

NEWSLETTER



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IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 3 2024

Week 1

Friday 26th July
Stadium Day

Week 2

Monday 29th July
PUPIL FREE DAY
Parent Seminar (7:00pm—
8:30pm) - Mark Le
Messurier.

Wednesday 31st July -
Friday 2nd August
Year 3 - 6 School camp

Week 3

Thursday 8th August
Mary Mackillop Feast Day -
celebration at Bowman Park

Week 4

Tuesday 13th August
School Board Meeting
7:00pm
Thursday 15th August
Yr. 3/4 Class Mass &
Assembly-9:00am

Inserts: Mary Mackillop
note and Mark Le Messurier

St. Joseph's Parish School Gladstone

Week 1 Term 3 2024

ISSUE 12

24TH JULY 2024



"I hope that this event (the Olympics) may be a beacon of the inclusive world we want to build and that athletes, with their sporting testimony, may be messengers of peace and authentic models for young people"
- Pope Francis



In the last week of Term 3 we had a selection of children go down to Adelaide for the Catholic School's Netball carnival. They had a great day. Thankyou to Mr. Arbon and Miss Millington who did all of the preparation for the carnival and to the parents and student volunteers who helped out with umpiring and coaching. Well done everyone.

Dear Families

Welcome back to the start of Term 3. We hope you had a restful and enjoyable break with your families. As we embark on this new term, we are excited to continue our journey of learning, growth and community together.

I would like to take this opportunity to say what a privilege it is to be reappointed as the principal of St Joseph's Parish School. I would like to thank the staff, School Board, Parents and Friends committee and all families who have supported me over the past 12 years, together we have created something very special here and I am so grateful to be given the opportunity to continue leading the school into the future.

This term promises to be filled with enriching educational experiences, exciting events, and opportunities for our students to thrive. We encourage you to stay engaged with your child's learning and school activities. Your involvement is crucial in creating a supportive and nurturing environment for our students. Please keep an eye on our school communications for updates on important dates, events, and any other information.

Thankyou for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to a wonderful Term 3 ahead!

SCHOOL CAMP

Our Year 3-6 children will be going on camp next week. Camps are always great fun for staff and students—they are always tiring, but good fun. For some children it might be the first time they spend time away from their families, this can cause anxiety for both the child and the parents, so if you do have any concerns, please make a time to speak with your child's teacher. They are only too happy to help.

PLEASE NOTE: The expectation is that the cost of camp is paid in full prior to the children leaving. If this is going to be an issue for you, please make a time to speak with Martin.

Some Benefits Of School Camps

Social

Improved social skills is one of the bonuses of attending a school camp. Children need to interact with each other in different setting and different environments to help improve their social skills. Spending 8 hours a day at school is one thing but eating meals together, traveling together and sharing accommodation together teaches children the worth of working together and treating others with respect.

One of the most important life lessons is the ability to interact with others well. In a family this can be taught to a degree but experience in big groups for extended periods of time is a great way to learn and practice these skills.

Away From Family

A family normally has a set way to do things – dinner time, social interaction, bed times etc. Breaking out of that family environment for a short period of time teaches our children about the diversity of others and gives them insights into how to do some things differently.

Someone once said that the main purpose of a parent is to equip our children to leave home. Who knows, having to fend for themselves in a safe, organised environment for a couple of days may also give a child a much better appreciation for their home and family.

New

It is always good to have new, positive experiences. School Camps offer this in spades! It important for everyone to do new things and learn new skills – it's all about growing up. New environment, new foods, new friends, new teachers, new activities etc, etc.

Educational

No longer bound by the classroom teachers can now teach in new and innovative ways at a school camp. School camps may sound like a good way for the teachers and students to have a break but the reality is there is a lot more educational time spent on camps.

Independence

It is important for your child to occasionally break the bonds of a family group to build their independence and ability to operate on their own or with different people. A school camp, whilst not exactly offering independence, places your child in a position where they have to have a greater degree of how their days unfolds. For example what shall I wear, how much can I eat, when should I brush my teeth are decisions some children have never made on their own. A school camp will look after your child but also allow them a slightly greater independence that they may be use to. This is a great learning experience.

NEW STUDENTS

It has been great to welcome two new students this week. We have Elsie who has started as a mid-year reception and we have Cooper who is also joining the Reception class.



PUPIL FREE DAY

A reminder of our Pupil Free Day next Monday 29th July and that in the evening (7:00pm –8:30pm) we have a parent seminar with Mark Le Messurier. The topic will be:

What does Behaviour and 'MIS'behaviour tell us? - Understanding and respecting our children's emotional needs

I highly encourage all parents to attend . See insert included with newsletter.

CATHOLIC IDENTITY AT ST JOSEPH'S

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S FEAST DAY



One of the very special saint feast days we have each year is the feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. This is because it is due to work Mary Mackillop and her Sisters of St Joseph's that our school

exists. St Joseph's parish school in Gladstone was first opened in 1891 by the Sisters of St Joseph.

St Mary MacKillop's feast day is on August 8th each year and it has been the tradition for our school to join together with St Joseph's Peterborough and St James at Jamestown (both of which were also started by the Sisters of St Joseph) for a combined celebration. This year it is our turn to host, which we are going to do at Bowman Park at Crystal Brook. Our whole school will catch a bus to Bowman Park where we will have a combined mass and then some planned activities for the day with the students of the other two schools. There will be a lunch order form included with this newsletter.

Heavenly Father,
As we gather at the start of this new term, we thank You for the gift of education and the opportunity to learn and grow. We ask for Your blessings upon our students, teachers, and school community.

Inspired by the life and faith of St. Mary MacKillop, we pray:

St. Mary MacKillop, guide us with your wisdom and courage,

Teach us to be kind and generous to all we meet,

Help us to persevere in our studies,
And to trust in God's providence in all things.

Loving God,

Fill our hearts with the spirit of St. Mary MacKillop,

Help us to be humble and compassionate,
Grant us the strength to overcome challenges,
And the grace to support one another in our journey of learning.

We ask for Your protection over our school,
Bless our classrooms with Your peace,
And may Your love be ever present in our daily lives.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

TERM 3, 2024

WEEK	DATE	EVENT
1	Friday 26th July	STADIUM DAY
2	Monday 29th July Wednesday 31st July - Friday 2nd August	PUPIL FREE DAY Parent Seminar (7:00pm—8:30pm) - Mark Le Messurier. Yr 3-6 school camp
3	Thursday 8th August Friday 9th August	Mary Mackillop Feast Day - celebration at Bowman Park. Stadium Day—Olympic Themed
4	Tuesday 13th August Thursday 15th August	School Board Meeting 7:00pm Yr. 3/4 Class Mass & Assembly—9:00am
5	Wednesday 21st August	Book week Parade—Theme “Reading is Magic”
6	Friday 30th August	Fathers Day Breakfast—8:00am Yr. 5/6 Class Mass & Assembly—9:00am
7	Tuesday 3rd September Friday 6th September	St James Production excursion STADIUM DAY
8	Wednesday 11th September	Corridors of Green excursion (Yr. 3/4s)
9	Wednesday 18th September Friday 20th September	Whole school excursion to Elf (Port Pirie) STADIUM DAY
10	Friday 27th September	End of Term Mass (time to be confirmed) End of Term—2:10pm dismissal

Crystal Brook Show



10th August 2024

SECONDARY CAMPUS TOURS



Considering St Mark's for your child in 2025?
Contact for a secondary campus tour with FREE bus for Greater Adelaide
• Wednesday 26 June 9:30 am - 10:30 am
• Monday 19 August 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Bookings are essential:
www.smc.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/tours or scan the QR code >

