

NEWSLETTER



1 West Terrace,
Gladstone SA 5473
Ph.: (08) 86622016
Fax: (08) 86622241
Mob.: 0430099425

www.stjoglad.catholic.edu.au

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 1 2025

Week 7

Fri. 14th March
Stadium Day
Fish Friday
St Joeys for Juniors 9:30am-11:00am

Week 8

Mon. 17th March
Final NAPLAN
P & F AGM 2:30pm
Wed. 19th March
Yr R/1 Class Mass & Assembly 9am
St Joseph's Day and Harmony Day Picnic
NO GHS Lunch order available
School Board AGM 7:00pm

Frid. 21st March
Catholic Schools Swimming Clare

Week 9

Tues. 25th March
Whole School Mass 9am
Fri. 28th March
Stadium Day
Fish Friday
St Joeys for Juniors 9:30am-11:00am

INSERT: P & F Family night

Reminder

Fish Taco Day
Fri 14th March
Fri 28th March
Sports Day
Fri 11th April

St. Joseph's Parish School Gladstone



Week 7 Term 1, 2025

ISSUE 4

12TH MARCH 2025

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."
Luke 4: 17-19

Year 2/3 Class Our Writing

In Writing, we have been learning a suspense story called 'Kassim and the Greedy Dragon'. A big focus of this unit has been on adjectives and similes. We created some brilliant similes about the Scary Goblin and Fluffy White Cat!



PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

I can hardly believe that we are already halfway through the term! Time is flying by, and it has been wonderful to see the students so engaged in their learning and school life.

I hope everyone enjoyed the long weekend and found time to rest and recharge. A break at this point in a long term is always welcome, giving us all the chance to reset before the busy weeks ahead.

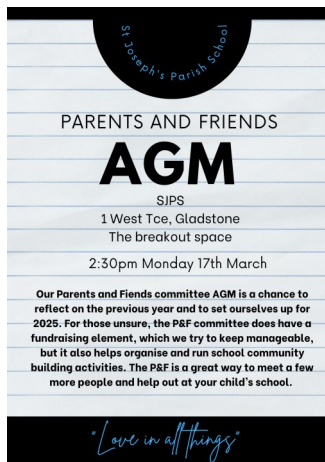
Last Wednesday was Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of Lent—a time of reflection, prayer, and preparation as we journey toward Easter. The day before, we celebrated Shrove Tuesday, a tradition where we enjoy pancakes before the Lenten season begins. A big thank you to Mrs. Wurst and our school leaders for cooking and organising the pancakes, and to our wonderful parents for their donations. Together, we raised \$56 for Project Compassion, supporting those in need.

Yesterday, many of our staff members completed a first aid course, ensuring that we are well-prepared to keep our students safe. Their commitment to ongoing learning and professional development is commendable, and I thank them for their dedication.

Let's continue working together to make the second half of the term just as productive and rewarding as the first!



PARENTS AND FRIENDS MESSAGES/REMINDERS



SCHOOL BOARD AGM - NOMINATIONS FOR SCHOOL BOARD

The School Board AGM will be held on **Wednesday 19th March at 7:00pm** in the Breakout Space. We are now calling for nominations (yourself or someone else) to join the School Board. Please find nomination forms attached below and return them to school prior to the AGM.

"-----"

SCHOOL BOARD

I wish to nominate _____ for a position of the St Joseph's School Board for 2025

(If not yourself) I have spoken to this person, and he/she has accepted this nomination.

Signed: _____ Name: _____ Date: _____

CATHOLIC IDENTITY AT ST JOSEPH'S

ST JOSEPH'S FEAST DAY & HARMONY DAY PICNIC

Dear Families,

In Week 8 we have two special celebrations taking place for our school; **St Joseph's Feast Day** and **Harmony Day**. We will once again be celebrating these two significant events with a combined celebration to be held on **Wednesday 19th March (Week 8)**.

To acknowledge **St Joseph's Feast Day** our Reception and Year 1 Class will be hosting their class mass and assembly at **9am at school**. All families and special friends are invited to attend both mass and assembly.

Harmony Week recognises the cultural diversity that makes Australia such a special place to live. We take the time to show our respect to the different cultures that have shaped our country and to create a sense of belonging for all.

Following the R/1 mass and assembly, the whole school will enjoy an early **picnic lunch at Tresylva Park**. The school will walk to the park at the completion of assembly, approximately 11.00am. We invite all families to join us at the park for an early pooled lunch.

FOOD: We ask that families provide a **small** dish (savoury or sweet) from either a cuisine that aligns with their heritage or another country of their choice.

A TOUCH OF ORANGE: Students are invited to wear orange on this day to show their support for Harmony Day.

BYO: Families and Friends, please bring your own deck chair or picnic rug if you are attending lunch at Tresylva Park.

Please complete the form below and return to school by **Thursday 13th March (Week 7)**.

ST JOSEPH'S FEAST DAY & HARMONY DAY PICNIC

The _____ family is bringing a **small** dish of _____.

The dish originates from the country of _____.

ST JOSEPH'S FEAST DAY/ HARMONY DAY

Opposite is a copy of the note that was sent out last week regarding our St Joseph's feast day and Harmony Day celebrations.

SUPPORTING PROJECT COMPASSION

Throughout Lent, our students will be learning about global projects run by Caritas Australia that support those in need. As a school community, we will work together to raise funds to assist these important initiatives.

Each family received a Project Compassion box to take home, and we kindly ask for your support in contributing to this cause. Donations can be returned in Week 10 to help make a difference in the lives of others.

As we embark on this Lenten journey together, let us take this opportunity to grow in faith, show kindness, and make a positive impact on the world around us.



First Week of Lent



Deuteronomy 26:4-10 | Ps 90:1-2, 10-15. R. v.15 | Romans 10:8-13 | Luke 4:-13

The desert plays a significant part in Scripture: it is a place of both discovery and of getting lost. You may recall that Moses encountered God in the wilderness when he hears a voice from the burning bush.

He discovered something vital to us all that day: God points us in a direction we may not choose for ourselves. Later, however, Moses and his people are lost in the desert for 40 years. We read the finale of that story in today's first reading.

First Australians have also had an intimate connection with the desert. Many Indigenous cultures danced in time with the desert for countless generations. When the so-called Pintupi Nine made 'first contact' after emerging from the Gibson Desert in 1984, they were in excellent health. The same desert could kill Europeans in thirty-six hours or less.

In today's Gospel, we learn that the Spirit led Jesus to a lonely place. Up to this point in Luke's Gospel, we have seen Jesus as a member of his family and community. We have met Mary and Joseph and Elizabeth and Simeon and Anna and John the Baptist. Now Jesus must stand on his own and decide what really matters in life. Is he going to rely on material things? Is he going to want power at any price? Is he going to put himself rather than God at the heart of his decision making? These are the temptations of the devil.

Lent presents us with the same choice. Are we going to find our direction or just be lost in the swirling confusion of choices with which life presents us? Project Compassion helps us to find direction by offering us the opportunity to *Unite Against Poverty*. Are we content for the world to become more and more fragmented. Or would we prefer to stand up against voices of opportunism and exploitation? Every year, Caritas Australia is overwhelmed and grateful that our Catholic communities are so clearly on the side of justice and life.



Prayer

We pray for greater respect for the environment. May we care deeply for Earth, the place that God has entrusted to our care. May we celebrate the Year of Jubilee year as pilgrims of hope, ready to find the direction towards peace and justice that God wants for us. May we *Unite Against Poverty* as we grow in respect for all life.

Amen

Lunchtime Activities with Mrs Wurst

This is a fun and engaging way for students to spend their lunchtime! Offering a variety of activities like arts, crafts, games, cooking, and hands-on fun allows students to explore their creativity, unwind, and socialize with their peers.

