Prayer

Lord, as young people growing up in Australia we are blessed with safety, security and a beautiful natural environment.

We give thanks for opportunities to experience ‘life to the full.’

Let us join together in prayer and support for the communities who are not as fortunate as ourselves.

During this season of Lent, we ask that you bless all people’s efforts to build a safe place for people old and young to grow and flourish in.

LENT

Yesterday marked the start of the season of Lent, a time of preparation for Easter and self reflection. Classes celebrated Ash Wednesday with a Mass or Liturgy in the Church. Special thanks to Fr Steve, Fr Adrian and the Year 12 Captains and Vice-Captains for leading these services.

In his homily to the Year 5-12 students, Fr Steve set each student a challenge for this season of Lent. He asked everyone to think of three particular groups of people, and to perform certain actions for each group. Our parents and caregivers: let them know how much we appreciate everything they do for us and the sacrifices made for our wellbeing and enjoyment; Our friends and classmates: extend the hand of friendship to those in need, make sure no one is feeling left out or upset; and The poor and needy in our local and global community: give generously to the Project Compassion appeal that supports the work of Caritas Australia, and think of ways in which we can care for others. These are great areas to focus on as we journey through Lent.

Faith Focus

“Lent and the Year of Mercy”

My Brothers & Sisters

The old English word Lent has the meaning of Spring, a new growth. Let us this Lent heed what Pope Francis is urging upon us, to allow our sense of the mercy of God to invade us, growing us anew. “Think of the love the Father has lavished upon us”, Scripture says. It also says, “Be still and know that I am God”. Let that be our Lenten resolution, to stop and listen a minute or so each day, to allow God to be God for us within. “Lord, if you want to you can heal me! Of course I want to!” Jesus replied. “Have mercy on me God in your kindness; in your compassion blot out my offence”, prayed the Psalmist. Let us turn those phrases over in our hearts each day in Lent. Simple, but it will draw us to encounter with Mercy, the heart of God.

+ G.J. O’Kelly SJ
Bishop of the Diocese of Port Pirie
Commissioning Mass
On Sunday 7th February, Bishop of the Diocese of Port Pirie, Bishop Greg O’Kelly sj, celebrated Mass with the St Mary of the Angels Catholic Parish, and the staff of St Joseph’s School. Part of this special Mass involved a general commissioning of all staff, as well as a special introduction and blessing of new Principal, Dr Sandra Hewson. Fr Steve Ardill was also installed as Parish Priest of Port Lincoln.

Blessing of the St Joseph’s School Boarding House
On Tuesday evening this week the School Board meeting began with a lovely service of blessing at the Boarding House. Sr Catherine Clark srj shared a reflection about The Little School that grew and grew and grew from its first days, and celebrated the long and rich history of Boarding at St Joseph’s School. Members of the Board, together with guests Aileen Pluker and Pat Dale, lit candles of thanksgiving for those whose vision, toil and generosity made the Boarding House a reality and a home where friendships have been forged and the spirit of St Joseph and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop has been ever present.

Fr Steve’s concluding prayer and blessing reminded us that St Joseph’s Boarding House has been much more than bricks and mortar; it has been a place where Gospel values have been modelled and lived. The rich and enduring story of St Joseph’s Boarding School will continue with the building of a new boarding facility to serve families in the region and meet the spiritual and educational needs of future generations of young people. ‘May their lives mirror the generosity, fidelity and sacrifice of St Joseph and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop’ (Fr Steve).

R-12 Beginning of Year Liturgy
This special liturgy to celebrate the start of the new school year will take place in the School Gymnasium at 10am on Tuesday 23rd February. This will be a chance to ask for God’s guidance throughout the year to come, and to also celebrate our school theme of "Show Mercy and Compassion to All". The newly elected members of the Student Representative Council will also be presented and blessed at this liturgy. One of the most treasured traditions we have at St Joseph’s School is the special welcome ceremony our Year 12 students give to all of our Reception students, and our new Year 1 and 2 students. Known as the "Shake and Take", each young student will be welcomed to the School by their Year 12 buddies, and presented with a special gift. This lovely ceremony certainly celebrates the great privilege we have here at St Joseph’s to be a part of a great and caring ‘family’. This ceremony will take place at the start of the Beginning of Year Liturgy. Parents and friends are warmly invited to attend this celebration.

Josephite Leaders Conference
Good luck to Dr Hewson and School Captains, Millie and Jamie, who are heading to the Josephite Leaders’ Conference in Sydney.
SACE Results 2015

St Joseph’s School students achieved excellent results in their Year 12 studies, with more than 98% completing the South Australian Certificate of Education. 13% of students achieved an ATAR in the 90s, and 43% of students achieved an ATAR over 80, opening doors to a wide range of tertiary studies, which is a wonderful achievement.

Students who achieved outstanding ATAR scores of over 90 were: Malia Gynell, Hannah Burke, Luke Orbons, Nellie Cappelluti, Nathan Wedding, Dejene Otto and Bridget Siviour. Malia Gynell achieved the highest ATAR score of 98.30, an outstanding result, and is to be congratulated on achieving a Merit in Chemistry.

A number of students achieved multiple ‘A’ grades, a testament to their hard work and the dedication of their teachers and families.


3 A Grades: Jade Ranford, Tessa Rusden, Simon Telford and Nathan Wedding.

A+ grades were achieved in Chemistry, Music Individual Study, Food and Hospitality and Research Project (Year 11).

Of students who gained an ATAR and sought University places, over 90% received first round offers to their courses of choice, which is an exceptional outcome. Of course, there are many routes to SACE completion and we also congratulate students who completed their SACE through VET courses and have gone on to apprenticeships or TAFE courses.

They say it takes a village to raise a child, and Year 12 achievements are no exception. Once students set their eyes on a goal, the support of parents and teachers goes a long way to helping young people succeed. We congratulate all our students on completing their SACE and wish them every success and happiness in their future endeavours.

Merit Awards Ceremony - Malia Gynell

On Tuesday 9th February, Malia and her parents, Zareena and Reece, attended the SACE Merit Awards Ceremony at Government House in Adelaide, along with Dr Hewson.

It was a proud moment for Malia, her family and the school, and just reward for the sacrifices Malia made during Year 12 to concentrate on her studies.

Congratulations, Malia!
New Committees

Can you spare some time and energy to help shape our vision?

New committees in 2016 supporting the St Joseph’s School Board

Many parents would like to contribute something to the life of our school, but cannot make the commitment at the level of being a School Board representative. This year we would like to establish some committees that will inform the School Board and help shape our vision and mission into the future. Committees can meet at times to suit participants, during school hours, after school, in homes, coffee shops or on school premises. The committees will meet twice per term for an hour to an hour and a half, and a committee member (who is a serving member of the School Board) will bring ideas and suggestions to the Board for consideration and approval. If you have some spare time and energy to help shape our work at St Joseph’s, please consider joining a committee this year.

Strategic Planning Committee

This committee supporting the work of the School Board will help to shape the development of a strategic plan for St Joseph’s School over the next three to five years. A major focus in the first year will be the development of a marketing strategy that will foster and celebrate the unique Catholic identity of St Joseph’s School. The committee will explore and develop how St Joseph’s is positioned in the region, and contribute to planning events and initiatives that reflect who we are as a Catholic school in pursuit of excellence.

Finance Committee

This committee will support the School Board in acting as an independent advisory group to review existing and projected revenues and expenditures. The committee will seek avenues for funding through community grants to support the growth of projects, resources and facilities in the school. The finance committee will work with the Business Manager and the Principal to discuss and propose plans for the future development of the school. It will consider annual changes to fees, and review and develop policies relevant to business operations to contribute to optimal use and development of the school’s resources. Parents with an understanding of business operations are most welcome on this committee.

Community Relations Committee

This committee will look at ways to effectively invite parents and families to have greater involvement in the St Joseph’s School community. This may be through enhancing the Old Scholar’s network, building our volunteer support, and organising and supporting social and community fundraising initiatives, working bees and projects that will enhance the facilities and resources provided for the students and families of St Joseph’s School. This committee will foster a spirit of welcome and hospitality for all in the community, but particularly for new families and those in need of support due to personal circumstances.

Uniform Shop Hours

Monday & Wednesday
3.00pm—5.00pm

Have you liked our St Joseph’s School Facebook Page?

Our Facebook Page is where we showcase many of the events and happenings around our busy school.

If you haven’t already liked our school page, please look us up on Facebook and click the like button.

St Joseph’s School, Port Lincoln

Recently uploaded:
Shrove Tuesday
and
Ash Wednesday
… Stay tuned …
Reception/Year 12 Buddy photos coming soon!

School Canteen Roster

The School Canteen roster is currently unavailable due to lack of helpers.

If you are able to spare a couple of hours, once a term, the School Canteen would love to have your help. Please contact Val at School on 8683 2400 or on her mobile 0409 930980 or at home on 86826457.
Staff Profile

Mr Reece Francis
Year 11 Pastoral Care Coordinator

This year I have taken on the role of Year 11 Pastoral Care Coordinator. I have been teaching at St Joseph’s for six years within the curriculum areas of Health and Physical Education, Mathematics and Geography and History. I originally grew up in Kimba before moving to Sacred Heart College as a boarder. After school I studied at Flinders University completing a degree in Education before moving to Keith in the South East to start my first job. My wife and I moved to Port Lincoln after she won a position at the Port Lincoln Hospital as a Physiotherapist. I am looking forward to the year ahead and wish all the students the best for their studies.

The main events that Year 11s may be involved in this year are the retreat, work experience, ski trip and transition trip. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Maths Tutoring

Maths Tutoring has once again commenced this year. It was very pleasing to have a number of students come along to the McKillop area of the Library Monday night to receive some extra support from our enthusiastic and friendly staff.

Tutoring will be offered between the time of 3.30pm-4.15pm each Monday evening, not including public holidays or student free days. It is a great opportunity for enthusiastic Year 7-12 students to attend and receive support with new concepts they are learning or homework tasks that they have been given by their class teacher to assist with consolidation of curriculum.

It is important that those who do attend make sure that they are organised with the materials they need. Students are most welcome to catch up with me prior to tutoring sessions if they need some assistance in organising some extra mathematical tasks that will assist with their personalised learning.

I would like to sincerely thank the Mathematics Faculty of St Joseph’s School for supporting our tutoring programme. This has been a huge success for many students in previous years.

Mark Blight

Traffic Reminders

Students who ride their bike to School have been reminded to TAKE CARE in and around the School grounds as drivers have reported near-misses this week when entering or leaving St Joseph’s.

A reminder also to all student and parent drivers to please obey signage at School entry and exit points, especially speed limits and “No Right Turn” times in the morning and afternoon.

Uniform

All students should have their school hat, which must be worn for all outside activities. This is especially important in Term 1 as we begin to prepare for our upcoming Sports Days.

School socks to be worn with the PE uniform and with girls’ summer uniform should be plain white (no logos) and cover the ankle. Boys are to wear grey socks with their summer uniform please, not black.

We thank you for your support in following the uniform policy. PC Teachers, will check these uniform rules are followed.

Sports Parents: Help Needed!

With the temporary relocation of our Boarders to North Shields, travel to sports practices has become a little more difficult. If you take your child to netball or football practice, please consider offering to transport a Boarding student who may be in their team. If you are able to help out with this occasionally, please let Karen Browne or Cate Wuttke know at school.

School Sailing Training

The St Joseph’s School Team Sailing starts their training this Sunday 14th February 2016 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 at the Port Lincoln Yacht Club.

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.

Parent Nights

Thank you to the many parents who attended Parent Nights this week to support and work with their children’s teachers for optimum learning. It was affirming to see good numbers, from Reception to Year 12, over the 3 nights. Primary teachers have also sent general information outlining their class routines via email or letter home with your child. Year 7 - 12 Pastoral Care Coordinators have also sent information and homework timetables. Please contact them if you have not received this
**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 a 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 via or via email - Nola.Samuel@sjspl.catholic.edu.au

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**Community News**

**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.

**Wanilla Rangers Netball Club**

Grading will be held at the PLNA courts on Tuesday 16th, Thursday 18th, Tuesday 23rd and Thursday 25th February. Juniors (U9, U11, U13 and U15) from 4pm and Seniors and U17 from 6pm.

For information call Marni on 0428 834 332, Tanya on 0428 272 060 or Louise on 0429 836 675.

All new and returning players very welcome.

Coaches still required for several Junior and Senior grades.

Please contact Tash on 0439 850 011.

**St Mary’s Netball Club**

Registration, Sunday, 21st February at 11.00am - 12.30pm. Come and join us for Morning Tea, on the foreshore near the playground. Order your new uniform, club shirts & windcheaters in time for the new season. Enquiries to stmarysnc@gmail.com or call Sally 0439 517993.

St Mary’s Grading. Seniors & U19s - Tuesday, 1st, 8th and 15th March at 6.30pm. Juniors—Tuesday, 8th, 15th and 22nd March. U11, U13 at 4.30pm. U15 at 5.30pm. No under 9s grading. Ravendale Courts. Senior players needed. Enquiries to stmarysnc@gmail.com or call Sally 0439 517 993.

**Mindful Awareness Parenting Courses**

Mindful Awareness Parenting Courses are on again this term at the Tobruk Centre for children’s development. Mindful Awareness Parenting promotes the emotional connection between parents and young children (birth - 5 years). For more information, please call Marni or Michelle on 8683 4488. Please note that the cost for the program is $250 for 5 weeks which includes all resources.

Term 1, 2016 Course dates are Wednesday, 17th and 24th February, and 2nd, 9th and 16th March from 1.00pm - 3.00pm.

**West Coast Swimming Club**

Fundraising Gala

Tickets are now available for the evening with swimming superstars Sally, Tommaso, Kyle and Amelia. $35 which includes finger food main, light dessert, silent auction items, live entertainment and an informative insight into life as an elite athlete. This is certainly not an event to be missed! The general public are welcome and encouraged to attend. Get a group together and enjoy a fantastic night out! Saturday, 20 February 2016 from 7:00pm to 11:00pm at the Ravendale Sporting Complex.

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**Snaps from around School**
Thursday, 11 February 2016

Dear Parents/Caregivers

SCHOOL CLOSURE ON FRIDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2016

I am writing to inform you of the unfortunate need to have an unscheduled School Closure Day on Friday 19th February.

As you are aware, this year we are replacing our Boarding House and demolition of the existing building is due to begin in March. Prior to demolition, we need to have any asbestos safely removed in accordance with statutory requirements. In addition to this, Catholic Education SA stipulates that nobody is on school sites whilst asbestos is being removed.

We had hoped to have this completed during the summer holiday but there have been unavoidable delays in the tender and selection process and in receiving approval for demolition.

Removal of asbestos will begin after school on Thursday 18th February so the site needs to be clear by 5pm and should be completed by late afternoon on Friday 19th February.

No access to the School or Parish grounds will be permitted during this time. Please be assured that careful monitoring of the whole process will be undertaken in accordance with WHS legislation and guidelines. This includes monitoring of air quality in the vicinity following the removal of the asbestos.

I apologise for the inconvenience this will undoubtedly cause, but seek your understanding in ensuring the safety of everyone in the community whilst this necessary step is taken.

Yours faithfully

DR SANDRA HEWSON
PRINCIPAL