembrance Day since World War II. On this special day, we pause to remember all of those who have died or who suffered as a result of their efforts to support Australia in all wars or armed conflicts.

At St Joseph’s Wandal, we took part in some of the customs of Remembrance Day including the laying of wreaths, the saying of the Ode, listening to the ‘Last Post’, observing one minute of silence, the symbol of red poppies and singing the National Anthem.

For more information, visit these websites:

Australian War Memorial https://www.awm.gov.au/

CQ Military and Artefacts Museum http://cqmm.tripod.com/

National Archives of Australia Virtual Reading Room http://vrroom.naa.gov.au/
P&F HIGHLIGHTS FOR SEPT/OCTOBER

November 5th saw us have our last P&F meeting for this year. We are so grateful to the many parents and supporters who have helped us in any way this year. Whether it’s donating time or products to one of our fundraisers, we all have something we can give to help make our children’s school the wonderful place it is for young minds to grow and thrive. The P&F this month funded a Subway and coffee van lunch for the teachers and staff on Teachers’ Day on the 30th October. This was very gratefully acknowledged by Kellie at the meeting. This was just a small way we as parents can thank the staff for all that they do for our children. The major financial decision for this month was that P&F are funding $5000 for additional classroom resources to help cater for our continued growth to two-stream.

There’s much to be excited about for 2016. Our students will all be in the new hat and sport shirts and we are phasing in the hard-wearing and attractive St Joseph’s branded backpacks. Sports shorts will also be introduced next year. There will be 11 classes in total, which leads to some renovations being required over the Christmas holidays - the current art room will be a classroom and is getting a makeover. The hall is also being repainted and recarpeted in a modern style.

The Prep Orientation was well attended and ran very smoothly. A very informative session, with hopefully all new nervous students (and parents!) worries being allayed. The newest members of our school community got to experience a morning in the Prep rooms and were all very excited to see what next year will bring.

Our Year 6 class (and their Mums and Dads) will be going through a very exciting time over the next few weeks. They are looking forward to their graduation night which consists of a Mass at the Cathedral at 5.30pm on the 25th November, followed by a families-only dinner at the Rocky Leagues Club. We can all show our support of these wonderful kids by attending the Mass to wish them well into their future.

The last item on this month’s agenda was our Christmas/End of year school function. This will be held on Friday 27th November at the school with our usual yummy BBQ and possibly a visit by someone who wears a lot of red and needs to go on a diet. We need lots of helpers for this night - we are asking each family to contribute in one way. (Please see the e-form)

Due to very full schedules this month it was decided that the AGM will be held early next year.

Our next meeting will be held on February 18th 2016 at 6pm. Please consider coming along if you are able, we cover a lot of ground in an hour and everyone’s contribution is welcome and appreciated.

Fran Barry (on behalf of the P and F)
Head lice Reminder - We have been advised of a number of cases throughout the school. Please remember to check your child’s hair and don’t forget to retreat in 7 - 10 days.

Touch Football Draw Saturday 14th November 2015

Field 2  8.00am  Wandal Strikers v St Anthony’s Thunder
Field 4  8.40am  Wandal Stingers v Magpies RE
Field 4  9.20am  Wandal Warriors v St Peters Thunder
Field 2  9.20am  Wandal Wondergirls v St Pauls Swifts
Field 8  10.00am Wandal Blasters v Crescent Lagoon
Field 10 10.40am Wandal All Stars v St Pauls Broncos
Field 9  11.20  Wandal Gunnas v Deadly Dakins

The St Joseph’s Wandal Year Six Class of 2015

Invites you to attend their

Graduation Mass

at

St Joseph’s Cathedral

William Street

Wednesday 25th November 2015

Commencing at 5.30pm
Parent Lounge - Have you checked lately that you are able to access Parent Lounge? Having difficulties? Please advise the office as soon as possible to ensure your details to access Parent Lounge are correct. Reminder that report cards will be uploaded for you to access in the last week of this term.

St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School Wandal

Christmas Appeal 2016

Please donate to St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

Hampers will be kept in classrooms. Students are encouraged to donate assorted goods:

- Tinned goods
- Cereals
- Long life milk
- Soft drinks
- Juice
- Chips, nuts, biscuits and lollies
- Christmas goodies
St Joseph’s Wandal Social Media Guidelines

Rationale

The purpose of this document is to encourage acceptable use of social media by the St Joseph’s Wandal school community. The intent here is to assist users to choose appropriate online practices. The aim is to provide guidance to ensure appropriate use of social media and to ensure that the school community is aware that:

- Harassment, bullying and or discrimination;
- Inappropriate/offensive comments;
- Privacy Breaches;

will not be tolerated.

It is the school's recommendation that parents familiarise themselves with the ICT Code of Conduct and participate online in a respectful, relevant way that demonstrates the school’s values and ethos.

Due to the considerable additional time and responsibility required of staff to manage and monitor the school’s social media platform, as of November 2015 the only approved school social media page will be the official St Joseph’s Wandal Facebook page. Year level Facebook pages will no longer be encouraged, supported or monitored. Any use of the school’s logo, name, communications (i.e. copies of newsletter, teacher notes etc.) or image are not to be used without the written permission of the school Principal or delegate.

Any social media platforms used by St Joseph’s Wandal will only act as supplementary communication mediums. The primary communication tool will remain the school newsletter which is accessible via the school App and school website.

School-Parent Communication tools
The following tools are available for communication with the school community:

- School Newsletters and eNewsletters
- St Joseph’s’ Wandal School App
- Google Sites – Class pages and Parent pages
- TASS Parent Lounge
- Email

St Joseph’s Wandal Facebook Page:

Only the school community can join and make comments. At least two school staff will act as Administrators and will devote time to moderate parent comments before posting. Moderation of interactive Facebook sites by school staff is essential as comments can be posted by others that create issues around privacy, copyright and inappropriate or defamatory material.
The current requirements by the Diocesan Catholic Education Office include:

- The relevant Assistant Director: Schools is notified of the School’s chosen model, purpose and current Facebook Administrator
- The Facebook site is kept up to date and monitored regularly
- The Facebook terms and conditions are followed including the minimum age requirements
- **Members of the parent group who do not follow the Terms and Conditions and the ICT Code of Practice will be deleted.**
- School staff are not able to accept parent friend requests.

St Joseph’s Wandal’s use of Social Media, and its response to activities on Social Media, is always governed by the following key documents in the first instance:

- School Values
- Staff Handbook
- Parent/Student Handbook
- Privacy Policy
- ICT Code of Practice
- Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton Social Media Framework
- Student Protection Protocols and Policies
St Joseph’s Wandal
Invites you to our whole-school
End of Year Christmas Celebration

27th November 2015

All classes are preparing an item to perform on the night. Performances will commence at 6pm sharp. Come dressed in your Christmas best!

Burgers $5.00 each
Sausages on bread $2.00 each

(Please pre-order food via the e-form. Your meal tickets will be sent home with your children)

A bar will also be available on the night

*Please note that drinks and food will not be served during the children’s performances.