

NEWSLETTER



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St. Joseph's Parish School Gladstone

Week 10 Term 2, 2025



30TH JUNE 2025

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." — Matthew 11:28

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 2 2025

Week 10

Wed. 2nd July:
Yr 3-6 Netball Carnival
Adelaide

Thurs. 3rd July:
Whole school mass 2pm

Fri. 4th July:
PUPIL FREE DAY

TERM 3 2025

Week 1

Mon. 21st July: First Day of
Term 3



On Wednesday 25th June the students of St Joseph's Parish School were fortunate to travel to Adelaide to attend a stunning musical performance of Beauty and the Beast.

2025 is a Production Year for our school so our Parents and Friends Committee purchased tickets for the musical to help inspire our students. It was a truly fantastic day—long, but filled with joy, excitement, and unforgettable moments. We are incredibly grateful for this wonderful opportunity and feel truly blessed to have shared such a special experience together.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our dedicated staff for their support in making the day run smoothly. An even bigger thank you to both our past and present Parents and Friends Committee members, whose tireless fundraising efforts have made excursions like this possible.

We have no doubt that this magical day has created beautiful core memories for our students. We particularly enjoyed hearing of their wonderings afterwards - from set designs, lighting features, costume changes to special effects. We even had a few who thought they were watching a movie for the first twenty minutes! It was special to experience the thrill of theatre through the eyes of our students.

Principal's Message

It feels surreal to be writing the final newsletter for Term 2, but I do so with a heart full of gratitude. This term has been rich with meaningful experiences, genuine acts of kindness, and a strong sense of community spirit at its finest. While this newsletter offers just a snapshot of the past fortnight, it's difficult to fully capture the impact of the smaller, everyday moments that happen alongside the major events on our school calendar. St Joseph's is truly a special place—an incredible credit to the dedication of our staff and parent community, and a living reflection of Mary MacKillop's vision and mission. I am delighted that Mrs Sarah Freer has been appointed as your substantive Principal. She brings not only a wealth of skills and experience, but also a deep sense of faith and community—qualities that will serve this school beautifully in the years ahead.

I personally want to thank our Parents and Friends Committee for their generous donation of tickets for our students to experience Beauty and the Beast, it was an incredible opportunity to experience high quality performing arts. I also want to acknowledge their work in providing opportunities for community connection such as the Games Night and the fundraising via school lunches at Stadium Day. Thank you.

We asked students to share their thoughts about Beauty and the Beast to be shared in this newsletter:

- I really liked the Beauty and the Beast because the actors were great and there were special effects. My favourite scene was when they had a really cool background and it looked like an optical illusion. I also liked when the hunter was throwing knives and shooting arrows at a barrel. (Hendrix Yr 5/6)
- The beast was scary, but my favourite part was Gaston bowing on the stage. (Zoe Yr R/1)
- My favourite part was the big bright flashing lights. (Gracie Yr 2/3)
- It was loud with wonderful music. I loved the beast flying across the stage. (Camryn Yr 3/4)
- The sound effects added so much more excitement to the production. The characters suited every individual person. The lighting made the scary scene feel real and lifelike. I thought the most amazing part was done by people and instruments. The props brought the whole show together. (Sophia Yr 5/6)
- I liked the bus ride and the fireworks in the show. (Clancy Yr R/1)
- I really enjoyed the way they quickly changed costumes. But wonder how they changed so quickly. (Oscar Yr 2/3)
- My favourite part was the hunter singing a song and shooting 3 bottles and they smashed. (Harry Yr 3/4)

Staffing

Mrs Alex Flannery and Mrs Jaimie Clark will be taking long service leave at the beginning of Term 3. We wish them well as they take this well-earned break. The Reception and Year 1 class will have Mrs Kelly Shekle on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday and Mrs Shona Simpson on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Flannery will return Thursday of Week 3 and Mrs Clark will return Week 4. Mrs Simpson will also be doing our NIT release teaching role on Tuesdays in Week 10 of Term 2 and Week 1 of Term 3, replacing Mrs Gay Growden who is on leave.

Catholic Identity

Our 5/6 Class led a beautiful mass in week 8, celebrated by Fr Ranjith. Thank you to all students for your respectful and engaged approach to this celebration. We look forward to celebrating our end of term mass next Thursday at 2pm.

Mr Shane Arbon recently shared a beautiful coincidence with our school community. Over the past few years, he has used the story of Sony in prayer experiences with both students and staff. Sony, who sang True Colours during an X-Factor competition, had faced significant challenges due to Kimura's disease—an incurable inflammatory disorder.

In these prayer experiences, Mr Arbon shows the video of Sony's performance and invites students to reflect on kindness—a core value in our school community. These moments of reflection encourage students to consider how they can show compassion in their everyday lives. The song True Colours not only reinforces this message of kindness but also aligns beautifully with this year's Diocesan theme, Seeds of Hope. It reminds us that both music and kindness can be powerful sources of encouragement and hope. In a recent coincidence, Mr Arbon had the opportunity to meet Sony (pictured) during a SAPSASA footy team dinner. His inspiring story has deeply influenced Mr Arbon's class and staff prayer experiences over the years.



Sporting Success

In week 9 we had five students participate in the SAPSASA Netball competition in Adelaide, representing our school and region. We congratulate them on their selection and participation in this carnival, as well as their perseverance through some pretty rough weather! Well done Ava Kirkman, Georgie Arbon, Imogen Wardle, Isabella Thomas and Zachariah Robinson—we hope that you all enjoyed the opportunity! Ava K and Imogen's team won 5 of their 9 games in Division 4. Bella and Georgie's team won 4 of their games in Division 2 and Zachariah's team won 5 of their games in Division 2. Georgie, Bella and Imogen shared that some of their favourite moments were getting to play with different people from different areas and experiencing netball at a different level. Zachariah enjoyed getting to know some new friends.



St Joseph's Parish School Term 2 Family Calendar 2025 UPDATED

WEEK	DATE	EVENT
10	Wednesday 2 nd July Thursday 3 rd July Friday 4 th July	SACPPA Year 3– 6 Netball Carnival in Adelaide End of Term Mass @ 2:00pm, dismissal @ 3:10pm PUPIL FREE DAY (Staff Professional Development)
Term 3		
1	Monday 21st July	First day of Term 3

GAME NIGHT

Thank you to our dedicated Parents and Friends Committee who recently hosted a Family Games Night using newly purchased games for our school library. It was a delight to see the community connections flourishing!



Electives

We're proud to share some of the incredible work being done by our students and the supportive community here at St Joseph's. While some projects are still a work in progress, they reflect the creativity, dedication, and collaboration that define our school. A heartfelt thank you to the staff who make this wonderful program possible, and to our parents who generously give their time, knowledge, and skills. Your support makes all the difference.



Year 6 Shirts 2025