



# newsletter

25 February 2021

## Term One

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

Good Friday  
2 April

Easter Sunday  
4 April

## Our School Mission Statement



Dear Parents,

*"A survey of one thousand Australian parents found that the basics of good old-fashioned courtesy were rarely used by children. Words such as 'please', 'thank you', 'may I?' and 'excuse me' were replaced by grunts and demands. The survey commissioned by the Disney Entertainment Group to mark the release of a new DVD edition of Beauty and the Beast, indicated that three out of four parents thought that children were less well-mannered than in previous generations." Heather Zubek 12:01:11.*

There is no doubt that our earliest relationships provide a model for all our future relationships, and learning to trust other people as feeling, thoughtful human beings, will form the basis for having happy, satisfying relationships. To develop these happy, satisfying relationships, we will need good manners and basic courtesy.

Good manners need to be taught for they are important skills that our children should develop when they are young, so they can enjoy the benefit of them for the rest of their lives. It is in the family home that the "manners seed" needs to be planted and nurtured, along with core values and ethics. It is in the family home that children learn to be considerate, tolerant and respectful; this learning comes through parental guidance and example. Actions really do speak louder than words: **"I can't move it, you can't move it. It won't move an inch. But if we work together, moving it's a cinch."** Author Unknown.

When children are polite, kind, honest and cooperative, they develop character and exhibit social skills that help others feel comfortable. These relationship building skills also help children and adults to get on with friends and neighbours and, if the occasion arises, to resolve differences of opinion in a courteous and healthy way.

It has been said that *"Rudeness is the weak person's imitation of strength"*. Author Unknown. It is also an expression of ignorance of courteous behaviour and children who do not have social skills, can have a difficult time making lasting friendships with their peers and being accepted generally. They have missed out on learning the "Golden Rule": *Treat others as you yourself would like to be treated. I have super manners. Yes I do. I can say 'please' and 'thank you', too. When I play with my friends, I like to share. That's the way I show I care.* Author Unknown.

Manners are respect in action and should be learnt and taught through the experiences of daily living. *"Mind your manners"* often used to come from the lips of parents and indicated that their children knew what it was that needed to be *"minded"*. In a society that rarely offers example or support for parents, teaching manners to our children can be lonely and tedious. However, to see our children grow in respect and consideration for themselves and others will be a rich reward for effort. ***"Grandma says I shouldn't lie, the truth is always better. I just hope she doesn't ask, if I like my birthday sweater."*** Judith Lalli.

Wishing you every blessing for the coming week,

**Geraldine Rostirolla**  
Principal

## Religious Education

### A DIFFERENT LENT – A REFLECTION

*Focus on gratitude* – give up complaining

*Think kind thoughts* – give up judgements

*Be hopeful* – give up discouragement

*Turn to forgiveness* – give up bitterness

*Return goodness* – give up anger

*Control your tongue* – give up gossiping

*Be optimistic* – give up pessimism

*Enjoy the beauty around you* – give up gloom

*Pray for trust* – give up jealousy

*Trust God* – give up worry

*Hang in there* – give up giving up

(Unknown)

Find out about Lent @ <https://www.catholic.org/lent/>

40 Days



40 Acts

*Lord, we pray that during Lent we will give up doing and saying things that do not show love for you and others.*

*Help us to be kind and thoughtful, to welcome and encourage others, to say sorry and to forgive each other.*

*Help us to appreciate how lucky we are.*

*Help us to care for your beautiful world.*

*Thank you God for loving us.*

*Amen*

(from Year 6TR's Assembly Prayer last Friday)

### A LESSON FROM YEAR SIX

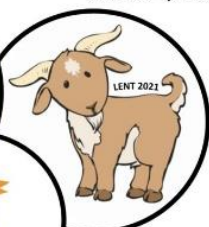
Last week Year 6T/R led our Friday morning Assembly in prayer. They reminded us that Lent is a time to prepare for Easter - a time for us to change our lives and grow in holiness. They explained that fasting is more than giving up food or treats. It also means giving up doing and saying things that do not show love for God or others. The Year Six students challenged us to stop grumbling and complaining and to take up being thankful for all that we have. They encouraged us to be our best selves. Their closing prayer for all of us is written above. A big thank you to 6T/R and their teachers for sharing this prayer and message with us.

### LENTEN CHALLENGE

COWS - \$5.00



GOATS - \$2.00



CHICKS - \$1.00

**Buy a chick, a goat or a cow  
and help a family that  
you don't even know.**

**Be grateful for all you have.**

Our 'Animals for Others' campaign has gotten off to a great start. Lots of students have already bought chicks, goats and cows (tokens, not real ones) and they have been added to the sacred space in their classrooms.

Buying these tokens will help to provide a welcome source of food and income for needy families in different parts of the world.

**Chick \$1.00**

**Goats \$2.00**

**Cows \$5.00**

The class that buys the most chicks, goats and cows will lead the school in a special dance at Assembly in Week Nine.



Fr James will be here at Emmanuel on Thursday 11 March to celebrate a whole school Mass. Parents are welcome to join us for this celebration.

An email with booking details will be sent home early next week. Please be aware that social distancing requirements only allows for 70 adults to attend.

## **OUR CATHOLIC IDENTITY – WE NEED YOU**

As previously advertised, our school community is participating in the Enhancing Catholic School Identity Project this year.

The Project aims to assist schools to understand better how their Catholic identity is expressed in work and practice and to support them in their future development.

All members of the Emmanuel community are encouraged to be involved. Staff, parents and students are asked to complete surveys that will provide feedback on the Catholic Identity of our school. Our Year Five and Year Six students will participate in the survey at school.



**In order for us to gauge the Catholicity of our school we would like as many parents as possible to complete this survey. Your participation will be very much appreciated.**

Please advise your child's classroom teacher when you have finalised your survey, as the class with the most parent participation will celebrate with a pizza lunch.

To complete the survey:

1. Go to [www.ecsi.site/au/user/](http://www.ecsi.site/au/user/)
2. Enter the general ECSIP Website password: **Ghj654**
3. Click on "New User"
4. Enter your school's entry code: **N76p8S** or select **Emmanuel School Mt Pleasant** from the dropdown menu.
5. You will be given a login and password – write them down, email them to yourself or print them out. You will need them to return to your survey.
6. You can begin answering questions and return to the survey at any time.
7. When you return, go to "continue your previous session" and enter the login and password you saved/printed out.
8. You can go back to edit your answers at any time.
9. Your answers are confidential to you. There are no right or wrong answers.
10. We would like parents to complete the surveys before Friday 26 March.

## **SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM**

Students enrolled in the 2019/2020 Sacramental Program, which was suspended due to the pandemic, have been working hard at home with their families to prepare for Confirmation and First Communion. Bishop Michael will be here for Confirmation in March and candidates will receive Communion for the first time in May.



**Please pray for these students as they prepare for and receive the sacraments.**

In May, students in Year Four and above will be invited to enrol in the parish's next Sacramental Program (Penance, Confirmation, Eucharist). More details closer to the information and registration session.



### **THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS:**

Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

God puts Abraham to the test.

Romans 8:31-34

God, sacrificing even his Son for us, will grant us victory.

Mark 9:2-10

Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James and John

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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQeYD6B2cSvFb4zqStn_Brg)

## **VIRTUE OF THE FORTNIGHT – COMPASSION**

***"If you want others to be happy, practise compassion. If you want to be happy, practise compassion."***  
(Dalai Lama)

Compassion is noticing when someone is hurt or in need of a friend. It is feeling empathy for the pain of others. When you reach out to those in need or refrain from judging, you practise compassion. Our compassionate presence helps others to know that they are not alone, that they are valued and understood.

***"Go out into the world today and love the people you meet. Let your presence light new light in the lives of others."*** (St Teresa of Calcutta)







**GOD IS WITH US AS WE LIVE LOVE  
LEARN IN A COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

Noeleen Kliese  
*Assistant Principal Religious Education*



## Emmanuel Catholic Primary Strategic Priorities 2020 – 2022

<b>Catholic Identity and Ethos</b> 	<b>Effective Teaching and Learning</b> (NSIT Domains 2,5,6,7,8) 
<p><b>Strategic Priority 1.1</b> For all members of the school community to continue to strive and maintain Emmanuel as a dialogue school through the traditions and practices; celebrations; teaching and learning.</p> <p>Goal <i>Implementing Catholic Social teaching and service learning within the Curriculum.</i></p>	<p><b>Strategic Priority 2.1</b> That our school has a culture of data informed practice where every student is engaged and learning successfully in their own ways at their own pace.</p> <p>Goal <i>To improve student learning outcomes in Mathematics as we build teacher capacity to collect, analyse and respond to data with a focus on student engagement and surface, deep and transfer learning.</i></p> <p><b>Strategic Priority 2.2</b> That our school has a feedback culture of continuous improvement which builds a schoolwide team of professional highly able teachers who use data and evidence-based teaching strategies to support deep student learning.</p> <p>Goal <i>All teachers will collaboratively plan and focus on embedding the Inquiry approach to Spelling across all year levels.</i></p>
<b>Pastoral Support and Wellbeing</b> (NSIT Domain 3) 	<b>Leadership, Partnerships and Resourcing</b> (NSIT Domains 1,4,9) 
<p><b>Strategic Priority 3.1</b> To enhance student learning and well-being outcomes through the development of a school well-being framework.</p> <p>Goal <i>For all teachers across Years 4-6 to build their knowledge of the "Be You – Mentally Healthy Communities" survey.</i></p>	<p><b>Strategic Priority 4.1</b> That deliberate and strategic school community partnerships are developed to enhance teacher understanding of flexible learning and collaborative teaching environments.</p> <p>Goal <i>During 2021, students will participate in flexible inquiry-based Problem Solving and Reasoning lessons, which have been collaboratively planned and administered by their teachers.</i></p>

This year we begin our second year of our three year School Improvement Cycle - the above School Priorities were set for 2020 – 2022. The School Improvement Cycle seeks feedback from parents; students; board members; staff and leadership to provide feedback on their school's current position in relation to international effective practice to plan a focussed approach to school improvement appropriate to the context of their school (ACER 2019). The School Priorities frame the Annual School Goals to ensure all members of the Emmanuel School Community are continuously working towards schoolwide improvement to maximise teaching and learning whilst enhancing the educational experience of all students. Student targets are measured to assess if annual school goals are achieved, ensuring that the direct recipient of school improvement are the students.

Our School Priorities and goals closely align with those of Catholic Education, these being:

DIMENSION	Catholic Identity	Effective Teaching and Learning	Pastoral Support and Wellbeing	Leadership (Governance) Partnerships and Resourcing		
PRIORITIES	Enhancing the Catholic identity of all our schools	Support continuous improvement in the quality of teaching and learning across all schools	Enhance the safety, wellbeing and mental health of school communities	Support, develop and promote staff and leadership capacity to drive improvement	Build authentic relationships to nurture and improve opportunities and outcomes for students, staff and parents	Provide targeted resources to enhance the provision of quality Catholic Education

We look forward to the year ahead and working in partnership with our parent body, as we focus on the following big rocks as we strive to achieve our Annual School Goals:

- Catholic Social Teachings
- Social Justice
- Surface, Deep and Transfer learning (Mathematics)
- Student Engagement
- Inquiry learning (Spelling)
- Well Being

## Parent Information Session

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Parent Information Presentations for Years 1-6 will be available via Parent Lounge tomorrow, Friday 26 February 2021.

Prep parents will be contacted when the Prep Presentation is available.

Passwords and reminders on how to access Parent Lounge is attached to this week's Newsletter email.

## Do you have any home readers still at home?

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We are missing a lot of readers from previous years, and would appreciate you checking for and returning any books you may still have at home.



**Janine Refalo**  
*Assistant Principal Curriculum*

### 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. It is very important that parents notify the school **BEFORE 9.30am** 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. The school absentee number is 49948256.



### Emergency Contact

It is sometimes essential to contact parents urgently for a variety of reasons, but particularly in case of illness or accident. It is distressing to staff and the student concerned when we are unable to access anyone. It is most important that the information we have on record as home and current work numbers is accurate. **It is also very important to have a back-up emergency contact who knows where to find you or who can take some responsibility for the situation.** If your work or home phone numbers change please update these details via Parent Lounge, or alternatively email the Administration staff on [ENM@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ENM@rok.catholic.edu.au) as we need the changes to be made in writing. It is also helpful to let your children know where you might be during the day, especially if they are sent to school and are not feeling 100%.

### Bullying Box



The Bullying Box (pictured above), is located on the Library bench and is available for students to report bullying issues if they are not comfortable speaking with their teacher. Listed below are a few reminders about what bullying is and isn't.

An episode of bullying has three identifying characteristics:

1. an imbalance of power,
2. an intent to hurt, embarrass, or humiliate,
3. repeated behaviour.

Bullying behaviour has many forms.

**Physical Bullying** may include hitting, poking, tripping, pushing or damaging someone's belongings.

**Verbal Bullying** may include name calling, insults, homophobic or racist remarks and verbal abuse.

**Social Bullying** may include lying, spreading rumours, playing a nasty joke, mimicking, and deliberately excluding someone.]

**Psychological Bullying** may include intimidation, manipulation and stalking.

**Cyber Bullying** may include using technology (such as email, mobile phones, chat rooms, social networking sites, etc) to verbally, socially or psychologically bully.

It is also important to define what is **NOT** considered bullying behaviour. Bullying behaviour is not:

- arguments and disagreements
- disliking someone
- single-episode acts of nastiness or spite
- random acts of aggression or intimidation

In such circumstances, the behaviour will be addressed within the School's Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures.

Preventing bullying involves everyone talking together openly and respectfully.

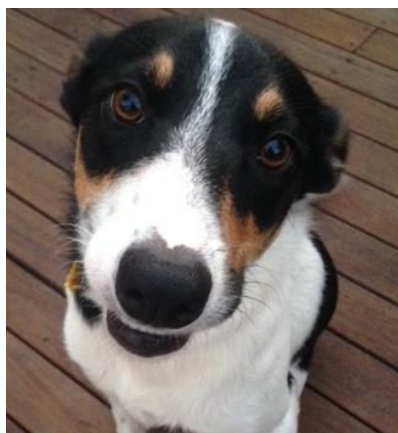
Bullying can have a lasting impact on everyone involved, including those who witness it, so it is important to work together to create safe school communities for everyone.

Download the [Bullying. No Way! fact sheets about bullying](#) if you wish to read more about this important issue.

**Amanda McDonald**

*Assistant Principal Administration*

## Learning Support Dog



Our Learning Support team are trialling the introduction of a dog visiting Emmanuel to share reading experiences with students. Initially, Tilly will work in the Learning Support room, with students who visit; however, when ready, she will conduct classroom visits during start of day reading sessions.

We ask you to please notify the school office if you know that your child has an allergy or phobia of dogs.

**facebook**

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



## School Fees

**Reminder : Term 1 School Fees are due tomorrow, 26 February, 2021.**

Please contact the Finance Office if you did not receive your statement, or if you would like to discuss payments via Direct Debit and need to establish an authority.

## Tuckshop News

Thank you to all the parents who have returned volunteer forms offering their help in our Tuckshop, it is greatly appreciated.

We still have a number of days a week where we are in need of some help. If you are available to come in and help, please contact the office. It's only one day a month for a couple of hours and we always have a great time! We will even make you a delicious lunch.

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 6

Mon 22 February:	Talthia Swann
Tues 23 February:	Sandy Brown
Wed 24 February:	Jelena Creedon
Thur 25 February:	Paul Johnson
Fri 26 February:	Kara Shepherd Katie Murphy Wendy Hovinga-Kila



Angie McGowan/Carly Nicholas  
*Tuckshop*

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

# WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Every Friday

8.50am  
Marist Centre  
ALL WELCOME!

Please note Covid 19 restrictions apply to parent seating.

Also in the event of very wet weather, Assembly will not go ahead. On these days, awards will be presented to students in classrooms by a member of Administration.



**MACKAY LIONS**  
**2021 SEASON TRAINING**  
**IS KICKING OFF!**  
Still taking registrations!

COME DOWN AND JOIN OUR FAMILY CLUB  
**0416 929 210**  
mackaylionssc.com.au  
mkylions.soccer@gmail.com

Mackay Lions Soccer Club  
  
"Roaring to Go"  
Est. 1963



positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

## FREE WEBINAR SUPPORTING LEARNING AT HOME



*Be part of an interactive hour where you will have the opportunity to listen, share and learn with parents/carers, teachers and others who support individuals on the autism spectrum.*

During this webinar, we will explore and share strategies that support families and school staff with students working and learning in their home environment.

This webinar will support both families and school staff to:

- reflect on the teaching skills families have as the first educators of their children
- consider the principles of structured teaching, universal design and visible learning
- explore and share strategies that can support learning in the home environment
- discuss the importance of communication and partnerships to enrich home learning.

There are two different session times to choose from.

 **Tuesday 2 March, 2021** –  
7:00pm - 8:00pm AEDT

 **Wednesday 3 March, 2021** –  
1:00pm - 2:00pm AEDT

**All of our webinars are free and participants that attend receive a certificate following the completion of the webinar.**



To register for this webinar please click on your preferred date above or visit [positivepartnerships.com.au](https://positivepartnerships.com.au)





## **MACKAY** ATHLETICS CLUB

### Sign-on and Information Day

**Saturday 27 February 2021**  
Anytime between 9am-1pm

**Mackay Aquatic & Recreation Complex**  
193 Boundary Road, Ooralea  
(CQ University end)

**Ages from 5 to Masters**

**1st club day, Sat 6 March 12.30pm**  
Trial period available  
**[www.mackayathletics.com.au](http://www.mackayathletics.com.au)**  
for more information or call  
**0466 383 190**

## **WHERE THE DIFFERENCE IS YOU**

**Principal's Assistant - Administration Officer**  
Catherine McCauley College, Mackay

An exciting opportunity exists to join the foundation staff of this new college. Applications are now invited for this term time role (30tpw) from 22 March 2021 - hours are expected to increase over time to meet growing demand

**Visit our website and apply today!**

**[www.rok.catholic.edu.au](http://www.rok.catholic.edu.au)**

**Applications close 5 March 2021**



Catholic Education is committed to best practice in student protection policies and procedures.



**#bethedifference**