



# Newsletter

Enriching Spirits - Educating Minds



## Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

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29th November 2018

Week 8

Term 4

### From The Principal's Desk

It's that time of the year when all the soppy movies come out for the Christmas season which gives an excuse to print a sentimental story in our school newsletter.

In 1994, two Americans answered an invitation from the Russian Department of Education to teach morals and ethics (based on biblical principles) in the public schools. They were invited to teach at prisons, businesses, the fire and police departments and a large orphanage. About 100 boys and girls who had been abandoned, abused, and left in the care of a government-run program were living in an orphanage. They relate the following story in their own words:

It was nearing the holiday season, 1994, time for our orphans to hear, for the first time, the traditional story of Christmas. We told them about Mary and Joseph arriving in Bethlehem. Finding no room in the inn, the couple went to a stable, where the baby Jesus was born and then placed in a manger.

Throughout the story, the children and orphanage staff sat in amazement as they listened. Some sat on the edges of their stools, trying to grasp every word. Completing the story, we gave the children three small pieces of cardboard to make a crude manger. Each child was given a small paper square, which was cut from yellow napkins I had brought with me. No coloured paper was available in the city.

Following instructions, the children tore the paper and carefully laid strips in the manger for straw. Small squares of flannel, cut from a worn-out nightgown an American lady was throwing away as she left Russia, were used for the baby's blanket. A doll-like baby was cut from tan felt, we had brought from the U.S..

The orphans were busy assembling their manger as I walked among them to see if they needed any help. All went well until I got to one table where little Misha sat. He looked to be about six years old and had finished his project. As I looked at the little boy's manger, I was startled to see not one, but two babies in the manger. Quickly, I called for the translator to ask the child why there were two babies in the manger.

Crossing his arms in front of him and looking at this completed manger scene, the child began to repeat the story very seriously. For such a young boy, who had only heard the Christmas story once, he related the happenings accurately ~ until he came to the part where Mary put the baby Jesus in the manger. Then Misha started to ad-lib. He made up his own ending to the story as he said...

"... And when Maria laid the baby in the manger, Jesus looked at me and asked me if I had a place to stay. I told him I have no mother and I have no father, so I don't have any place to stay. Then Jesus told me I could stay with him. But I told him I couldn't, because I didn't have a gift to give him like everybody else did. But I wanted to stay with Jesus so much, so I thought about what I had that maybe I could use for a gift. I thought maybe if I kept him warm, that would be a good gift. So I asked Jesus, 'If I keep you warm will that be a good enough gift?' And Jesus told me, 'If you keep me warm, that will be the best gift anybody has ever given me.' So I got into the manger, and then Jesus looked at me and told me I could stay with him - for always."

As little Misha finished his story, his eyes brimmed full of tears that fell down his little cheeks. Putting his hand over his face, his head dropped to the table and his little shoulders shook as he sobbed and sobbed. The little orphan had found someone who would never abandon nor abuse him, someone who would stay with him - for always.

I've learned that it's not what you have in your life, but who you have in your life that counts.

"Be joyful always; pray continually; give in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

What gifts would you bring to the manger?

All the best

Max Martin

### Important Reminder

Our children's semester two report cards will be published on the Parent Lounge Portal on Monday 3rd December at 3pm.

If you do not have your username and password for Parent Lounge, please contact our office on 49 336288 or [shy@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:shy@rok.catholic.edu.au)

## Important Dates

### November

Friday 30th - Year 2 / 3 and Prep / Year 1 swimming carnivals at Cooe Bay pool

### December

Monday 3rd - End of Year School Thanksgiving mass at Sacred Heart Church at 10am.

Monday 3rd - Children's Semester Two report cards available today

Monday 3rd - Our 2018 Preps orientation session in Year One.

Tuesday 4th - Our Year 5 and 6 Mini Vinnies' children visiting the Anglican Retirement Home 10am to 11am.

Thursday 6th - Final school assembly for Term 4

Thursday 6th - Our Year 6 are away from school at Cool Waters from 9.30am until 2.45pm.

Friday 7th - Last day for school for 2018. School concludes at 3pm

Friday 14th - School office closes at 1pm today.

### January 2019

Monday 21st - School office reopens at 8am.

Tuesday 29th - School commences for 2019 at 8.40am.

## Sacred Heart Christmas Appeal

Each year, Sacred Heart supports the needy through our Mini Vinnies' Christmas Appeal, with each class adopting a family from our local community.

Our Yeppoon Vinnies' Conference coordinates the anonymous families and ensures that the donated gifts are delivered in time for Christmas. It is requested that gifts are new and unwrapped. They can be delivered to your child's class.

Non-perishable items can also be donated to assist with Christmas hampers to be distributed to the needy.

With only one week until school finishes, more donations from our families will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

## NAIDOC Award

Congratulations to Ruby White from Year 2 on being awarded a NAIDOC week Medal of Excellence, one of 25 presented across Queensland. Ruby entered this national colouring in / short story writing competition.

Well done.



## Position Vacant - Counselling Coordinator for Catholic Schools

An exciting opportunity has become available for suitably qualified and experienced applicants for the position of Counselling Services Coordinator to commence in January 2019. The role holder will provide leadership and support in the area of counselling to educational communities in the Diocese of Rockhampton.

An attractive remuneration package is available to the successful applicant plus access to enhanced superannuation (up to 12.75%) and salary packaging options. This full-time position is a great opportunity to lead and inspire others in a supportive and secure work environment.

To view the position description and download an application package please visit our website at [www.rok.catholic.edu.au](http://www.rok.catholic.edu.au). Applications close 7/12/18.

## End of Year Mass Celebration

This special celebration will be held this Monday 3rd December commencing at 10am at Sacred Heart Church. Father Matthew Moloney will be presiding.

All our children from Prep to Year 6 will be attending, walking to and from the church. Each child will need a water bottle.

At mass, we will be celebrating and offering thanks as a whole school family for the 2018 school year and our Year 6s.

At the conclusion of mass, we will be acknowledging our Year 6s and presenting them with a reminder of their schooling at Sacred Heart.

When we leave the church, our Prep to Year 5 children will be lining the street as our 6s walk back to school. (This will depend on the weather.)

All our families are invited to attend. Back at school, all children will receive an ice block.

### **Timetable for Prep / Year 1 and Year 2 / 3 Swimming Carnivals**

Tomorrow, Friday 30th November, we will be having two swimming carnivals at the Cooee Bay pool.

The Year 2 and 3 carnival will commence at 9am with all our children being bussed to and from the pool by buses.

Following is a timetable for this carnival.

8:45am	Year 2 and 3 students depart Sacred Heart by bus
9am	Year 2 Freestyle (25m)
9:15am	Year 3 Freestyle (25m)
9:30am	Year 2 Backstroke (25m)
9:45am	Year 3 Backstroke (25m)
10am	Year 2 Breaststroke (25m)
10:15am	Year 3 Breaststroke (25m)
10:30am	Year 2 and 3 students depart Cooee Bay pool by bus

Our Prep and Year 1 carnival will commence at 10:30am. They will also be bussed to and from the pool.

Following is a timetable for this carnival.

10:15am	Prep and Year 1 students depart Sacred Heart by bus
10:30am	Year 1 Freestyle (15m)
10:45am	Prep kickboard (15m)
11am	Year 1 backstroke (15m)
11:15am	Prep noodle race (15m)
11:30am	Prep and Year 1 students depart Cooee Bay pool by bus

Our Year 1, 2 and 3 children have been swimming for the past six weeks under the guidance of Mrs Samantha Suthers and the instructors from the pool so it will be great to see them at our carnivals.

Hope to see lots of parents / carers at the pool.

### **2019 Instrumental Music Expression of Interest**

Each year, Sacred Heart offers our children the opportunity to be involved in a school instrumental music program. The instrumental music program will continue in 2019 and we are asking for expressions of interest for your child/ren to be involved and for those children already participating in the program, we need to know if they are to be re-enrolled.

Children may enrol in one instrumental music lesson during class time; a second instrumental lesson will depend on the availability of lessons before/after school and during lunch times. Once these forms have been returned to our office, our instrumental music teachers will then contact you regarding further details.

Upon acceptance/ re-enrolment into the program, a levy of \$15 for a child or \$30 per family will be charged on the Term 2 school fees account. This offsets all operational costs incurred by the instrumental music program.

Group lessons cost \$15 (half hour). Students need to purchase their own musical instruments.

It is important to note that acceptance into the program depends upon the availability of rooms and teacher's time. Students re-enrolling will be given first preference. In some cases, students may need to be placed upon a waiting list.

All these lessons are conducted under the supervision of the instrumental music teacher.

These are: Strings Mrs Kate Ellis, Clarinet/Sax/Flute TBA, Vocal Mrs Ursula Boyd, Guitar Mrs Jane Bacon, Percussion / Trumpet / Trombone Mr Rex English.

If you wish for your child to be involved in our instrumental program, complete the form which is available from our front office as soon as possible. Thank you.

### Christmas Eve Family Mass

The Sacred Heart Parish Christmas Eve Family Mass will be held on Monday, 24th December at 6pm. This is a very special occasion that involves children of all ages in the acting out of the Gospel and other aspects of the Mass.

The practice for the Christmas Eve Family Mass will be held on Saturday, 22nd December commencing 9am, at Sacred Heart Church. We anticipate this will take approximately one hour.

All children are encouraged to come dressed as a character from the Christmas Story. The time for the musician and singing practice, is yet to be advised. If you have any questions relating to singers and musician involvement, please contact Tink Boyd on 0429 392346.

### Frankie Award

This award is presented to a class or child/ren who have been environmentally friendly in some way around our school.

Congratulations to:

**Lennix Bone** and **Layla Carswell** for being so tidy and picking up after others in the Year 1 and 2 eating area. Well done.



### MJR Award

This award is presented to those in our school who show the virtues and qualities inspired by our MJR program.

Well done to the following recipients for this week:

**Chantelle Murray** from Year 6 for displaying great determination and resilience over the past weeks.

**Riley Robertson** from Year 5 for the wonderful manner in which you always conduct yourself and for displaying a caring attitude towards others. Thank you.

**Thomas Sweeney** from Year 3 for always looking out for others and for being a wonderful friend.

**Holly Stack** for Year 5 for your wonderful caring nature and friendly manner. Thank you.

**Max French** from Prep for playing well with others at lunch times and for your beautiful manners.





**Sarah Hall** from Year 4 for being a wonderful friend and for your conscientious work in class.

**Jaxon Burkhardt** for your great manners and willingness to get along with others in a positive way.

### Parents and Friends' Spirit of Catholic Education Award

Each year, our Diocesan Parents and Friends' Association recognise members of our school communities who have in some way dedicated their time and efforts voluntarily.

This year, Mr Lyle Page for his untiring assistance in our tuckshop over many, many years, Mrs Sheila Thorne for all her extra work in our Art room especially with the opportunities she provides for our children with their clay work and Mrs Mary O'Donnell for 19 years of commitment to Sacred Heart School, were recognised.

Congratulations Lyle, Sheila and Mary.

### Tuckshop

There will be no tuckshop on the last day of school, Friday, 7th December.

### Sacred Heart Absentee Phone Number

A reminder that the absentee phone number is 49 948216 where you can leave a voicemail message.

The school phone is still 49 336288 but may show up as 49 948215 (either numbers can be used). A feature of this system is that you will notice a delay when you call. Please do not use the previous second line 49 336207 as it is not operational any longer. Thank you.

### Report Cards Parent Lounge Log-in Details

Semester Two report cards will be published on the Parent Lounge Portal on Monday 3rd December at 3pm. If you do not have your username and password for Parent Lounge, please contact the office on 49 336288 or [shy@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:shy@rok.catholic.edu.au)

### Sacred Heart Christmas Carols

What a wonderful evening it was on Tuesday when we celebrated Christmas with our carols.

Our children were amazing and many thanks goes to their teachers and especially Mrs Mary O'Donnell for preparing the evening so well.

Thank you too to all our families who were able to attend. The evening was a real credit to all involved.





### Spiritual Connections

Each week, we provide a link to Fr Matthew Moloney's sermon from the previous Sunday's parish mass and Sr Kym's reflection of the week. We hope these provide some spiritual guidance.

Link to [Fr Matthew's sermon](#)

Link to [Sr Kym's column](#)

### Student Awards

<b>Prep</b>	Evie Moore, Isla Kleinhans
<b>Year 1</b>	Zariha Calvert, Max Willey, Holly Higgins, Cooper O'Rourke, Cooper Moylan
<b>Year 2</b>	Ruby Kona, Eden Harris, Jasmine Smith, Ethan Todd, Toby Janes, Lennix Bone, Georgie Crane
<b>Year 3</b>	Chloe Kleinhans, Jack Donnelly
<b>Year 4</b>	Jasper Hamson, Nick Eaton, Abbie Weise, Kaitlyn Kershaw
<b>Year 5</b>	Leah Wex, Marshall Esser, Jake Murphy, Oliver Cugola, Murphy Catt, Cass Smallwood, Haylen Luckel-Dent, Hannah Hovory
<b>Year 6</b>	Ashbi Berry, Ethan Grant, Isabella Yore, Kayde Johnson