The teaching of little children

In recent Sunday Gospels, Jesus encourages his disciples to become like little children if they want to enter the kingdom of God. How are we to take this up? As parents, teachers and guardians, we know well enough the challenges of encouraging our children out of their childish ways. Some scripture experts state that in Jesus’ time, children were the powerless and without rights and that when Jesus encourages us to be childlike, he is calling us to be humble. But there is more to that, surely? In the situations where Jesus calls us to be childlike, he shows a deep affection and delight in children - something we often experience.

All of us cherish the times when our children charm our hearts and open us up to the mystery and glory of life. Their questions give us a fresh perspective. Their trustfulness melts our hearts to tender care. Their sense of joy renews our delight in life. As an aunt of many nieces and nephews I could fill many pages with cute stories that would delight me and probably bore you...because you have your own stories of your own children. These are important! God wants you to dwell on them and learn from them. The qualities that delight you are the very qualities that God would delight in finding in you.

Our challenge is to relearn the mystery and magic of being childlike. We can do this by remembering our own experiences with children and then imagine how we could translate that into our behaviour as adults. Then we will discover that we have grown up into the kingdom of God.

**Loving God, give me the wisdom to learn how to be childlike from my children. May their lives lead me into the fullness of your life. I ask this in Jesus’ name confident that you will hear me.**

Sr Kym Harris osb
From the Principal

Pupil Free Day - A reminder that next Monday, 22nd October will be a Pupil Free Day. Teachers will be undertaking a day of Professional Development off site on this day. Our OSHC will be operating from 7am-6pm. Please contact the school office or Hailey on 0429316543 should you wish to secure a place for your child.

Warming Weather - As the weather warms up this term, please ensure your child has their school hat each and every day. Remember, no hat = no play. Remember too, the cold-room in the hall is available to keep your child’s lunch cool, and to bring a water bottle to have in the classroom.

School Fees - Our Term Four fees will be distributed in the next week. If your fees are in arrears, and you have not made an appointment to see me, please do so. Reminder letters have now been distributed.

Coffee, Cake and Chat - I would like to invite you to the very first Principal’s Coffee, Cake & Chat session to be held in the library at 9am on Friday 19th October. This will be 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. I hope to make these a regular event.

Building and Maintenance Progress - Interested in a Building Project update? Look no further than our Prep B students who have been keeping a close eye on the progress. They have even written a weekly summary of last week’s developments. What a wonderful example of writing for a purpose! Well done Miss Murphy and Prep B.
Staffing for 2019 is not yet finalised and teachers will not be appointed to classes until the very end of term (at the earliest). It has been decided however, in conjunction with the Catholic Education Office, that the following classes will be offered at St Joseph’s Wandal next year: two Prep classes, two Year 1 classes, two Year 2 classes, two Year 3 classes, two Year 4 classes, two Year 5 classes and one Year 6 class. In 2020, we will be a fully two-stream school, having approximately doubled in numbers from 2014.

**Classes for 2019** - In the next month or so, teachers, in conjunction with the Learning Support staff and Leadership team of the school, will commence preparations for class grouping for the 2019 school year. If you feel you have information that teachers may not be already aware of, and which may be useful for this process, please ensure you notify your class teachers at your earliest convenience.

**Volunteers Thank You Morning tea** - "Date claimer" - If you have volunteered in any capacity at our school throughout the 2018 school year, please join us for a Morning Tea on Friday 23 November. This is our way of saying ‘thank you.’ Our Year 5 class will be coordinating this event and more details are outlined further in today’s newsletter.

Enjoy the remainder of the week,

Kellie

**APRE News**

**Gospel Reflection**

Jesus says anyone who wants to be first has to be a servant. What does this mean?

How can we be servants of others?

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**What’s Happening in Religion in Prep**

We are learning how to be a good friend by exploring the actions of Jesus and how Jesus treated others.

**Alexander** - We have been learning about making a friend.

**Iggy** - You can ask people to come and join in with your game if they are on their own. To make a friend you just start playing with someone.

**Audrey** - Jesus made friends by being brave. He went up to people he didn’t know and asked if he could go out in their boat. He asked them to not be fisherman but he wanted them to catch people, who love God.
We help our friends if they are sad. We play nicely with our friends. Help our friends who are hurt.

**Mini Vinnies - Act of Service**

We live in a world that is very precious and special, but sometimes our world is unfair. Our Mini Vinnies spent their lunch time on Monday polishing shoes for a silver coin donation. The Catholic Social Teaching Principle “Preferential option for the poor” reminds us that by working together we can build a fairer world. Money raised will be donated to Catholic Mission who are striving to heal a nation through education by building a Catholic School in Myanmar. Thank you to our Mini Vinnies for providing this service.

**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. I would like to extend a special thank you to the Mini Vinnies team who so willingly give of their time to help build a fairer world. Thank you as well to our school community for your generosity and continually supporting these missions.

**Catholic Learning Journey - Sacramental Program**

Last night commencing at 5.30pm a small group of school families came along to the Cathedral Centre (opposite TCC) to learn about the Sacramental program. At this stage we have approximately 15 students from Years 2 - 5 who will continue their journey in the Catholic faith and prepare to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation, Penance and Eucharist. If you are interested please join us tonight from 5.30 - 6.30 at the Cathedral Centre.

**Prayer Assembly** - Please join us this Friday as Mrs Clark and Year 4 lead prayer, reminding us of the importance of serving and leading.

**Prayer Assembly** - Please join both Year 2 classes next Friday as they lead prayer, celebrating World Teachers’ 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.

**Exploring Scripture**

Year 2 explored The World of the text of Micah 6:8, in particular determining the audience and purpose for the scripture.

Students discovered that Micah wrote this piece of scripture for the people of Judah, because he could see people were turning away from God and he wanted to bring their hearts closer to God.

*Act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God Micah 6:8*

Have a fabulous week!

Rheanna
Curriculum News

NAPLAN ONLINE
Students in Years 2 and 4 participated in the School Readiness Training NAPLAN test yesterday. The tests consisted of an ‘omnibus’ test, comprised of numeracy, grammar and reading questions, and for Year 4, a sample writing assessment.

The tests were not assessments of the student's learning, but were designed to identify whether or not our school could meet the demands of online testing (bandwidth, download speed etc). The school was very able to meet the demands of the testing.

NAPLAN is in the process of moving from a paper-based to online assessment. Details can be found here.

A public demonstration site is also available here.

ALEA Poetry Workshop
Last week's newsletter advertised a student poetry workshop. Details can be found here

eSafety Information
Safety is always of primary concern. Devices managed through Catholic Education (Diocese of Rockhampton) use an internet gateway protection product is ZScaler. ZScaler provides filtering, security, monitoring, logging, and analysis of all devices connected to the Catholic Education (Diocese of Rockhampton) network. No filtering product is ever 100% effective, so we also encourage and provide user education.

Email Security Email services across Catholic Education (Diocese of Rockhampton) are provided by either Microsoft or Google. Both Microsoft and Google provide anti-virus and anti-malware services on our email systems. Our email is also filtered by 3rd party solutions as an additional layer of protection for anti-virus, spam, phishing, and spoofing. All emails sent and received on staff and student systems are also archived to an email ‘vault’ for retrieval if required.

User Education Vital components of eSafety and end-user safety are education, critical thinking, and awareness. A fantastic resource is the Office of the eSafety Commissioner (https://esafety.gov.au/) which “… is committed to empowering all Australians to have safer, more positive experiences online.”

Have a great week,
Janette
Awards

“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)

Oscar U - for your participation in learning activities. You have been trying hard to do your best learning.

Jaya D - for consistently engaging in class discussions and using effective listening skills. You are always actively involved in all our learning experiences. Great work Jaya!

Dakota F - for always ensuring your handwriting style is legible and fluent during our handwriting lessons. Well done!

Ronan O - for striving for excellence when writing your complex sentences. Your consideration of careful work choice makes reading your writing a joy!

Ivy - Jane L - for writing a fantastic complex sentence for the start of our fractured FairyTale Unit.

Declan G - for bumping up your sentences, after teacher conferencing, to create a meaningful and exciting paragraph.

CeiJay H - for your excellent effort in all learning activities this week. Your thoughtful reasoning and creative thinking was an inspiration to all. Well done.

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

Evie L - for leading by example in group tasks. Well done for working hard and helping your friends to do their best!

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

Ella D - for caring for your friend when they were sad. Thank you for seeing a need and doing something about it.

Scarlett S - for the kindness you show towards others. Thank you for always looking for ways to help your classmates.

Touch Football Draw for Saturday 20 October

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>Field 7</td>
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A reminder to ensure you have paid all shirt hire money to your coaches/managers. Shirts must be returned to your coaches once the Touch Season is completed. No games will be held on 3 November due to the Red Rooster Carnival.
Welcome to our New Regional Indigenous Education Liaison Officer

My name is Cassandra Burgen and I am the new Regional Indigenous Education Liaison Officer for the Rockhampton Region. I have lived in Rockhampton for the past eight years with my Partner and four children who are 15, 12, 10 and 4. My hometown is Mount Isa and I am a proud Waanyi descendant. I have come across from St. Joseph’s Park Avenue where I was the Indigenous Teacher Assistant for a very enjoyable period of time. I have a Certificate IV in Education (Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander) and in the final stages of completing my Diploma of Education (Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander) also. I have a background in working with at risk youth and families. I look forward to meeting many new people, and building great relationships with the different school communities. I also look forward to working with you all to ensure our students grow and learn academically and spiritually.

Please feel free to contact me at any time on the details below.

Cassandra Burgen
Regional Indigenous Education Liaison Officer
Catholic Education Office
T: 4994 8038 | M: 0437 435 313
143 West Street | PO Box 524 Rockhampton Q 4700
www.rock.catholic.edu.au

Supporting Catholic Kindergartens, Primary Schools and Colleges from Bundaberg to Mackay and west to Longreach

Expectations Regarding Behaviour in Toilets
Students are regularly reminded regarding the school’s behaviour expectations when they are using the toilets. Another reminder occurred at school this week.

The focus of the discussion was:

- Educating students about germs in toilets.
- Hygiene practices (washing hands, not taking food into toileting area etc.).
- Students should use the toilet responsibly (e.g. not waste time and keep noise to a minimum).
- Discourage play in toilets (e.g. should not be a location for wiggy or hiding games).
- Not a place for playing ‘tricks’ on others or contact with other people (minimal time in toilet).
- Strict rule - one person in a cubicle at a time.
- When using the toilet to change clothing for an activity, individual cubicles to be used with one person per cubicle.
- If individual showers or cubicles are not available, remember the public and private rule.
  - Students must continue to wear clothing that would be acceptable for public places.
- Adults must not be in a one-on-one situation with students in toilets or changing areas.

In the aim of enhancing student hygiene and safety, it would be appreciated if parents reinforce these behaviours at home with regard to not only the school toilets, but all public toilet areas.
Your child’s first smartphone—are they old enough?

Children often have access to devices, including smartphones, from a very young age. Whether it’s watching their favourite program through streaming services on your phone, using educational apps or simply viewing photos with you and the family, they are engaging with devices in one form or another.

But when is my child old enough to be given their own mobile phone?

In 2012, the Australian Bureau of Statistics revealed children as young as five years old owned a mobile phone—two percent of children aged between five and eight years old, and 29 percent for children aged five to 14 years. This figure is likely to be higher now!

For many parents and carers, five years old would seem too young. For others, it might offer them peace of mind and security to know they can keep in touch with their child—especially in an emergency.

The right age for your child will depend on their level of maturity. It’s worth asking yourself the following questions before handing over a digital device.

- Does my child have a good sense of responsibility?
- Are they able to stick to the rules?
- Do they show a good understanding of actions and consequences?
- Do they come to me or another trusted adult when they are distressed or encounter problems?

For younger children it’s best to start with a mobile phone without internet access, and introduce a smartphone when they demonstrate an appropriate level of maturity. Some younger children might argue that they are ready for a smartphone, especially if their friends already have one. But it’s worth holding out until you feel confident that your child is mature enough.

My child has their first smartphone—now what?

When your child receives their first smartphone it’s a great opportunity to instil safe online behaviours early on, so they can carry these skills through to their teens and beyond.

Here are some tips for getting them on board with good online habits.

Establish rules at the outset with clear boundaries

Talk about expectations and the consequences for not meeting these rules. Depending on the age of your child, you might want to set up a written signed agreement which lists the rules.

Here are some you may want to agree on:

- No phones after a certain time (i.e. 8.00 pm)—unless in an emergency.
- Keep to daily screen time limits (i.e. 1 hour per school night).
- Family time is a no-phone zone (i.e. dinner).
Position Vacant - Professional Standards & Safeguarding Manager

The Bishop and the Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton are committed to ensuring the safety, well-being and dignity of all people, especially children and vulnerable adults in our communities. We have an important legal, moral and spiritual responsibility to create a safe and nurturing environment for our people. Having laid strong foundations in recent years by implementing a safeguarding framework throughout the Diocese, a skilled Professional Standards & Safeguarding Manager is required to continue this very important work.

Applicants are asked to submit a covering letter, their resumé and no more than four pages addressing each of the Key Selection Criteria (shown on page 6 of the Position Description) to
hr@rok.catholic.net.au. The Position Description can be downloaded at www.rok.catholic.net.au/pssgmanager.

For further information, please call Vicki Oliver on 07 4887 3090 or email hr@rok.catholic.net.au.

Applications will close on Monday, 29th October at 9am.

Position Vacant

The Cathedral Parish of St Joseph is seeking a professional, solution-focused individual with strong interpersonal, written and oral communication skills to perform clerical duties and day-to-day administrative tasks.

The successful candidate will support the Parish’s various ministries, applying the values and mission of the Diocese and the teachings of the Catholic Church.

The Parish requires the candidate to be highly organised and reliable with an enthusiasm for teamwork, flexibility, adaptability, creativity and keen attention to detail to ensure our office runs smoothly.

A high level of computer literacy is essential. Proficiency in the use of the Microsoft Office suite including Word, Excel and Publisher would be an advantage.

Hours of work are 9.00 am to 4.30 pm, Mon-Wed and Wed-Fri on alternating weeks (total of 42 hours per fortnight).

Applications close: COB Monday, 5th November 2018

Please see the Diocesan website. http://www.rok.catholic.net.au/employment.html for the full details of this position or contact Gerard Hogan on 4927 6744 or Gerard.Hogan@cdor.org.au for an Applicant’s Kit.

STUDENT PROTECTION SURVEY INFORMATION SHEET

We are committed to ensuring student safety at school. Our school has taken a number of steps to help keep your child/children safe from harm. We try to assist them to recognise, react and report any worries or concerns they may have about their safety. We also support teachers and other school staff to look out for children and young people and, where necessary, take steps to ensure their safety.

From time to time it is important that we check on how we are going, consider what we are doing well and what can we do better. This is where you come in. Your views and experiences can help us make our school a safer place for your child/children and other students.

We would like you to participate in an online survey and share your thoughts about our school. Your involvement is voluntary. If you don’t want to be involved, you don’t have to. If you get involved, you can stop at any time.

The survey is being done by Encompass Family and Community Services. They help schools and other organisations to be safe places for children and young people.

What is involved?
You will be asked to participate in an online survey. The survey includes questions about the school and safety. It will take about 10-15 minutes of your time.

The link to the survey for Parents - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCEStudent-Protection-Survey_Parents
Confidentiality
The survey does not identify who you are. All of the information provided by you and other parents will be reported at a group level.

What happens to the information?
Encompass Family and Community will take all of the surveys and write a report about what parents had to say and make suggestions for how we can improve.

Who can I contact?
If you want any more information about the survey you should talk with your principal.

Thank you so much for your valuable contribution to evaluating the effectiveness of our student protection and wellbeing strategy.

Sometimes when people are asked about safety issues they may think of experiences in their life now or in the past and may feel distressed or uncomfortable. The Principal or Student Protection Contact at your school can help. Alternatively, you can contact Lifeline Counselling Service PH:13 11 14

Important Dates

19 October  Prayer Assembly Year 4C
            Coffee, Cake & Chat 9am
22 October  Pupil Free Day (Vacation Care will be in operation on this day - Bookings essential)
26 October  Prayer Assembly Year 2
            World Teachers’ Day
            Day for Daniel
29 October  Year 7 2019 Orientation Evening The Cathedral College - 5.00 - 6.30pm (Please refer to your letter sent by TCC)
30 October  Mass in the Hall
31 October  Debating Round 3 (Finals TBA)
1 November  All Saints Day
2 November  Prayer Assembly Year 4R
6 November  Melbourne Cup
8 November  Prep 2019 Orientation Sessions
            No Instrumental Music for Years 4,5 & 6
9 November  Prayer Assembly Year 3
11 November Remembrance Day
15 November Instrumental Music students performance on assembly
16 November Prayer Assembly Year 5
23 November Prayer Assembly Prep A
            Volunteers Morning Tea 9.30 RSVP required
28 November Year 6 Rite of Passage Mass at the Cathedral and Dinner for parents and students.
30 November Prayer Assembly Year 1
            Whole School Christmas Concert and breakup BBQ
3 December  Year 6 2019 School Captain Speeches
4 December  Year 6 2019 House Captain Speeches
4 – 5 December Wandal’s Got Talent - Talent Quest
6 December  Spelling Bee
            Report Cards Available on Parent Lounge
            (Note - if leaving St Joseph’s Wandal Reports available to January 2019)
7 December  Prayer Assembly Year 6
            Term 4 Concludes
WANT TO LEARN ABOUT ESSENTIAL OILS?
MORE THAN JUST A PRETTY SMELL

Come learn how essential oils can support your health and your child’s learning
3:30-4:30
Friday 19th Oct. school Library

For more information contact: Katherine 0458-245-689