



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL BUNDABERG

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Newsletter Term One Week 8

18 March 2026

## Principal's Pen – Monica White

### Remarkable St Joseph

Today our St Joseph's school community celebrated St Joseph's Feast Day, with a wonderful Mass and through activities to remind us about the life of St Joseph, a remarkable man.

Joseph, the adoptive father of Jesus Christ, is perhaps one of the most overlooked characters in the life of Jesus. Yet, there is no question that Joseph left a powerful impact on Jesus and Mary. He was a man of

solid conviction. His love for Mary, the mother of Jesus, is unmatched. Because Joseph's story is only covered in four chapters of the Bible and he most likely died before the ministry of Jesus, he is often glossed over and not always given his due for the powerful example he left for Jesus.



We know relatively few details about Joseph from the scriptures, but through insights from the historical background of life in Israel, we can actually weave together a beautiful tapestry on the life of Joseph.

Joseph was of the tribe of Judah, and in particular a direct descendant of King David ([Matthew 1:20](#)). Despite his royal lineage, the scriptures tell us that Joseph was only a poor carpenter or craftsman. Joseph is typically portrayed in art as working with wood, but because Israel has a limited number of trees and stone is by far the more abundant resource, Joseph would have actually been a carpenter of mostly stone.

According to Jewish custom, we also know that Joseph was most likely quite young. In fact, he probably was only about seventeen to twenty years old when he was engaged to Mary. We also know that from a very young age Joseph had been trained in the law at the synagogue, and that he had a profound understanding of the scriptures because of his faithful, yet merciful way of obeying the law.

According to law Joseph could have publicly divorced Mary, instead, Matthew tells us that Joseph chose to be merciful and "was minded to put her away secretly." ([Matthew 1:19 NKJV](#)). However, before Joseph was able to divorce Mary, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream telling him to take Mary as his wife. The angel also directs Joseph that he is to name the infant Jesus. By naming the child, according to Jewish tradition, Joseph would formally adopt Jesus as his own.

The love and compassion Joseph showed to Mary and Jesus is absolutely remarkable. He disregarded all cultural consequences of marrying Mary and took in Jesus as his own. Truly, God could not have chosen a better man to raise His own Son, than Joseph, the humble carpenter. Though we have no recorded words of Joseph, no recorded witness of his testimony, his actions of obedience, kindness, and love speak volumes about the character of this most remarkable man and his testimony of Jesus. As followers of Christ, we can learn much from Joseph the carpenter. St Joseph's is the prime role model of our three school values: Love, Faith and Courage.

*Monica White*

## From the APRE – Laura Campbell

Greetings to our Families,

### **Reef Guardian School**

St Joseph's is a registered Reef Guardian School. This means that we agree to help spread the message of sustainability to the community by participating in programs or activities that promote reusing, reducing and recycling. As a Reef Guardian School we are committed to ensuring that the ocean is a healthy place for all animals that live on the reef.

We are very lucky to have a council that encourages and support schools in the Bundaberg region to take purposeful actions.

**As a result of our continued efforts, The Reef Guardian Team from the Bundaberg City Council have invited two students and one teacher to a fully subsidised Lady Musgrave and Reef Experience!**

Years Five and Six students were invited to apply to attend this significant event. Several educational outcomes for Science and HaSS will also be covered with this experience.

Two students have now been selected to attend this amazing excursion. Thomas (Yr 6) and Maryanne (Yr 5) will accompany me and 10 other invited schools on the Lady Musgrave Island Experience next Thursday. They will explore the reef and attend a session with a marine biologist to find out even more about this natural wonder.

To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Queensland Government, through the Great Barrier Reef Education Experience Program, provided a subsidy to the school of \$50.00 per student who are going on the excursion.

We are very much looking forward to this wonderful opportunity.

### **Children's Mass**

All of our families are invited to attend the Children's Mass this Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March at St Patrick's Church, 9am.

We would love to see more families attending this Mass.

Please bring along a plate to share for morning tea.

*Have a blessed week,  
Laura Campbell*

Assistant Principal – Religious Education



# SWIMMING

**Swimming lessons at St Josephs start next week.** At St Joseph's we prioritise swimming lessons because water safety is a core life skill for children growing up in Australia. The program gives students practical ability, confidence and the knowledge to stay safe in, on and around water while supporting learning goals in the school curriculum.

### What these lessons teach our students:

- **Water familiarisation and confidence** – children learn to feel comfortable in the water, practise breath control and develop positive attitudes toward aquatic environments.
- **Survival and safety skills** – floating, treading water, safe entries and exits, and getting to the pool edge or shore are taught and practised until students can perform them reliably.
- **Stroke development and propulsion** – basic front crawl and backstroke skills that help children move efficiently and conserve energy in the water.
- **Risk awareness and decision-making** – recognising hazards, following pool rules, calling for help and making safe choices around rivers, beaches and backyard pools.
- **Social and emotional skills** – listening to instructors, persisting through challenges, and supporting peers build resilience and teamwork.

### How this links to the curriculum

The swimming program is intentionally aligned with the **Australian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education** and the **National Swimming and Water Safety Framework**. Lessons are mapped to curriculum outcomes by developing **movement skills, personal and social capability, and health literacy**.

### Why St Josephs runs a school-based program

- **Equity and access:** delivering lessons through the school ensures all students have access, regardless of family circumstances.
- **Integrated learning:** teachers can reinforce water-safety messages in class, linking practical skills to health, science and wellbeing topics.
- **Community safety:** by teaching survival skills early, we reduce risk and encourage lifelong participation in aquatic activities.

### How parents can support learning at home

- **Reinforce safety rules** at home and during family outings to beaches, pools and rivers.
- **Encourage regular practice** - short, supervised swims between lessons help skills stick.
- **Talk about progress** with your child's teacher or the swim instructor and ask for suggested home activities.
- **Ensure appropriate gear** - swimmers, rash shirts, rubber thongs, goggles, and towel, please ensure that everything is labelled with your child's name.

***Have a happy Wednesday!***

***~ Emma Robinson***

Assistant Principal Curriculum

# Crazy Hair Day Fundraiser

Monday, 30th March, 2026

Join us for a fun-filled event!  
Raising money for the Leukaemia Foundation



**WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE**

GOLD COIN DONATION  
or  
GET SPRAYED AT SCHOOL  
**\$5 one colour**  
**\$10 multiple colours**



# SWIMMING



# LESSONS

PREP - YEAR 6

Each Day from the 23rd-26th March

### YOUR CHILD WILL NEED THE FOLLOWING:

- TOGS
- SWIMMING SHIRT
- TOWEL
- RUBBER THONGS/CRUCS TO AND FROM BUS
- GOGGLES (OPTIONAL)
- EAR PLUGS AND CAP (ONLY IF REQUIRED)
- A WATERPROOF BAG TO CARRY THE ABOVE

PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS ARE CLEARLY NAMED

## P and F News



ST JOSEPH'S  
GROWING AS ONE

### BAKERY LUNCH ORDER



**LUNCH ORDERS**  
**POSTPONED TO**  
**FRIDAY 20/3/26**

If you have already ordered, no need to do anything,  
your order will now be for 20/3/26

(orders will **now** close **Thursday 19/3/26** at midday)



## Inclusive Education Team



Our school community is celebrating Harmony Day on Friday 20 March! There will be a “street stall style” display between 1.40 and 2.50pm. All parents are invited to pop along celebrate with us!

**Harmony Day**, is a special day where we recognise and value the cultural diversity within our school community. Harmony Day reminds us that “**Everyone Belongs**”, and it provides a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about and appreciate the traditions, languages and stories that make our community unique.

Several students who share a cultural background different from their peers have been invited to contribute to our celebrations. These students have already received a letter to share with their parents to prepare for the day. These have been invited to share aspects of their culture through:

- **Street-stall style displays**
- **Flags and artefacts**
- **Simple cultural clothing**
- **Food tasting (small samples only)**

We thank our families who have already supported their children in preparing these items. We look forward to a vibrant, inclusive day that helps all students develop respect, curiosity and understanding of the many cultures that enrich our school.

**We encourage our whole school community to embrace Harmony Day by wearing “something orange” such as orange socks, orange shirt, orange ribbon.**

Mrs Campbell, Mrs Roelofs and Mrs Robinson

(Inclusive Education Team)

AT ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL BUNDABERG, WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TARIBELANG-BUNDA, GOORENG GOORENG, GURANG AND THE BAILI PEOPLE AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LANDS UPON WHICH WE MEET.

WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THE ELDERS OF THE PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING AND ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR SPIRITUAL CONNECTION TO COUNTRY.

FOR WE TOO, ARE ONE IN LAND, ONE IN SPIRIT, ONE IN FAITH UNITED IN GOD'S LOVE.



## Shout Outs

<b>Henley</b>	For being caring like Jesus and taking time out of her playtime to stay and play with a younger student when she was upset and feeling sad.
<b>All St Joseph's Teachers and School Officers</b>	For the way you demonstrate courage, faith and love in the face of change and challenging circumstances. You truly witness the message of love that Jesus shares with the world.
<b>Green Team</b>	For your commitment to caring for the environment. You show love for our world when you get in and pick up rubbish. Thank you for caring.
<b>Mrs Robertson, Mrs Merefield</b>	For accompanying our students on Clean-Up Australia Day excursion. You demonstrate courage and love when you help our students to care for our planet.

## Prayer Assembly Roster – Term One 2026

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Class</b>
Week 7	13/03/26	Year 1
Week 8	20/03/26	Year 5
Week 9	27/03/26	Swimming Carnival
Week 10	03/04/26	Good Friday – Public Holiday

## 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration Pavers



This **Friday, 20th March**, is the very last day to place your paver orders.

**Please return all completed forms to the office with payment.**

We encourage our school community to share this opportunity with family and friends, so they don't miss out on being part of this special celebration.

## OSHC Vacation Care

Please make your booking for the Easter Vacation Care before the end of Week 8, 20 March 2026 to guarantee priority access. Any spaces not filled by then will be opened to other schools during Weeks 9 and 10.

If you are a new family wishing to attend, please [click here](#) for our online enrolment form.

MON 6 April 2026	TUES 7 April 2026	WED 8 April 2026	THURS 9 April 2026	FRI 10 April 2026
<p><b>Service Closed Easter Monday</b></p> 	<p><b>Library Visit</b> Explore the local Library and play some board games. We will even get our own Library Card</p> 	<p><b>Moncrieff Theatre</b> Come see Bad Guys 2 at the Moncrieffe and enjoy a snack</p> 	<p><b>Bird House Building</b> Build and paint a wooden bird house.</p> 	<p><b>Cubed Sports – Sport-Fit Circuit</b> Test your physical skills with circuit training and games.</p> 
	\$70	\$70 +\$10 Excursion Fee	\$70 +\$15 Incursion Fee	\$70 + \$25 Incursion Fee

MON 13 April 2026	TUES 14 April 2026	WED 15 April 2026	THURS 16 April 2026	FRI 17 April 2026
<p><b>Bead, Beads, and Beads</b> Make keyrings, necklaces, Hama Beads and a suncatcher</p> 	<p><b>Innes Park Reserve</b> Explore the playground and rock pools at Innes Park.</p> 	<p><b>Cubed Sports – Dodgeball Dash</b> Learn the basic skills of dodgeball and be challenged to a group game.</p> 	<p><b>Reading Cinemas</b> Watch a recent release movie and enjoy a snack</p> 	<p><b>DIY Rubic Cube</b> Decorate your own puzzle cube and challenge your friends</p> 
\$70 + \$10 Incursion Fee	\$70 +\$25 Excursion Fee	\$70 + \$25 Incursion Fee	\$70 +\$25 Excursion Fee	\$70 + \$20 Incursion Fee

all pictures are from: <https://clipart-library.com/>

## Shalom Event - An Evening for Hannah with Saya Sakakibara



AN EVENING FOR HANNAH  
WITH  
**Saya Sakakibara**  
2024 BMX OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALLIST AND  
3 TIME WORLD CUP WINNER

**Thursday 19 March 2026**  
**5:30pm-8:00pm**  
Shalom College Performing Arts Precinct

Funds raised from the evening will go towards Year 12 student, Hannah, and her recovery

**BOOK TICKETS HERE:** <https://www.trybooking.com/DJPFL>

## Prep 2027

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL BUNDABERG

# Prep 2027

## Online Enrolment Now Open

- ✓ Faith in Action
- ✓ Strong emphasis on Literacy & Numeracy
- ✓ Small Inclusive School
- ✓ Family Orientated Community

**ENROL TODAY**

 <https://enrol.sjbgrok.catholic.edu.au/primary-school-enrolment/start>

We kindly ask any families with a child eligible to start Prep in **2027** (born between **1 July 2021 and 30 June 2022**) to submit an application by **Friday, 27 February 2026**. This helps us plan how many places will be needed for younger siblings of current students before offering positions to new families.

You can submit your application here: [Prep 2027 Enrolment](#)

Enrolment interviews will take place from **April 2026**, with offers being finalised by the end of **Term 2**. Please note that once interviews and offers begin, we may be unable to guarantee a place for your child if we have not yet received your application.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## Catholic Parish of Bundaberg



[Click here for the latest issue of the Catholic Parish of Bundaberg Newsletter](#)

# Term One Planner

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Weekend
1	26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	31 J/1 Feb
	Australia Day	Term 1 Starts				
2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7/8 Feb
	P&F Meeting			Basketball - Yrs 4-6	Yr 6 Leadership Day	
3	9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	14/15 Feb
	Board Meeting	Safer Internet Day		Basketball - Yrs 4-6 Anointing Mass (Yr 6)	National Apology Day Opening School Mass @ 12:15 Gracie Dixon (Yr 5)	
4	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	21/22 Feb
			Ash Wednesday	Basketball - Yrs 4-6	Pupil Free Day Bishop's Inservice	
5	23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	28 F/1 Mar
	Awareness Week					
				Basketball - Yrs 4-6 P&F Welcome Evening	Bishop Visit Colour Fun Run	Rare Disease Day
6	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	6 <sup>th</sup> Mar	7/8 Mar
7	9 <sup>th</sup> Mar	10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	13 <sup>th</sup> Mar	14/15 Mar
			NAPLAN			Catholic Schools Race Day
8	16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	21/22 Mar
	NAPLAN					Harmony Day
9	23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	28/29 Mar
	Swimming Lessons					Swimming Carnival
10	30 <sup>th</sup> Mar	31 <sup>st</sup> Mar	1 <sup>st</sup> Apr	2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	3 <sup>rd</sup> Apr	4/5 Apr
	Crazy Hair Day			End of Term 1	Good Friday	Easter Sunday



# Out and About

**2026 Season**  
Sundays from 9am

# Bargara

## LITTLE ATHLETICS



**Season Start Sun 19 April**  
**Come 'n' Try Sun 19 & 26 April**

**BARGARA SPORTS COMPLEX**

*..Family...Fun...Fitness..*






**Tiny Tots (3 & 4 yr olds) \$85**  
**U6-17 Athletes \$160**  
**Seniors (over 18) \$50 + QA fee**

**LAQ Online Registrations via Sport80 open February**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
www.bargaraathletics.org.au  
Phone 0400 357 195  
secretarybargaraathletics@gmail.com  
Find us on Facebook




**WE ACCEPT PLAY ON! SPORTS VOUCHERS**

# Queensland

Representative School Sport  
Est. 1920

## 2026 QRSS STUDENT OFFICIALS PROGRAM



**Become an umpire or referee in 2026**

Are you a student who loves sport and wants to get even closer to the action? The Queensland Representative School Sport (QRSS) Student Official Program is your chance to step onto the field in a whole new way — as a referee or umpire in your favourite sport!

**Sports Offered**

Students can officiate in:

- AFL
- Basketball
- Football (Soccer)
- Hockey
- Netball
- Rugby League
- Rugby Union/7s
- Softball
- Touch Football
- Volleyball
- Water Polo

This incredible opportunity allows students to:

- Build leadership skills and confidence
- Be mentored by experienced, professional officials
- Access representative pathways to state and national sporting events

If you're passionate about officiating and ready to level up your involvement, this program is for you!



**REGISTER NOW**



**SUPERVISED EVENT**  
**CANTEEN FACILITIES**  
**SAUSAGE SIZZLE**



**\$5 ENTRY**

# BLUELIGHT DISCO

**THURSDAY 20th MARCH**

**5PM - 7PM PREP TO YR 6**  
**7.30PM - 9.30PM YR 7 TO YR 12**

**BUNDABERG CIVIC CENTRE**  
**BOURBONG ST, BUNDABERG CENTRAL**

**THEME:**  
**BRIGHT COLOURS**

**POSTPONED**