Michael Grose is one of Australia’s leading parenting educators and last week, I received an article written by him, detailing the impact on children of missing school and being late to school. I thought it well worth sharing.... (The highlights are mine.)

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day - and gets there on time. It sounds simple, but it's true. The correlation between school attendance and children’s achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it's often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees. Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools - and much of it is parent-condoned.

It's hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children. That adds up to a year's lost schooling over the school-life of a child.

This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don’t really value learning or their children’s school experiences. Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. They spend more time asleep than they do at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value. This means turning up to school every day, on time.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances, when kids should be away. But these need to be a rarity rather than the norm.

It's reassuring to know that you increase their chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. And of course regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workforce, where it will be expected that they turn up each day work-ready. The real world is unforgiving of those who stay away with NO EXCUSE. (Insights by Michael Grose. 2012, Extracts from ‘It’s not okay to be away...nor to be late to school.’)

Acknowledging that the ‘flu’ has been rampant this year, I was spurred on to share this article with you when one of our teachers mentioned to me yesterday that she had not had her full class at school since March!! Food for thought for us all!

God’s blessings to you and yours this week!

Marg Pont
PRINCIPAL

Car Park Reminders.

From all accounts, drive-through is going pretty well but while we are all still settling into the new routines, a few reminders....

- **Family names** on sun visors reduces the time you will need to wait.
- **Don’t get out of the driver’s seat** to help your child! This causes traffic jams! Let’s teach the kids to be self-sufficient!
- If you are parking to walk in, arrive early and **park rear-end**; this allows a smooth safe exit.
- **Look both ways** when backing out! There may well be a pedestrian!
- If a friend/relative is collecting your child/ren, make sure you tell them how the drive-through operates....and that the traffic is one way!

The NED SHOW is coming this Friday, August 3rd at 1.35pm in the School Hall
APRE NEWS
Last Friday we celebrated ‘Grandparents’ with a mass, open morning in classrooms and a shared morning tea. Children were smiling all morning in delight at having their special visitors. A huge thank you to all teachers, students, families, and grandparents who made this day so special!!!!

PEER SUPPORT...‘Promoting Harmony’
During Peer Support next Monday, the children will look at the notion that what they choose to spend their time on often reflects the values they have. The activities will also assist them in identifying ways they care for themselves and others, developing their understanding that you are caring when you notice the feelings and needs of yourself and others.

During the week, encourage your child to demonstrate they are caring by doing something helpful or displaying kindness around the home.
STUDENT EFFORT AWARDS

Prep J  Lexi James  For showing Prep the values of honesty and trustworthiness by returning money to a man who had lost it. Well done.

Prep S  Tanisha Dionisio  For putting an extreme effort into her writing. Tanisha has worked extremely hard at improving her writing. She is also taking leaps and bounds with her reading. Well done Tanisha!

1J  Sophie Robinson  For putting effort into all she does especially illustrating her work and neat writing.

1S  Liam Wallace  For the wonderful way Liam applies himself to his schoolwork. His shape collage was brilliant and he was able to describe what 2D & 3D shapes he used. He is also sharing his knowledge of power points with his friends.

2J  Bella Vinyard  Bella has shown a tremendous improvement in her reading and writing skills. She has taken on advice from her teachers and really shown how capable she can be! We enjoy her expression in her writing and the way she has really worked on her editing skills. Fantastic effort. Bella always has a positive word to say to others and keep up the horse-riding!

2S  Amy Munro  For being a kind, considerate and caring member of the class. You are always ready to listen and learn during class time and are friendly and helpful to everyone in the class. Congratulations Amy for these great values!

3J  Phoebe Erbacher  For always being a conscientious student and for putting in extra effort at home with all your school work. Congratulations!

3S  Ellie Millar  For her continued efforts in her school work. Ellie always finishes set tasks and is showing confidence in her abilities. Go Ellie!

4J  Isabella Baker  Isabella is always looking out for the needs of others. She is extremely kind and caring to her peers and helpful to students in the younger classes. Well done Bella, your kindness and generosity of time is greatly appreciated.

4S  Jamie Thom  For trying hard to stay on task and working independently. Jamie is a quiet achiever who is always ready to help others in need.

5J  Charlotte Hill  Charlotte always gives 100% in all areas of her work. She is a kind, considerate class member. Many thanks Charlotte and keep up the good work.

5S  Emma Lusk  Emma is a joy to have in the classroom. Her caring and gentle nature and her "always do your best" attitude makes her an ideal role model for everyone. Thank You Emma.

6J  Thomas Brunell  Tom created an amazing piece of writing using visualisation and his senses. It was the best piece he has written all year and one of the best pieces written that day - not bad for a really talented sportsman and fantastic artist! Tom can do everything - as long as he believes in himself!

6S  Conor Rogers  For consistently working hard in all areas of his learning. Conor has a special gift of being able to light up the room - whether that be with a smile, his humour or caring nature towards his peers. He has a true ‘attitude of gratitude’, noticed by all who have the pleasure of working with him.

7J  Riley Dall  For his keenness in reading. Riley is never without a book and will read several books a week. He is doing a book review this term and has already read the book, “Out of the Dust”, twice. Riley is a quiet achiever and in this year of the Olympics is solid gold.

7S  Jezze Gorman  Jezze was a fantastic leader in our peer support this week! Jezze gave clear instructions, helped the students in his group with kindness and he worked well with his co-presenter. Well done Jezze you are showing some great leadership skills.

Maths Extension Award: Dylan Beasley - for solving most of the Brainsnack cards the quickest. Well done, as it is not the easiest thing to do!

H & PE Award: Takala English - for consistently performing to a very high level in all aspects of HPE and especially with Cricket this term. Keep up the fine effort Takala.

Music Award: Charlotte Simpson - who delighted the nursing home residents with her own composition on the keyboard. Well done and keep practicing Charlotte!
AROUND THE CLASSROOMS......  5J
Welcome to the busy world of 5J. We are already into Week 4 and have lots of exciting things to tell you. Our new classroom is magnificent. We have lovely things to use like a new whiteboard and an interactive whiteboard too! Mrs Elson is starting to get the hang of it. We have six computers that help us with our work. Mrs Elson has room to put her things and this makes her very happy! We even have a speaker where messages are relayed to us. When we first came into our beautiful classroom, we lit our prayer candle and we thanked God for all the beautiful things about our classroom. We have a whiteboard that can transform into a sliding door and then we can work with our friends in 5S. I think the builders have done an amazing job! Olivia Claridge & Takala English.

Our new classroom is a lovely place where we care and share with other people. This term we have been learning about Gold and we might even get the chance to go to the Prophet Gold Mine to pan for gold! Ricky Vogler.

When our grandparents came for Grandparent’s Day, we showed them how to mark the roll through technology instead of using the old pen and paper of bye gone years. We played a gold rush game and then they got to put the correct uniform on paper dolls from the gold rush era. The grandparents loved our new interactive whiteboard. We played maths games with them. I know all of the grandparents had a wonderful time and they enjoyed meeting new people at the shared morning tea. We love our grandparents and it was lovely having them at school with us. Zariah Lamont.

We have our assembly on the last Friday in August when we will do a Liturgy in the church for Father’s Day. 5S will join us. Please make sure you are free to celebrate with us on that day.

Lyn Elson, Kim Gill and 5J

MUSIC NEWS
This Friday will see our Senior Singers perform at three local nursing homes; they are Glenbrook, Claremont and Sundale. The Yr 7 members will be unable to attend due to the farewell to Mr Mackinlay. Next Wednesday they will compete in the Primary Schools choir section of the Sunshine Coast Junior Eisteddfod. We wish any St Joseph student who may be competing in the Eisteddfod all the best and please send an email to me if you wish it to be recognized in our school newsletter.

REMINDER- When performing the Senior Singers are to wear their formal, school uniform.

The school bands will be changing their practise times on Friday due to interschool sport which is beginning this week. This Friday there are no band practices whilst a new time is arranged. Students will receive notification next week as to the new time.

Congratulations to our singers and musicians who helped make the Grandparents Mass on Friday so special. They were Elizabeth Butner-Johnston, Bridget Quinn, Abby Liddell-Harth, Chloe Nelson, Emma Lusk, Brayden Simm and Ronan Donahoe. A big thank you goes to St Joseph’s parishioner, Elsie Ford, for accompanying the students.

Keep singing
Paula Simpson
Classroom Music Specialist
Email-pford-simpson@bne.catholic.edu.au

THANK YOU
The Odgers family would like to thank Marg Pont, the Staff & Parish, P&F, Parent Contacts, the Parents & Students of St. Joseph’s for the overwhelming support over the last few months. The displacement of losing our home and relocating our sawmill has been very trying, physically, emotionally and financially. The Prayers and support has helped us through this difficult time. Thanks again to everybody for your support.
LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week
20th to the 24th August

This year the focus will be ‘Our Favourite Books’ with children asked to come dressed as a character from their all-time favourite book. They will need to be able to talk about their book, describe the character that they have chosen and if possible, bring the book to school for the Parade.

Parade Day is Thursday 23rd August followed by a Parent Morning Tea. There are a number of great activities planned over Book Week including a ‘Rug Reading’ session where students will join their Buddies to share books in the great outdoors.

“Reading opens up a world of educational opportunities for young people, providing the foundation for learning for the rest of their life.”

Can we entice you with a tea or coffee to visit us in the library and help to re-shelve some of the books that your children have borrowed through the week?
You are very welcome at any time of the day...before, during and after school!!

Maryann Wasmund

YOUR TUTOR

The school's after-hours homework centre is open, 3pm to 10pm, every school-day plus Sunday. Students have been given their personal Access Card with sign-in details.

Students should sign in when they have a maths, science, English, draft essay, research, or study question, for on-demand help from a teacher or tutor. Students also have thousands of practice questions to work through independently using the 'SkillsBuilder' feature.

The school opened this service to accommodate families who have music, sport, or busy lifestyles in the afternoon, preventing use of the on-site homework centre. The school encourages all students to use the after-hours support option to get guidance and develop good study techniques.

For lost cards or further questions, speak to Debbie Kelly in the school office or call the homework centre organisation on 1300 853 599. Students go to: yourtutor.com.au or go through the school intranet.

INDONESIAN SPEECH COMPETITION

What a great night!!! The stage was beautifully decorated by our Year 7 students; the supper organised by Nicole Domjahn and Fiona Hutson; the parents and guests on time and seated in anticipation; the judges ready for their daunting task; and finally the students – dressed in formal uniform, nervous and well-prepared to show case their speaking skills. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who played a part in making the night such an enjoyable evening.

Our place getters on the night are as follows:

Year 6
1. Catherine Quinn
2. Stella Haycock
3. Sebastian Russo

Year 7
1. David Doherty
2. Maggie Primmer
3. Monique Sutton

All the participant need to be proud of themselves for standing up and delivering a speech in another language in front of their peers. If available, these 10 students will represent us in the Annual MLTAQ (Modern Language Teachers Association of Queensland) Competition held at the Sunshine Coast University, Sunday 26 August. We wish them all the best!

Sampai Jumpa
Bu Stacey

TERM 3 SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS

Term 3 School Fee Statements were posted home last week. Any Families on a REGULAR Payment Plan (i.e. Direct Debit or regular Bpay) please DO NOT pay on this statement. As your plan is spread over the full 2012 year, this information is an update of your account progress.

If you have any queries please contact Kathy Higg on a Monday, Wednesday or Thursday.
HELLO FROM THE TUCKSHOP
The weeks are flying by! Winter is still lurking around but not for long...
Thankyou to Year 7 for your homebaking efforts (and the Chan family for not one but 2 sets of helping hands!) We welcome Prep this week and hope to see some helpers along with some yummy treats for the kids :) Only 2 weeks until Fun Food Friday!

This Week: Special> Chicken Noodle Soup warming & yummy with lots of slurpy noodles!
Helpers & Homebake> Prep
Next Week: Special> Mexican Meatballs mild & tasty with rice & melted cheese.
Helpers & Homebake> Year 1

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Remember.... Tuckshop only happens with your help!
Lee Etheridge
Tuckshop Convenor

UNIFORM SHOP
Hours are 8am—9am
Next Days: Thursday 2nd August
Tuesday 7th August

Sports Socks have arrived
Glenys Appleby
Uniform Shop Coordinator

FROM THE DENTAL VAN
The Dental Van has arrived!
All children will be offered treatment during our stay. At this stage, forms have been handed out to Years 1, 3, 5 & 7. Remaining classes will receive their forms at the end of August. Please return them promptly to the class teacher so paperwork can be done and visits scheduled.

When you return the medical/consent form for your child, your child will then be called from class, with a few other classmates for their check-up. If you wish to attend with your child, please write it on the form and an appointment will be issued. If further treatment is required, a separate consent form will be issued. If you have any concerns, please contact the dental van staff to answer your questions. People other than the dental van staff may not give you the correct information.
Dental Van - 0407126138.

P&F NEWS - MOVIE NIGHT
Friday 10th August 2012
School Hall
SEE ATTACHED FLYER
PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN START TIMES
Prep - Year 3  5.15pm - 7.00pm
Year 4 - Year 7  7.15pm - 9.30pm
All children must be signed in and out by a parent or supervising adult and a contact phone number must be nominated.
10 Helpers per session (in addition to the P&F Committee) are required to assist with the door (taking money; signing children in & out), serving food and supervision. Please email Karen Lee fam_lee@bigpond.net.au if you can assist (we will accept male & females!!)

P5 Pleasurable Parenting Program
Are you a parent who would.......
...Like to improve your relationship with your child?
...Like your child to listen to you better?
...Like to manage emotional situations effectively?
...Like to enjoy parenting
This course may be for you!!
P5 is a participatory programme promoting pleasurable parenting. It is a 7 week structured program that encourages parents to make their own decisions. The aim of the programme is to make parenting enjoyable in a way that allows you to make informed and responsible decisions and become a confident parent.

When: Thursday 9th August - 20th September 2012
Time: 10am-12.30 with a break for morning tea
Where: Nambour Community Centre—2 Shearer Street Nambour. Room 1.
Cost: $5 per week - refreshments provided.
Book early to avoid missing out. For more information phone Nambour Community Centre on 54414724 or Good Beginnings on 5476 4933

P5 Pleasurable Parenting Program
Are you a parent who would.......
ST JOSEPH’S MOVIE NIGHT
FRIDAY 10 AUGUST 2012
SCHOOL HALL

PREP - YEAR 3
MOVIE STARTS AT 5.15 PM – 7PM
COST: GOLD COIN DONATION
Bring your own fold out chair; blanket, sleeping bag or pillows
Refreshments will be available – hotdog/popcorn/popper combo $5

YEAR 4 – YEAR 7
MOVIE STARTS AT 7.15PM – 9.30PM
YOUR CHILD MUST BE SIGNED IN AND OUT BY A PARENT OR SUPERVISING ADULT AND CONTACT PHONE NUMBER MUST BE NOMINATED
ST JOSEPH’S PARISH NAMBOUR
Ph: 5441 1034  Email: stjoenam@ozemail.com.au
Web: www.nambourcatholics.net

Wednesday 1st August St Ignatius of Loyola
9:30-9:45am Reconciliation
10:00am Mass;
10:30am Seniors Gathering; St Joseph’s hospitality attending
10:30am Parish Staff Review Process meet
3:15pm RCIA Inform Session
7-9:30pm Craft Group

Thursday 2nd August
11:15am Mass at Nambour Nursing home
7:30pm RCIA Inform Session

Friday 3rd August
6:30am Mass
7-8:00am Rosary & Adoration in the Chapel
2:00pm Bursary Applications Invited

Saturday 4th August St John Vianney
4:30-4:50pm Reconciliation
6:00pm Evening Mass for Sunday
Children’s Liturgy: Fiona Simm

Sunday 5th August St. Dominic
7:00am Mass
Children’s Liturgy: Lyn Purssell
9:00am Mass
Children’s Liturgy: Sandy Weiner
Candle Presentation: Leo Donnelly
(Amy & Stephen)

Baptisms: Baby Lucas Fitzpatrick (Stephen & Lisa)
Oliver & Mason Smith (Tracey & Patrick)
5:30pm Mass at Yandina
6:00pm-8 Youth Group

Monday 6th August Transfiguration
8:00am Mass
7:30pm Baptistmeal Preparation evening

Wednesday 8th August St Mary MacKillop
9:30-9:45am Reconciliation
10:00am Mass; Yr 4-7 attending
12:00noon Reconciliation Yr 6J
7-9:30pm Craft Group

RCIA
A reminder once again of the Information Sessions for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) to be held this week. On Wednesday afternoon at 3:15pm in the Community Centre and again on Thursday evening at 7:30pm in the Community Centre. There is no obligation. It is an opportunity for people to ask questions and for us to tell what the Church might offer. No need to come alone. Come with a friend for support! Is God calling you? Is God calling someone through your words and example?

SIGNIFICANT DATES TERM 3

AUGUST
Thursday 2nd
External Review
Friday 3rd
Assembly 4J
Senior Singers Choir—Nursing homes’ concerts
1.30-2.30 Ned Show P-7

Monday 6th
1.40-2.40 Peer Support
Wednesday 8th
St Mary of the Cross
10.00am Mass Yrs 4-7
Senior Singers - Sunshine Coast Eisteddfod

Friday 10th
Assembly 7J
Movie Night

Monday 13th
UNSW Maths Comp
Tuesday 14th
7.30pm School Board Meeting
Wednesday 15th
Feast of the Assumption
Friday 17th
Assembly 6J

Monday 20th – Friday 24th Book Week – Champions Read
Monday 20th
7.00pm P&F Meeting
Friday 24th
8.20-2.00pm Interschool Sport
(Yr 6 & 7) Skills Day
Assembly 65

Thursday 30th
Father’s Day Stall
Friday 31st
Assembly 5J
10.30am-2.00pm Interschool Sport
Yr 6 & 7 Week 1

Come join us…

Rock and Roll evening
LIVE ROCK N ROLL BAND!!!!
$5.00 per person or $20.00 per family

All ages welcome
Dancing
LOTS OF PRIZES
Supper - gold coin
Drinks - gold coin
Sausage sizzle - $2
Lucky door prize
Raffles

Where: Studio 2, 28 Rigby Street, Nambour
When: Saturday 11 August 2012 – 5.30pm – 9.30pm

We are fund raising to participate in the Dance USA Program with our Dance School. Please help us achieve our dream. Thank you,
Jane Mary and Majenta

Contact: Debra - 0409 412418
Or Kellie - 0400 953 337