Dear Parents and Friends

The greatest joy of my work is getting to share the lives of your children. This week I had the pleasure of judging the auditions for our “St Joseph’s Has Got Talent” competition, being held to raise money for Project Compassion. We had over 80 students give such a variety of performances and the energy and enthusiasm of all of the students who auditioned was outstanding.

Congratulations to Sarah Kirkwood who was named the Winner of St Joseph’s Has Got Talent for 2016 and to the following students chosen to perform today in the final:

- Ella Parsons (Year 6) – Dancing
- Sarah Kirkwood (Year 5) – Singing
- Siena McDonald, Zoe Wardrop and Amber McCarthy (Year 3) - Dancing
- Holly Wardrop (Year 4) – Instrumental Music (Ukulele)
- Anita Edet, Melayna Zeglio, Jessie Hackney, Maddison Wilson, Jordyn Wilson, Hannah Donnelly, Kadence Fricke, Madison Fitzgerald (Year 6) – Singing
- William Radke (Year 4) – Instrumental Music (Piano)
- Lily Wardop (Year 4) – Singing
- Chelsea Webb (Prep) – Dancing
- Lucie Barrett, Jariyah Thompson (Year 2) – Mime
- Darby Coleman (Year 6) – Singing/Instrumental Music (Ukulele)
- Shelbi Heywood, Charli Borg (Year 4) – Dancing
- Katelyn Zamarutti (Year 6) - Singing
- Molly Coleman (Year 2) – Dancing
- Shelby Kay (Year 6) – Singing/Instrumental Music (Piano)

Thank you for your generous support of this event which helped to raise $280.70 for our fundraising for Project Compassion this year. Well done!

SCHOOL REVIEW AND IMPROVEMENT SURVEY

Last week the survey which will assist us to engage with our school community in the School Review and Improvement process was sent home to all families via email link. I would like to thank you for the outstanding response we have had to these surveys. Your time and input is greatly appreciated. If you have misplaced the link for the survey, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office. Surveys are open for responses up until next Friday, 4 March.

PLANNED INDUSTRIAL ACTION – Tuesday 1 March

You may have seen media reports regarding industrial action taking place at some Catholic schools on Tuesday 1 March 2016. This industrial action is linked to Enterprise Bargaining negotiations currently taking place between Queensland Catholic schools and the Independent Education Union.

A ballot of teachers and staff who are members of the Union was recently conducted at St Joseph’s Catholic School and the result was that a majority of Union members voted to take industrial action at our school on Tuesday 1 March 2016 in the form of a full day stop work. School will continue to operate on Tuesday 1 March 2016 and during this day we will operate a modified school program and provide adequate supervision of students at these times. Our focus at all times is to minimise disruption to the school routine and to maintain a quality educational program for your children.

Bianca Hodges
Principal
March

3  P&F AGM, 6pm – 7pm
4  Final Day for S R & I Survey
8  Board Meeting, 6pm – 7pm
14 Swimming Carnival – Pioneer Pool
18  St Joseph’s Feast Day Mass/Liturgy
22 Parent Teacher Interviews
24  End Term 1

APRE NEWS

LITURGY NEW
4/3: First Friday Mass – MacKillop leading.
17/3: St Patrick’s Day Liturgy – SRC
18/3: Feast Day Liturgy/ Mass – 5D
22/3: Palm Sunday Liturgy – Prep R
23/3: Last Supper Liturgy – 2D
24/3: Stations of the Cross- 9.15am. (Whole school liturgy)

PARISH NEWS - 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD
At the invitation of Pope Francis we will celebrate 24 Hours for the Lord beginning around 5 pm on Friday 4 March until 5 pm Saturday 5 March. The programme is:

- St Brendan’s Church 5 pm – 9pm, 4 March
- St Joseph’s Church 9 pm, 4 March – 5 am, 5 March
- St Brigid’s Church 5 am – 5 pm, 5 March

Rosters are available this weekend to put your names down to spend time with the Merciful Lord. It would be very much appreciated if you are able to respond to this invitation.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Stations of the Cross will be held at St Joseph’s Church on the following Wednesdays: 2, 9, 16 March at 7:00pm.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - Family Workshop
Sunday 6th March St Joseph’s School Hall or
Wednesday 9th March St Joseph’s School Hall

Communal Reconciliation: The Second Rite
Most parishes schedule communal reconciliation during Lent. The official title of this liturgy is “Reconciliation of Several Penitents with Individual Confession and Absolution” or the Second Rite of the Sacrament of Penance.

The official ritual book encourages participation in this form of reconciliation which “shows more clearly the communal nature of penance”.

The second rite is a communal celebration from beginning to end, not a communal first part followed by private confession. After the introductory rites, the community listens to the word of God. The homily emphasises our need for repentance and the infinite mercy of God. During the examination of conscience, the assembly reflects together on where and how they have fallen short of their baptismal commitment to follow Christ.

The individual confession and absolution that follows is communal too. The priests stand at appropriate points around the worship space in such a way that penitents can be seen but not heard by others. Those who wish to confess their sins approach one of the confessors in full view of all present.

It is a moving experience to witness fellow Christians humbling themselves publicly by approaching a confessor for forgiveness. As they do, we pray for them, that they will know the fullness of God’s grace and mercy.
While no restriction is placed on the individual’s confession, good manners and common sense dictate that people limit the time they spend with confessors. More time for integral confession and spiritual guidance is available at the first rite. After the confessions, the ceremony concludes with a proclamation of praise, a prayer of thanksgiving and a blessing.
liturgy@liturgybrisbane.net.au

SR PAT HAYES CELEBRATION OF HER LIFE

There will be a Mass for the Celebration of Sr Pat Hayes Life

Day: Tuesday 8 March 2016  
Time: 5:30pm  
Place: St Joseph’s Church North Mackay  
All welcome to attend

SCHOOL FEES

Toward the end of 2015 we had a system upgrade and Parent Codes changed. All families were sent a letter to advise of your new parent code. If you pay your school fees via direct debit to your account, can you please ensure your reference number is now your 6 digit parent code. If you need your new parent code please contact the office.
Term 1 fees were sent via email last week and are due 10th March.
Please contact the office if you did not receive your invoice.

TUCKSHOP NEWS

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HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Our school appreciates the help of our families and friends. This year, if you volunteer at the school three times in a term, you will receive a discount of $10 on your fees. To be eligible to receive this discount, volunteers **MUST** sign in at the office.
Some of the ways you can help include:
- Classroom Reading
- Tuckshop
- Homebake
- Helping in the library – book covering
Prep R  Leaf Fraser
For being a great listener and trying your best to improve your pencil grip.

Prep W  Brooklyn Borg
For your wonderful reading at snack time and your brilliant writing during Investigations! You are amazing!

1B  Nate Holcombe
For your impressive sentence writing. Keep up the fabulous work Nate!

1K  Imogen Walker
For continuing to work hard on learning her sounds and becoming more confident on her building skills.

2R  Douglas Webb
For displaying the value of service. You are always so keen to lend a helping hand to your teachers and classmates.
Thank you and keep it up.

2S  Sarah Smith
For displaying the value of respect. Your fantastic listening and wonderful choices make you a role model to your classmates. Thank you Sarah.

3D  Ezra Shepherd
For always trying your best. You tackle new challenges with enthusiasm and take great pride in your work. Keep it up.

3BM  Kallarney Holcombe
For always striving to achieve your personal best in all that you do. You are always proud of your work and it’s great to see you learning with a smile. Keep up that positive attitude.

4B  Daniel Harris
For your impressive effort with writing exciting, engaging and interesting sentences. Well done, Daniel.

4P  Eli Corker
For the happy and bright way you always come into the classroom. It is such a pleasure to see you enjoying school and the company of your classmates and teacher and loving learning. Thank you, Eli.

5D  Zoe Laffy
For your genuine willingness to help those around you including your teachers. It is wonderful to witness the value of Service being carried out daily. Well done Zoe.

5S  Olivia Price
For participating well during persuasive writing discussions and for your willingness to share your knowledge.

6B  Nash Byrne
For your fabulous work ethic and dedication to getting your work finished on time. Keep it up Nash.

6GG  Nick Cuthbertson
You are a star performer! Keep up the impressive work!
HOCKEY 2016

Yesterday an email was sent to all parents of children who have signed up for the 2016 hockey season. It explained registration, payments, uniform requirements etc. **PLEASE NOTE: REGISTRATION MUST BE PAID BEFORE YOUR CHILD CAN TAKE PART IN GAMES ON SATURDAY 5TH MARCH.**

If you did not receive an email or your child did not nominate and wished to play hockey, please contact Zoe Rippingale or the school office.

The 2016 season is due to start on Saturday 5th March.
U7 and U9 will play at 8.00am Registration cost for the season is $140.00
U11 will play at 8.55am
U13 will play at 10.05am
U15 will play at 11.15am
Registrations for U11 – U15 is $220 including $60 payment to Hockey Qld.

This year every registered player will receive welcome packs from Hockey Qld as follows.
- Every single person who signs on to play hockey in the 2016 season will receive an HQ lanyard with a Sports Pass rewards card
- All junior 4-9 year old players will receive a coupon to collect a free hockey stick from Just Hockey (Mackay)
- All 10-18 year old players will receive a HQ drawstring bag
- All senior players will receive a HQ branded microfiber towels

NETBALL

**Under 11 St Joeys Topaz**
Training Thursday 3:15 – 4:15
Grading days Saturday 12th and 19th March (Draw still to come)
Games commence Saturday 16th April

**Under 10 St Joeys Diamonds**
Training Thursday 3:15 – 4:15 commencing 10th March
Games commence Saturday 16th April

**Under 9 St Joeys Rubies**
Training Wednesday 3:15 – 4:15 commencing TBA
Games commence Saturday 16th April

**Mackay Netball Association Working Bee**
Saturday 27th Feb 2016 7:00am – 9:00am
Each club is required to provide at least two (2) volunteers
Breakfast will be provided on the day
Please text Susan Viero 0407255324 if you are available

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN MACKAY & DISTRICT

This year we celebrate 150 years of the Catholic Church in Mackay and district. Bishop Michael McCarthy will lead us in the celebration of a Mass of Thanksgiving held on Sunday 22nd May at St Patrick’s Church at 11am. Following Mass you are invited to a BYO picnic lunch in the grounds of St Patrick’s College to continue the celebration. (Tea, coffee and cold drinks provided)
From Friday 20 May through to Sunday 22 May there will be a display in St Patrick’s Hall, acknowledging the gift of the Church within our community. Parishes and organisations from across the region have been invited to contribute to this display which will be open to the public.

The following groups have been invited to contribute. If you are aware of a group that has been overlooked please email details of that group to stjomky@bigpond.com or stmarys@mackay.net.au

**Parishes:** Parish priests, administrators, & assistants; Parish Offices, Parish Councils.

**All Catholic Primary & Secondary Schools**
Co-ordinator of Catechists, Society of Jesus, RCIA co-ordinators

**Religious Orders:** Sisters of Mercy, Christian Brothers, Sisters of St Joseph, Franciscan Sisters, Missionary Sisters of Service, Presentation Sisters, Marist Sisters

**Health & Aged Care:** Mater Hospital, Francis of Assisi Aged Care Home, SVDP, Centra Care, Towards Healing, Care of the Environment, Care & Concern Grp St Joseph’s,

**Organisations and Groups:** CWL, Men Alive, Cherish Life, Natural Fertility Service, Catholic Deb Ball, Catholic Men’s Dinner

**Prayer Groups:** Charismatic Prayer Group, Christian Meditation Group, El Shaddai, Couples for Christ, Padre Pio Group

**Indigenous Groups:** Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islanders, South Sea Islanders

**Ethnic Groups:** Maltese, Italian, Filipino, Indian, Irish

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**Position Vacant**

St John’s Catholic Primary School, Walkerston

**Tuckshop Co-ordinator**

Commencing in 11 April 2016 on a term time basis (approximately 8 HPW), applications are invited from suitably qualified and enthusiastic persons for this position. The successful applicant will have appropriate experience and an understanding of and a commitment to the ethos of Catholic education.

A Working with Children Check (WWCC) and eligibility for a Suitability Notice will also be required.

Application packages can be obtained from the School Office,

St John’s Catholic Primary School, 23 Creek Street, Walkerston QLD 4751

Please include with your application package a letter of expression of interest and a current CV.

For further information, please contact:
The Principal, Mr Nathaniel Rice, St John’s Catholic Primary School, Walkerston
phone: 07 4959 2445 or email: sjw@skck.catholic.edu.au

Applications close 3pm, Monday 7 March 2016.