COMING EVENTS

Thursday, 4th February, 2016 - Term 1 Volume 1

Prayer

Lord, be with our community as we begin our new school year.
Bless our students, families, teachers and staff.
Give us grace and courage to grow in body, mind and spirit.
Open our eyes to new opportunities and new challenges.
Open our hearts and minds in the search for Truth and wisdom.
Inspire us to do our best and, in this special year,
guide us to show mercy and compassion to all.

Amen

Our New Staff

I warmly welcome you to St Joseph’s School. 2016 promises to be a significant year as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart and Josephite education in Australia. It is very appropriate that this milestone is being celebrated in the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, as the work of Mary Mackillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods, which began with the opening of a small school in Penola in 1866, reflected compassion and mercy to all. Throughout the year, we will celebrate this wonderful history and tradition, and actively work on how to carry forward our vision and mission with a new Strategic Plan for the future growth and development of St Joseph’s School.

I extend a particularly warm welcome to students and staff joining St Joseph’s School this year.

Our new staff are:

- Miss Kim Seemann - Reception teacher
- Mrs Kara Wodson - Year 1 teacher
- Mrs Maya Bache - Classroom ESO
- Miss Tess Ford - Classroom ESO
- Mr Swov Kutny - Classroom ESO
- Mrs Denise Dolphin - Boarding House Supervisor
- Miss Denby Wiseman - Administration Trainee
- Mr Jesse Milton - PE Trainee

We also welcome back Mr Andrew Casanova (Year 8 Coordinator) who has been overseas for a year.

What Our Students Say ...

“I have enjoyed my first week at St Joe’s and have settled into life at the Boarding House. Everyone has made me feel welcome”

Brad Wiseman
Year 11
As we begin 2016, we welcome 48 students into Reception. For students and their parents, this is a real milestone which marks the beginning of formal schooling, and what we sincerely hope will be a long term, successful partnership with St Joseph’s School. The term ‘Reception’ holds significance in Catholic schools as we receive families into our faith, our care and our mission to provide a holistic, nurturing education in the Josephite tradition of justice, compassion and hospitality, igniting a love of learning. We challenge all of our community, students and staff, to excel and become confident, respectful contributors to our global society. This vision is lived out through our core values of faith, hope, love and respect for self and others, and respect for the environment.

For our new Reception students and their families it is a time of great excitement, but no doubt there are also a few nerves, felt by parents and students, which is completely understandable. My youngest son turned 21 over the holidays, but I still remember how I felt when I dropped him off at primary school for his first day. He was ready; I was not, and the tears were not his that morning! Transition to school takes longer for some than others. In the Early Years in particular, our aim is to help students develop a strong sense of self within the community and support them in developing their social skills, relationships and curiosity in play-based, hands on learning. Children have different ways of thinking, creating, expressing and relating to their many worlds – their worlds of family, friends, school and the wider environment, both real and imagined. It is an exciting time of new experiences and such a joy for us as educators to develop and celebrate the uniqueness of every child.

Schools often talk about the importance of partnership with parents and families in educating young people. It is not empty rhetoric. We recognise parents and carers as the first and foremost educators of their children. We wish to get to know our family, our school community and our global family. Families are warmly welcomed to join us at this time.

Deepest Sympathy
We were deeply saddened, during the holiday period, to learn of bereavements involving two families associated with St Joseph’s School.

The St Joseph’s School community extends condolences to the

**Little Family** on the loss of

**Damien, Koda and Hunter,**

and more recently the

**Barbala** families on the loss of

**Paul**

‘May they rest in peace’

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This year at St Joseph’s School, we are adopting the theme of “**Show Mercy and Compassion to All**”.

This invites us to recognise the mercy of God in all things, and to show this mercy and compassion to all we meet. Reflecting this Gospel call to receive the mercy of God, we strive to provide a learning experience through which every young person has the opportunity to reach their full human potential and to know what it means to be witnesses of mercy. Classes are busy exploring this theme with their students and making special displays which will be featured in future Newsletters.

**Lent**

Next Wednesday 10th February marks the beginning of the Church’s season of Lent. It is a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Lent leads up to the season of Easter, the most important time in the Church’s calendar. By praying, fasting and giving alms we are reminded of Jesus’ death and Resurrection. Jesus brought the promise of hope for all people so that we may “Have life and have it to the full.” (John 10:10).

Tuesday is **Shrove Tuesday** which is traditionally a time for families to rid themselves of luxury items (such as flour and eggs), prior to the time of fasting over the next 40 days. All students next Tuesday will enjoy a pancake at school on this day. **Please refer to the letter that went home this week about this event; all support and assistance will be appreciated.**

Wednesday is **Ash Wednesday**, the first day of Lent. At 9.00am the Year 5-12 students will gather in the Church for Mass, and R-4 students will attend a Liturgy in the Church at 10.30am.

At these celebrations we receive ashes as a sign to remind us to ask forgiveness for the times when we could have been more loving members of our family, our school community and our global family. Families are warmly welcomed to join us at this time.

A reminder from the Canteen

**Ash Wednesday**

There will be no meat products available at the Canteen next Wednesday (Ash Wednesday).
New Beginnings

It was wonderful to see all of our students return on Monday and to hear about their long holidays. Teachers had spent a great deal of time preparing classrooms and activities for the first day and the whole school was busy and involved with welcoming, organising and planning for the term.

We especially welcome all of our new students.

Our Boarders were also warmly welcomed back on Sunday afternoon, to their temporary location at Lions Hostel, North Shields. With the assistance of our Boarding House staff, they have settled in well and quickly adjusted to new routines.

Progress is being made towards the new Boarding House, with final planning details and preparation for the demolition of the old facility happening now.

Uniform

As there has been some conflicting information about the transition period for new uniform items, students may continue to wear the white polo shirt as part of their summer uniform for Term 1 only. The new short-sleeved shirt is an over-shirt, to be worn with the hem over the shorts.

By Term 2, with the change to winter uniform, all students - both male and female - are to wear the new collared shirts with the school logo embroidered. These are to be worn with the new grey trousers/shorts or skirt/pinafore.

The cost of the new shirts is $28 (either short or long sleeved) and the shorts are $36. The trousers vary in price according to size.

‘My Dictionary’

Liverpool Street Newsagency has notified the school that they have now received their stock of ‘My Dictionary’. Parents requiring these can collect from there.

Learning Assistance Program (LAP)

The Learning Assistance Program has been running in our school for many years and has helped students with their education. It is a program where a volunteer comes into school and works with a student for one lesson a week. It could be helping with their school work, assisting with reading or being the one person that is there to give support as they go throughout the year. LAP volunteers are the extra buddies that help to make school a good experience.

We are seeking Adult volunteers in order to help as many students as possible. If you would like further information, or if you have 40 minutes that you could spare a week and would be willing to help a student, please contact Nola Samuel at school on 8683 2400 or via email Nola.Samuel@sjspl.catholic.edu.au.
Parent Information Nights

As is our custom at the beginning of each new school year, teachers will again be offering an opportunity to come along and meet together to share information about your child’s learning in their new year level and class groups. This is planned to be a less formal occasion for introductions and the chance for discussion, including questions and answers, about the year ahead. Dates and times for next week’s meetings (Week 2) are as follows:

**Tuesday 9th Feb at 6:00pm**
- Reception to Year 2 in the GP room
- Year 10 & 11 Sausage Sizzle from 6.00pm (between Home Ec and Performing Arts Centre)
- Information Session from 6.30pm
- Year 10 in the Performing Arts Centre
- Year 11 in the Gymnasium

**Tuesday 9th Feb at 7:00pm**
- Years 3 to 6 in individual classrooms

**Wednesday 10th Feb at 6:00pm**
- Year 12 in the Resource Centre

**Thursday 11th Feb at 6:00pm**
- Year 7 in KC6
- Year 8 in the Performing Arts Centre

**Thursday 11th Feb at 7:00pm**
- Year 9 in the Performing Arts Centre

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**Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden 'Wishing Tree'**

This year our school is fortunate in introducing the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden programme. The programme aims to get children involved in a shared food experience. The Year 3 classes are involved in the programme this year and are currently involved in designing and establishing the garden. We have set up a 'Wishing Tree' in the front office and are seeking donations of goods. Each leaf on the tree has one item listed. If you are able to donate an item, take a leaf from the tree and return the donated item with the leaf. Please make sure you have written your name on the leaf. This will enable us to send you a personal thank you.

Yes, some of the items can be second hand and all items will certainly be appreciated.

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**Canteen Roster - In Progress**

If you would like to volunteer in the school canteen please contact Val at school on 86832400

No meat products on Ash Wednesday

Please ensure you are using the current price list

Thank you
Spencer Gulf Athletics Carnival - Billet Families Needed
Thank you to those families who have already registered their availability to billet a student from St Mark’s College before the annual Spencer Gulf Athletics Carnival on Friday, 1st April 2016 2016 (Week 9, Term 1).

However, we still require approximately another 10 host families to billet students. 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 86832400 or email matthewk@sjspl.catholic.edu.au.

Police checks are required by billet families and this process can take up to 8 weeks, therefore, I need to submit police checks urgently to have them finalised in time. Thank you in advance, your assistance is greatly appreciated to help keep this tradition alive.

Matt Keatley
Sport Coordinator

St Joseph’s School Team Sailing
The St Joseph’s School Team Sailing starts training this Sunday for the State Titles to be held in Ceduna this year in the April school holidays. Everyone from Year 7 to Year 12 is welcome to come along and have a go even if you have never tried sailing before. No matter your ability, everyone is able to join in and be part of the team.

The sailing group trains Sundays from 8.30am to 12 noon and Wednesdays directly after school from 4.00pm to 6.00pm. The Ceduna State Titles are in the first week of the school holidays – 20th to 23rd April. The team stays together in group accommodation and will compete each day with finals on the Saturday and presentation Saturday night. It’s great fun and an exciting way to make a lot of new friends from different schools around the state.

If you are interested please come along Sunday at 8.30am. Parents are invited to stay after training for a short information session at approximately 12 noon. If you require further information in the meantime please call either

Mark Forbes (Coach) on 0429 823 388
or Kylie Hood (Manageress) on 0437 202 710.

We hope to see a lot of new faces this year enjoying the exciting sport of team sailing.

Young Citizen of the Year Award
Congratulations to our staff member, Lain Montgomerie on being awarded ‘Young Citizen of the Year Award’ during the recent Australia Day ceremony.

We are very proud of you and your achievements.

Australian Sailing Representatives
Congratulations to Skippers Sam Paynter (Year 11) and Alyssa Kelsey (Year 10) on their selection in the 50th International Cadet World Championship in Argentina during 2016. What a fantastic achievement.

To help support Sam and Alyssa and their crews, Mitchell Kelsey (Year 3) and Gil Casanova (Year 8), there will be a Movie Fundraiser organised by the Sailing Club featuring ‘The Divergent Series - Allegiant’ at Youthoria Cinema on Thursday, 10th March at 6.30pm.Tickets $15 each and are available from Coast & Country Furniture or Rose 0427822327 or Michelle 0408847475 or Kerri Anne 0428228177.

Sewing Lessons
Sewing lessons at ‘Ruby & Kate’ (29 Blackman Place) for 9 years olds and above. Please contact Ruby & Kate on 86823636 for more information.

Mill Cottage 150th Birthday Celebration
Twilight Picnic in the Park, Saturday, 27th February, 2016, Flinders Park, Flinders Highway, Port Lincoln - 5.00pm—8.30pm. This is a Free Event. BYO picnic and blanket.

Port Lincoln Arts Council Movie Fundraiser
‘The Lady in the Van’ - Youthoria Cinema (3 Hallett Place). Thursday, 3rd March at 7.30pm. Tickets $15.00 each and includes light supper after movie. Tickets from Beers Newsagency or Luggage Plus. For further information please contact Jenny on 0437038416 or Gianna on 0429822878.

Boston Netball Club
Registration night - 18th February at the Boston Sporting Club from 5.30pm. Stay for a BBQ tea. All registrations are with ‘My Netball’ online. Come along and let us help you. Trial nights - 24th and 25th February. 4.00pm Juniors - 6.00pm Seniors. 9/under are not required for trial nights. Join our Facebook page for more information.

Imperials Netball Club
Registrations now open. Grading Tuesday 1st, 8th & 15th March.
U9 no grading needed. U11/U13 at 4.30pm. U15/U17 5.30pm.
U/19 and Seniors 6.30pm. Ravendale Courts. Enquiries to Karli on 0413551796 or email imperialsnetballclub@hotmail.com - Training times provided after grading.
PORT LINCOLN CATHOLIC PARISH INVITES YOU TO...

Youth Mass

2nd Sunday of every month @6pm (starting Sunday 14th February)
St Mary of the Angels Catholic Church

Join us for a special Mass each month aimed at young people. Bring along a group of your friends!

See Miss Benjamin for more information.