

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT HANDBOOK

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

109 Thistle Street

P.O. Box 211

Blackall, 4472

Administration: (07) 49 948 385

Email: sjbl@rok.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.sjblrok.catholic.edu.au



Acknowledgement of Country

*As Indigenous and Non-Indigenous
people together, let us have a sense
of the importance upon which we are
standing, where learning and
ceremony has taken place over many
thousands of years.*

*Let us sense the land beneath our
feet and acknowledge to whom it
belongs – The Traditional Custodians
– and pay our respects to their elders
and all elders, past, present and
future.*

*For we too are one in land, one in
spirit, one in faith united in God's
Love.*

St Joseph's School Prayer

*Jesus, may you look after
our school today,
Help us to follow you in every way.
With our special gifts and
talents to share,
At St Joseph's, a true family,
we all need to care.
Jesus as we try to do our part,
Remember us and
keep us in your heart.
Let's do our best and
listen to your call,
May we remember,
"Effort Wins Success"
a motto for us all.*

Amen.



OUR SCHOOL

Our school was originally established by the Josephite Sisters in 1917 to serve families of the far west. St Joseph's Catholic Primary School exists for the education of children from Prep to Year Six and is a co-educational facility still serving the township and surrounding properties of Blackall.

Our Vision

We believe:


- Jesus is a model for all of our work and His presence is alive in our Catholic School
- That students can achieve high standards given the right time and right support
- All educators within our school community can teach to high standards given time and the right assistance
- High expectations and early and ongoing intervention is essential
- All leaders, teachers, and students can articulate what they do, how they do it and why they lead, teach, and learn the ways they do.

Our Mission

Inspired by Jesus and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop we commit to:

- Encouraging all to grow into the best possible version of themselves
- Providing challenging, engaging and relevant learning environments
- Building strong and meaningful relationships where home, school and parish work together





A Welcome Message to Parents

Welcome to St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. On behalf of our children, staff, parents and Parish Priest I extend a warm welcome to you and to your family. We hope that your time with us will be an enjoyable and rewarding experience for you and your family.

Our school was originally established by the Josephite Sisters in 1917 to serve families of the far west. St Joseph's Catholic Primary School exists for the education of children from Kindergarten to Year Six. We are a co-educational facility serving the township and surrounding properties of Blackall.

Our school Mission Statement stresses the need for a partnership to be forged between parents and school. If we are to be effective in the education of your child, then we must encourage this cooperative teacher-parent relationship. Education and Catholic Education in particular, is a three-way process of communication involving teacher, child and parent.

At St Joseph's we focus on providing a child-centred education that recognises and respects the needs and talents of each individual and encourages everyone to grow into the best possible version of themselves. There is a strong focus on providing challenging, engaging and relevant learning environments, to ensure that all who attend St Joseph's experience success.

St Joseph's is a Community of Faith nourished by daily Prayer, Eucharistic Celebration and respectful interaction with each other. In our school we focus on developing our school values of respect, responsibility, integrity, service and prayerfulness. Students who attend St Joseph's will be encouraged to grow in reverence of one another and be supportive in the spirit of the community.

I look forward to sharing your child's education journey with you.

Yours sincerely,

Samantha Suthers
Principal



Religious Character of ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

At St Joseph's we value Catholic principles, traditions and teachings and strive to support our students as they develop an understanding of their faith. Our learning aims to encourage the growth of virtues such as **respect, responsibility, prayerfulness, service and integrity**. As a school, our aim is to practically implement these values within the students' everyday lives. As a school community, we strive to provide opportunities that will allow students to develop the skills to make meaning of their lives. As a result, students are guided to become reflective, self-directed learners who are: producers, participators, investigators, communicators, thinkers and problem solvers.



Respect



Service



Prayerfulness



Responsibility



Integrity





Charism of ST JOSEPH'S

At St Joseph's we look to **Saint Joseph, the husband of Mary** and celebrate his feast day on the 19th March each year. St Joseph is the husband of Mary and our patron saint. He is known to be a working man, a compassionate and caring person who was indeed a man of faith. Through his actions, it could clearly be seen that he loved Jesus and respected God. He was regarded as a righteous man, a family man.

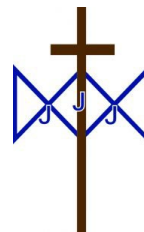
Being the patron saint of our school, we look to follow his example and work towards living out his qualities in our everyday life.

We also celebrate the work of **St Mary of the Cross MacKillop**, Australia's first Saint. Mary devoted her life to the education of poor children in outback Australia and with the help of Fr Julian Tenison Woods, the co-founder of the Institute of the Sisters of St Joseph, Mary's Sisters were able to open a school in Blackall in 1917.

As noted in the Sisters of St Joseph's emblem, Mary of the Southern Cross and Woods considered Jesus, Mary, Joseph and John the Baptist of great importance to them. But, it is the charism of St Joseph, 'Finding God in the ordinary circumstances of daily life' that we aim to live out and teach our students to live out daily.

Time is also spent looking at the life and work of **St Patrick** (Patron saint of our Parish) throughout the year. We celebrate his feast day on 17th March.

Through the Josephite Charism and the teaching of MJR, we have identified 5 core virtues for our school. **Respect, Responsibility, Prayerfulness, Service and Integrity.**



STUDENT PROTECTION

Student protection and wellbeing are paramount in all Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Rockhampton. By the very nature of their mission and ethos, Catholic schools in the Diocese of Rockhampton place the highest priority on the safety and care of the children and young people who are their students. All students have a right to expect that the school will always do all that is possible to protect them from any kind of harm and create safe learning environments.

Catholic Education is committed to best practices in student protection and the development of proactive approaches to equip people with the skills and knowledge to identify risks of harm and respond appropriately.

In Catholic Education, Diocese of Rockhampton, protection for students is based upon the belief that each person is made in the image of God and that the inherent dignity of all should be recognised and fostered. The need for Student Protection Processes arises primarily from the Catholic education community's concern about this reality in our midst. This concern flows from our Christian belief in the dignity of all persons. We see children as entrusted to us by the love of God, and are committed to the protection of their rights.

The purpose of the ***Student Protection Processes*** document is to provide a framework for responding to and reporting allegations or suspicions of:

- sexual abuse or likely sexual abuse to a student by another person
- harm or likely harm to a student from any source
- inappropriate behaviour by a staff member towards a student.

The document sets out the processes to be followed to ensure that prompt, professional, sensitive and appropriate action is taken by Catholic Education personnel in schools and at the Diocesan Catholic Education Office (DCEO).

More information can be found on the Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton website

<http://www.rok.catholic.edu.au/catholic-schools/student-protection/>



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton



St Joseph's

St Joseph's

St Joseph's

St Joseph's



Effort Wins Success



Effort Wins Success



Effort Wins Success

STUDENT WELLBEING

Health

If your child is unwell and cannot participate fully in the Prep program the best advice is to keep them at home. If your child is showing signs of being unwell at school, we will contact you. Please ensure you keep your contact details up to date at the school office.

Children with infectious diseases must be excluded from school for the appropriate length of time. Exclusion periods are set out on the Queensland Health website – a QR Code has been generated for this link below.

Medication

If your child requires medication to be administered during session hours, written consent must be given by the parent. This should be handed to the Administration Officer – Ms Vivienne Van Mosseveld. A form giving approval to issue this medication must be completed at Administration, this includes the administering on paracetamol.

All medications are administered from the school office. If your child requires any medication to be administered whilst at school, all medication needs to be clearly labelled by a pharmacist and in the container that it has been prescribed in. In the case of minor ailments parents are asked to send children to school at their own discretion.



Morning Check-Ins

Each morning before entering the classroom, students complete a morning check-in on a school ipad.

This time gives students an opportunity to select an emotion they are feeling and allows staff to monitor and/or discuss these emotions, as guided by the student, where necessary.

Use this QR Code to access an electronic copy of the QLD Health Time Out Poster.



BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS



St. Joseph's children from all grade levels are given the opportunity to learn about **Respect** and **Responsibility**. These two concepts are paramount to the "Behavioural Management" expectations at our School. Our **Anti Bullying** and **Behaviour Management Policies** incorporates both of these virtues, but also recognises that no person is perfect, and everybody has the right to make mistakes and to be forgiven.

This policy is based upon the example given by Jesus Christ. Our view is that the child should have the opportunity to be shown the correct way of behaving and how to add to, and not detract from the community in which they live. The school implements the Making Jesus Real Program throughout the year to provide students with opportunities to develop into the best versions of themselves.

For recurrent disciplinary problems parents will be made aware of the situation and will be asked to cooperate in the correction of the situation.

The Joeys Way

The Joeys' Way seeks to incorporate all aspects of the Religious Life of the School. The Religious Life of the School incorporates four areas:- Religious Identity and Culture, Prayer and Worship, Evangelisation and Faith Formation and Social Action & Justice.

At St Joseph's, the Joeys' Way is actively taught through specific lessons involving the School's Identity and Culture, our 5 School Virtues of Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Prayerfulness and Service as well as aspects of the Making Jesus Real (MJR) program. Students also focus on their social and emotional development through Mindfulness and the Smiling Minds Curriculum.

Our students aim to celebrate and live out 'The Joeys' Way' through:-

- Celebrations of significant feast days relating to our school - St Joseph's Day, Mary MacKillop's feast day
- Prayer assemblies and Liturgical celebrations i.e. Masses of specific Catholic events and Australian events
- Special events - Mother's Day breakfast, Father's Day Cook Off, Grandparents Day

The Joeys' Way is how we live out the Gospel Values, our School Virtues and our rich history in our daily lives.



EVERYDAY EXPECTATIONS & REQUIREMENTS

Everyday Requirements

1. A decent size backpack that your child can easily open and fit their lunch into.
2. A library bag to be brought to school every Wednesday
3. A broad brimmed school hat that can be purchased at the Office.

Uniform

All summer and winter uniform requirements are available for purchase in Administration. Please refer to the Uniform Policy and Dress Code attached.

Named Belongings

All belongings should be clearly named. We encourage children to read their name on their belongings, so it is a good idea to put both Christian and surname e.g. Thomas Smith.

Sunscreen

Sunscreen is available in the classroom and will be put on by the children before they go outside to play. If your child is allergic to specific sunscreen, please let the teachers know.

Shoes

All children are required to wear their shoes while at school. Children will need black school shoes and sports shoes (any colour) for sports days.

Jewellery

NO jewellery is to be worn to prep, except sleepers and studs for pierced ears. Jewellery is a health and safety issue as well as a problem if pieces become lost.

Weapons

Any weapon or instrument that could be used to cause harm is prohibited ant any school/college sanctioned activity.

Students breaching this requirement may face serious consequences including suspension and the termination of their enrolment. The matter will be reported to the Police.









SCHOOL ROUTINE

Session Times

First Bell: 8.40am All children assemble in the covered area and wait for their teacher.

First Lunch:

11.00am – 11.40am. This is the children's big lunch for the day. This will allow them time to play and eat before the heat of the day.

Afternoon Tea:

1:40pm – 2:00pm This is a shorter break in the middle of the afternoon session

Final Bell: 3.00pm

Lunch and Afternoon Tea

Every classroom is equipped with a fridge, the children can keep their lunch fresh and cool. It is asked that children put their own lunch boxes away so that they know where to retrieve and return them to during the course of the day.

St Joseph's operates as a NUT AWARE school. This means that we are aware of what items in our lunch box contain nuts and we are conscious about washing our hands once we have eaten these items. We do have students at our school who are highly allergic to nuts and we ask parents to support us in sharing this very important information with their children to ensure we reduce the risk of these students having an allergic reaction to nuts.

Punctuality

Punctuality in bringing your child to school and collecting your child is very important. If you arrive late and your child misses some of the program it can be unsettling for both your child and the other children in the group. If you arrive late to collect your child, it can be very disconcerting for them. Teachers would appreciate it if you could notify them if you are going to be delayed in collecting your child.

Please remember this is a five day a week program and therefore children are expected to attend on a full-time basis. If your child is ill, or will be absent for any reason, please inform the school.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Student Absences

In the event that your child can not attend school for the whole or part of a day, please ensure that you either call or email the office on the morning of that day to indicate their absence. This will ensure that our attendance records are kept up to date and teachers are aware of those children not attending school that day. If you have not contacted the school by 10:00am a text message request will be forwarded to parents/carers requesting them to contact the school to advise of student absence.

Appointments with Staff

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School actively encourages open, productive and worthwhile communication between parents/guardians and teachers. To achieve this, it is important that all parties involved are adequately prepared and focused. Therefore, it is requested that parents make an appointment with staff in order to discuss student progress. This can be made by ringing Admin or emailing classroom teachers.

Book Club

Throughout the term, the children will receive from the school a list of available purchases. The children have to return their order and correct money in an envelope with family name to the office by a date given. There is no obligation to make purchases as this is an optional service to students, whilst also assisting the library to accumulate books through "Scholastic".

Booklists

At the end of each year, book lists for the following year will be issued to parents. These books will be available from the Newsagency, or you may organise to purchase your books elsewhere. Costs associated with the purchase of books can be quite high, so all effort is made to ensure that these costs are kept to a minimum. Teachers may make a request to parents to purchase more items during the year if items are lost or need replacing.

Communication

Communication is key to any successful operation. Knowing this, at St Joseph's we are committed to maintaining positive, open communication between teachers, parents and students. Therefore, keeping in touch with your teachers is vital. This can be achieved by coming into school each morning and afternoon or by emailing or ringing your child's class teacher with any questions or concerns you may be having.

Key messages are also shared on Friday morning assemblies. We encourage and welcome you to join us every **Friday morning from 8:40am**.

St Joseph's has a school website in which a range of information is available to parents. This can be accessed at <http://sjblrok.catholic.edu.au> We also have a Facebook page in which we share important messages, activities and student achievements. **The school newsletter** is sent out each Friday afternoon via email and hard copy. We encourage all parents to interact with the newsletter to keep up to date with classroom news and important information from the Principal and APRE.

Custody Matters

Schools are often confronted with issues relating to custody of students. While such issues are often emotionally charged, the school will manage custody related issues in accordance with the law.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School aims to develop and implement a clear and responsible process for managing custody related issues at a school level.

- Parents or caregivers are required to complete and sign accurate enrolment forms for children for whom they have custody.
- Enrolments must be accompanied by Birth Certificates or similar which prove a student's name and birth date.
- The school will only enrol a child under the name provided on a Birth Certificate or more recent legally recognised document.
- Any custody issues are to be declared and supported by legal documentation – which will be photocopied and retained on the student's individual file.
- The Principal will be responsible for ensuring that the school complies with all Family Court Orders or similar legal documents relating to custody.
- The school will assume a default position that both natural parents have equal access to enrolled students unless current court orders or legal documents dictate otherwise.
- Both natural parents will have access to school reports, newsletters, parent interviews, and their children at school unless court orders or similar legal documents dictate otherwise.
- Parents or caregivers who claim custody restriction but fail to provide documentation will not have their requests met until such time as supporting documentation is provided.
- People who have their access restricted to students, and whose presence at school or requests for information etc are in breach of court orders or similar legal documents will be directed immediately to the principal.
- The police will be contacted immediately if people refuse to comply with the principal's lawful instructions or to obey court orders or similar.
- Any breaches of custody restrictions will be reported by the principal to the parent who normally looks after the child.
- The parent should advise the school by letter if permission is given to have the child collected by a person other than the person who has legal custody. All information collected by the school remains strictly confidential.

Library

The school library is maintained through the employment of a Library Assistant. The library is open for borrowing books and renewing homework readers each Friday. This space is well resourced and updated yearly through our school budget and also through the use of the Scholastic Rewards System. The key to all learning is reading and children should be encouraged to read varied matter at home. Students from Prep-Year 2 will need a library bag in which to carry books. Any parent willing to help our Library Assistant with book covering etc. please contact the school office.

Lost and Found

There is a lost property box located inside the school administration office. Items found at school will be kept for some time, but unclaimed items may be donated to charity after one year. This includes uncollected clothing items

Money brought to school

Please ensure that any money brought to school is contained in an envelope or bag with name and purpose marked on the outside. Money can be given directly to the school office or classroom teachers to be forwarded to the office.

Parent/Teacher Information Night

At the beginning of each year, we hold these nights to allow

- The teachers to meet the parents of the children they are teaching
- To give a brief outline to parents of the curriculum and classroom procedures and expectations for the year.

Parent/Teacher Interviews and Progress Reports

Informal chats about how your child is progressing are always welcome and best held after school. Parents are encouraged to make an appointment with the class teacher at any time to discuss their child's progress or concerns.

- Teacher/parent interviews are conducted in terms 1 and 3.
- Formal reports are issued to parents at the end of each semester, terms 2 and 4.

Parent Lounge is used to access both parent/teacher interview bookings and reports cards. Families will be issued their username and passwords on enrolment. For assistance with this platform, please direct your questions or concerns to the school administration office.

Uniforms

A Uniform dress code reinforces in students a pride in their own appearance, instils recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community, and assists in developing pride in representing the school. Uniforms are available for purchase in the school office, please ensure items are labelled.

Requirements:

Girls Uniform

- Blue Checkered uniform dress OR School polo shirt, navy blue shorts or skort cut just above the knee.
- Visible white socks
- Navy blue school hat with full brim and badge
- Black school shoes (everyday)
- Joggers (Friday only)
- Plain navy blue tracksuit pants and Jumper (winter months)

Boys Uniform

- School polo shirt and navy blue shorts
- Visible grey socks
- Navy blue school hat with full brim and badge
- Black school shoes (everyday)
- Joggers (Friday only)
- Plain navy blue tracksuit pants and Jumper (winter months)

- Make up is not permitted to be worn.
- Acceptable Jewellery – Wristwatch (no smart watches), small gold or silver religious medallion, plain small sleepers or studs (one pair). No bracelets or visible body piercings.
- Hair – Unkempt hairstyles are not permitted
 - Hair when shoulder length or longer is to be tied back completely
 - Fringes are not to hang over the face
 - Colour hair is not allowed
 - Extreme haircuts (mulletts, mohawks, rat tails, skullets) are not permitted
- Free Dress Days – students must wear appropriate sun safe clothing which does not carry inappropriate images or messages. Closed in shoes are mandatory.

Tuckshop

Each term this year we will outsource our tuckshop to local business houses. Tuckshop days are subject to change depending on the schedule of each contracted business. Menus are published in our weekly newsletters, as well as emailed to parents. Reminders to submit orders are texted out to parents the day they are due. Tuckshop bags are sent home with students the day prior, orders can be placed in a large container underneath the library building or dropped into the school office.

Staff

At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, we're blessed to have highly trained professional teachers and staff who respect the students and are always approachable. Our current staff members include:



ADMINISTRATION

Principal -

Mrs Samantha Suthers

Assistant Principal: Religious Education (APRE) -

Mrs Clare Barron

Parish Priest -

Fr Shaiju Lookose

Administration / Financial Officer -

Miss Vivienne Van Mosseveld



TEACHERS

Kindergarten - Miss Kate Baillie

Prep / Year 1 - Miss Sally Suthers

Year 2 - Miss Madeleine Baldwin

Year 3 - Miss Brydie Parle

Year 4/5A - Miss Jacinta Biddulph

Year 5B/6 - Miss Bec Manns

Learning Support

Mrs Amy Crook-King

Art

Miss Lucy Senior



ANCILLARY STAFF

Kindergarten Director & Teacher Assistant -

Ms Kristina Olive

Teacher Assistants -

Mrs Gaye Crawford

Mrs Tara Richards

Miss Lucy Senior

Library Assistant -

Miss Lucy Senior

School Facilities Officer -

Mr Charley Watt



EARLY YEARS PRECINCT

In 2019, works on two new learning spaces for Prep and Year 1 were completed, forming the new Early Years Precinct. These spaces have been designed to complement 21st century learning approaches and encourage collaborative teaching and learning opportunities between Kindergarten, Prep and Year 1.

The Preparatory Year is an initiative from the State Government for children who turn 5 years of age on or before the 30th June in the year they wish to enrol. As of 2017, the Prep program is a compulsory, full-time, full-day program which aims to provide educational experiences for children based on the Early Years Curriculum and Australian Curriculum. The key components of this program develop skills in problem solving, investigating, participation and reflection. This allows your child to develop skills to assist them to be lifelong learners. The preparatory program focuses on the following learning areas:

- Language learning and communication
 - Health and Physical Learning
 - Active processes
- Early Mathematical understandings
 - Social and personal learning
- Learning within a play-based curriculum



INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

THE PREP YEAR

As young children transition into Prep, the curriculum establishes the foundation for successful learning. The Australian Curriculum builds on early learning from home, kindergarten and childcare.

In Prep, children:

- learn to negotiate as they collaborate and cooperate with others
- develop creativity in thought, imagination and strategies for problem solving
- build social skills that support positive relationships
- learn how to regulate their behaviour and understand others' feelings
- become aware of their own and others' emotions.

Prep children develop a sense of wonder and awe about God through relationships with others and the world.

Prep children develop oral language skills as they listen and follow instructions, take turns, explain ideas, ask questions, tell stories, plan investigations and clarify thinking while problem solving.

Prep children develop literacy as they listen and respond to stories and learn new vocabulary, read along with the teacher, draw, write and talk about ideas and learn about sentences, words and sounds.

Prep children develop skills in numeracy through engaging in activities such as sorting objects, comparing lengths, continuing patterns, counting in sequences and connecting number representations.







THE FIRST DAY OF PREP 2022

The first day of Prep for 2021 is Tuesday 29th January. When you arrive with your child on the first day please come in and greet the Teacher and Assistant. A name tag will be available for your child to wear. You can help your child place his/her belongings in the correct place. Staff will be there to assist, so please ask for help if you are unsure.

Communication

Communication is key to any successful operation. Knowing this at St Joseph's we are committed to maintaining positive, open communication between teachers, parents and students. Therefore keeping in touch with your teachers is vital. This can be achieved by coming into school each morning and afternoon or by emailing or ringing your child's class teacher with any questions or concerns you may be having.

Key messages are also shared on Monday morning and Friday morning assemblies. We encourage and welcome to join us for both of these.

St Joseph's has a school website in which a range of information is available to parents. This can be accessed at <http://siblrok.catholic.edu.au> We also have a Facebook page in which we share important messages, activities and student achievements.

A school newsletter is available via the Schoolzine App or Schoolzine email link each Friday fortnight. The newsletter includes classroom news and important information from the Principal and APRE. Please make the time to read through this document carefully so you are up to date with everything that is happening at St Joseph's.

Progress Reports

Informal chats about how your child is progressing are always welcome and best held after school. Teacher/parent interviews are conducted in terms one and three. A written report is sent home at the end of each semester i.e.: June and December.

Parents ~ How can you help?

As the primary educators, parents play a vital and valued role in the education of your child. We encourage you to:

- Keep up to date by reading notices and newsletters
- Offer to share any hobbies, interests or expertise you may have with the children (eg. Cooking, music, craft)
- Volunteer to help with reading groups and other activities
- Cover and repair books for the library
- Donate dress up costumes
- Bring in your junk materials
- Assist in reading groups throughout the school (including Dads and Grandparents)
- Discuss any worries or concerns with the teacher
- If you are aware of anything we could improve, please come and see us.



CURRICULUM

At St Joseph's we believe that our Curriculum Vision provides the outline that informs and guides our teaching and learning.

In partnership with parents, students and the wider community we seek to provide an environment where all learners are valued. We recognise that each individual learns in a variety of ways and will be encouraged to develop into reflective and self-directed learners who are on a journey of life-long learning.

Reflecting the diversity of our students' unique gifts, talents and lived experiences, a broad and inclusive curriculum is offered over the following areas:

- Mathematics,
- English/Literacy,
- Religious Education,
- Science,
- Technology,
- Arts,
- History,
- Geography,
- HPE,
- Languages – Japanese (Year 5/6)

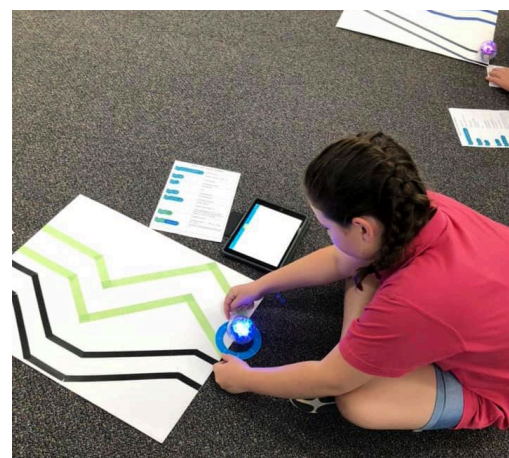
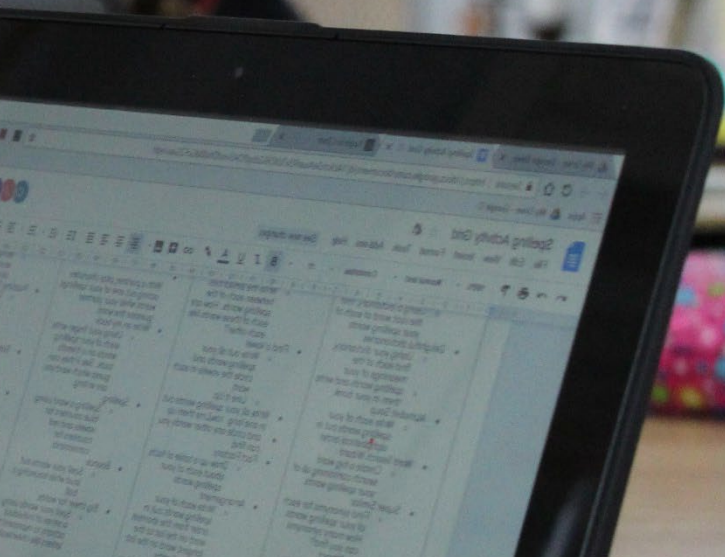


EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

School Based Sport –St Joseph’s Primary School offers a range of school-based sporting opportunities to students throughout the year. Training sessions are based on developing student’s skills in a range of different sports, generally focusing on Central and Northwest Sport selection (Netball, Rugby, Touch Football, Cross Country, Athletics) Sessions are generally run within school hours or one afternoon a week.

Music Lessons - Keyboard and Guitar Lessons instructed by Primary Music Institute – Offered via Zoom Video Conference. Interested participants must register through Primary Music Institute – A schedule of fees is available on their website. <https://www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au/>

A variety of artists and professionals visit throughout the year offering numerous activities and workshops for students i.e. Rocket Lunch Workshops, Archery Workshops, Harp and Instrumental Sessions, Growth Mindset Seminars, NRL and Cricket Clinics etc.







SPORT

Sport is a vibrant and exciting aspect of school life. Sport builds character and community, confidence and self-esteem, fitness and mental aptitude, friendships and life long memories.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School offers a range of sporting opportunities to our students across all age groups throughout the year. Students from age 10 years and above have the opportunity to participate in representative school sports in both Central and Northwest Sporting Schools Carnivals.

Students are able to participate in the following variety of activities:

- Netball
- Touch Football
- Rugby League
- Swimming
- Athletics
- Cross Country



CAMPS AND SCHOOL EXCURSIONS

Educational tours, camps and excursions are encouraged by the school after instigation by individual teachers.

It is usual practice that Grade 5/6 children will embark upon a camp during the year.

All educational tours have to be approved by the Principal with parental consent to be obtained. Costs will always be kept to a minimum and no child will be excluded from an excursion because of an inability to pay the costs. Often fundraising events are held throughout the year to also help contribute to the cost of camps and excursions.

A minimum of 1 adult per 15 children shall be needed to embark upon a tour. The accompanying teacher and Principal will ensure that there will be a mixture of both female and male adults on the tour and the number of parents required to attend.

All children and parents will be made aware of the expectations placed upon the children as preconditions of their participation on the trip.





FACILITIES

Our buildings and learning opportunities have evolved over time.

The year 2019 brought with it extensive upgrades to learning spaces and other amenities throughout our school, this included;

- new Prep and Year 1 classrooms,
- a renovated Year 5/6 classroom,
- upgraded Library space and a new Learning Support room,
- a new student toilet block,
- an Early Years natural play space,
- a new large playground and covered area.









PARENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Parent and community involvement is a major part of our culture here at St Joseph's. Every parent within the school is automatically a member of the **St Joseph's Parents and Friends Association**. The P & F are an important and integral part of the school.

The job of the P & F Association is varied, but include many of the following activities:

Social – including welcome BBQs, wine and cheese nights, state of origin nights, class dinners etc. – anything that brings parents together for a fun time and to get to know other parents and form community.

Pastoral activities – a very important part of community – these might include a casserole bank to assist families with disruptions eg Births, deaths, illness etc., lifts to school in some cases, sending sympathy cards where appropriate etc.

Three areas which overlap are resourcing, financing and fundraising.

Resourcing – providing 'things' for classrooms or the whole school generally (books, art supplies, desks, shade sails, music equipment etc)

Financing – Pay for buses to take students to activities or camps etc., fund extra music or choir lessons etc.

Fundraising – A major fundraising event for our school is our biennial St Joseph's P&F Campdraft. These funds help facilitate upgrades, improvements and additional resources required throughout the school, as well as subsidising the cost of camps and excursions.

Tuition Fees

Tuition fees and levies are determined in Term Four each year and information on current fees and levies are always passed on to parents.

Fee accounts shall clearly state the terms and methods of payment. These should be paid within fourteen (14) days. Flexibility of payments is available e.g. weekly, monthly, quarterly. Parents who experience difficulty in paying fees or levies are asked to make an appointment to see the Principal so alternative arrangements can be made. Any arrangements are kept in the strictest confidence and it should be noted that the inability to pay school fees should never be a reason for denying a child an education in a Catholic School.

- An account will be forwarded in week 2 of each term.
- Families with more than one child attending a Diocesan School will receive a discount on Tuition Fees.
- Families who are experiencing difficulties are encouraged to contact the Principal so that supporting arrangements can be negotiated.
- The school recommends that families use the direct debit arrangement for the payment of school fees.

2022 Tuition Fee Schedule **Tuition Fee Per Student**

Students in Catholic Schools	One	Two	Three	Four or More
Discount Percentage	0.0%	12.5%	35.0%	50%
PRIMARY - per week	\$33.75	\$29.53	\$21.94	\$16.88
PRIMARY - per term	\$337.50	\$295.30	\$219.40	\$168.80
PRIMARY - per year	\$1350.00	\$1181.30	\$877.50	\$675.00

Catholic Primary Schools –Building Levy - Each family will be charged a building levy (Primary) of \$98.50 per term (\$394 per year) per family with normal school fee billings. As this amount forms a collectable part of school fees no tax deduction is possible.

Concession Card Tuition Fee Discount - A 70% Tuition Fee Discount is available for ‘means tested’ government Health Care and Pensioner Concession cards. These cards must meet eligibility criteria for this concession to apply.

Principal’s Concession Scheme - Total or partial exemption from the payment of fees and levies is available on application to the Principal to ensure that confidentiality is maintained.



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School **NOW TAKING ENROLMENTS**





Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

“EFFORT WINS SUCCESS”



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

P.O. Box 211

Blackall, 4472

Administration: (07) 49 948 385

Email: sjbl@rok.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.sjblrok.catholic.edu.au

Location: 109 Thistle Street, Blackall, QLD, 4472.