



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL BUNDABERG

EMAIL sjbg@rok.catholic.edu.au

PHONE 07 4151 4771

ABN 21 528 592 597 / 005

Newsletter Term Three Week 7

26th August 2026

Principal's Pen – Monica White

In last weekend's Gospel, Jesus turns to his friends and asks a question that still searches our hearts: "*Who do you say I am?*" Peter answers with courage and trust, naming Jesus not only with his lips, but with his life (Matthew 16). During Children's Mass on Sunday morning Fr John spoke to the children and families present, calling for reflection about how people would answer this question about us.

As parents and educators, that question gently echoes back to us. If our children were asked, "Who do you say your mum or dad is?" what might they say, not just about what we do, but about who we are becoming? We hope they experience us as people of faith who pray, who return to God when we fall short, and who keep choosing what is good. We hope they see kindness that is practical, patience under pressure, honesty when it costs, and compassion that makes room for others.

And if our children were asked, "Who do you say you are called to be?" we pray they will speak words shaped by the Gospel: a person of integrity; someone who includes rather than excludes; someone who stands up for the vulnerable; someone who serves with humility; someone who knows they are deeply loved by God. These are not values taught by slogans. They are caught through steady, daily example: at the table, in the car, after a mistake, and in the way we speak about others.

This week, may we ask for the grace to model what we most hope to form: faith, hope, love, and the courage to live as disciples.

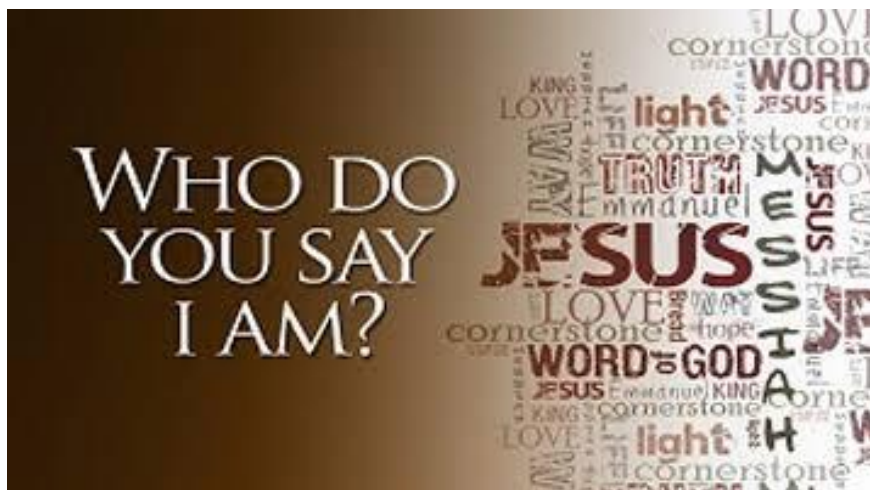


Image: St Peter's Church, Toronto

Monica White

From the APRE – Laura Campbell

Greetings to our families and friends

St Joseph's Makes a Difference!

Social Justice Statements

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has been releasing Social Justice Statements since the 1940s.

Through this tradition the Conference contributes to the development of local Catholic social teaching and encourage the community to reflect and act on social, economic and ecological issues.

The Conference is releasing two Social Justice Statements this year.

The first was issued in February. The second was launched in Brisbane on **Friday, August 7** and is entitled '**Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division**'.

The release of the second statement comes ahead of Social Justice Sunday on August 30.

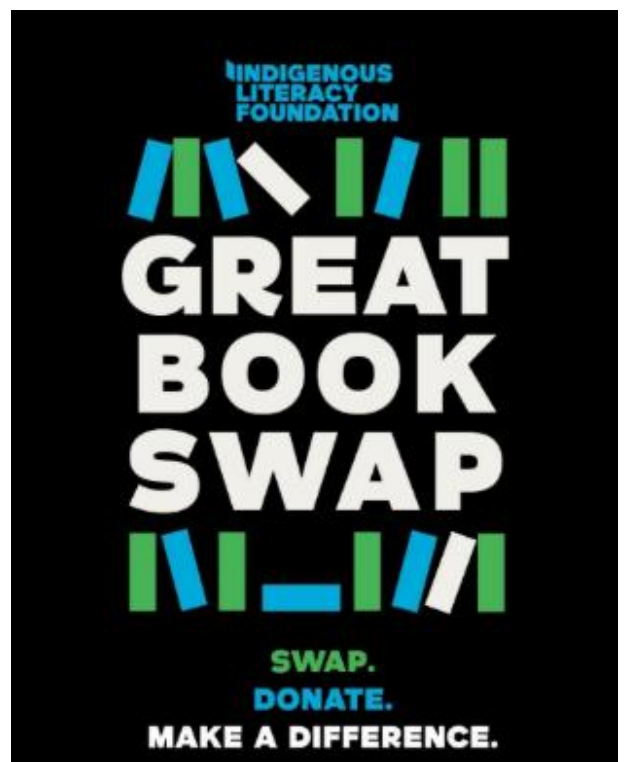
This initiative aligns closely with the values and actions that St Joseph's School promotes each year.

Next week, our school will be holding a Book Swap, providing students with a fun and engaging opportunity to exchange and recycle books. Reading plays a vital role in our everyday lives, and events such as this help foster a lifelong love of reading while encouraging students to explore new stories and ideas.

Beyond the excitement of swapping books, this event has a deeper purpose: raising awareness and funds for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF). While Australia is a prosperous nation, significant social and economic inequalities still exist, particularly in many remote Indigenous communities.

The Indigenous Literacy Foundation works to provide children in these communities with access to high-quality books and literacy resources, including books written in local First Nations languages. These resources not only support literacy development but also help preserve and celebrate cultural identity and language.

We warmly encourage all families to support this important initiative by contributing a gold coin donation. Together, we can help make a meaningful difference in the lives of children across Australia.



Have a blessed week,

Laura Campbell

Book Week 2026: Symphony of Stories

From **22–28 August**, we will celebrate **CBCA Book Week 2026** and the wonderful world of reading with this year's theme, "**Symphony of Stories**."

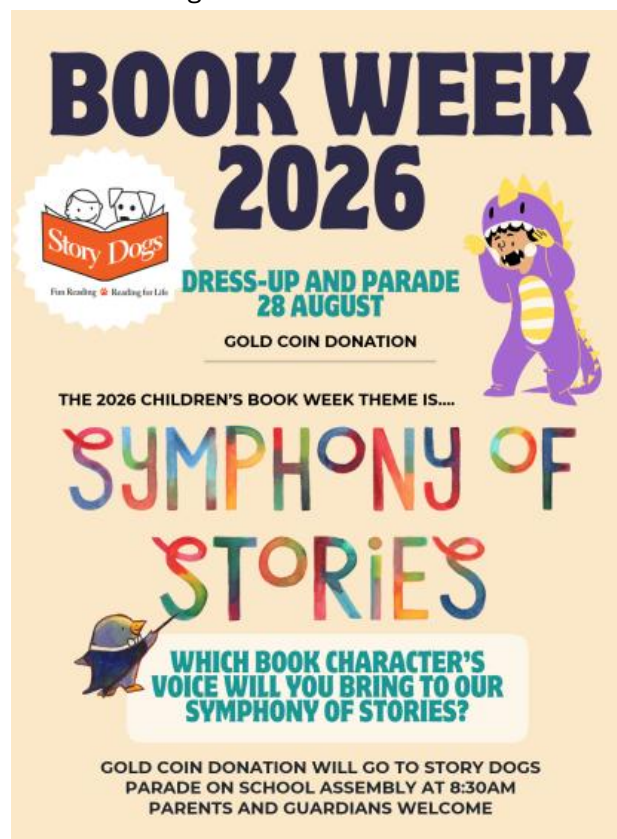
The theme, brought to life through the vibrant artwork of award-winning author and illustrator **Briony Stewart**, reminds us that stories are like the instruments in an orchestra. Each book, character, author, and voice contributes something unique, and together they create a rich and powerful symphony of imagination, creativity, and learning.

At St Joseph's, we know that reading plays a vital role in developing literacy, critical thinking, creativity, and a lifelong love of learning. Through stories, students explore different perspectives, build empathy, expand their knowledge, and discover new worlds. Just as musicians work together to create beautiful music, readers connect with a diverse range of texts and ideas that enrich their understanding of themselves and the world around them.

Throughout Book Week, students will have opportunities to celebrate literature through a variety of engaging activities. We will also shine a spotlight on the CBCA shortlisted books across the categories of *Early Childhood*, *Picture Book*, and *Younger Readers*, encouraging students to explore a range of high-quality Australian literature and discover new favourite authors and illustrators.

This year's theme also reflects the importance of every student's voice. Whether they are reading, writing, sharing, performing, or discussing stories, students are contributing their own unique notes to the Symphony of Stories.

As a school community, we encourage families to join the celebration by reading together, talking about books, and fostering a love of storytelling at home. Every story shared helps strengthen literacy skills and nurtures a lifelong appreciation of reading.



Parent-Teacher Meetings: Weeks 9 & 10

We warmly invite all families to attend our Parent-Teacher Meetings during Weeks 9 and 10. These appointments are a valuable opportunity to deepen the partnership between home and school and to support your child's ongoing growth.



Booking Your Appointment

Meetings will run from Monday of Week 9 through Friday of Week 10 (Dates and times may vary for different classes)

Please book your preferred time slot via – the Orbit App or Parent Lounge.

Teachers look forward to partnering with you to celebrate your child's successes and plan for continued growth. Your engagement makes a real difference!

Parent Teacher Meeting

Book on the Orbit App or via Parent Lounge

BOOKINGS OPEN FROM:

Friday 28th August at 8:00am
until

Wednesday, 2nd September at 3:00pm.



Premier's Reading Challenge Ends This Friday



All **St Joseph's** students are taking part in the **2026 Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC)**, running from **11th May to 28th August!** This initiative encourages students to **develop a lifelong love of reading** by exploring a variety of fiction and non-fiction books.

Reading Record Forms have been sent home—make sure to track your child's progress!

Challenge Requirements:

- **Prep to Year 2:** Read or experience **20 books**
- **Years 3 & 4:** Read **20 books**
- **Years 5 to 9:** Read **15 books**

Help us **continue our 100% participation streak** and foster a love for reading!

Book lists are available at [PRC Website](#). Let's get reading! 📖

Happy Wednesday.

~ Emma Robinson

Assistant Principal of Curriculum

Save The Date



P & F News

A logo for G.P. WITT'S featuring a fish and the text 'G.P. WITT'S', 'TRADITIONAL', and 'FISH AND CHIPS' in a decorative frame.

FISH & CHIPS - NUGGETS & CHIPS - CHIPS

ORDERS NOW OPEN
for
Friday 28 August, 2026

(orders will close **Thursday 27/8/26** at midday)

ORDER NOW ON:

The flexischools logo in a light blue box.The St Joseph's logo, featuring a cross and the text 'ST JOSEPH'S' and 'GROWING AS ONE'.

St Joseph's P&F Term 3 Lunch Order Overview

Week 2 - 24 July - **BROS'S BAKERY**

Week 4 - 7 August - **SUBWAY**
(Family Picnic 150th Celebrations)

Week 7 - 28 August - **GP Witt's Fish & Chips**

Week 9 - 11 September - **PIZZA HUT**

If you are available to help serve lunch orders
(approx. 10:30-11:00am),
please contact the School Office

The flexischools logo.





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

Joey Jarjums - RAP Team



ST JOSEPH'S GREAT BOOK SWAP

WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTMEBER, 2026

HELP US SUPPORT THE INDIGENOUS LITERACY FOUNDATION BY JOINING IN OUR GREAT BOOK SWAP.



BRING YOUR ONCE LOVED BOOKS TO SCHOOL THIS WEEK. THESE CAN BE PICTURE BOOKS OR CHAPTER BOOKS, IN GOOD CONDITION AND SCHOOL AGE APPROPRIATE.

THEN ON WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER, ALL OF THE BOOKS WE RECEIVE WILL BE DISPLAYED AT THE LEARNING HUB, WAITING FOR A NEW OWNER TO FIND THEM.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING A GOLD COIN TO DONATE TO THE ILF. THE INDIGENOUS LITERACY FOUNDATION PROVIDE BOOKS AND LEARNING RESOURCES TO CHILDREN LIVING IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES ALL ACROSS AUSTRALIA.



Outside School Hours Care

School Holidays Just Got More Exciting!

Our **Vacation Care Program** is out **now** and packed with fun activities, adventures and new experiences for children to enjoy these holidays.

We are also **open on Pupil Free Days**.

[Click here to enrol today.](#)

Existing families can book directly through the **Xplor App**.

Don't miss out, places fill quickly!

Week One

MON 21 September 2026	TUES 22 September 2026	WED 23 September 2026	THURS 24 September 2026	FRI 25 September 2026
Crochet and Croquet Learn to play croquet with a mallet and balls then learn to crochet granny squares with Mrs Merefield. 	Botanical Gardens We will take photos of the wildlife and flowers at the gardens to be displayed in a mini OSHC art gallery. 	Slushie and Damper Day Bake some yummy damper and enjoy an icy cold slushie. 	Reading Cinema We will watch a movie in comfort and enjoy a yummy snack. 	Wheels Day Bring your scooter or skates for a day of fun. Helmets are a must and padding recommended. 
\$63 + \$5 incursion fee	\$63 \$25 excursion fee	\$63 + \$10 incursion fee	\$63 + \$25 excursion fee	\$63

Week Two

MON 28 September 2026	TUES 29 September 2026	WED 30 September 2026	THURS 1 October 2026	FRI 2 October 2026
Spa and Switch Day Wear your PJ's and be pampered throughout the day or compete against your friends on the Nintendo Switch 	The Mater Visit and Queens Park Visit the Mater Hospital for a tour and then enjoy an exploration around Queens Park. 	Tinaberries Travel to Tinaberries to pick some strawberries and enjoy a freshly made ice cream 	Cubby House, Movies and Pizza Day We will make our own cubby houses for us to watch our favourite movies from. We will also enjoy a pizza lunch. 	Super Soaker Day Receive your own super soaker and test your skills with a variety of games. 
\$63 + \$15 incursions fee	\$63 \$25 excursion fee	\$63 \$25 excursion fee	\$63 \$10 incursion fee	\$63 + \$20 incursion fee



Student of the Week

Term 3 Week 6

Prep	Jachima	For demonstrating persistence with learning your letters and sounds. You have been working hard at blending sounds together to read words!
1	Tiaan and Alexandra	For showing great perseverance with your reading strategies. Well done!
2	Kyro and Mars	For being a reliable, honest student and consistently giving his best effort, while also being a trusted and valued member of our class.
3	Mahliah	For the great effort and self-motivation you've shown this week in your reading, writing and speaking. Well done, Mahliah
	Hefron	For consistently being a dedicated learner and trustworthy, kind and generous friend to those around him at all times. Beautiful work, Hefron!
4	Delta	for excellent manners, cooperation and giving 100% effort to all set tasks. Well done!
5	Daniel	- For applying himself and having some great ideas in English.
6	Thomas	perseverance, dedication, and determination in designing and developing your submarine boat project. Your willingness to keep trying, solve challenges, and improve your design demonstrates a remarkable growth mindset and commitment to learning. You should be proud of your hard work and achievement

Shout Outs

Term 3 Week 6

Vin, Max A and Zac	For the way you helped to move items for the P&F, showing initiative and care and consideration for others. A big thank you!
Tiaan and William	For taking the time to clean up after others at the end of play time. You are displaying care for God's creation
Lottie	For showing love like Mary MacKillop when you stopped playing your soccer game to walk a prep student safely through the game.
Brooklyn	For going out of your way to care for our leaning space, by putting things away neatly, without being asked. You show care for people, places and things at our school.
Henry, Henley, Penelope C, Oscar, Taison and William	For leading by example and showing great manners and sportsmanship during PE lessons. You show love like Mary MacKillop when you play fairly and respect others.
Mrs Davies	For the amazing work you do to support our students and helping teachers to be more organised. You are a walking Jesus in our school community.

Respectful Relationships Education

Implementation of Respectful Relationships Education (RRE) continues throughout Semester 2, 2026. As the primary educators of your children, parents are invited to engage in ongoing opportunities to stay informed and be supported regarding the content, practices and progress of RRE.

The attached flyer is a summary of one of the Term 2 Parent Partnership Sessions and contains supporting resources and a link to the session recording as a way to assist you in conversations about RRE concepts. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectful Relationships Education

*"The Catholic school is an environment in which
faith, culture and life intertwine"*
Pope Leo XIV, Drawing New Maps of Hope (2025)

Consent content: Prep - Year 12

Lower Primary (Prep - Year 2)	Upper Primary (Years 3 - 6)	Junior Secondary (Years 7 - 10)	Senior Secondary (Years 11 - 12)
Strategies to seek, give or deny permission respectfully (when sharing possessions or personal space)	Situations when permission is required Strategies to seek, give or deny permission* respectfully *Consent wording used in Years 5-6	How communicating choices, seeking, giving and denying consent, and expressing opinions and needs can support the development of respectful relationships (including sexual relationships)	Queensland sexual consent laws Consent and coercive control Seeking, giving and denying sexual consent Self - protection: online and offline
Respectful agreement and disagreement	Communicating effectively and respectfully		

Scan below for resources to support conversations at home:

Act for Kids -
Emmy and Friends
(Prep - Year 2)


NAPCAN -
Listening to children
(Prep - Year 6)


NAPCAN -
Listening to young
people (Years 7 - 12)


Teach Us Consent
(Years 10 - 12)


Consent Can't
Wait (Prep -
Year 12)


Real Talk
Australia (Prep
- Year 12)




 Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

For more information, please access the parent session recording here:

SCHOOL PLANNER

TERM 3

WEEK 6	Science Week 15 - 23 Aug Bullying No Way Week 17 - 21 Aug Year 6 to Shalom for Science Lesson 18 Aug
WEEK 7	Year 6 Camp 24 -26 Aug Book Week 22 - 28 Aug Book Week Dress Up Day 28 Aug
WEEK 8	Music with Ms. Marie Make Up Day 31 Aug (in lieu of 04 Sept) Indigenous Literacy Foundation Book Swap 02 Sept Pupil Free Day 04 Sept
WEEK 9	Child Protection Week St Joseph's NAIDOC Celebrations 11 Sept
WEEK 10	Last Week of Term 3 Wide Bay Touch Tournament

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.





CORAL COAST SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

JOINT CLUB SIGN-ON/ COME AND TRY DAY

 **SUNDAY**
30th AUGUST 2026 |  **9AM—1PM**

 **Venue:** BUNDABERG SOFTBALL GROUNDS,
22 CLAYTON ROAD, THABEBAN.



CLUBS WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE AND ALL FEES WILL BE AVAILABLE

TEAM DIVISIONS:		
 JUNIOR & SENIOR T BALL MIXED DIVISIONS * A/ U12, U14 & U16 teams are mixed.	 LADIES SOFTBALL & MEN'S SOFTBALL	 ALL GAMES PLAYED IN BUNDABERG WITH THE SEASON TO COMMENCE

SPECIAL NOTE: All games played in Bundaberg with the season to commence **10th October** through to **12th December 2026** followed by 6 week Christmas holiday break with games resuming on **30th January** through to Grand Finals on **20th March 2027**



BUNDABERG



JUNIOR REGISTRATION OPEN NOW

2026/27 season starts October 10

Flourish Family Fun Day 2026



Get ready with Birdie

THIS YEAR'S THEME
GET READY WITH BIRDIE
Supporting children and families to get ready for and get through natural disasters and disruptive events

An all-inclusive family- friendly event that celebrates and acknowledges the diversity of families in our region

FREE entertainment, information stalls and activities will be available for the whole family to enjoy!!

New date & venue

Thursday 1 October
9 am - 1 pm
PCYC Bundaberg
1 Civic Avenue

Incorporating the
Welcome Baby Celebration
and traditional
Teddy Bears Parade

Dress Teddy
as your
favorite
First
Responder



Food and drinks
available for purchase

Birdie's Tree has been created by the Queensland Centre for Perinatal and Infant Mental Health, part of Children's Health Queensland to support children's disaster preparedness, resilience and recovery.



Stall Holders

Supported by:



WIN AN
MG3
WORTH
\$26,164

\$10
PER
TICKET

ONLY
5000
TICKETS
AVAILABLE



**BUNDABERG
REP NETBALL**

SCAN TO ENTER



ROSS GRAY MG

Drawn 29th August 2026

The prize vehicle must be collected from Ross Gray Motor City, Bundaberg. The winner is responsible for arranging and covering any costs associated with the collection or transport of the vehicle from Bundaberg.



**SHALOM
COLLEGE**

Save the Dates

Year 7 2028

APPLICATIONS OPEN

December 2026

Online | *Semester Two Year 5 Report Card required

APPLY at www.shalomcollege.com

INFORMATION EVENING

Wednesday 10 February 2027

Shalom Performing Arts Precinct

Parents & Students Welcome

REGISTER NOW at www.shalomcollege.com

COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Tuesday 23 February 2027

Shalom College Sports Centre

Parents & Students Welcome

REGISTER NOW at www.shalomcollege.com

APPLICATIONS CLOSE

Friday 12 March 2027

Online | Applications Open December 2026

APPLY at www.shalomcollege.com

- **APRIL-MAY 2027:** Appointments for Interviews
- **END OF JUNE 2027:** Notification sent to advise of acceptance outcome

Pathways to Excellence for all



TUTORING



livelearning.com.au

Phone: 0498871722