Coming Events:

Wednesday February 13th
- 5:30 p.m. Stage 1 Parent Information night
- 6 p.m. Early Stage 1 Parent Information night
- Ash Wednesday

Monday February 18th
- Zone Swimming Carnival at Murwillumbah Pool.

Tuesday February 19th
- 6 p.m. First Reconciliation meeting in the Parish Hall

Thursday February 21st
- 9:15 a.m. Induction Mass for school leaders.
- 5:30 p.m. 6 p.m. Stage 3 Parent Information meeting
- 6 p.m. Stage 2 Parent Information meeting

Tuesday February 26th
- 7 p.m. P & F School Forum Meeting. All welcome!

From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents,

Week 3! The calendar is certainly beginning to look very active with plenty of opportunities for families and students to engage in the happenings of school life here at St Joseph’s.

This week we have significant events happening for students and parents alike:

- On Tuesday we have our ‘Pancake cook up’ in a bid to kick start our Project Compassion fundraising with students purchasing pancakes for a dollar donation.
- Wednesday, we have our Ash Wednesday Liturgy at 9.15am, families welcome to join us as we begin the season of Lent.
- Wednesday we have our Parent Information sessions for Kindergarten (6pm), Year 1 and Year 2 (5.30pm).
- Friday 9.15am, we have a welcome morning tea for our new families who have joined the school community in 2013.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those people, both staff and parents, who so generously give of their time and energy to make it possible for events such as these to happen. You are the reason we have ‘community’!

We have had a busy morning this morning with some very generous parent helpers preparing and cooking hundreds of pancakes for the students on this, Shrove Tuesday, as a symbolic representation of the preparations made in times gone by for the fasting season of Lent. While traditionally people would empty their food stores of excess or luxury items to prepare for Lent, in our world today it is common for people to choose to simply ‘give something up for Lent’, I wonder do we really consider the true purpose of our actions? There are many ways that we can prepare for the Easter season during Lent; through almsgiving, prayer or fasting. At the end of the day it is about focussing more on our relationship with and becoming closer to God. So rather than making a sacrifice this Lent you might choose to take up the daily challenge of concentrating on your own relationship with God, just a few minutes a day, take some time out of the busy schedule and be at peace with yourself and your God. I also encourage you to make this conscious effort openly and genuinely with your children, encourage them to do the same. Dedicated time to ‘chill out’ and focus on the things that really matter is good for the soul!

Peace and blessings,

Jason Clarke
Principal
School Fees
School fee accounts will go home this week. School fees are billed over three terms.
Direct Debit, BPay, Centrepay and EFTPOS facilities are available.
A reminder that the Resource, Technology and Numeracy Levies are due by the end of February.

School Leaders Induction Mass
Our school Induction Mass will be held in the church on Thursday February 21st at 9:15 a.m.
All community members are invited and encouraged to attend.

School Band / Choir
Our school band / choir will continue practice each Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. sharp, under the guidance of our music teacher Mr Cenda.
All children from Year 2 to Year 6 are most welcome to come along and try out. Parents need to contact Mr Cenda before children start.
Please contact Mr Cenda for any further details.

You Can Do It Awards

Kindergarten
Ben Hendrikse Organisation
Amarae Smith Organisation

Year 1
Sophie Haywood Getting Along
Kaleb Smith Persistence

Year 2
Ella Rainford Getting Along
Jack Foggo Persistence
Asha Pearson Getting Along

Year 3
Tom Ferguson Getting Along
Jim McCracken Getting Along
Tony McCracken Getting Along

Year 4
Cameron Evans Getting Along
Taylah Brown Persistence

Year 5
Nathan Hull Confidence
Alexandra Mcdonald Getting Along

Year 6
Callum Nelson Getting Along
Mia Kirwan Persistence
Danielle Camilleri Persistence
Emily Gresham Persistence

Baby Congratulations
Congratulations to Mrs John on the birth of her first grandchild, Oscar Jack Boss.
First child for Mrs John’s daughter Shellae and her husband James.
We hope Oscar brings you all much joy.
On Fridays at lunchtime the students have the opportunity to make rosary beads for the people in underdeveloped countries like Tanzania and some of the Pacific Islands.

The beads and strings are supplied by the Legion of Mary from our Parish, as is the postage to the various countries. The children generously make the beads which are collected and sent away once or twice a year.

We have a very committed band of beaders and more are always welcome!!

Parent Information Nights

**Early Stage 1**
Wednesday 13th February  Week 3  6 p.m.

**Stage 1**
Wednesday 13th February  Week 3  5:30 p.m.

**Stage 2**
Thursday 21st February  Week 4  6 p.m.

**Stage 3**
Thursday 21st February  Week 4  5:30 p.m.

PARENTS OF ST JOSEPH’S

Come join us for a

**WELCOME MORNING TEA**

for our New Parents to St Joseph’s on Friday, 15th February at 9:15 am

If you are able to attend, please contact the Office and bring a plate to share.

School Vegie Garden News !!

Firstly, a special THANK YOU to Mrs Ryder and the Skelly family, who helped to water our vegie garden during the school holidays. Because of their wonderful efforts, we were able to enjoy eating Nathan’s yummy rockmelons and the basil when we returned to school.

The HFGs (Healthy Food Gardeners) are off to a busy start. We have pulled out the remnants of last years’ crop and this week we have been preparing the garden beds for the new seedlings. It’s a tad muddy at present, so the garden shirts, old shoes and gloves have been a much needed.

Emily A, Jaidah, Ruby A, Brooke (Year 6), Alexandra and Brendan (Year 5) have been great leaders in welcoming and teaching the new members: Emily S, Holly, Emma, Sienna and Summer, Glen and Jorden from Year 4.

Welcome to you all! It promises to be a great year with our enthusiastic band of workers. The Roster will be out in the next few weeks, when the Year 6 have finished their “buddy” duties.

Gardening days are:
Tuesdays: 11:20 - 11:50 and 1:30 - 1:50
Wednesdays: 11:20 - 11:50
Fridays: 11:20 - 11:50

HELP !! We are in need of a wonderful grandparent or parent, Aunt or Uncle who would be available to help us in the vegie garden on **TUESDAYS** from 11:15 -12:00. Mrs Schiller will be taking Mini Vinnies at that time and the HFGs will need an adult present to help supervise the gardening activities. If anyone can help, please contact the school.
“Give Your Child The Edge”

A FREE 1-hour talk by learning expert Diana Vogel – The Kid Whisperer from Down Under.

Discover:

• The importance of the 32 learning profiles and how they can play out in your child.

• The simplest and quickest technique to calm your child down which doesn’t cost anything…Miss this and you’ll regret it!

• How stroke patient recovery is used to help children struggling at school.

• Which little trick you can do before school so your child is more focused once they get there.

• The next step for your child, if they’re falling behind their peers.

• How to ‘give your child the edge’.

When: Tuesday 28th February 10 a.m.
Where: Red Cross Hall, Knox Park, Murwillumbah (opposite Sunnyside Shopping Centre)

Limited Seats. So please call 1800 194 206 (ext 3) and leave your details to reserve your place NOW before you miss out!

Drama Lessons

There is a place in Lachlan Glasby’s in-school Speech and Drama classes.

Students have one half hour lesson each week in which they cover speech making, poetry and other aspects of speech and drama.

Students will compete in the Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts as well as performing at least once a term. Cost is $110 per term.

If interested, please contact Lachlan on 0432387691 or via email at lachlanglasby@gmail.com

To check out aspects of the program visit www.doublemask.com

Canteen

Wednesday 13/02 Renae Quirk
Debra Borg

Friday 15/02 Janelle Haywood
2 helpers needed

There are lots of holes in the canteen roster, so please consider when you are able to help and return the form included with this newsletter.

A menu will go home as soon as we are able to update prices. Please continue with the 2012 menu at this stage.

Thank You

Thank you to our wonderful parents who came in this morning to help prepare pancakes for the students and staff.

The children certainly enjoyed their treat.
Parent Assembly News

Welcome all to a busy Term 1. I hope everyone has enjoyed their start to the school year and children are settling well, especially our little kindy’s. I would like to quickly tell you about a couple of fantastic (free) opportunities for parents and families provided by the Parent Assembly of which you are a member, simply by being a part of our school. They are on very soon and you will receive fliers in this newsletter, so please consider coming to these events. The first which is on **next Monday at St James Primary** is a 2 hour workshop on “Years of Innocence and Puberty”. This can be a tricky topic to discuss with your children. The workshop offers a very practical and beautiful way to approach this and explains it in a ‘big picture’ style, as part of the whole person. I attended a presentation by this speaker last year and highly recommend coming along. In an age when distorted views of sexuality are very likely learnt from our media or other people before our kids even reach puberty this program offers some guidance for parents for discussions. It is ‘based on a sound understanding of the human person, the need to respect each individual child’s stage of development and how human sexuality needs to be properly integrated to enable our children to flourish as they mature’.

The second flier is about the family retreat 23rd - 24th March. They are a great opportunity to get away with the family, consider your spiritual life and meet a lot of wonderful families. The kids that come along to these weekends have so much fun, even the teenagers! Hope to see you there.

Your Rep’s Alison Lee and Jo Gresham. (St James is the Primary school next to St Joseph’s College at Banora Point.

Book Cub

Order forms for Issue 1 of book club went home last week.

Money and orders need to be returned to school by Tuesday February 19th.

2013 Sacramental Program

The following dates are for the celebration of the various Sacraments in 2013.

**First Reconciliation** - 7 p.m. March 21st

**First Reconciliation Parent Meeting**
6 p.m. February 19th in the Parish Hall

**First Holy Communion** - June 2nd

**Confirmation** - August 27th

Further information will be sent home closer to the dates.

Ash Wednesday Mass times

9:15 a.m. Liturgy South Murwillumbah
St. Joseph’s School

9:30 a.m. Mass Sacred Heart Church

12:15 p.m. Mass Sacred Heart Church
Mt. St. Patrick College

5:30 p.m. Mass Sacred Heart Church

Second Hand Uniform Pool

Do you have any uniforms that your children have grown out of and have no one to hand them on to?

We would love any uniforms that are still in good condition to add to our school uniform pool.

Please send any unwanted uniforms into the school office and they will be used and loved someone else.

Mowing

A volunteer is needed to mow the school grounds this week-end.

If you can help please contact the school before Friday. The school supplies the mower, edger and petrol.
2013 School Instrumental Program

I am interested in my child ______________________ participating in the school instrumental program.

Instrument: ______________________ Year: ______________________

Parents Name (print)____________________ Email: ______________________

Signed ______________________ (Parent) Phone No: ______________________

Mobile: ______________________

ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL FORUM

NAME: ______________________ TELEPHONE: ______________________

(Please Print)

I would like to be involved in the Forum:

☐ CANTEEN / UNIFORM  ☐ WELL BEING

☐ FUNDRAISING / SOCIAL EVENTS  ☐ MAINTENANCE / MOWING

☐ LIBRARY AND RESOURCES
Mowing Roster

I would like to have my name included on the school mowing roster.

Name ___________________________ Phone Number ___________________________

I would like to mow with ____________ I would like to mow on my own ____________

The school provides the mower, edger and petrol.

Murwillumbah Hockey Club Sign-On

Saturday 16th and 23rd of February at Brothers Leagues Club, Dorothy Street, Murwillumbah.

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  Ages 5 and up.

Contact Matt Palmer on 0410 031 802 for further information.

Drum Lessons

Rex Carter has over 25 years’ experience teaching drum kit.

He is a professional musician who is currently playing with ‘The Round Mountain Girls’ and others.

Lessons are $25.00 per half hour and are in school hours. Lessons will commence this Friday February 8th.

Reading, rudiments, technique, co-ordination and independence, fills and solos.

Phone 6680 2598 / 0412184494 or go to www.rexcarterdrums.com

Parish Lenten Program “Believe”

During this Year of Grace and Year of Faith, let us take up the opportunity to deepen our belief in the goodness of our God. You are invited to join us for prayer and reflection during the weeks of Lent in a Lenten Group.

Urgently needed: Hosts / Leaders

Please sign up today to either host / lead a group, or if you would like to join a group. Please contact the Parish Office on 66721118.

Lenten books are available for a cost of $7-00.

If you are unable to attend a Lenten Group, books may be purchased for individual use at home.
The Parish School parent Body and the Catholic Schools Parent Assembly would like to know your thoughts on the way we should allocate our nominal grant money for next year. This money is for educational, faith and networking opportunities for parents. We would also like to know when the best times to offer these are and what would make it easier for you to attend.

Please indicate which of the follow you would be interested in attending.

- Family Life
- Prayer Life
- Catholic Faith
- Boys in Education
- Nutrition
- Internet / Cyber Safety
- Anxiety / Depression
- Emotional Issues
- Spirituality
- Behaviour management
- Single- Parenting
- Resilience
- Well Being/ Emotional Intelligence
- Sex Education
- Fathers and Sons
- Mothers and Daughters
- Teenagers
- Curriculum

Other

What times would you be able to attend?

- Morning session e.g. 9am
- Afternoon session to finish when School finishes
- Afternoon session to start when School finishes
- Evening session weeknight: Mon □ Tue □ Wed □ Thur □ Fri □

Start Time:  5.30pm □ 6pm □ 6.30pm □ 7pm □ 7.30pm □

Other

What would assist you to attend?

- Child Care
- Supper supplied for you and children

Other

What do you think is a reasonable time for presentations take?

- 1hr
- 1½hrs
- 2hrs

Other
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* ALL OUR MEAT IS LOCALLY GROWN *
* ALL ORGANIC *
* WE DON'T JUST SELL RED MEAT COME IN & SEE THE VARIETY. *
Brett & Bec O'Keefe
Telephone: (02) 6677 1491

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**Tweed Fruit Exchange**
The Fruit and Vegetable Specialists
103 Main St, Murwillumbah
Paul & Maree
Fax: (02) 6672 1393
Ph: (02) 6672 1155

Every Wednesday 7a.m. – 11 a.m.
Murwillumbah Showground
All weather shopping at the Showground Dairy Pavilion.
Locally grown: fruit & vegetables
meat | eggs | cheese | coffee | honey | + more
Know your farmer, know your food

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**MURWILLUMBAH FAMILY DENTIST**
Dr Michelle Ng
3/17 Church Lane, Murwillumbah
Ph: (02) 6672 7620
Email: mail@mfdentist.com.au

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**JIM’S CYCLE CENTRE**
Jim & Clair Higgins
Locally Owned
58 Wollumbin Street, Murwillumbah 2484
Phone (02) 6672 3620

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**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**
Sacred Heart Church
Saturday 6:00 p.m.  Sunday 8:00 a.m.