



# St Joseph's Primary School Schofields



**Term 1**

**Week 2**

**4 February 2015**

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**Gospel Action: Doing my best using my gifts and talents**

**Gospel for Sunday 8th February**

A reading from Mark 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

### Gospel Reflection

This week's gospel follows directly on from last week's reading and, as is typical with Mark's gospel, the events occur on the very same day. The urgency of the gospel is obvious in this week's reading; Jesus had a very busy 24 hours! Having launched his public ministry in the synagogue earlier that day, Jesus accompanies his new disciples to meet some of their family and have a meal. However, on arriving at the home of Simon and Andrew, they find Simon's mother-in-law is sick. Unlike the public displays of his healing power that preceded and will follow this episode, Jesus does not say anything but simply takes the woman by the hand and helps her up. Her response of beginning to wait on Jesus and his disciples is a faith response and recognition of who Jesus is. A theme that runs through this gospel is that the disciples never fully understand who Jesus is. Here, a woman who has just met him recognises him as the Messiah and begins to serve him.

Still on the same day, we see the expansion of Jesus' healing ministry. On this one day he has cast an unclean spirit out of a possessed man in the synagogue, healed Peter's mother-in-law of a fever and then healed the crowds of people who came to the door. The next morning he announces that they will take the ministry to the whole region of Galilee. In a very simple way, the gospel of Mark has described the growth of Jesus' ministry from very humble isolated examples to a deliberate reaching out to the people of an entire region.

Reflection

Where and when do you find prayer most powerful?

How can you better follow Jesus' example of using prayer in the busy times?

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of St Joseph's,

Welcome back to the 2015 School Year. The beginning of the term was a very productive time with the majority of the students attending their Mathematical Assessment Interviews (MAI). It was a great time for parents to catch up with each other and share their stories. The Kindergarten students settled in really well on the first day of their learning journey at St Joseph's Schofields.

I am very appreciative of the parents and carers community for their support in bringing in their children to the MAI appointments. This process is very important in gathering mathematical data which will assist in the planning of the learning and teaching strategies from the very beginning of the year.

This year's mantra is 'Renew and Adapt'. The transition from an industrial to knowledge age has not only impacted on economies and the nature of work but has accelerated the need for transformation in schooling. The ability of schools and systems to renew and adapt is critical to success in today's world. Remember Alvin Toffler's famous warning in 1991 that the 'illiterate of the 21<sup>st</sup> century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn'.

Finish author and education expert, Pasi Sahlberg, wrote in 2013 that all teachers are vital but the 'culture of the school is even more important for the quality of the school.' All school staff play a critical role in shaping the culture of our school, in shaping the thinking and practices of teachers and in the quality of relationships with parents, parishes and the wider community.

The leadership team of the school, Mrs Delvecchio, Mrs Farhat, Mr Atkins and Miss Mizzi, will be reading a text together this term. The book is "Good to Great to INNOVATE – recalculating the Route to Career Readiness, K – 12+" by Lyn Sharratt and Gale Harild.

The book discusses the importance of developing students to be 'Literate Graduates' embracing multiple forms of multiliteracies – often simultaneously and therefore must be able to:

- write with purpose and clarity,
- communicate effectively using a variety of text forms,
- read for purpose and pleasure,
- think critically,
- locate and access information from a variety of sources,
- use oral communication appropriate to purpose and audience,
- "read" and interpret multiple text forms,
- articulate a point of view,
- question and respond using higher-order thinking skills, and
- problem solve.

For the 21<sup>st</sup> century learner, these skills represent the new "essential" foundational skills required to work and learn with ever-evolving new technologies (adapted from Sharratt & Fullan, pp 94-150).

Over the coming weeks I look forward to sharing more about the leadership's discussions and learnings whilst we unpack the book together.

St Joseph's is about creating life-long learners who are well equipped to be problem solvers. Learning should be about inquiry, creation, collaboration and fun. Using the tools and technologies of today's world should enhance what we do and allow our children to more fully engage with the world they live in. Learning is best when it has context and meaning. When done in teams, it allows for greater cognition and depth.

Education is a partnership and I look forward to meeting each of you throughout this year.

Regards

Cheryl Brown  
Principal

## **Gospel Action Week 3 : Doing my best using my gifts and talents.**

All Children will be following this Gospel action.

It would be good if you could talk to your child/children about the Gospel Action and the way they demonstrate it in their daily life.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Check out the new calendar on our website!



<i>2015</i>			
<i>Term 1</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>27th January</i>	<i>MAI Testing Kinder—Year 6</i>
<i>Week 1</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>28th January</i>	<i>MAI Testing Kinder—Year 6</i>
	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>29th January</i>	<i>Year 1 - 6 Commence School MAI Testing Kinder</i>
	<i>Fri</i>	<i>30th January</i>	<i>Kindergarten commence school</i>
<i>Week 2</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>4th February</i>	<i>Swimming Carnival</i>
<i>Week 3</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>9th February</i>	<i>Stage 3 Yarramundi Camp</i>
	<i>Tues</i>	<i>10th February</i>	<i>Stage 3 Yarramundi Camp</i>
	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>12th February</i>	<i>Beginning Year Mass 12pm Community Space</i>
	<i>Fri</i>	<i>13th February</i>	<i>Welcome BBQ for Kinder Parents and New Families</i>
<i>Week 4</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>16th February</i>	<i>Parents / Teacher Chats 2.45-7pm</i>
	<i>Wed</i>	<i>18th February</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>19th February</i>	<i>Blacktown Zone Swimming</i>
<i>Week 5</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>24th February</i>	<i>Stage 2 Reconciliation 12.00</i>
	<i>Tues</i>	<i>24th February</i>	<i>2016 Enrolment Information Evening Mary Immaculate Parish 7pm</i>
	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>26th February</i>	<i>Stage 3 Reconciliation 12.00</i>
	<i>Fri</i>	<i>27th February</i>	<i>Diocesan Swimming Carnival</i>
<i>Week 6</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>6th March</i>	<i>St Joseph's Cross Country</i>
<i>Week 8</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>19th March</i>	<i>St Joseph's Day Liturgy 11.00am Community Space</i>
	<i>Fri</i>	<i>20th March</i>	<i>School Disco</i>
<i>Week 10</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>30th March</i>	<i>Kindergarten Palm Sunday 1.30pm</i>
<i>Holy Week</i>			
	<i>Tues</i>	<i>31st March</i>	<i>Year 1 Last Supper 1.30pm</i>
	<i>Wed</i>	<i>1st April</i>	<i>Year 2 Praying in the Garden 1.30pm</i>
	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>2nd April</i>	<i>Year 3 &amp; 4 Good Friday 1.30pm</i>
			<i>End of Term</i>

Please check these dates regularly as events are continually added or dates changed depending on schedules.

## FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CO-ORDINATOR



### Opening School Mass

Our Opening School Mass will be held on Thursday 12th February 2015 at 12pm in the School Community Space. All are welcome to attend and celebrate the start of the new year.



St Joseph's are introducing Crunch & Sip!

From Week 4 this term we will be allowing students to munch on fresh fruit and vegetables during a Crunch & Sip break in the morning session of school. The purpose is to allow students to refuel their bodies between their breakfast and morning tea. It is also to encourage students to eat healthy foods.

Crunch & Sip will not impact on student learning as students will be able to eat their fruit and vegetables while sharing class tasks. More information will follow for parents next week about what is allowed to be eaten during our Crunch & Sip break.

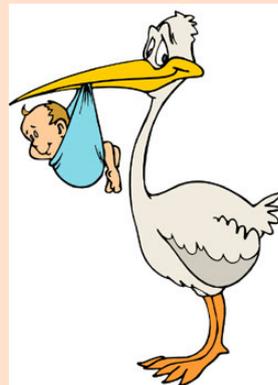
Mrs Katie Bates

### Congratulations

On Monday 2nd February the Cremona family welcomed a new addition. The arrival of baby Luke. Congratulations to Carol and Dave the proud parents, and to Ashley, Benjamin, Danielle, Matthew and Jacob on their new baby brother.

We can't wait to meet him!!!

Looking forward to show and tell...



### Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge is ending on Friday, 6th February, and all entries must be registered by 5PM on Friday. By reading at least TEN books and entering them online, you might win an iPad Mini!

For detail on how to enter go to <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/event-details/executive-directors-summer-reading-challenge>

Thank you

Joanne Neill—Library Technician

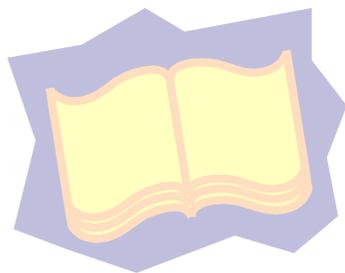
### ***Change of Clothes for Kindy***

Can you please ensure your Kindy child has a change of clothes (underwear, trousers, tunic and socks) in case of an accident at school. It avoids embarrassment for your child if they have their own clothes.

### ***Visitor Sign in Book***

Its very important that anyone helping in the classrooms or visiting inside the school grounds signs the register in the foyer and collects a visitors badge prior to entering the premises.

It is equally important that on leaving the school grounds you return your badge and sign off on the register. This allows us to keep an accurate record of the number of people on the premises at any time



### ***Tears and Tissues***

Many thanks to Nicole Grima and team and for their wonderful hospitality on Friday with a welcoming morning tea for Kinder families.



### ***Child Protection for Volunteers***

It is a system requirement that child protection training be completed by all volunteers commencing work at St Joseph's.

An online training module for use by volunteers is now available. After successfully completing the module, an email notification will be sent automatically to the volunteer's email address and to the school email address. This email is a confirmation that the training has been successfully completed by the volunteer.

Child Protection for Volunteers may be accessed via the following link located in the Child protection Kit, Section 10, Child Protection Training for Volunteers.

<http://ceo-web.parra.catholic.edu.au/asp/volunteerscpmodule/index.asp>

Using Child Protection for Volunteers

1. Open the module by clicking the Start link
2. Read through the presentation
3. Complete and submit quiz questions – this will take approximately 45 minutes
4. After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school.
5. A notification of successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to the volunteer's email address.

If you would like to assist in the classrooms, at carnivals and our excursions you will need to complete this training module online. If you completed the online Child Protection Training Session in 2014 your training is valid until 2016.

### ***Playgroup***

Playgroup meets every Wednesday at 8.30– all welcome.

### ***Student Banking***

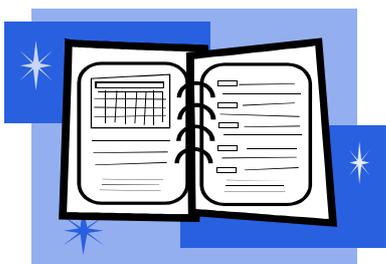
Student Banking is on Wednesday's from 8.00am.

Visit the Commonwealth Bank and open a Dollar mite account. Come to School Wednesday and start banking.

### **Appointments**

You can make an appointment to see your child's teacher by writing a note to them or by contacting the ladies in the office who can pass on a message.

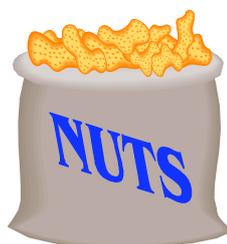
Please note that it is very important that an appointment is made at a mutually convenient time. Interviews "on the run" are not possible or practical. We aim for quality communication and this can't happen unless we take quality time.



### **St Joseph's is Nut Free and Allergy Aware**

Just a reminder that St Joseph's is strictly a nut free school. So please keep this in mind when packing your child's school recess and lunch.

- No Peanut Butter
- No Nutella
- No Nuts or Nut Products



### **Access Through Terra Sancta College**

If your child needs to come through from Terra Sancta College into St Joseph's via the back gate, please provide a written letter requesting permission to do the same.

### **Car Park**

Just a reminder that the car park is for staff parking only. A request can be made for permission due to special circumstances. This is to ensure the safety of all children using the pedestrian walkways.

### **Canteen**

A 2015 Canteen Price List is attached to this newsletter.

### **Change of Routine**

If your child's pickup routine is to be altered please advise the class teacher in writing of the new details.

Also any messages to children need to be at the office by 2.00pm, so that the student can be notified in time.

If you haven't already done so please take the time to complete the Pick up Arrangement form attached to this newsletter and return it to the school office.

### **Medication**

Parents please note we are unable to give Panadol to students. If your child requires medication you need to provide written authority and the Panadol.

Prescribed Medication needs to be labeled and handed into the office with the appropriate details.



### **Second Hand Uniforms**

The uniform shop will be open every Monday and Thursday morning 8.30-9.00am or you can phone Tina on 0417457417 for an appointment.

### **School Fees**

Term 1 School Fees Statements will be sent by mail to all families next week. If you do not receive this by 13<sup>th</sup> February please contact the office so we can ensure we have your correct address. You will be offered an arrangement plan with this statement in the case that you prefer to pay your fees by instalments. Any families who still have fees owing from 2014 will not be offered a plan as you are no doubt already on a plan. Please note the fees are due to be paid by 6<sup>th</sup> March so all arrangements will need to be set in place by this date. If you have any concerns please contact Mrs Brown.

## **Important Information**

**EMAIL.** The school sends most notes and all newsletters home via email. Newsletter and updates are sent weekly. If you do not receive an electronic copy of this newsletter today then you will miss out on receiving important information in the future. Please take the time to complete the attachment below by providing an up-to-date email address. You may also need to check your spam folder in case we are delivered to it. Should your email change or you stop receiving weekly newsletters please contact the school office immediately.

**SKOOLBAG APP.** Please take the time to install our Skoolbag School App. To install it, just look for our school name "St Joseph's Primary, Schofields" in the Apple App Store for iPhone" or Google Play Store for Android. This is an important form of our communication that is used regularly.

**FACEBOOK.** Like us on Facebook to follow what's happening in the St Joseph's community.

## **Email Address**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_