



DATE CLAIMERS
17/02 Bishop's Inservice Day
Pupil Free Day
22/02 Ash Wednesday



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

THE GRAPEVINE

Term 1 Week 4
16 February 2023

Things I Love About You

This week we celebrated Valentine's Day, which was also my parents' wedding anniversary. They were married 50 years before Mum was widowed. I say it that way because she misses Dad very much, everyday. He is part of who she is. Both were strong personalities and they had an 'interesting marriage'. Amongst the things they loved, they loved free and frank conversations – especially with each other, and often to the angst of us children. But that was their way of doing marriage and they loved it. The pretty pictures used to symbolise Valentine's Day just don't ring true with Mum and Dad's relationship – it was far more real than those pictures. Being real, it was also messy, but in the midst of the messiness they knew there were things they loved and admired about each other and they let each other know what they were. I think that was part of their success, recognising and conveying what they loved in the other.

What is successful in marriage can also be successful in our relationship with God. Instead of just drifting in that relationship, each of us can consider what it is we love about God. We each have special things. And we can ask ourselves what it is that God loves about us. God had a unique glorious vision in mind when we were each created. Ask God what it is that is delightful about you.

Loving God, you created us in love and we are made to love. Send us your Spirit to guide our minds and hearts that we may discover and delight in what you have made in us. We ask this in Jesus' name confident that you will hear us.

Sr Kym Harris osb

Dear Families

The Season of Lent begins next week with Ash Wednesday. Lent is a time of reflection, abstinence and prayer. During the Lenten period we can choose to 'give up' something or 'give to' someone. Which will we choose? Sometimes the *giving up* of an item or an activity may challenge us, however, the *giving to* others is often more challenging as we have to consider another's feelings, their needs (and not our own), we have to choose to put ourselves out, make a choice which at times is not convenient or challenges our routine and lifestyle. Let us remember, as we embark on our Lenten journey, the sacrifice that Jesus made for us and how we are asked to answer his call.

We will mark Shrove Tuesday with pancakes and host Ash Wednesday liturgies with classes. Further details are included in this newsletter.

Next Thursday we will host the Rockhampton Principals for our term cluster meeting. We welcome them to St Benedict's and hope they enjoy our Benedictine hospitality.

Tomorrow is a student free day as staff participate in our annual Bishop's Inservice Day. We will engage with Sr Kym Harris osb, as we reflect on the Gospel in Our Lives.

Have a great week everyone.
Julie McLaughlin

Guess the Teacher

Congratulations to Annie Browne who won our Guess the Teacher competition last week. Mrs Clifton was the correct answer. This week we have drawn our winner early due to our student free day tomorrow. Our winner this week is Gracie Hildyard who correctly guessed Mrs Rowlands. Keep your eye out for the next Guess Who – remember only one entry per student is allowed.



Year 3 Class Mass

Today our Year 3 classes joined with Fr Matthew to celebrate our first class mass for the year. Fr Matthew spoke to the students about the clothing he wears when presiding at mass, the symbols that are part of the celebration and the importance of the sacrament of Eucharist. Thank you to Fr Matthew for his time.



Dogs at School

Parents, please be aware, dogs are not permitted in our school grounds. This includes pick up and drop off times even when on a leash. Children are permitted to bring puppies in for show and tell if the teacher has been informed and given permission for this to happen. Thank you for keeping our community safe.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Meal Deal

Tuesday 21 February is Shrove Tuesday, the day before the official beginning of Lent. During Lent Catholics abstain. Abstinence is the practice of abstaining from the use of certain kinds of food. From early Christian times, hermits practised abstinence. St Anthony and his followers, for example, abstained from all food except bread, salt and water. Therefore, Shrove Tuesday was the last chance to indulge yourself and to use up foods that weren't allowed during Lent, hence the day often being named pancake Tuesday.

At School we will mark this day with a tuckshop meal deal – a pancake stack and popper for 5\$. Please order online as per normal tuckshop.

All money raised goes towards our first fundraiser for **Caritas Australia**.

Ash Wednesday

Following Shrove Tuesday, the St Benedict's community will mark the beginning of Lent by celebrating **Ash Wednesday Liturgies, 22 February**. Each class will participate in a liturgy in their classroom during the day. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the 40-day season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection and fasting, which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Ash Wednesday Mass will be celebrated at Mary Immaculate Church, Emu Park at 7:00am and Sacred Heart Church, Yeppoon at 9:00am.



Sacramental Program

There is a parent information night for the 2023 Sacramental program at Sacred Heart Church on Wednesday, 1st March at 6pm. The program has been updated and has undergone significant changes. It is expected that all parents wishing for their child/ren to make their Sacraments this year will attend this night.

An information letter has been sent home today with children in Year 4 and some in Year 5 and 6. This letter has also been attached for your information.

Sacramental sessions will begin in Term 2.

If your child is interested in receiving their Sacraments and did not receive any forms, please use the attached forms. Should you have any concerns, please contact the parish office on 49336171 or Helen Langdon on 49948220.

Project Compassion



This week, the season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal. Donations to Project Compassion allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with local communities around the world to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

The theme of Project Compassion 2023 is 'For All Future Generations' and reminds us that the good we do today, extends to impact the lives of generations to come. It invites us to make the world a better place by working together now and finding long-term solutions to global issues. We encourage you to put your compassion into action this Lent through prayer, fasting and almsgiving in support of Project Compassion. Project Compassion boxes can be found in the school office and each classroom for donations, or you can donate online via the Caritas Australia website at: www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Yarning with Mrs Semple

Last Tuesday, Year 5 and 6 Indigenous students commenced the Good Quick Tukka program, facilitated by Deadly Choices. Deadly Choices is a branch of the Indigenous Urban Health Initiative and aims to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to make healthy choices, for themselves and their families.

Kiarah facilitated learning around healthy eating. The students and I enjoyed a wonderful afternoon learning from our community mentor, Kiarah.

I can confirm the smoothies were nutritious and delicious!

The Deadly Choices program will continue weekly, for 6 weeks.



Discovery Day

Is your daughter eligible to enter Year 7 in 2024? St Ursula's College is hosting our annual Discovery Day on Thursday 9 March 2023. Current Year 6 girls are invited to join us for an introduction to Secondary School, where they can participate in exciting and informative activities. Registration is essential; limited places are available.

Further information and Registration can be found on the St Ursula's College website

www.stursulas.qld.edu.au



Happy Birthday to

Harrison Fitch

13 February 07 Years

Assembly Awards

Congratulations to the following students who were presented with awards at our last assembly:



Week 3 Term 1 2023

Class	Student	Award Comment
PB	Edmund Blackford	For completing all of your morning activities on Thursday. You are a super star!
PE	Carson Merrifield	For always making great choices and using beautiful manners. You're a star!
1E	Alastair Parmenter	For his super effort to complete his reading and writing rotations and make great learning choices. Wonderful work, Alastair!
1U	Ashton Eyles	For the wonderful writing you did about your parrot. You sounded out your words and used capital letters and full stops. Amazing work, Ashton!
2C	Ethan Campbell	For your descriptive introduction for your butterfly information report.
2M	Grace Rushton	For concentrating on your learning tasks and always putting in your best effort. You are a super star!
3H	Ella Barry	For outstanding effort with all reading and writing tasks this week.
3N	Lilah Elliot	For demonstrating wonderful manners at all times. You are an excellent role model!
4B	Rave Guest	For your outstanding effort to complete all classwork. Well done, Rave!
4R	Oscar Carvey	For your commitment during guided reading and writing this week. It is great to hear your ideas.
5G	Hayden Brooks	For the diverse and thoughtful contributions you have made to our HASS unit on colonisation. Fantastic thinking, Hayden!
5D	Thea Osborne	For your creative persuasive letter writing. You took the task and made it your own. Keep up the fabulous work!
6B	Mason Tulk	For your active participation in class, hospitality toward your buddy and volunteering in the tuckshop.
6C	Mitchell Spencer	For your fantastic demonstration of leadership in the school and classroom. You are making a difference! Congratulations.

5G Term 1 - So Good To Be Back At School

Religion

We're learning how to describe the action of the Holy Spirit in lives of believers today. We invited Mr Cranny (Will's grandad) in to talk about how the Holy Spirit has guided him to make decisions throughout his life. One of these decisions has been to be an incredible member of St Vincent de Paul, helping countless community members. Thankyou Mr Cranny!



Maths Mindsets



Stretching out brains, making mistakes and learning from them are a normal part of our maths lessons. Here we are making sure we can place decimal numbers with tenths and hundredths, accurately on a number line. Thankyou Mrs Browne for helping us out



Science

Our solar system is an incredible place in the universe. Last week made a tornado in a jar to explain how our solar system was formed.





Writing, Reading and HASS

Through many different texts, we discovered the many reasons why Australia was colonised, and the impact this had on our indigenous people. That has inspired us to write persuasive letters related to this topic. Using great modality language and persuasive language, we are creating some great writing!

What's great about school?

"You get to learn new things every day and the teachers are very kind" Asher

"I get to hang out with my friends at lunch time" Isaac

"All the subjects we get to learn about like maths, science and religion" Will

"Spending time with friends and catching up" Jonathan

"I get to see all my friends and learning" Max

Our beautiful artwork.

Our self portraits



Our shelf markers for library borrowing.

We love our library!

