Dear Parents,

St Joseph’s Manual Arts students were with us last Friday and Saturday and have completed another set of shelves in our sport’s shed. The well-built shelves have added some much needed, extra storage space for our equipment up off the ground. On Saturday the boys and their teachers ran some football drills with some of our students. Thank you to those families that were able to make it down to the school. Students’ young and old had a great time developing their skills. I would also like to thank their teachers; David Klease, Scott Edwards and Brian Cantwell, for the time they devoted in supervising and organising this wonderful community initiative. Thank you St Joseph’s College-Toowoomba.

The students this week have started their cross country training regime in the lead up to our event on the 1st of May. Training begins at 8:25 every morning and children are encouraged to bring a spare pair of shoes to run in if they wish. Thank you to the Trevisiol family who have been setting up our markers every morning for training. I encourage children to keep training throughout the Easter break.

Students were led through the Stations of the Cross yesterday with Father Sean. Father Sean guided the children through the appropriate prayers and explanations of each stage that formed part of Jesus’ final journey. On behalf of the teachers and the students I would like to thank Father Sean for his time and his insights.

Please note that Holy Thursday Mass (2nd April) will be held at 6pm, Good Friday Mass at 11:30 am and the Easter Vigil will be held on Saturday. Of course all members of the community are welcome to attend. These masses serve as a great reminder to the true meaning of Easter.

Students and teachers, in the spirit of community, with Easter Hats in hand, will be making their annual pilgrimage to Casa Mia Nursing Home and the hospital on Monday morning to model their creations. The expectation is that children are to complete their Easter Hats in their own time. There are great templates on the internet that should help everyone with this task.

I hear that there are great prizes up for grabs so get creating!

Mary MacKillop reflective saying for this week:
“A certain sense of God’s wonderful love wonderfully strengthens me.” 25-3-1873

God Bless,

Tyrone Maher

Congratulations to our students of the week:
Thomas, Zachary and Tyson!

Parents: Please ensure sunscreen is on your children before coming to school!
Year 3—6 Academic Awards
A huge congratulations to the entire Year 3 and 4 classes for achieving 100% in number facts!

Well done to Jack and Jorja who also achieved 100% in number facts.
Well done to Jai, Lillian and Jack on 100% in spelling.

Remember to return your Project Compassion box by end of term.

P and F Meeting
Wednesday
22nd April 3:30pm

Please pray for these children who are preparing for reconciliation:
~Chloe O'Rourke ~Lachlan Campbell
~Ella Morris ~Samara Trevisiol
~Erin O'Rourke ~Shenae Trevisiol
~Goren Trevisiol ~Sophie Morris
~Jai Smith ~Bethany Valente
~Rhianna Valente

Please return your raffle tickets to the office by Monday 30th March. Raffle will be drawn on Thursday 2nd April at assembly.

6th Week of Lent
Project Compassion:
Vinsen from Indonesia

Sustainable food for life

Until recently, the weather in Vinsen’s small farming village in West Timor has been quite stable. However, in the last few years changing weather patterns have made harvests unpredictable and unprofitable.

To combat the variable weather patterns affecting farmers in Vinsen’s village in Indonesia, a local community program supported by Caritas Australia, is teaching farmers how to terrace land and grow sustainable crops for life—regardless of the changing weather.

Your donation to Project Compassion 2015 helps farmers in remote West Timor create a life-long source of food, improving the future wellbeing of their families and communities.

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion 1800 024 413
As part of our focus to improve our literacy standards across our school for years to come, Ms Sonia Bosnjak and Mrs Katherine Stevenson will be observing other classrooms at Holy Name Primary School in Toowoomba on Monday. Holy Name have also, in the last 18 months, identified writing as an area of focus. This is sure to be a valuable sharing experience and we look forward to reflecting on observations gathered in future professional conversations.

2014 CHAIRPERSON REPORT – ST. MARIA GORETTI SCHOOL BOARD

During 2014, the St Maria Goretti Board worked extremely hard to enhance the special religious character of the school.

The board sat on the 3rd Wednesday of every month from February to November. In February the Annual General Meeting was conducted. At the AGM new board member Matthew Shaw was introduced and was voted to the Chairperson role of the board, held previously by Debbie Elliott. Jodie Campbell was voted as Secretary a position she held in 2013.

In February 2014, Debbie Elliott resigned her position on the Board. Debbie served her maximum term and the Board would like to thank Debbie for her substantial contribution to the Board and the St Maria Goretti School.

During 2014, the Board reviewed and endorsed the following policies; Information Technology, Dress Code, Enrolments, Excursions, Fees, Sun Safe, and Behaviour Management. The Board also reviewed the Maintenance Plan and the Financial Plan and Budget. The Board contributed to other general business effecting the school and introduced the Volunteer of the Year Award.

At the end of 2014, Belinda Coleman and Michelle Johnstone resigned from their position on the board after serving the maximum term. The board would like to thank Belinda and Michelle for outstanding service to the Board and the St Maria Goretti School.

On behalf of all members of the Board, I would like to thank Paula and staff for all the effort and contribution in running the school and educating our children. The Board would also like to thank the P&F Committee for their continual support and hard work. The Board looks forward to continuing an excellent relationship with all persons involved in the school. It is only as a united group that we will succeed in the continual improvement of all facets of the school.

Finally, as Chairperson I would like to thank all board members for their contribution and support to the school. A special mention to Jodie Campbell, as Secretary of the Board, for her excellent administration management of the board correspondence.

In 2015, we will welcome new members Samantha Anderson, Lexie Bennett and Mike Price to the board. The Board will continue to work hard to enhance the special religious character of the school and I wish our school and parish community a safe and prosperous year.

Matt Shaw
Chairperson 2014