

# Newsletter

Our Best for God and Country

Issue 29

St Joseph's School Biloela

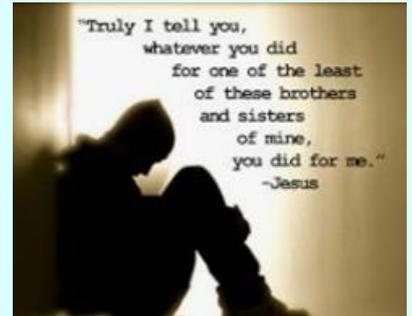
23rd November 2020

*From the Principal*

**And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.**  
(Micah 6:8)

Welcome to Weeks 8 and 9!

On Sunday the Church concluded the liturgical year with the celebration of Christ the King, where we are invited to think of Jesus and his way of being a leader. Jesus tells his closest friends that he is the Messiah, the One chosen to come and lead Israel into a new way of life. Though the world we live in has always been scarred by death, injustice and sorrow, Jesus loved our world so much he died to save it, and it now depends on us to make it more and more like the kingdom he wants us to have – a kingdom of peace, mercy, love and care for all people, especially the poor and the powerless. It is a good time for us to think about how we might bring this kingdom of hope to our homes and schools and neighbourhoods. As followers of Jesus we pledge to spread his kingdom of life and goodness by always trying to love God and others as he did.



**What should leadership look like in our school?** This question is something the year 5 students explored in the three days they spent on leadership camp at Chaverim near Bundaberg last week as they began their journey to leadership in 2021. Thank you to Mr Reiman, Miss Stewart and Mrs Wells who gave up their time to accompany the Year 5 students on camp.



Although it was a most unusual year, the current Year 6 students did a magnificent job of displaying servant leadership at St Joseph's in the way they carried out their leadership duties throughout the year. They certainly deserved their Year 6 camp to Cool Waters in Yeppoon to celebrate the end of their primary school years. Thank you to Mrs Knight, Mrs Bode, Miss Michaela, Miss Wright (Third year pre-service teacher) and Mr Lees for accompanying the students on Year 6 camp.



**Classes for 2021** – This time of the year can be a time for parents to feel anxious or concerned about the teacher their child will have next year. Children also begin to be concerned about the teacher they will have for the following year. As principal of the school, I invest many hours in consultation with the leadership team and learning support teachers in selecting teachers for classes. Careful consideration is given to the academic, social emotional and behaviour needs of the students and we decide on the teacher that would best meet their needs. We appreciate parents know their own children better than anyone, but please trust us as professionals to do the best we can to cater for the needs of the students in our care.

**If your child is placed in a class with two teachers**, eg. APRE or APC classes, there is no reason for concern, as although the teachers will be different people and they can't do everything exactly the same, the two teachers spend many hours working very closely together to plan for the classroom they share, ensuring a smooth transition from one teacher to another for the students. Having two teachers can also help students build resilience.

At St Joseph's, regardless of the classroom your child is in, we teach the whole child – academically, physically, emotionally, socially and spiritually. We focus beyond the academic to the skills that we believe students will need to access their learning now and well into the future.

**Facilities Officer (Groundsman)** – Unfortunately, Kevin Garland our current groundsman has made the decision to move to Brisbane with his daughter and grandson. I'm sure you will all agree, Kevin has done a magnificent job of keeping our school grounds looking immaculate and inviting in the time he has worked at St Joseph's. The visitors to our school always comment on the beauty of our school grounds and gardens. We are very grateful for Kevin's dedication and attention to detail.

We are currently advertising for a suitable person to take Kevin's place as the Facilities Officer at St Joseph's from the beginning of 2021. If you know of anyone who is looking for work and would be a suitable candidate, please ask them to contact the office. Applications close on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

*From the Principal*

**Staffing and class groupings for 2021:**

Prep A	Mrs Monica Chapman / Mrs Michelle Nsair (Friday)
Year 1A	Mrs Melissa Zahnleiter
Year 2A	Mrs Claire Spence
Year 3A	Miss Chloe Christenson
Year 4A	Miss Lori Guest
Year 5A	Mrs Collette Stone / Mrs Sally Hagley (APC)
Year 6A	Mrs Tania Bode / Mrs Tina Knight APRE (Friday)
Specialist subjects – Health / Maths inquiry	Miss Katie Stewart
Arts Specialist	Mrs Michelle Nsair

**End of year tolerance** - The final term of the school year is an extremely demanding time in schools, for teachers, parents and students. End of year reporting, class allocations, timetabling, budgets and planning for next year swamp teachers at a time when their energies are low and feel like they are running on empty. By the end of the year everyone is more likely to be sensitive, 'thin skinned' and emotional because they are run down and in need of that well earned break. We shouldn't be surprised. The same thing happens at this time every year. The important thing is HOW we respond to this challenge. It is when times are tough that reputations are truly made. A harsh or insensitive word to someone can undermine our good work in building relationships throughout the year. It is important to be aware of our moods and on guard that we think before we act. Remember, there is always another side to a story, so it is important to find out the facts before reacting or making judgments. Now is the time to watch our words, resist the temptation to 'shoot from the hip' and make decisions on the run. It is important to finish strong, just the way we started at the beginning of the year. *(Steve Francis – Happy School)*

End of year whole school events:

- **Christmas concert** – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December in the undercover area during the day. The carols will be recorded for each class and sent home to parents via Seesaw.
- **End of Year Mass and farewell for Fr T** – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December in the church. Students only, due to restrictions on numbers allowed in the church.
- **J Factor and ringing of the bell for Year 6** – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Parents are welcome to join us at 11:45am for the ringing of the bell. School finishes at 12 noon for students.



**Merry Christmas!** This year has been quite an unusual journey, but the resilience, understanding and trust shown to us by the families at our school has been truly amazing. We are very sad to say goodbye to our teachers, Sarah and Tom Reiman and Cindy Wells at the end of next week. Their dedication and hard work is inspirational and we are very grateful for everything they have done to make a difference in the lives of the students and families at our school. We are also very sad to say goodbye to some of the families who are leaving St Joseph's, either as year 6 parents or those moving to another town. Thank you for the support you have shown the school and thank you for entrusting your children into our care. We are very grateful. Enjoy the

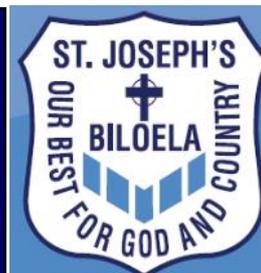
holidays and a well-deserved rest after such a busy and stressful year. I hope you have a wonderful Christmas filled with peace and joy.

Nikki Rutten



Important Dates

25	Nov	Year 6 High School Transition Day
30	Nov	Year 6 Graduation Mass & Dinner
02	Dec	Christmas Concert (sent home to parents via Seesaw)
03	Dec	End of Year Mass 9am (Students only)
04	Dec	Last Day Term 4 / J Factor / School Finishes at 12 noon for students
27	Jan	First Day Term 1 2021



## FROM THE APRE

Welcome to week 8 and the 34<sup>th</sup> week in Ordinary Time



### **Sunday Gospel Message – Matthew 25:31-46**

**Whenever you serve the least of your people, you serve Christ.** On Sunday we celebrated the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. This week is known as the Week of Christ the King.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus talks about His return to earth. At that time, Jesus will be recognised as King and judge of all people. Jesus already knew that his death would be soon. He talked about the judgement of people on earth based on how they treat each other. He said that when we treat other people well, it is the same as treating Him well. When we treat others badly, it is the same as treating Him badly. This week's Gospel makes it clear that all people should help others, no matter what their need.

Humans feel good when we help other people - it is one of the pathways to happiness in almost all mental health programs. There are many ways that we can help others, from simply smiling at a sad friend, to giving food and money to charities such as St. Vincent de Paul.

Society is quite focused on personal gain at this point in history, so giving away our possessions is considered foolish, and kindness is considered to be weakness. However, this is exactly why it takes strength to help others. We give away a part of ourselves and take a risk with other people. This is the right thing to do and it makes us stronger and happier. It takes even more strength to accept help from others because it allows people to see our vulnerability. It is often harder to accept help than to give it, but as a community we must be willing to do both. We must work together to give each other what we need and to look after each other. *Liturgy Ritual Prayer*

### **Gospel Question of the week – What do I hunger for within my own heart?**

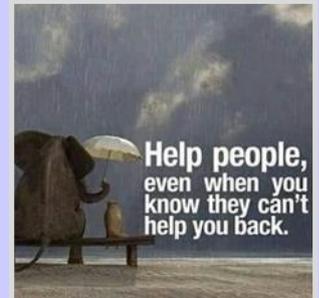
Peace of mind...

True companionship...

Financial security...

A deeper dimension to life...

What else?



### **Virtue of the Week – FRIENDLINESS**

This week we will continue to focus on the virtue of Friendliness.

#### **Friendliness is:**

- being a friend
- taking an interest in others
- going out of your way to make others feel welcome or to make a stranger feel at home
- happily sharing your belongings, time, ideas and feelings
- sharing the good times and the bad times together
- the best cure for loneliness



### **MJR theme – Be Friendly and Make Friends**

#### **INFORMATION FOR SACRAMENTAL JOURNEY – 2021**

All parents/guardians who wish their child/children (8 years of age or older) to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist in 2021 are invited to attend an Information Evening as listed below.

- DATE: Tuesday 16th February 2021.
- TOPIC: Introduction into the process for parents
- VENUE: The Catholic Centre (Rainbow Street, Biloela)
- TIME: 6pm

It is family based, Parish based and supported by St Joseph's Catholic School. It invites parents to guide their children through a series of lessons at home and includes Family Workshops and Children's Liturgy of the Word which will be celebrated each Sunday in our Faith community.

A detailed schedule of activities and workshop dates will be available. Registration forms are available now from **St Joseph's Parish Office.**

For more information, please contact the Parish Office on 4992 1252. Between 9.00am and 12.00pm, Monday to Friday.

Yours in Faith Education

**Tina Knight APRE**



# APC News – Term 4, Week 8



## St Joseph's Book and Stationery Orders for 2021

St Joseph's are offering the 2021 Textbook, Exercise Book and Stationery Packs through the local Newsagent in Biloeela Shopping World. *Online ordering commenced on the [BiloNews.com.au](http://BiloNews.com.au) website from the 6<sup>th</sup> of November. If not ordering online, please place your orders in person at the shop.*

**All orders are to be picked up in store. Please advise the newsagent of the date you wish to pick up your booklist when placing your order.**

Zip Pay will be available for instore booklist payments. Please drop your list in and talk to staff about setting this up. Unless ordering online and paying by credit card, all book list payments are due when picking up.



## St Joey's Big Book Sale

Thank you for your support of the Big Book Sale. We raised \$280 that will go back into buying resources for our library. Our surplus books have been relocated to Learning Support and some were donated to the St Gabriel's Anglican Church Book Fest.

## Online Author Visit – Dr Cameron Stelzer, The Story Doctor

On Tuesday 24 November, we have a special online visit from Author and Illustrator Dr Cameron Stelzer. Dr Cameron is visiting St Joseph's Biloeela online to run workshops with our P-6 students. P-2 students will enjoy an interactive Big Screen Book Reading and follow-along drawing activity with Cameron. Year 3-6 students will be engaging in an imaginative illustration workshop with Cameron. Students and teachers are looking forward to a great day!

For more information about Dr Cameron and his books, you are welcome to visit <https://www.drcameron.com.au/>

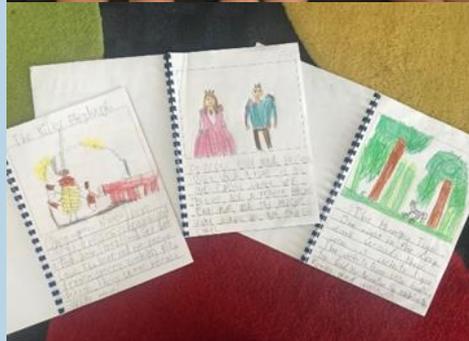


*Note: Cameron's online store is offering free gift wrapping until 12 December (cutoff for Christmas delivery), and all books can also be signed by Dr Cameron Stelzer. Simply list any names you would like written in the books, in the comments section of the checkout page.*

## Spotlight on Year 1 Narratives



Year 1 have completed their year of learning in English by writing the most amazing, engaging and entertaining narratives. They have illustrated their stories and published them as books. We have been blown away by their development in their writing and they should all be very proud of their efforts. Well done Mrs Z and Year 1!



*Striving for excellence in education,*

*Cindy Wells*



# School News

## Finance News

### Confirmation of enrolment forms for 2021:

There are still 10 families who have not returned these forms and they are now overdue! This form is attached to today's newsletter, has been sent home in paper form and is now available on parent lounge for your convenience.



It is essential that these forms are completed **BY EVERY FAMILY** to confirm a place at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Biloela in 2021 and to ensure you receive discounts if you have more than one child at a Catholic Diocesan School in 2021. **Every family must return this form even if you only have one child attending next year, or you are not returning next year due to a transfer or for other reasons.**

**School fees are now overdue! Please ensure your fees are paid in full before the end of the year.**

## Reporting

Reports will be published via Parent Lounge next Wednesday afternoon. It is a platform for parents to access a variety of details regarding their children, including the changing of personal details, accessing your account for school fees and **viewing your child's report card.**



Please ensure that you have access to your account! If you are unsure of your details or how to access it, please make time to visit our school office. **It is advisable that you ensure that you can gain access to parent lounge as you can download your child's report and keep it for as long as you need it.**

To access Parent Lounge you will need to follow the link: <http://403sjbi.rok.catholic.edu.au/parentlounge>

## Term 4 2020 School Banking Update

Thank you to all of our 2020 School Bankers! If you would like to join the School Banking program next year, please visit the Commonwealth Bank at 47 Kariboe Street, Biloela, with your child's Birth Certificate and your Drivers Licence or Passport to set up a new account. We can use an existing Commonwealth



Youthsaver Account number if your child already has one, all you need to do is provide the account name and number to the School Office and your School Banking Coordinator will do the rest!

**Please note: there will be no school banking Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020.**

## Tuckshop

If you would like to volunteer to help on Wednesday please contact Beccy Schibrowski or the school office.



## School Birthdays

25 Nov	Bart	12
26 Nov	Jaxon	10
03 Dec	Abbey	8
04 Dec	Cooper	6
05 Dec	Leilani	11
05 Dec	Ruby	13
05 Dec	Lachlan	9
08 Dec	Arlie	11
09 Dec	Lainee	11
09 Dec	Mitchell	7
11 Dec	Zara	11
11 Dec	Alyssa	6
16 Dec	Noah	7
17 Dec	Lahni	12
18 Dec	Adam	12
20 Dec	Mikayla	8
29 Dec	Ava	6
29 Dec	Charsey	11
02 Jan	Brax	7
04 Jan	Indie	6
06 Jan	Vance	9
07 Jan	Braith	9
08 Jan	Savannah	11
19 Jan	Aurora	6
19 Jan	Kahana	10
21 Jan	Taya	6
21 Jan	Charlie	6
24 Jan	Xavier	9
26 Jan	Sienna	9



## 2021 Term Dates

**Term 1:** Wednesday 27th January - Thursday 1st April.

**Term 2:** Monday 19th April - Friday 25th June.

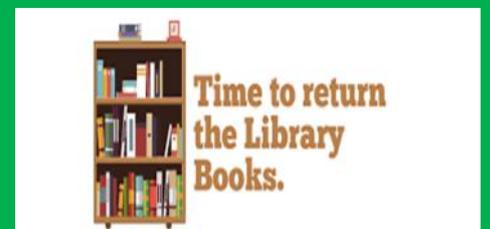
**Term 3:** Monday 12th July - Friday 17th September.

**Term 4:** Tuesday 5th October - Friday 3rd December.



## Library News

A reminder that all library books are now due back to school. Overdue notices will be issued today.



## Summary of Last Week of Term Events

### Monday 30th November

~ Year 6 Graduation Mass & Dinner  
6.00pm

### Wednesday 2nd December

~ Report Cards published on Parent Lounge

### Thursday 3rd December

~ 9am End of Year Thanksgiving Mass

### Friday 6th December

~ 9am J Factor  
~ 11.45am Year 6 students ring the bell  
~ 12.00pm school will conclude and all students will need to be picked up.



### Lost Property

Please check the lost property box in the undercover area for any misplaced items before the end of the school year.

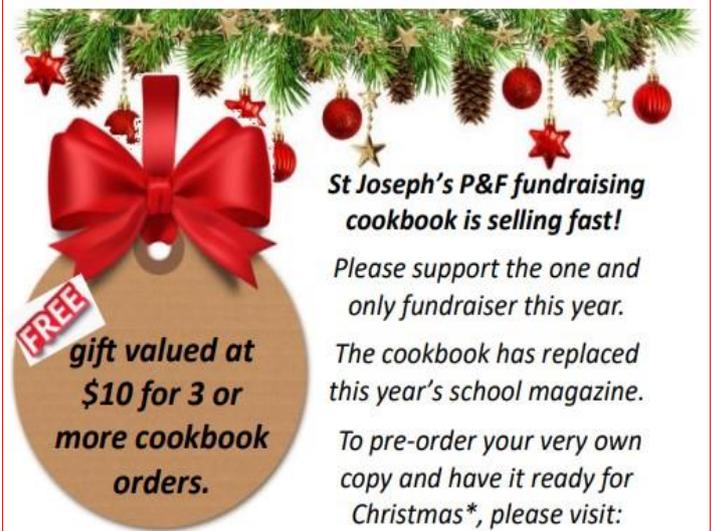


### Moore Australia Interschool Swimming Carnival

Biloela Amateur Swimming Club is once again holding the Annual Moore Australia Interschool Swimming Carnival. It will be held this Wednesday 25 November. Gates will open at 5.30pm for a 6.00pm sharp start.

Students are to wear their St Joseph's sport polo shirt.

We wish competing St Joseph's students the best of luck!



<https://stjosephspandf.mystrikingly.com/>

"Great Christmas gift idea!"

"Definitely a wonderful keepsake."

"Beautiful photos of each year level."

"Lovely! Something nice finally for 2020!"



## WHERE THE DIFFERENCE IS YOU

Facilities Officer

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Biloela

Applications are now invited for the position of Facilities Officer. This position is term-time for 25hpw.

Visit our website and apply today!  
[www.rok.catholic.edu.au](http://www.rok.catholic.edu.au)

Applications close 4 December 2020

Catholic Education is committed to best practice in student protection policies and procedures.



"Let us never desire more than enough"

Catherine McAuley



Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas along with safe and happy holidays!



# Making Jesus Real



Congratulations to the Virtue of the Week Award recipients.



Week 7



Week 8

# Congratulations to the Students of the Week



Week 7



Week 8