COMING EVENTS

Friday, 13th November
- Ready4School at 9.00am

Saturday, 14th November
- China Trip departs

Wednesday, 18th November
- Year 8 Immunisation

Thursday, 19th November
- Year 7/8 Parent Meeting

Friday, 20th November
- Transition Visits Year 8 - 12 in 2016

Tuesday, 24 November
- Year 7 Celebration
- Year 11 Exams commence

Wednesday, 25th November
- Transition Visit Year 1 - 7 in 2016

Friday, 27th November
- F-12 End of Year Liturgy
- Year 10 - 12 Final Day

Saturday, 28th November
- Year 12 Graduation

Monday, 30th November
- Year 11 Transition Trip to Adelaide

Wednesday, 2nd December
- Christmas Evening

Friday, 4th December
- F - 9 Final Day - Normal dismissal time

Prayer for Remembrance Day

Loving God, today we remember with thanksgiving those who made the supreme sacrifice for us in time of war. We pray that the offering of their lives may not have been in vain. Today we dedicate ourselves to the cause of justice, freedom and peace; and for the wisdom and strength to build a better world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

A Note From Our Principal

Jesus was a great teacher and the lessons he taught many, many years ago are as important today as they have ever been. The reading last Sunday from Mark’s gospel (Mk 12: 38-44) is perhaps one of the most well known because of the power of the simple lesson Jesus gave. It is the story of a poor widow, who, in giving two small coins, gave everything she had to help others. Jesus compares the widow’s offering with that of the scribes who gave less than they could afford but did so with intent to make themselves look good! The widow’s giving was not for show, but reflected her generosity of heart.

We are all called upon to be generous of heart and spirit in a world where there are many people living in poverty, people are homeless and many thousands of lives have been devastated by natural or man made disasters. In today’s society, however, and particularly with Christmas approaching, there is a temptation to constantly think about what we want rather than what we can give to those in need. There is a danger of becoming fatigued by calls to give generously to good causes, but generosity of spirit does not always mean making financial donations. I am humbled by the generosity I see in our school community where students, parents and staff give in many small ways, for example to support the St Vincent de Paul Society, to clean the church, to donate prizes or awards to the school or to help with activities.

In the coming weeks and months I know that there will be calls on your generosity. We are in the process of seeking families to billet students next year for the Spencer Gulf Athletics Carnival in Term 1. Please consider opening your homes for a night to support this event as families in Port Pirie did for our students last year. Also, as many of you are aware, we have arranged temporary accommodation for our Boarding students next year at the Lions Hostel in North Shields whilst our Boarding House is demolished and fantastic new facilities are built. This will pose difficulties for Boarding students wishing to attend sports training next year, at least for Term 1 and 2. Many of our families generously help our students with transport and I hope that we may call on your time and generosity in literally going the extra mile in helping our students maintain their sporting commitments next year.

The term is racing away from us and I count my blessings daily that I have become part of this wonderful community. The school is definitely alive with the spirit of Mary Mackillop, and we remain mindful, as our patron did, of the lessons that Jesus, our foremost teacher, has to give us.

Dr Sandra Hewson
PRINCIPAL
Faith Formation

Advent
Although the time of Advent doesn’t start until Sunday, 29th November, the Primary classes have begun learning about this special time of the liturgical calendar in class, and on Monday we celebrated our very first Primary Advent Prayer Service. Each class had made a wreath, which Fr Steve blessed, and they were given their first Advent Candle - symbolising HOPE. Advent is a very special time of waiting for the birth of Christ, so we ask for God’s prayers and guidance throughout this time.

Transition
The Transition visits for kindergarten students who will begin in Foundation classes next year have concluded. Four successful visits were enjoyed by the children and teachers alike as they started to get to know each other and look ahead to 2016.

Around School

Remembrance Day

Recycling Week
Mrs Edmonds has organised a number of special activities for this week to keep our focus on looking after the environment and thinking about ways we can reduce, reuse and recycle. Students are definitely becoming more aware of and concerned about taking responsibility for making a difference and caring for their world. Today the Foundation - Year 3 students held a ‘Preloved Toy Swap’ which proved to be very popular.

PE Week
Physical Education has also been a major focus at school this week. Mrs Baldwin has kept everyone from Foundation to Year 6 busy dancing, skipping and moving every day. Physical activity is an important part of our daily curriculum and is so beneficial for our health and wellbeing.

Start Smart Financial Literacy
Year 1 to 6 classes attended lively and educational sessions about financial literacy this week. They were presented with interactive, real-life scenarios which resulted in practical learning in Mathematics.
Tennis Winners

Yesterday, **Billy Byass, Mathew Marschall, Lochlan Charlton, Levi Brown, James Ryan, Daniel Rogers, Jack Waller, Kody Rosalia** and **Nicholas Bates** represented St Joseph’s at the Year 8-10 Mixed Tennis Tournament. The boys competed against students from Cummins Area School, Tumby Bay Area School, Navigator College and Port Lincoln High School.

It was a well played competition with great Sportsmanship and St Joseph’s were victorious overall.

Congratulations to all of our players.

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**Tennis and Cricket teams!**

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G’Day Asia

Yesterday, Hugh from School Performance Tours presented "G’Day Asia" to students from Foundation to Year 6. Using puppets, costumes, stories and music, he engaged the children in the performance and imparted facts about Indonesia, Japan, India and China. This information supplements the learning about Asia which happens in classrooms.

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Year 6 Camp

Mr Watt’s and Miss Kenny’s Aquatics camp at Coffin Bay is being held today and tomorrow. We wish them and all the Year 6s good luck for a fun-filled time learning new skills on the water.

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Farewell China Tour

This weekend, a delegation of students and staff leave for a two week trip to China. As a reciprocal visit following last term’s trip to Port Lincoln by a group from China, Mrs Sally Izzo has been busy organising the group of 14 Secondary students and three School representatives from St Joe’s. They will fly into Beijing then climb The Great Wall, go to the Forbidden City and visit the Panda House, also experience meals such as Peking Duck and dumplings. The group will catch an overnight sleeper train to Xian to see the terracotta warriors and cycle around the only intact city wall. During their time they will enjoy a homestay at our partner school in the Shandong provinces for six nights.

Some of our students will be hosted by those families who they hosted here in Port Lincoln earlier this year. They will attend Huantai Experimental School and join in lessons with 6000 other students and head to Suzhou and Shanghai where they will visit silk factories, experience a canal tour and also go to the top of the Pearl Tower.

These are just some of the exciting and interesting adventures they will be taking part in and we wish them safe travels.

What an awesome opportunity.

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Super 8 Cricket Winners

On Tuesday, 74 St Joseph’s students competed in the Super 8 Cricket Carnival at Ravendale. The students competed in a round robin competition against teams from Cummins Area School, Port Lincoln High School, Navigator College and Tumby Bay Area School.

St Joe’s entered four Year 8/9 girls teams with three of them ending up in the Division A final. St Joseph’s Team 1 won the final closely followed by St Joseph’s Team 3.

There were two Year 9 boys teams with St Joseph’s Team 1 winning the Division B finals. The two Year 8 boys teams competed well and finished 4th and 5th.

Overall, it was a great day played with great sportsmanship. A special thanks to Mrs Pinnington, Mr Ambrose, Mr Blight and Miss McNamara for coaching and helping to organise the day.
Wellbeing

Parent Surveys
As part of the implementation process for the MindMatters and KidsMatter wellbeing programs, we have been surveying our school community to identify strengths and areas for action in this area. Parents are invited to complete their survey by going to:
Year 6 - 12: [link]
F - Year 5: [link]

Once completed, return the tear off slip from the letter sent home which will enter you into the draw to win a Christmas Hamper which will be drawn at the School Christmas Evening.

Curriculum

Foundation Classes 2016
We are delighted to confirm that there will be three Foundation classes in 2016. This guarantees small numbers in each class, but one will be slightly smaller to begin with to allow for students joining St Joseph’s in the mid-year intake to remain as one group.

Staffing

This week we are advertising for a full time replacement Junior Primary teacher to join the St Joseph’s staff next year.

Positions Vacant
We are also seeking two replacement classroom Educational Support Officers (each for 15 hours per week) to support our Inclusive Education Team at the School, and a permanent Laboratory Assistant.

Please contact Dianne Drennan, Principal’s Assistant, if you would like further information.

March for Climate Change

Please find at this link an important letter from Fr Philip Marshall that is introduced by Helen O’Brien’s circular. To quote Helen’s introduction which summarises the message:

“As one of our Archdiocesan responses to the call of Pope Francis in his encyclical Laudato Si, there is a commitment to participation as a Catholic community in the Adelaide Climate Change march on November, 29th 2015. Marches are being held all over the world on the eve of the Paris Climate Summit. Fr Philip will be leading the Catholic contingent in the march and it is hoped that many from parishes and schools will join him to demonstrate our commitment to ecological conversion as central to our faith.”

Further general information about the march can be found at this Catholic EarthCare link.

Japanese Word of the Week

なつやすみ = Summer Holidays

Please check your emails!

Parent Information 2016 School Year

Today we have emailed all existing families with information for the 2016 School Year. This will be in place of the physical mail out package you would have received in previous years.

If you are an existing family with a new student commencing in 2016 please refer to this email for all relevant forms and information.

For families new to our School Community in 2016 you will receive a separate parent information package shortly.

Canteen Roster Term 4, Week 6, 2015

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<th>MON 16/11</th>
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<td>J Perham</td>
<td>R Hawkins</td>
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If you are unable to attend on your rostered day, please contact Val Ingerson on 86832400 at School on 86826457.
The great saint and founder of the Salesians of St John Bosco once asked: “Do you wish to do something most pleasing to God? Help in the education of the young.” The education of the young is at the very heart of the vocation of the staff at St Joseph’s School. Their God-given vocation is to transform the lives and hearts of the young in the ways of Jesus Christ. This too, is the vocation of parents.

In the First Reading (Daniel 12:1-13) of next Sunday’s Mass we read: Those who have instructed many in virtue will shine as bright as stars for all eternity. That’s what teaching is about. Notice the text doesn’t say those who have succeeded instructing many in virtue, it says those who have instructed, those who’ve tried, those who’ve done their best.

In our own country teachers are not as highly esteemed as they should be. It’s incredibly demanding to be a really good teacher. You need to able to relate well to young people, and that’s not always easy. You’ve got to be prepared to work hard at presenting God’s truth in such a way that the young can understand it. Not only understand it, but appreciate it. You also need to be a just person – fair in your dealings with others. You need to be a person of great self-control and patience, because young people will provoke you and frustrate you and irritate you and sometimes let you down. You need to be calm, enthusiastic and a good listener – above all a person who is really dedicated to their work. If you’re not your students will soon read you for what you are.

When they get down-hearted, it’s good for teachers to look back on those words, those wonderful words of God, that those who have instructed others will shine as bright as stars.

As we near the end of the 2015 School year we thank the staff of St Joseph’s School who have instructed your sons and daughters in virtue. May God continue to richly bless their vocations and may they shine as bright as stars for all eternity.

Fr Steve Ardill
Parish Priest

Welcome, Jade!

We would like to give a warm welcome to Jade Shillabeer as our Boarding House Chef. Jade has been a Chef here in Port Lincoln for over ten years. He is married with two young boys. He is looking forward to being a part of the Boarding House team and meeting everybody and being part of our School Community.

Community News

Port Lincoln Carols on the Foreshore.
Friday, December, 4th at 6.00pm with carols starting at 7.30pm.

People’s Climate Rally
Climate Rally, Port Lincoln Foreshore, 29th November, 2015 at 2.00pm. Please bring your umbrella. Supporting a carbon free future. Visit www.peoplesclimatemovemebt.com for more information or contact Nel Taylor on 0488501250

Positive Parenting Workshop
‘Positive Parenting Workshop’ with one of Australia’s leading experts in the field, Dr Justin Coulson. Monday, 23rd November at 7.00pm to 9.00pm in the Navigator College Senior School (Windsor Avenue entrance, upstairs in the Senior School Building). This is a free workshop and an excellent opportunity for parents/caregivers with children of all ages.
Term 1 Start Date
We soon have a long, and well-earned holiday to enjoy, and no doubt you are all looking forward to spending time with family and friends. As planning for Christmas and 2016 is underway, please make a note in your diary that school will begin on Monday, 1st February for all students. This is slightly different from previous years, partly due to the later start to the year. We look forward to the return of our Boarding students on Sunday 31st January to settle into the temporary accommodation at Lions Hostel and we will all hit the ground running on the Monday.

Year 7 Parent Meeting
There will be a meeting for parents of current Year 7 students next Thursday, 19th November at 7:00pm in the Staffroom. At this meeting, information will be given about the required laptop for all Year 8 students in 2016.

Year 8-12 Transition Day
On Friday 20th November, students who will be joining us next year in Years 8-12 will spend the day at St Joseph’s. They will receive some information and spend time in classes becoming familiar with the school environment and meeting teachers as well as students in their year level.

Can you please host a billet or two?
St Joseph’s School is hosting the annual Spencer Gulf Athletics Carnival on Friday Week 9, Term 1 2016. This year St Joseph’s students were billeted by students from St Mark’s College before the carnival in Port Pirie and we are looking for host families to billet students from St Mark’s in 2016. This entails parents picking up a student(s) after school on Thursday 31st March, providing them with a meal, billeting them overnight and returning the student(s) to the Carnival at Ravendale Sporting Complex. In previous years, St Joseph’s students have enjoyed meeting students from St Mark’s with many keeping in touch years down the track.

If you are possibly able to billet a student on Thursday, 31st March, can you please let me know at school as soon as possible on 8683 2400 or via email mattewk@sjspl.catholic.edu.au. Police checks are required by billet families and this process can take up to eight weeks, therefore I would like to submit any applications before the end of the school year. Thank you in advance, your assistance is greatly appreciated to help keep this tradition alive.

Matt Keatley
Sport Coordinator

2015 Premier’s Reading Challenge
Congratulations to almost 300 students who participated in the 2015 Premier’s Reading Challenge. The Premier’s Reading Challenge is aimed at improving literacy levels and encouraging students to read more books for enjoyment.

Students from Foundation to Year 4 and Ms Kenny’s Year 6 students participated in the challenge and received either certificates or medals.

Special congratulations to Matilda and Olivia Cormack who have received their Hall of Fame certificate for completing the challenge for 10 years and Amy Penna who has participated for 9 years.

Thank you to Mrs Veronica Roach for her organisation of the Premier’s Reading Challenge.
Please bring in an item to help those less fortunate in our community this Christmas.

Donations can be sent to the Front Office or your classroom.

Suggestions for Christmas Appeal Donations:

Food (non-perishable foods): tinned ham, Christmas cake, custard powder, jelly crystals, tinned vegetables, tuna, gravy, biscuits, tea, coffee, long-life milk, pasta, rice, simmer sauces, baby foods, tinned or dried fruit, cordial, soft drinks, nuts, lollies, mince pies, tinned Christmas pudding

Gifts (no second hand items please): Hankies, socks, caps, clothing, toiletries, scarves, candles, toys and books. Other suggestions: Christmas bon-bons, party poppers, decorations.

‘Christmas’ themed F-11 Casual Day Friday Week 6

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and goodwill towards all” (Luke 2:14)