ST JOSEPH’S

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

*BLACKALL*

Prep – Year Six

*- EST. 1917 -*

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109 Thistle Street

PO Box 211

Blackall Q 4472

Telephone: (07) 46574248

Email: sjbl@rok.catholic.edu.au

St Joseph’s School Prayer

Jesus, May you look after our school today Help us to follow you in every way.

With our special gifts and talents to share At St Joseph’s, a true family, we all need to care.

Jesus as we try to do our part,

Remember us and keep us in your heart.

Let’s do our best and listen to your call May we remember

“Effort wins success” a motto for us all.

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## St Joseph’s School

## Our Vision

We believe:

* Jesus is a model for all of our work and His presence is alive in our Catholic School
* That students can achieve high standards given the right time and right support
* All educators within our school community can teach to high standards given time and the right assistance
* High expectations and early and ongoing intervention is essential
* All leaders, teachers, and students can articulate what they do, how they do it and why they lead, teach, and learn the ways they do.

## Our Mission

Inspired by Jesus and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop we commit to:

* Encouraging all to grow into the best possible version of themselves
* Providing challenging, engaging and relevant learning environments
* Building strong and meaningful relationships where home, school and parish work together

## Religious Character of St Joseph's Catholic School:

## At St Joseph’s we value Catholic principles, traditions and teachings and strive to support our students as they develop an understanding of their faith. Our learning aims to encourage the growth of values such as respect, responsibility, prayerfulness, service and integrity. As a school, our aim is to practically implement these values within the students’ everyday lives. As a school community, we strive to provide opportunities that will allow students to develop the skills to make meaning of their lives. As a result, students are guided to become reflective, self-directed learners who are: producers, participators, investigators, communicators, thinkers and problem solvers.

## Charism of St Joseph's

At St Joseph’s we look to **Saint Joseph, the husband of Mary** and celebrate his feast day on the 19th March each year. St Joseph is the husband of Mary and our patron saint. He is known to be a working man, a compassionate and caring person who was indeed a man of faith. Through his actions, it could clearly be seen that he loved Jesus and respected God. He was regarded as a righteous man, a family man.

Being the patron saint of our school we look to follow his example and work towards living out his qualities in our everyday life.

We also celebrate the work of **St Mary of the Cross MacKillop**, Australia’s first Saint. Mary devoted her life to the education of poor children in outback Australia and with the help of Fr Julian Tenison Woods, the co-founder of the Institute of the Sisters of St Joseph, Mary's Sisters were able to open a school in Blackall in 1917.

As noted in the Sisters of St Joseph’s emblem, Mary of the Southern Cross and Woods considered Jesus, Mary, Joseph and John the Baptist of great importance to them. But, it is the charism of St Joseph, ‘Finding God in the ordinary circumstances of daily life’ that we aim to live out and teach our students to live out daily.

Time is also spent looking at the life and work of **St Patrick** (Patron saint of our Parish) throughout the year. We celebrate his feast day on 17th March.

Through the Josephite Charism and the teaching of MJR, we have identified 5 core values for our school.  **Respect, Responsibility, Prayerfulness, Service and Integrity.**

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## A Welcome Message to Parents

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your interest in St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School. On behalf of our children, staff, parents and Parish Priest I extend a warm welcome to you and to your family. We hope that your time with us will be an enjoyable and rewarding experience for you and your family.

Our school was originally established by the Josephite Sisters in 1917 to serve families of the far west. St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School exists for the education of children from Prep to Year Six and is a co-educational facility still serving the township and surrounding properties of Blackall.

St Joseph’s is a Community of Faith nourished by daily Prayer, Eucharistic Celebration and respectful interaction with each other. In our school we focus on developing our school values of respect, responsibility, integrity, service and prayerfulness. Students who attend St Joseph’s will be encouraged to grown in reverence of one another and be supportive in the spirit of the community.

Our school Mission Statement stresses the need for a partnership to be forged between parents and school. If we are to be effective in the education of your child, then we must encourage this cooperative teacher-parent relationship. Education and Catholic Education in particular, is a three-way process of communication involving teacher, child and parent.

As a family school, parents are encouraged to become involved in their child’s education. Our teachers are always willing to discuss your child’s progress, his/her learning needs and any problems that might arise.

At St Joseph’s we focus on providing a child centered education that recognises and respects the needs and talents of each individual and encourages everyone to grow into the best possible version of themselves. There is a strong focus on providing challenging, engaging and relevant learning environments to ensure that all who attend St Joseph’s experience success.

The information available on our website will allow you to gain insight into the life our our school. If the school staff or I can be of any assistance to you please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Joanne Davison

Principal

Student Protection

Student protection and wellbeing are paramount in all Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Rockhampton. By the very nature of their mission and ethos, Catholic schools in the Diocese of Rockhampton place the highest priority on the safety and care of the children and young people who are their students. All students have a right to expect that the school will always do all that is possible to protect them from any kind of harm and create safe learning

environments.

Catholic Education is committed to best practices in student protection and the development of proactive approaches to equip people with the skills and knowledge to identify risks of harm and respond appropriately.

http://www.rok.catholic.edu.au/catholic-schools/student-protection/

In Catholic Education, Diocese of Rockhampton, protection for students is based upon the belief that each person is made in the image of God and that the inherent dignity of all should

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be recognised and fostered. The need for Student Protection Processes arises primarily from the Catholic education community's concern about this reality in our midst. This concern flows from our Christian belief in the dignity of all persons. We see children as entrusted to us by the love of God, and are committed to the protection of their rights.

The purpose of the ***Student Protection Processes*** document is to provide a framework for responding to and reporting allegations or suspicions of:

• sexual abuse or likely sexual abuse to a student by another person

• harm or likely harm to a student from any source

• inappropriate behaviour by a staff member towards a student.

The document sets out the processes to be followed to ensure that prompt, professional, sensitive and appropriate action is taken by Catholic Education personnel in schools and at the Diocesan Catholic Education Office (DCEO).

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## Behaviour Expectations

St. Joseph’s children from all grade levels are given the opportunity to learn about **Respect** and **Responsibility**. These two concepts are paramount to the “Behavioural Management” Expectations at our School, our **Anti Bullying** and **Behaviour Management Policies** incorporates both of these values, but also recognises that no person is perfect and everybody has the right to make mistakes and to be forgiven. This policy is based upon the example given by Jesus Christ. Our view is that the child should have the opportunity to be shown the correct way of behaving and how to add to, and not detract from the community in which they live. The school implements the Making Jesus Real Program throughout the year to provide students with opportunities to develop into the best versions of themselves.

For recurrent disciplinary problems parents will be made aware of the situation and will be asked to cooperate in the correction of the situation.

General Information

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## Student Absences

In the event that your child can not attend school for the whole or part of a day, please ensure that you either call the office on the morning of that day, send a note or take advantage of the absentee function in the SchoolZine App to indicate their absence. This will ensure that our attendance records are kept up to date and teachers are aware of those children not attending school that day. If you have not contacted the school by 10:00am a text message request will be forwarded to parents/carers requesting them to contact the school to advise of student absence.

Appointments with Staff

St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School actively encourages open, productive and worthwhile communication between parents/guardians and teachers. To achieve this, it is important that all parties involved are adequately prepared and focused. Therefore, it is requested that parents make an appointment with staff in order to discuss student progress. This can be made by ringing Admin or emailing classroom teachers.

Arrival and Departure Times

Children should arrive no earlier than 8.00 a.m. and no later than 8:40 a.m. Children who arrive before 8.20 a.m. must sit on the seats in the covered area until a teacher is on playground duty at 8:20 a.m.

Children should depart the school grounds as soon as possible after 3.00 p.m. dismissal. Children should depart the school from the front of the school where a teacher is on duty, not from the service entry in Thistle St. Students are supervised as a group when crossing the road especially when riding their bikes and scooters.

Art Shirt

The children are asked to bring an old shirt to wear during art classes to protect their school uniform.

Book Club

Throughout the term, the children will receive from the school a list of available purchases. The children have to return their order and correct money in an envelope with family name to the office by a date given. There is no obligation to make purchases as this is an optional service to students, whilst also assisting the library to accumulate books through “Scholastic”.

Booklists

At the end of each year, book lists for the following year will be issued to parents. These books will be available from the Newsagency or you may organise to purchase your books elsewhere.

Costs associated with the purchase of books can be quite high so all effort is made to ensure that these costs are kept to a minimum. Teachers may make a request to parents to purchase more items during the year if items are lost or need replacing.

Communication

Communication is key to any successful operation. Knowing this, at St Joseph’s we are committed to maintaining positive, open communication between teachers, parents and students. Therefore keeping in touch with your teachers is vital. This can be achieved by coming into school each morning and afternoon or by emailing or ringing your child’s class teacher with any questions or concerns you may be having.

Key messages are also shared on Monday morning and Friday morning assemblies. We encourage and welcome you to join us for both of these.

St Joseph’s has a school website in which a range of information is available to parents. This can be accessed at http://sjblrok.catholic.edu.au We also have a Facebook page in which we share important messages, activities and student achievements.

The school newsletter is available via the SchoolZine Website/App and is sent out on a fortnightly rotation. We encourage all parents to interact with the newsletter to keep up to date with classroom news and important information from the Principal and APRE.

Curriculum

The Australian Curriculum informs our teaching and learning in almost all the Key Learning Areas. Religious Education is also a part of Catholic School curriculum and is an additional subject to those found in the National Curriculum. St Joseph’s has a combination of single, composite and multi-age classes allowing for greater flexibility. The make-up of multi-age classes is decided at the end of each year for the following year, based on a number of factors, including enrolments.

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Custody Matters

Schools are often confronted with issues relating to custody of students. While such issues are often emotionally charged, the school will manage custody related issues in accordance with the law.

St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School aims to develop and implement a clear and responsible process for managing custody related issues at a school level.

• Parents or caregivers are required to complete and sign accurate enrolment forms for children for whom they have custody.

• Enrolments must be accompanied by Birth Certificates or similar which prove a student’s name and birth date.

• The school will only enrol a child under the name provided on a Birth Certificate or more recent legally recognised document.

• Any custody issues are to be declared, and supported by legal documentation – which will be photocopied and retained on the student’s individual file.

• The Principal will be responsible for ensuring that the school complies with all Family Court Orders or similar legal documents relating to custody.

• The school will assume a default position that both natural parents have equal access to enrolled students unless current court orders or legal documents dictate otherwise. • Both natural parents will have access to school reports, newsletters, parent interviews, and their children at school unless court orders or similar legal documents dictate otherwise.

• Parents or caregivers who claim custody restriction but fail to provide documentation will not have their requests met until such time as supporting documentation is provided.

• People who have their access restricted to students, and whose presence at school or requests for information etc are in breech of court orders or similar legal documents will be directed immediately to the principal.

• The police will be contacted immediately if people refuse to comply with the Principal’s lawful instructions or to obey court orders or similar.

• Any breeches of custody restrictions will be reported by the principal to the parent who normally looks after the child.

The parent should advise the school by letter if permission is given to have the child collected by a person other than the person who has legal custody. All information collected by the school remains strictly confidential.

Educational Excursions / Camps

Educational tours are encouraged by the school after instigation by individual teachers

It is the usual practice that Grade 5 and 6 children will embark upon a camp during the year. All educational tours have to be approved by the Principal with parental consent to be obtained. Costs will always be kept to a minimum and no child will be excluded from an excursion because of an inability to pay the costs.

St Joseph’s will adhere to the supervision ratio outlined by Rockhampton Catholic Education Office, Workplace Health and Safety Guidelines. The accompanying teacher and Principal will ensure that there will be a mixture of both female and male adults on the tour and the number of parents required to attend.

All children and parents will be made aware of the expectations placed upon the children as preconditions of their participation on the trip.

Enrolment

As of 2017, Prep is a full time compulsory enrolment. A Mini Joey’s program is offered in the year prior to Prep allowing potential Prep students to enjoy time at the school and experience the Prep program. This commences in term 4 with morning sessions only. The number of these days will be determined by the Principal and Prep Teacher each year.

Enrolment of students is the responsibility of the Principal and shall be in line with Diocesan and School Enrolment Policies and Procedures. An enrolment interview is required before any child begins school at St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School

**All new enrolments must be accompanied by a birth certificate and a baptismal certificate** (if applicable) along with copies of any other relevant certificates e.g. Eucharist and Confirmation.

• Parents are asked to accept that all students will partake fully of every aspect of the school program, except when activities are voluntary

• Medical reasons may exist for exemption from Physical Education and sports programmes

• Non-Catholics are exempt from partaking of the Sacraments, but will be expected to participate fully in all Religious Education lessons and school masses and liturgies.

Fees and Levies

**TUITION FEES** - Tuition fees and levies are determined in Term Four each year and information on current fees and levies are always passed on to parents.

Fee accounts shall clearly state the terms and methods of payment. These should be paid within thirty (30) days. Flexibility of payments is available e.g. weekly, monthly, quarterly. Parents who experience difficulty in paying fees or levies are asked to make an appointment to see the Principal so alternative arrangements can be made. Any arrangements are kept in the strictest confidence and it should be noted that the inability to pay school fees should never be a reason for denying a child an education in a Catholic School.

• Families who are experiencing difficulties are encouraged to contact the Principal so that supporting arrangements can be negotiated.

• The school recommends that families use the direct debit arrangement for the payment of school fees. Please see the school secretary for a direct debit form.

Please find the outlined 2021 Fees and Levies schedule [**here**](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1zmpeGqyvQQGLN3A5xrx0mwKDl9_BV1D2)**.**

Fundraising

The P & F is the major fundraising body, although from time to time the school itself will be involved with fundraising. The school does not charge a fundraising levy so all parents are encouraged to assist in some way with fundraising.

The major fundraising event for the year is decided upon and communication by the P & F Committee.

Home & Study

Each teacher has their own policy on this topic; school policy states that home study or homework will

1. Not be an onerous imposition upon children or family.

2. Be relevant to school study, and not be just a time consuming task.

3. Produce home study habits.

4. Take into consideration individual differences. (For example some children could receive different work from that of others).

5. Ensure that there will be a minimum amount of time spent on home study. The homework policy is currently under review by the school, P&F and School Board in 2012.

The existing policy suggests the following time allocations for homework: Prep (from Sem 2) 5 minutes

Grade 1 10 minutes

Grade 2 15 minutes

Grade 3 20 minutes

Grade 4/5 25 minutes

Grade 6 30 minutes

In addition to written work, there is an expectation that each child reads for a minimum time of 10 minutes each night.

Infectious Diseases

St Joseph’s adheres to the exclusion guidelines to control the spread of sickness as set out by Queensland Health – these guidelines can be found at https://www.health.qld.gov.au/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0022/426820/timeout\_poster.pdf

St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School supports the Inclusive Practises outlined by the Queensland Catholic Education Commission. Inclusive practise values the uniqueness and diversity of our students and calls us to provide educational opportunities that may require adjustment (without imposing unjustifiable hardship on the school) in the school setting. Inclusive practises require a collaborative approach to planning and decision making which includes students, families and educators. Educators are supported with training and access to outside agencies as required to assist them in making the necessary adjustments to their curriculum plans.

The traditional role of the Learning Support Teacher (LST) as someone who withdraws students to work with them exists only when a teacher is available or sufficient funding can be accessed. Each school has an Inclusive Curriculum Coordinator (ICC) whose role is to work collaboratively with educators, students, parents and various outside agencies to support the process of providing inclusive practises in our classrooms. Teaching Assistants (TAs) also provide support to teachers in the provision of inclusive practises. Much of their work involves supporting teachers with students who require significant adjustments in a specific category and assisting in the whole school implementation of various programs as required.

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Classroom teachers are the primary educators responsible for the learning and overall development of your child, and as such, should be the first people you speak to regarding any concerns you may have about your child’s progress. They will then work with you and any other relevant personnel to support your child’s individual learning requirements within the classroom setting.

By using video conferencing facilities, we are also able to access specialists in the areas of Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy. This facility allows teachers, parents and students to work with professionals within the school environment. To date this service has proven to be very successful and we will continue to use these service to support identified students’

needs.

Library

The school library is maintained through the employment of a Library Assistant. The Library is open for borrowing each Wednesday. The library is well resourced and updated annually. The key to all learning is reading and children should be encouraged to read varied reading matter at home. Students from Prep – Year 2 will need a library bag (School library bags are available from the office) in which to carry books. Any parent willing to help our Library Assistant with book covering etc. please contact the office.

Lost and Found

Items found at school will be kept for some time but unclaimed items may be donated to a charity after one year. This includes uncollected clothing items.

Money brought to school

Please ensure that any money sent to school is contained in an envelope with name and purpose marked on the outside. Please also send any money to the office and not to the class teacher.

Monday Notices & Friday Assembly

Each Monday at 8:40 a.m. students and teachers gather in the undercover lunch area for prayer and morning notices. On Friday the assembly is slightly longer and includes prayer, class sharing, and workers of the week, messages, birthdays and the National Anthem. The Friday assembly is held in the MacKillop Centre. All Parents are most welcome to stay and join in.

Parents and Friends Association

All parents are automatically members of this Association and all ideas and contributions are most welcome.

The P & F is one of the main contributors of funds to the school budget and its money raising activities are most important. Without the support of the P & F we would not have the money we need to spend on resources around the school.

The Parents and Friends Association also, most importantly, provides a point of social contact for parents.

The A.G.M. is held each March with the committee changeover to take place after the Easter Fete.

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Parent Participation

Please feel free to visit the school to discuss your child’s progress. Your involvement in the education of your child is encouraged as it is amazing how accurately children can pick up their parents’ degree of interest in their learning.

Some of the ways that you can do this are….

1. Accept invitations to become involved at the school. We need parents to become involved. This can mean assisting in the classroom, art and craft activities or in sporting events.

2. Attend as many P & F meetings as possible.

3. Support school functions.

4. Be a volunteer on Tuckshop days. This only involves one or two duties per term. 5. Join teachers and students at Monday Morning Prayer and Friday assembly.

Parent / Teacher Information Night

At the beginning of each year we hold these nights to allow:

1. The teachers to meet the parents of the children they are teaching.

2. To give a brief outline, to parents, of the curriculum and classroom procedures for the year.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care at our school means that each child can feel a part of the family which is “Our School”. Each child has easy access to any teacher for any cares or concerns that they may have. Parents are more than welcome to approach the Principal or teachers for any of the same reasons.

PSDE

This stands for **Personal and Social Development Education** which is an initiative throughout the Rockhampton Diocese, covering health, human dignity and sexuality.

Much of the the subject matter is already covered in by the Health, Science, Religion Curriculum, as well as the Daniel Morcombe Teaching Units that are taught in all school within the Rockhampton Diocese. The remaining components are presented by a Religious Faith Education Consultant from the Catholic Education Office, Rockhampton. These sessions aim to give students a basic understanding about the sacredness of creating new life and to study basic milestones in growth and development, particularly the physical and emotional changes experienced during puberty.

Photos

Once a year school photos will be taken. A system of prepay is generally used, so be sure to send your money to the school before the photographer’s visit.

Playground Supervision

Each lunch time students are supervised by a first lunch duty teacher whilst eating their lunch in the covered lunch area. If students have finished their lunch and their area is clean they are allowed to play. Two teachers supervise students as they play in the grounds.

Professional Development

From time to time teachers, Assistant to the Principal Religious Education (APRE) and Principal will attend Professional Development. These opportunities are an important part of a teacher’s professional development and as such, contributes positively to the education of your child. The Principal and APRE also attend Principal Conferences and in-services on administrative and curriculum matters.

Pupil-Free In-Service Days

Each year teachers spend some vacation time devoted to their professional development. Two of these days are generally spent on Faith Education and the remainder on Professional Development relating to teaching and learning. Two pupil free days are held during school time. The first is the Bishop’s In-service Day held in term 1 and the second is a moderation day held on Monday of week 3, term 4.

Religious Education

St. Patrick’s Parish celebrates Mass through the week and on each weekend all children, regardless of denomination, are urged to attend Mass. Each class is responsible for a class Mass or liturgy each term. Children’s Liturgies and Prayer Services are run by the school in conjunction with the Parish throughout the term.

Prayer is a central part of our community and as such is given prime importance in our school. The children are given many varied opportunities to experience prayer. These experiences should be carried into the home, as unless children see that prayer is part of their family life, our efforts at school become isolated and irrelevant in the eyes of the child.

The Religious Education Program used at this school is based on the Diocesan RE guidelines used throughout the Diocese. In July of 2015 our Religious Curriculum was rewritten by Diocesan staff to provide a modern representation of our Religious life.

Reporting to Parents

1. There are formal reports to be given to parents at the end of each semester.

2. Parents are encouraged to attend formal Parent/Teacher interviews at the end of Term 1 and informally at the end of Term 3. If parents don’t make an appointment, teachers will contact the parents to arrange an appointment in person or over the phone.

3. Parents are encouraged to make an appointment with the class teacher at any time to discuss their child’s progress or concerns.

School Improvement Review

The school community is invited by the Diocesan Catholic Education Office every 5 years to commit itself to a school review whereby all members of the school and Parish community are asked to contribute to two main areas of discussion.

1. Significant Achievement of the school.

2. Areas in need of further development.

These conclusions are then used as the basis for a report which highlights commendations and recommendations under specifically related headings in relation to the operation of St. Joseph’s. Findings from this report are used to create the School Improvement Plan. This plan will detail school goals, targets and strategies that will be employed to reach these specific and measureable goals for school improvement. A variety of school surveys will be used to collect data to help track and identify what the school is doing well and areas for future improvement.

School Board

St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School’s Board was formed in 2008. The Board is a policy-making body that draws on the whole school community to set directions for the school. It operates on the model of Shared Wisdom which is based on the belief that:

**No one person has all the wisdom**

**Everyone has a different piece of wisdom**

**Everyone has some wisdom**

At different times during the year you will be asked to respond to different issues and policies that the Board is working on and it is hoped that all parents will take this opportunity to participate in the process. Membership of the School Board is taken from a cross section of our school community; Principal, Staff Representative, Priest, Parent Representatives and a Parish Representative.

You can find out more information about the role of the School Board **here.**

School Times

8:40am Children gather in undercover lunch area

8:45am Monday notices, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday straight to class, Friday assembly.

11:00am - 11.40am First Break

(1st bell at 11.35 to pack up & 2nd bell at 11:40 a.m. to go to class)

1.30pm – 1.50pm Second Break

3.00pm End of Day

Sickness / Injury

Schools are places where sickness can spread quickly. We ask that all parents keep their children at home if they are unwell. If student sickness/condition is contagious, please adhere to the school exclusion periods. For information about exclusion periods, please click https://www.health.qld.gov.au/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0022/426820/timeout\_poster.pdf

We take all injuries to students seriously. Should your child show signs of serious sickness or present with a serious injury, the ambulance will be called first, and then parents shall be notified. Pleae ensure that your **EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER** is up to date and has been provided to the school.

Sports Equipment

Sports equipment is made available to the children each lunch and children are expected to return the equipment to the sports store room where older children are on roster to check off items which have been taken and returned.

Sporting Carnivals

Each year we hold Swimming and Athletics Carnivals for ALL Children. The emphasis is on participation rather than winning, although there is friendly competition between the MACKILLOP (Red) and PATRICK (Gold) teams. Children are allocated to a House on their enrolment.

Trophies are awarded for the best team and medals to the best girl and boy athletes in age groups from 8-13yrs. Mary MacKillop spirit awards are awarded to students who show great sportsmanship and encourage others throughout the day.

Staff Meetings

These are held each Tuesday after school from 3:15 p.m. until approximately 4.45 p.m.

These meetings provide an opportunity for the staff to pray, prepare for coming events, undertake in service, and discuss curriculum and educational trends.

Swimming

Swimming occurs in Term 4. The children are given swimming lessons with emphasis on water safety and confidence in the water. Parents are invited to help at these lessons either in or out of the water. Children are required to bring a swimming shirt and children get changed at school prior to departure and upon return.

Technology

Digital Technology plays an important part in today’s educational system. All students throughout the school have access to either desktop or laptop computers. Each classroom is fitted with an interactive whiteboard which assists in teaching and group work.

We currently operate a ‘share iPad system’ throughout the school. This year we have purchased a range of robotic equipment for students to work with. BeeBots, Probots, Edison Robots and Lego Robots directly supports the Digital Technnologies Curriculum and enhances students computational and problem solving skills.

Students from Year 3-6 have 1 to 1 devices. Students in Year 5 & 6 are able to take their laptops home to complete homework and set assignments. Only students who have completed the Laptop Agreement and attended the Information Session are able to take advantage of this opportunity.

The use of technological equipment in the classroom to support ICT capabilities is part of our non-negotiable core teaching practices. This ensures that students from Prep are using and are familiar with key ICT skills.

Tuckshop

Tuckshop will be held each Wednesday. Order bags for money and lunch orders go home on Thursday afternoons. A set menu is sent home and posted to our Facebook weekly. Tuckshop volunteers and Home Bakers are also called for at the beginning of each term and a roster is sent home accordingly.

Uniforms

New uniform shirts were introduced for 2012. In addition to the shirt and blue shorts, a dress is available for girls to purchase as their uniform. These are available from the school office. Girls are asked to wear black shoes and white socks whilst boys wear black shoes and grey socks. A tracksuit is also available for the winter months.

Valuables

The policy of our school is that “No Responsibility” will be taken for valuables which children may bring to school. From time to time children may bring articles to school for “morning talks” but they should remain in their ports while not being displayed.

Weather

In the event of inclement weather, teachers will have lunch with the children in the classrooms. Quiet activities will be arranged for lunch breaks. Classes may also be combined so teachers can have a short break. Students will be dismissed as usual at 3:00 p.m. If properties are affected by wet roads etc. parents are welcome to pick children up early.

Weapons

Any weapon or instrument that could be used to cause harm is prohibited at any school/college sanctioned activity.

Students breaching this requirement may face serious consequences including suspension and the termination of their enrolment. The matter will be reported to the Police.

Current St Joseph’s Staff

**PARISH:**

Parish Priest- Fr Raj & Fr Shiju

**PRINCIPAL:**

Mrs Joanne Davison

**ASSISTANT TO THE PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (APRE):** Mrs Jessica Choyce

**TEACHING STAFF:**

Kindy: Miss Kritine Kennedy

Prep: Miss Sally Suthers

Years 1: Miss Dana Hall

Year 2: Miss Zoe Barron

Years 3/4: Miss Jessica Choyce

Years 5/6: Mrs Clare Barron

Learning Support Teacher: Mrs Amy Crook-King

**ANCILLARY:**

Administration Secretary – Vivienne Van Mosseveld

Cleaner - Mrs Vene Bowyer

Grounds Person – Charley Watt

**SCHOOL OFFICERS:**

Teacher Assistant – Mrs Gaye Crawford , Mrs Shaylee Nicholls & Miss Cloe Gribble

Library Assistant – Mrs Shaylee Nicholls