



newsletter

28 January 2021

Term One

Safer Internet Day
9 February

PUPIL FREE DAY
Bishop's Inservice Day
12 February

ASH WEDNESDAY
17 February

School Mass
11 March

National Day of Action
Against Bullying
and Violence
15 March

Diocesan Feast Day
St Joseph the Worker
19 March

Harmony Day
21 March

Earth Hour for Schools
26 March

Last day of Term One
1 April

Our School Mission Statement



Dear Parents,

Welcome back everyone! I hope that your time spent together as a family over the Christmas holidays was a very relaxing and enjoyable one for you all. It is wonderful to be back and to see lots of familiar faces among parents and students. It has also been great to meet new parents and students who have joined our Emmanuel family for the first time. There is always some anxiety and nerves when approaching a new school year, but I am sure that you will find our school community to be a welcoming and friendly place. I hope that your association with Emmanuel Catholic Primary School is a long and fruitful one.

The first day of school went very smoothly and I thank all parents for the 'behind the scenes' work and the expense that went into 'readying' the students for school. So too, I thank our staff for their own thorough preparations to ensure a smooth start for one and all. We have begun the new school year with 578 students which includes 81 Prep students.

In 2021 we see a number of new faces in the staff at Emmanuel:

- **Mrs Jordan McNeill** completed her Teaching degree at Central Queensland University last year and is currently teaching Year 1.
- **Mrs Aileen Balding** completed her Teaching degree at Central Queensland University last year and is sharing a Year 3 class with Mrs Laurette Harmer.
- **Mrs Laurette Harmer** is also returning from Maternity Leave.
- **Mrs Jade Scott** joins us from St Brendan's Catholic Primary School, Northern Beaches and is teaching Year 5
- **Mrs Chrissy Richardson** is returning from Maternity Leave and will be sharing a Year 6 class with Mrs Brooke Tomkinson.
- **Thea Crathorne** and **Renee Bryan** will be working as teaching assistants in our Learning Support team.

We look forward to supporting our new staff in their role throughout the year ahead.

May 2021 be a year filled with many blessings and opportunities to realise the potential of our community – parents, staff and students.

Wishing you every blessing for the coming week.

Geraldine Rostirolla
(Principal)

Religious Education

A NEW SCHOOL YEAR – A Reflection

I dreamt I stood in a studio and watched two sculptors there,
The clay they used was a young child's mind and they fashioned it with care.

One was a teacher; the tools she used were books and music and art;
The other a parent with a guiding hand and a gentle and loving heart.

Day after day the teacher toiled with a touch that was deft and sure
While the parent laboured by her side and polished and smoothed it o'er.

And when at last their task was done, they were proud of what they had wrought,
For the things they had moulded into the child, could neither be sold nor bought.

And each agreed they would have failed if each had worked alone,
For behind the parent stood the school and behind the teacher, the home.

(Author Unknown)



BISHOP'S IN-SERVICE

Our annual Bishop's Inservice Day will be held on Friday 12 February. This is a pupil free day and all staff will be attending. The school office will be closed.

With a focus on *The Church and its Mission and the role of the Catholic School today*, the theme this year will be *Mission Discipleship*. The speakers will include Bishop Michael McCarthy and Diocesan Director of Catholic Education, Miss Leesa Jeffcoat. Staff will also explore the *Enhancing Catholic Identity Project* that our school community will be participating in this year.

It is always a great day for personal faith development and all staff appreciate this opportunity to focus their attention and learn something new.

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH



In December 2020, Pope Francis published an Apostolic Letter *Patris corde* (With a Father's Heart), commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of St Joseph", running from 8 December 2020 to 8 December 2021. As a school in the St Joseph's parish and in a diocese dedicated to St Joseph we will be celebrating with various everyday and special celebrations.

VIRTUE OF THE FORTNIGHT – CO-OPERATION

Co-operation is working together for the good of everyone. It is a willingness to respect others and to follow rules which keep everyone safe and happy. Co-operation is being helpful to one another, sharing the load. It is joining others in order to do something that cannot be done alone.

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much. (Helen Keller)

WOW WEDNESDAY - WIPE OUT WASTE



Help us answer God's call to love others and to care for His beautiful world by supporting WOW Wednesdays this Lent. Each Wednesday we will be having a 'nude food' day – NO disposable packaging please.

By packing lunch in containers that can be **REUSED** or **RECYCLED** we will **REDUCE** waste and help to save the planet. Plastics and other disposable packaging will be sent home in lunchboxes.

All families are encouraged to take up this challenge and help us to achieve our goal of 'Bin Free' Wednesdays. Our first WOW Wednesday will be next week on Wednesday 4 March.

MAKING JESUS REAL

MJR emphasises the spirituality of the everyday, so lots of the things we do each day and week are Making Jesus Real in the world today. Every time we greet, speak and treat others with respect and kindness; use good manners; welcome, encourage and include others; say 'Sorry' and 'Thank you'; take responsibility for our words and actions; and treat those around us how we would like to be treated, we share the love of Jesus and live as He taught us to.



What will you do this week to Make Jesus Real in your home, workplace and community?



THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS:

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

The Lord will raise up a prophet like Moses.

1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Devote yourself to the Lord.

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus commands an unclean spirit.

For weekly Gospel readings, reflections and meditations go to <http://www.prayasoucan.com.au/>

Download this week's parish bulletin @ <https://rok.catholic.net.au/parish/mackay-st-josephs/#>

For Parish News, updates and to book for weekend Masses go to the **Catholic Parishes of North Mackay and Farleigh** Facebook page.

Share in Daily Mass from St Joseph's Cathedral @ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQeYD6B2cSvFb4zqStn_Brg



Noeleen Kliese
Assistant Principal Religious Education

The logo for 'Curriculum Corner' features the text in a blue, sans-serif font. The text is centered within a yellow, watercolor-style brushstroke that has a soft, irregular edge. The background of the entire page is white.

Curriculum Corner

Welcome to the 2021 School Year! Many of you would have read several helpful hints to support your child's successful transition into the new school year and I would like to thank you for preparing your children so as they are feeling ready and keen for the school year ahead. Although stationary; new uniforms and lunchboxes are very important tools to instil a preparedness for school within our children, I would like to share with you one of the most important tools you can provide for a successful school year...READ

The proven benefits of Reading with your child are:

- Relationship Building: Reading is a relationship and it is the bond between children and parents that is enhanced through reading together. It only takes 20 mins a day to build this relationship.
- Children's reading improves: Research is conclusive – when parents support teachers with their child's reading habits learning outcomes improve.
- Children read more: Students who read with their parents are better prepared for school. They begin school with knowledge of book language and familiarity with concepts of print.
- Children's self-esteem improves: knowing someone cares enough to take time out of a busy day to provide undivided attention around a book makes a significant difference to how students perceive themselves as learners and readers.
- Reading unites families through shared stories: When a family reads together, stories form a common ground for communicating. Stories bind families and help students make sense of where they fit in the world.

Not only does parent involvement have a specific and profound impact on children's reading, but also on children's language and literacy learning in general. It is through interactions with parents and carers that children learn new vocabulary, seek clarification of new understandings, and to learn to comprehend their expanding worlds. Talk is the key to reading and writing success. Talking with children (walking to school; at the table; in the car; bedtime) has a significant effect on literacy learning in general.

At Emmanuel, all classrooms begin the day with reading, this time is known as the "Read to Self" component of our Daily 5 practice. During this time children are encouraged to read a book for enjoyment to encourage all children to foster a love for reading. We have feedback from many parents since introducing this routine at the beginning of last year that many students have developed or rekindled their love of reading. Research shows that regular reading routines such as this at home and school turn children from being able to read into "avid readers".

If you would like further information about supporting your child's reading at home please contact me via the front office.

If you are available to assist with one to one or small group reading within the classroom please let your child's classroom teacher know or contact myself via the front office.

Janine Refalo
Assistant Principal Curriculum

STUDENT PROTECTION - SCHOOL CONTACTS

At Emmanuel any concerns or reasonable suspicions about a student's safety and wellbeing or the behaviour of a staff member or volunteer which a student considers to be inappropriate, will continue to be managed in accordance with Rockhampton Catholic Education Student Protection Processes. The Student Protection Contacts at Emmanuel are:

Geraldine Rostirolla (Principal)
Amanda McDonald (Deputy Principal)
Noeleen Kliese (APRE)
Kristy Flor (School Counsellor)
Nicole Klease (OSHC Co-ordinator)

Further information about Rockhampton Catholic Education's commitment to Student Protection is available [here](https://www.rok.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/student-protection/): website: <https://www.rok.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/student-protection/>

STUDENT PROTECTION – USE OF TOILETS

At Emmanuel, we are committed to the safety of all students in our care. It is imperative that students understand the importance of using the toilet facilities at school in an appropriate manner. Classroom teachers regularly remind students of these behaviour expectations, and use the poster below (which are located in all school toilets) to ensure all students understand these important messages. We ask that you discuss these expectations at home with your children, so that we are all doing our part to keep children safe at school.



DESIGNATED TOILETS FOR PARENTS

At Emmanuel we have lots of volunteers, parents and contractors visiting our school each week. Therefore, it is important that we provide toilet facilities for their use. From a student protection perspective, **we ask that parents do not use the student toilets**. There are two toilets designated for the use of all parents, toddlers and visitors. These are the disabled toilets which are located at the back of the Library and beside F Block (Year 6 Classrooms and OSHC room) and at the end of R Block (Year 1 Classrooms). There is a yellow sign on the doors of these toilets advising parents that they are welcome to use this facility. Hope this helps you to not be 'caught short'!



STOP DROP GO ZONE

Please pass this important information onto all parents and caregivers who drop off and collect students from school.

When using the Stop, Drop, and Go area please remember to:

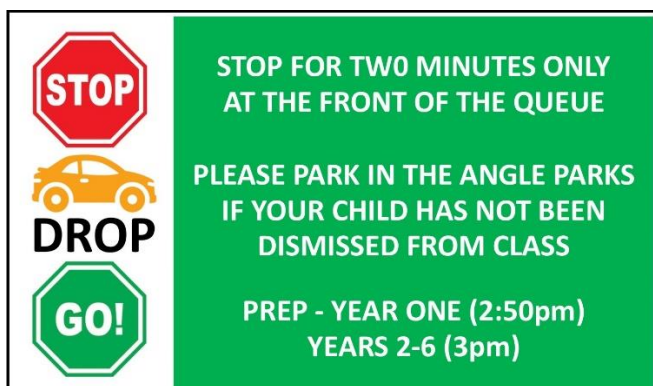
- Only Turn LEFT in and out of the school drive way – NO RIGHT TURN IN OR OUT!
- Adhere strictly to the 10 km/h speed limit
- Display your laminated school name-card on your sun-visor so that teachers can easily call for your child as quickly as possible
- Ensure your child is ready for drop-off in the morning (bag packed; shoes on; hat on head, etc)
- Move to the angle parks if your child is late or you need to buckle your child into their car-seat, rather than holding up the whole line.
- **PLEASE DO NOT VACATE YOUR CAR AT ANY TIME IN THE QUEUE.**

If you have students in Years 2-6 please delay pick-up until after 3.00pm. PLEASE DO NOT QUEUE BEFORE THIS TIME. This will allow these older students sufficient time to make their way to the collection point, and minimise your wait time in the queue. If you arrive earlier than 3.00pm we ask that you park in the angle parks provided within this area. School staff will ask parents to move on if necessary, and we thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

We remind you to be considerate of the residents and shopkeepers along Tolcher St and Pioneer St. Please do not block driveways or access to these properties.



Please remember to display your family name card in the windscreen of the car when picking up students.



ANAPHYLAXIS AWARENESS

Parents should be aware that there are a number of students at the school who are anaphylactic. Anaphylaxis is a severe and sudden allergic reaction. It occurs when a person is exposed to an allergen to which they are sensitive.

There are many potential allergens that can result in an anaphylactic attack, however the most common (and most publicised) are nuts and eggs.

Schools have a duty of care to take reasonable steps to keep students safe at school. With regard to anaphylaxis procedures, our school ensures we meet our duty of care by:

- Training staff in the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis and how to respond in the event of an anaphylactic attack.
- Ensuring a general use EpiPen is available for use by first time anaphylactic sufferers.
- Ensuring Individual Action Plans and individual EpiPens are available in an emergency, when they have been provided by parents.
- Communicating known allergens to camp staff if anaphylactic students are attending camp.
- Encouraging parents of relevant year levels not to bring known allergens if a severe anaphylactic is present in that year level.
- Encouraging all parents not to send food containing the most common allergens.

The school cannot and does not claim to be nut or egg free. It is not advised schools do this, because a school has no day to day control over what food is placed in lunch boxes in the home and is not in a position to be checking lunch boxes during the school day and determining what the ingredients of all items in the lunch box are. **However, we do request that parents avoid sending products that contain nuts or eggs to school.**



Exposure to allergens is impossible to manage in public places (such as a school); the most effective risk management procedures with regard to anaphylaxis are:

- Parents of anaphylactic children educating their child so that, as they become more independent they are more likely to identify their own signs and symptoms of an anaphylactic emergency and raise the alarm.
- Parents of anaphylactic children educating their child about their allergies and how to minimize the risk of exposure (such as not sharing food or utensils if allergic to food, or precautions outdoors if allergic to insects).

IMPORTANT: ALL PARENTS PLEASE READ

It is also requested that parents of anaphylactic children:

- **Notify the school of the student's allergies and risk of anaphylaxis and provide appropriate medical information.**
- **Ensure that the school is notified of changes to the student's medical condition or medication order.**
- **Ensure the student has an anaphylaxis emergency kit which includes their Action Plan completed by the student's doctor and the student's personal adrenaline auto-injector.**
- **Monitor the expiry date of the student's adrenaline auto-injector and replace if used and before it reaches its expiry date.**

Your support with such procedures is truly appreciated and will greatly enhance the creation of a safe learning environment for the increasing number of children who are enrolled with life threatening allergies.

BIRTHDAYS AND TREATS AT SCHOOL

Here at Emmanuel, we like to acknowledge children's birthdays at school. Teachers do this by providing a birthday sticker for students and the class sings "Happy Birthday." Birthdays are also acknowledged every second Friday at our whole-school Assembly. When it comes to providing birthday treats from home, we need to be mindful of the amount of sugar children are consuming, as well as food allergies and intolerances. If parents wish to acknowledge a birthday at school, they are asked to provide only healthy food options such as fruit platters (eg: pieces of watermelon). Cakes laden with icing/lollies, bags of lollies and ice-blocks are discouraged at school and should be reserved for birthday parties. Unfortunately we do not have the freezer space to store ice-blocks.

Parents are also asked to NOT send whole class treats (such as chocolates/marshmallows/candy canes) for events such as Easter, Christmas, End of Year. This practise puts teachers in a difficult position when students are unable to partake of treats due to food allergies. You can also appreciate that some parents are not happy for their child to consume unknown food-stuffs, and for this reason parents are asked to be mindful and respect the decision which has been made by the school for the safety and well-being of all students.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to the vast majority of parents who have ensured that students have returned to school in the correct uniform. Please find below the school's expectations in regards to hairstyles and jewellery. Since returning from holidays there are some students who are in breach of these guidelines. We ask that you read carefully and ensure that students meet expectations by Monday 1 February.

HAIR GUIDELINES

HAIRSTYLES ARE TO BE APPROPRIATE FOR A PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENT

Students attending Emmanuel are expected to wear their uniform in a way which reflects pride in their school and in their own personal appearance. Accordingly,

- Hairstyles should be appropriate to this expectation – extreme hairstyles are not acceptable.
- Hair should be clean, brushed and generally neat – not unruly.

NOT PERMITTED:

- Variations to hair colour
 - Cut less than gauge three
 - Boys' hair longer than collar length and fringe past the forehead
 - Spiked cuts
 - Wedge cuts
 - Track cuts
 - Multiple braiding
 - Rat's Tail
 - Mullet Cuts
- If hair bands or scrunchies are to be worn, they are to be gold or blue of the school colours. No decorative hair bands are to be worn.

IF PARENTS ARE UNSURE OF SCHOOL UNIFORM OR HAIR STYLE REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE FOR CLARIFICATION OR REFER TO OUR WEBSITE FOR [UNIFORM GUIDELINES](#).

JEWELLERY AT SCHOOL

As per the Uniform List:

- Girls are permitted to wear only small sleepers or studs in the lobe of the ear – one pair only. NO drop earrings are to be worn, in accordance with Workplace, Health & Safety.
- Boys are not permitted to wear earrings.
- A small cross and chain around the neck is permitted, preferably long enough to be worn inside the uniform for safety purposes.
- Rings are not permitted under any circumstances.
- NO Smiggles brand wristwatch to be worn.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

If a child is absent from school, it is imperative that the school is notified. There are two options for notification. Firstly, in the case of a planned absence (eg: holidays, eisteddfod) a note to the teacher outlining the date/s of absence would suffice. In the event of a sudden absence (eg: sickness) a phone call to the school is required. **PLEASE NOTE THE ABSENTEE NUMBER IS 4994 8256.** This is a direct line and is available 24 hours a day. It is very important that parents notify the school BEFORE 9.00am each day if their child is absent. If notification is not received, a text message alerting parents that their child has been marked absent will be sent. All students arriving late, or leaving early, are required to be signed in/out of the office by a parent or guardian.

ABSENT FROM SCHOOL HOTLINE

 **49948256** 

DIRECT LINE - AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY

WHEN YOU CALL YOU WILL BE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:
YOUR NAME, STUDENT'S NAME, CLASS, DATE OF ABSENCE, REASON FOR ABSENCE

PARENT HANDBOOKS/PARENT LOUNGE

New families to the school will receive a copy of the Parent Handbook towards the end of next week. A copy of the handbook will also be available on Parent Lounge. New families will also receive their Parent Lounge login details at the end of next week.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected by their peers as Student Representatives for Term One.

- | | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 6K | Amelia Dolphin and Curtis Brooks |
| 6S | Molly Byron and Sonny McGovern |
| 6T/R | Phoebe Wheeler and Max Muzic |

Amanda McDonald
Assistant Principal Administration



Stay connected with us by following our [Facebook](#) page for regular updates, photos and stories.

UPDATING DETAILS

If there have been any changes to your contact details (e.g. address, phone number, email address) please update these in Parent Lounge. This will ensure that you are up to date and receiving all correspondence from our school.

FORMS TO BE COMPLETED

Parents, as you would be aware students were sent home with forms to be completed:

Tuckshop Help Required (distributed to the eldest in the family)

It is important that these forms are completed and returned to the class teacher promptly.

Information & Technology Forms (ICT) will be distributed today to each child. Please find attached to this Newsletter copies of the “*Information and Communication Technologies*” *Code of Practice*. Parents are asked to please read these and discuss with your child/children. If this form could please be signed and returned at your earliest convenience to your child’s teacher. If it is not returned, students will not be able to access the computers. We are aware that some parents received the ICT form earlier this week. If you have already signed and returned the form to your child’s teacher, please ensure you read the Code of Practice carefully and discuss this with your child.

CONCESSION CARD DISCOUNT

Are you eligible for a Concession? Catholic Education has introduced a means-tested concession card discount. Parents/carers with an eligible means-tested Australian government health care or pensioner concession card automatically receive a 70% discount to tuition fees (does not apply to school levies). Card holders are required to advise the school of their concession card at enrolment or when the card is gained. Once the card is sighted by the school’s administration, tuition fees for future terms will be adjusted. This initiative is intended to assist those families who genuinely do not have the financial capacity to pay tuition fees in full.

For further information, Concession Card Discount FAQs is attached to this Newsletter. Please contact Therese or Robyn at the Finance Office if you are eligible, or if you have any questions.



PUPIL FREE DAY
FRIDAY 12 FEBRUARY

Tuckshop News

TUCKSHOP ORDERS

Reminder to all parents. Please ensure you update your child's/children's teacher and class details on QuickCliq before placing your order.



Please consider volunteering in the tuckshop, even for just a few hours just one day a month. All helpers are very much appreciated.

Please Note: It is imperative that volunteers **DO NOT** attend tuckshop if they are unwell, have anyone at home who is unwell, have been in contact with anyone who has COVID-19 (awaiting test results), or recently returned from overseas. Thank you.

VOLUNTEER ROSTER - TERM 1 WEEK 2

Fri 29 January:	Help Wanted
Mon 1 February:	Help Wanted
Tues 2 February:	Help Wanted
Wed 3 February:	Help Wanted
Thur 4 February:	Help Wanted
Fri 5 February:	Help Wanted



Angie McGowan/Carly Nicholas
Tuckshop

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY
2:30pm - 2:55pm