Prayer

God of Unity, you call us to work together. Touch our hands, that we use them for blessing. Touch our hearts, that we use them with compassion. Touch our minds, that we use them to bring harmony. We ask this in your name, Amen.

What an amazing start to the term we have enjoyed.

As I walk around the school each day, I am impressed by the purposeful engagement of students in their learning. There is a real air of positivity and a wonderful feeling of warmth, welcome and friendship. During our first liturgy of the year, we enjoyed one of our long-standing traditions, the welcoming of new Reception students by the Year 12 students, also known as ‘Shake ‘n Take’. The special relationship that develops during the year between the oldest and youngest students in our community is a precious thing to behold, and it truly represents what we mean when we extend the invitation to come and join the St Joseph’s School family.

During the first weeks of term, we have all been thinking about our theme for the year and what it means to ‘be of good heart’ individually, and as a school. It really is about a way of being, and an approach to life and relationships, with each other, in our families and within the wider and more global community. Life can be challenging; we never know what is around the corner. However, we can approach whatever life brings with courage, optimism, hope and compassion, seeking to serve and support others whenever we can. Each day I think we have the capacity to change and grow a little as we work to become the best version of ourselves we can be. This promises a better and more caring future for all of us.

I have no doubt that St Joseph’s School has a good heart and a big heart, and I hope that we all strive to show empathy and compassion to others, to respect difference and to see the best in people. The students who were commissioned last week as Student Leaders for 2017 are embracing this challenge readily. Leadership is not about title, privileges, or power. It is about service to others, pure and simple.

Service can come in many forms, and during the year students, parents and families will have opportunities to help the school, possibly through volunteering in the Learning Assistance Program, in the Canteen or as a member of the School Board. In this newsletter, you will see that positions are vacant on the School Board as some members come to the end of their tenure or have chosen to stand down after their service to the school. I am grateful for their service and commitment. I encourage parents to consider nominating for a position on the Board as I am sure there are many professional skills in our community that could contribute to our future growth and effective governance.

Dr Sandra Hewson - Principal
We extend a warm welcome to our new staff joining St Joseph’s school this year.

Sally McIntyre  
Year 1 teacher

Cassie McKenna  
Year 4 teacher

Caitlin Mader  
Year 5 teacher

Nicole Russell  
Visual Arts and ATSI Coordinator

Jodie Hamilton  
Classroom ESO

Cecilia Trigg  
Classroom ESO

Jamie Doudle  
PE Trainee

Jemma Pycroft  
Admin Trainee

We would also like to welcome back some of our returning staff.

Alison Cocks  
Primary teacher

Jemma Hunt  
Primary teacher

Jessica Treasure  
Year 4 teacher

On Monday we received the exciting news that Mrs King had a baby girl! Congratulations to Lee-Anne and Steve on the arrival of Ava Ruby, a sister for Isaac.

Welcome to new student Belle Sayers in Year 9, who joined our St Joseph’s family last week.

The School Board met this week with a focus on goals for the 2017 School Improvement Plan. There was an excellent discussion and great suggestions related to two improvement domains: our Catholic Identity and Strong Home, School and Community Engagement. Board nominations are welcome as positions are available following the AGM in March. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Board, please contact the Principal or have a chat with any of our Board members. More information will be published prior to the AGM.

Therese Pedler (Chair of the Board)  
Your children need your support. They need people who are willing to share their ideas; people who have a background in business, finance, governance, policy and strategic planning. Does this sound like you? Then please ring Sandra to discuss nominating for our School Board.

Sr Catherine Clark rsj  
As a Sister of St Joseph, who spent three years as a teacher on staff and seven years as Principal here, I still have a great interest in the future of this school. By agreement with the Diocese and the Catholic Education Office, when we ceased to appoint the Principal, we continue to participate at some governance or support level within the school, as negotiated with the school Principal.

Michael Thomson  
I have been on the Board for the last two years. I have three children at the school, with the eldest now in Year 11. I have been proud to be involved in the school, its community and its governance. As I leave the Board at the end of my two year tenure, I encourage any parents with an interest in the school to consider serving on the Board, helping to plan their children’s and the school’s future.

Sharmayne Munro  
I have enjoyed my time immensely on the School Board and I encourage you to apply as you will enjoy it. My daughter is in Year 12 this year and I will not be continuing on the Board. To be involved in such an inspiring and passionate school is something you will treasure forever.

Sharon Kemp  
I have completed two years on the Board and will be seeking re-nomination. It has been a wonderful experience meeting new people and having an input into the school. Tony and I have been in business for ten years, and enjoy being part of this community.
**Shrove Tuesday**

Shrove Tuesday is celebrated the day before the beginning of Lent, which is the 40 day period leading up to Easter. Shrove Tuesday is a wonderful opportunity for the whole school community to come together and receive a pancake with toppings. This year we have extended a warm welcome to any parishioners who have celebrated mass that morning, to join us for pancakes between 10 and 11 am in the Junior Primary Area.

As a service to the wider community, the Secondary students will be cooking pancakes free of charge on the lawns of St. Thomas’ Church between 12 and 1 pm. Flyers will be distributed explaining the meaning behind Shrove Tuesday. Through this endeavour, We aim to highlight the significance of this important Christian tradition.

A letter will be sent home asking for your help in the form of certain foods or a gold coin donation to Project Compassion. We have been very blessed by your generosity in the past and look forward to your ongoing support.

You are welcome to join us in celebrating Shrove Tuesday on the lawns at St. Thomas’.

*Kym Rowe and Jane Morris*  
RE Leaders R - 12

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**Health Care at School**

At St Joseph’s School we are committed to the health and wellbeing of our students.

The administration of any medication is directed by information provided by a medical practitioner and is detailed on the general medication authority form and specific medical action plans, including those for asthma and anaphylaxis management.

Student Health Care Plans are required for all students who have a medical condition, diagnosed by a General Medical Practitioner (GP).

It is a legal requirement to have these updated annually, asking your doctor to provide details of best practice relating to first aid treatment of the specific medical condition(s). Staff at the school can only dispense medication approved on the Health Care Plan. No medication, including over the counter medication (e.g. Antibiotics), will be administered by staff without a signed GP medical authority form. No Panadol or Nurofen can be administered by school staff.

If a child is unwell, staff will contact parents in the first instance, or in the event parents are unable to be contacted we will phone emergency contacts.

Medical management plans for asthma may include direction for older children to self-manage Ventolin. If this is the case we require a backup supply of medication in the sick room for emergencies.

WE STRONGLY DISCOURAGE MEDICATION IN SCHOOL BAGS

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**Meningococcal B Vaccine Herd Immunity Study**

**Participation of Year 10, 11 and 12 students in The B Part of It Study**

The licensed Meningococcal B vaccine (Bexsero®) is being offered to all Year 10, 11 and 12 students in 2017 at our school by the City of Port Lincoln as part of the South Australian B Part of It Meningococcal B Vaccine Herd Immunity Study.

During 2017 - 2018 each participant will:
- Receive 2 doses of Meningococcal B (Bexsero®) vaccine
- Complete 2 single page questionnaires (1 if student is in Year 12)
- Have 2 throat swabs taken (1 if student is in Year 12)
- Receive a $20 iTunes card after having each throat swab

⇒ Immunisation consent packs have been sent home to all eligible students.
⇒ It is important that you read the information contained in the pack before you provide consent for your child to take part in the study.
⇒ The student is also required to provide their consent to participate in the study by signing and dating the consent form.

The vaccine is licensed in Australia and recommended for use in adolescents and toddlers.

⇒ The Meningococcal B vaccine is also licensed in Europe, Canada and the USA where it is being used to protect children against Meningococcal B disease.
⇒ Up to 25% of adolescents carry the meningococcal bacteria in their throat. While this may not cause illness to themselves, the adolescent has the potential to spread the bacteria which may cause disease in others.
⇒ The study aims to determine whether the Meningococcal B vaccine has the additional benefit of preventing the spread of the meningococcus bacteria from person to person.

If you have any questions about this program, please contact Aaron Price at the City of Port Lincoln 8621 2300 or the Immunisation Section, SA Health, Monday - Friday, 8.30am - 5pm on 1300 232 272.

All parents / legal guardians are requested to complete, sign, date and return the Consent Form, even if you do not consent for the student to be part of the study. If you do not receive a Meningococcal B Vaccine Herd Immunity Study pack from your child, and you think your child may be eligible, please ask at the school office.

The study consent forms are due back at school by: Friday 17th February 2017

**Absence During Term**

An increasing number of families are taking holidays during term time and withdrawing students from school, sometimes for significant lengths of time. Travel can be a wonderful experience and we would not wish to discourage learning on a broader level. However, please note that extensive absence from school can impact on the continuity of your child’s learning and holidays during term time are discouraged for students in the senior years who are embarking on their SACE studies. If you are planning a period of absence, please provide plenty of notice and ensure that you complete an Exemption from School Form. This can be obtained from the Front Office.
Around the School

For Sale
For Sale, a Think Pad yoga11 and carry case, $550. If you are interested, please contact Ines Laube on 0427 824 601.

Wanilla Rangers Netball Club
Grading is to occur at the Ravendale Netball Courts, all are welcome. Existing players, please register at mynetball.com.au prior to attending grading. New players please contact President, Tash Rayson on, 0439 850 011 or Secretary, Marni Enright on, 0428 834 323 for further information.

Flinders Hockey
Are you keen on playing hockey this season? Want to play for a family friendly, awesome club that supports its members and has fun? Then you need to join Flinders Hockey Club. Contact via Facebook or email flindershockeyclub@gmail.com for more information.

Wayback Football Club
All current and prospective Junior players are invited to attend a player registration day to be held on Sunday, 26th February on the Foreshore. For more information call, David on, 0429 830 584 or visit their website at www.waybackfc.com or find them on Facebook.

SA Dental Service
Dental care is free for all babies, preschool and most children under 18 years at School Dental Service clinics. Call now for an appointment. Please phone the Port Lincoln Dental Clinic: 8683 2700

St Mary of the Angels Parish Mass Times
Saturday Night - 6.00pm
Sunday - 9.00am (followed by breakfast)
Every 1st Sunday of the Month
- Coffin Bay Mass at 6.00pm
Every 2nd Sunday of the Month
- Youth Mass at 6.00pm
All Welcome!

Uniform Shop Opening Hours
Monday - Wednesday
3.00pm-5.00pm

Canteen Roster - Week 4 Term 1

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If you are able to help at any stage, please contact the canteen staff on the school number, 8683 2400.

SPECIALS
Beef Nachos are $3.50 a serve.
Sweet and Sour Pork with Rice are $3.50 a serve

Community News

Have you liked our School Facebook page yet? If not, jump online and click like, and then view a selection of recently uploaded photos.
Please remember to like and share our page with family and friends.