Reminding ourselves who we are…and what is important.

This week we celebrate the horse race that ‘stops the nation’, one of the quirky ways we recognise who we are as Australian nation. Yes, it is odd. People, who normally have no interest in horse racing, stop, get together, dress up and have a sweep in which the winners usually get next to nothing as a prize but the one who has the ticket for the horse who came last shares in the ‘winnings’. In a broad sense that is this ritual by which we remind ourselves of who we are. It all sounds a little silly but actually it can be an important ritual. It focuses our minds and hearts of what is important in case we can get too bogged down in necessities, crises and the sheer ordinary details of life. Getting together with other people and having fun is central to the building up of a community, especially when we celebrate with people who are not necessarily our family or friends.

We need ritual in other areas of life but most importantly in our relationship with God. Rarely will God push into our lives making a big splash. Rather, in respect and love, God waits for us to respond in love. We need ritual prayer to remind ourselves of this loving, waiting God. The ritual can be as profound as Sunday Eucharist or as simple as a prayer made as the cake goes into the over. Time honoured rituals are prayer at the beginning and end of each day, and before meals. As believers, it is a good idea to ask ourselves what do we do to remind ourselves that we are people of God.

Loving God, we so often get caught up in the business of life, forgetting that your love upholds our lives. Give us the wisdom of your Spirit that we may regularly remind ourselves that your care surrounds us at all times. We ask this in Jesus’ name, confident that you will hear us.

Sr Kym Harris osb
From the Principal

Congratulations to our Year 4 instrumental music students and the Year 5 and 6 mentors who participated in the final Primary Music Workshop for the year on Monday. They performed to a full house on Monday evening and it was wonderful to hear the progress our musicians have made this year. We thank The Cathedral College and the music staff for the ongoing support they provide to our school and students! We look forward to our musicians performing for our school during morning assembly on Thursday 22 November (please note this date was originally set for 15 November).

Prep Orientation - A reminder that tomorrow, we welcome our new 2019 ‘Preppies’ to school for their Orientation Day. We look forward to welcoming all of our new students and their parents to our school. There will be two orientation sessions tomorrow, and during this time our existing Prep students will be in Year One.

Year 6 Graduation Mass - All SJW families are invited to the Year 6 class’s Graduation Mass, which will be held at St Joseph’s Cathedral on Wednesday 28 November, commencing at 5.00pm. 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 and made payment for the dinner to do so as soon as possible so that we can finalise our numbers for this event.

End of Year Christmas Concert - Plans are underway with regards to our end-of-year Christmas function which will be held on Friday, 30 November. Our P and F organises the food and bar on this night and it is always a lovely, informal way to finish off the school year as a community.

Each class prepares a small item to perform on the night and we count on the majority of our students and families attending. Please inform your child’s teachers if they will be absent on the night as this may interfere with plans for ‘performances.’ Class items will commence at 6pm sharp. Please be advised that food will not be served until after the children’s performances. Children are to wear ‘Christmassy’ type clothes. Towards the end of the night, we often have a special, very jolly guest pop in to say hello to the children!

Pre-ordering and payment for the BBQ will be via Flexischools. More details will follow in the next couple of weeks. As always, we will be reliant on parent assistance on this night, please consider giving half an hour of your time to assist in some way.

Catholic Identity Audit - This Friday, we welcome Di-Anne Rowan and Kristin Honeyball from the Catholic Education Office to our school. As part of our cyclical renewal and improvement process, Di-Anne and Kristin will be gathering data, visiting classrooms and speaking to students and teachers about Religious Education in our school. We look forward to welcoming Di-Anne and Kristin and sharing with them, all of the wonderful things happening in our classrooms. A special thanks to Mrs Starr, who has worked very hard to gather and collate all of the necessary documentation in readiness for this visit.

Confirmation of Enrolments for 2019 - “Response is required by every family”
Please complete the Confirmation of Enrolment eform (on the Skoolbag App) after first confirming that your current information on Parent Lounge is correct or updated. Completing this form on an annual basis is a requirement of the Catholic Education Office of Rockhampton and ensures your child/ren a place at St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School Wandal in 2019. This information is also used to calculate discounts if you have more than one child at a Catholic Diocesan School. We require EVERY family in the school to complete this e-form, even if you plan on leaving St Joseph’s at the end of the school year (Year 6 students excluded).

A plea from the Principal! I am writing to you now, with a request. As parents of students enrolled at St Joseph’s Wandal, you are automatically part of our Parents and Friends Association. At the conclusion of this school year, a number of positions on our P and F Executive Committee, including Treasurer and Secretary, will be vacated. I am somewhat concerned that due to the very minimal numbers of attendees at recent meetings, that these positions may prove difficult to fill.
I am extending an invitation to you, to become more involved in your children’s school experience by attending our P and F meetings, or by putting your hand up to take on an Executive role in 2019.

Our P and F plan and organise fundraisers and events which this year included our High Tea and Trivia Night as well as determine how funds raised are spent in the school. When we have a substantial group, the workload is greatly reduced and the creative ideas are enhanced!

I would love to see some of our ‘newer’ parents at these meetings and taking on a role in this capacity. I will also be extending this invitation to our 2019 Prep parents. If you feel this is something you may be interested in, please feel free to contact me at school, or just turn up to a meeting!

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 22 November 5pm - 6pm in the staffroom. During this meeting, as well as filling roles for 2019, we will also be discussing organisational aspects of the upcoming Christmas concert and breakup, which may be an opportunity for you to ‘test the waters’ and offer assistance.

School Board - Our Board preservice will be held in the staffroom at 5.30pm, on Thursday 15 November.

Early departures and late arrivals -
A reminder to all families that every minute of our school day is valuable learning time. Please avoid, whenever possible, interrupting our classes. If you know ahead of time that you may need to collect your child due to an unavoidable reason, please notify the office.

Coffee, Cake and Chat - Please join me for what will be the final Principal's Coffee, Cake & Chat for 2018, to be held in the library at 9am on Friday 16 November. This is an informal chance for us to catch up over a coffee, whereby you can ask questions, make suggestions and listen to some of the upcoming plans for the school. Little brothers and sisters are very welcome.

And finally,

Remembrance Day - Sunday is Remembrance Day. On the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month every year, a minute’s 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.

Have a wonderful week,

Kellie
What does Jesus say is the most important commandment?

What is his second commandment of love?

Jesus asks us to love our friends as ourselves. How do we show love for ourselves?

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What’s Happening in Religion in Year 5?

This week Year Five unpacked Micah 6:8 (taken from our school Statement of Religious Character) and what this piece of scripture means for us in our lives today.
Mini Vinnies - Breakfast Club
A reminder that each Thursday from 8.15am to 8.30am our Mini Vinnies students will have toast and juice available for a gold coin donation in an effort to assist with fundraising for Catholic Mission.

Prayer Assembly - Please join both Year Three classes, Mrs Hutchinson and Miss Corr this Friday as they lead prayer, celebrating Remembrance Day.

Liturgy of the Word - A reminder that Children’s Liturgy of the Word is held most Sundays at St Joseph’s Cathedral 9.30am during the school term. It is wonderful to see our students attend. All students (particularly those preparing for sacraments) are encouraged to attend. Thank you to our dedicated teachers who assist with this important ministry.

Do not any of you get discouraged. Be humble, patient and charitable. 17.12.1883 Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Have a fabulous week!
Rheanna

Curriculum News

The Great Library Book Hunt continues.... As we enter our final term, it is now the time to check the bottom of bags, under the bed or in the back of the car for missing library books. Please check and return.

Have a great week!
Awards

“To Love is to Serve” Award (for a student who has consistently displayed leadership qualities)

Cooper S - For modelling the way to be a good friend and show kindness to all. Well done Cooper!

Dusty G - For leading by example with your positive attitude. Thank you for the fantastic effort you have been putting in to your learning.

“Striving for Excellence” Award (for a student who has exhibited academic improvements and / or has been applying themselves to the very best of their ability)

Indie B - For your excellent articulation during class discussions. It has been wonderful to see you listening and sharing your learning. Keep it up!

Arlen B - For working extremely hard while completing your mental math facts. You consistently strive to do your best when completing these math tasks.

Annika B - For constantly striving to think creatively in stimulus writing tasks. You entertain the reader with your careful word choice. Well done!

Kirby B - For the improved effort and perseverance you demonstrated when completing this week’s FISH problem solving task. You clearly demonstrated your thinking and answered the question accurately. Well done!

Annalea H - For striving to put your best effort into all class tasks. Keep up the fantastic work Annalea!

Laila S - For approaching all class tasks in a positive manner and willingly working with your peers. Well done Laila!

Will O - For your excellent effort in your Science learning activities this week, especially your “Gas Bags” investigation and report. Well done!

Kiarnie W - For the responsible way you have approached all learning tasks this semester. Your hard work and dedication is paying off. Champion effort Kiarnie.

“MacKillop Award” (for a student who exhibited Gospel values in their words and actions)

Jack L - For the care and consideration you show towards others. Thank you for always looking for ways to help your classmates.

Chase T - For always being willing to help your peers and working collaboratively.

Tuckshop News - Our Friday Meal Deal is Nachos. Ingredients List - mince, onion, taco seasoning, cheese, small packet of Doritos Corn Chips. Served with or without sour cream and cheese. As it draws to the end of the year, tuckshop stocks will be run down. Students may be offered alternate items.

Assistance is required in the Tuckshop on the following dates: 23 November and 4 December. Please call Gail in the tuckshop on PH 49948230 on Wednesday or Friday.
## IMPORTANT DATES

### Term 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 November</td>
<td>Prep 2019 Orientation Sessions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>No Instrumental Music for Years 4, 5 &amp; 6</td>
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<td>9 November</td>
<td>Prayer Assembly Year 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 November</td>
<td>Remembrance Day</td>
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<td>16 November</td>
<td>Coffee, Cake &amp; Chat with the Principal 9.00am</td>
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<td>16 November</td>
<td>Prayer Assembly Year 5</td>
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<td>22 November</td>
<td>Instrumental Music students performance on assembly</td>
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<td>23 November</td>
<td>Prayer Assembly Prep A</td>
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<td>Volunteers Morning Tea 9.30 RSVP required (please complete eform)</td>
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<td>28 November</td>
<td>Year 6 Rite of Passage Mass at the Cathedral and Dinner for parents and students.</td>
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<td>30 November</td>
<td>Prayer Assembly Year 1</td>
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<td>Whole School Christmas Concert and breakup BBQ</td>
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<td>3 December</td>
<td>Year 6 2019 School Captain Speeches</td>
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<td>4 December</td>
<td>Year 6 2019 House Captain Speeches</td>
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<td>4 – 5 December</td>
<td>Wandal’s Got Talent – Talent Quest</td>
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<td>6 December</td>
<td>Spelling Bee</td>
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<td>Report Cards Available on Parent Lounge</td>
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<td>(Note – if leaving Wandal Reports available to January 2019)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 December</td>
<td>Prayer Assembly Year 6</td>
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<td>Term 4 Concludes</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>School Resumes 29 January</td>
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**2019 Commences 29 January (10 weeks Term 1)**

#### Term 1

29 January – 5 April

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**Touch Football Draw for Saturday** - please refer to website for draw.  