Welcome To A New School Year

It was lovely to see so many smiling faces and beautifully presented children as we commenced our 2016 school year. As always the children seem to have grown so much over the holidays.

On Monday our Kindergarten children joined us for the first time. We have a number of new families to our School and we wish them a very warm welcome. To our families who are continuing their journey with us, it was great to see your next child start their years with us. We trust your years at St Joseph’s will provide wonderful memories and that your children will reach their full potential while in our care.

Back row: Cooper O’Sullivan, Claire Vasta, Jackson Chapman, Felicity Piccini
Middle row: Elly Butler, Daniel Tomkins, Laura Aquilini, Jake Knight-Harris, Phillippa Lyons
Front row: Toby Towse, Scout Southern, Braydon Condrick, Cooper Taylor, Heidi Richards
Teacher: Mrs Warburton

We also welcome:

Rory Annand  Yr 6  Clarina De Jager  Yr 4  Lucy Harvey  Yr 2
Religious Education

Opening School Mass - 9.30am

We will celebrate our Opening School Mass on Thursday 18th February and we hope our parents will join us at this special celebration, where we will ask God for many blessings on our School and we will induct our School Captains and Year 6 Leaders. Please keep this date free.

Morning tea will follow at the school and it is hoped you will be able to join us to share a cuppa.

Ash Wednesday:
Easter is early this year and as a result our Church Lenten Season will commence next Wednesday 10th February with Ash Wednesday. Children 1-6 will attend 9.30am Mass. All are welcome to join us.

Blessing of the Candles:
On Tuesday 2nd February, children from Years 5/6 attended Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple. During this Mass, Fr Leech blessed candles to be used on class prayer tables. Each of our senior students also received a candle which was blessed at this special Mass. Kindergarten students will receive their blessed candle at the first School Assembly.

Parent Information Night
Next Wednesday evening 10th February, parents are encouraged to visit your child’s classroom to meet their teacher for 2016. During these 15 minute information sessions, teachers will outline their expectations, homework requirements and the general classroom. Please be aware that these are not Parent/Teacher interviews. Should you require more information concerning your child, please

| Calendar |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 10th February   | Ash Wednesday Mass 9.30am                      |
| 11th February   | Swimming Carnival Commencing 9.30am            |
| 11th February   | School Board Meeting 5.30pm  (Library)         |
| 15th February   | P&F Meeting 6.30pm in Library (demountable)    |
| 18th February   | Opening School Mass 9.30                      |
|                 | Induction of School Leaders and Morning Tea.   |
| 19th February   | School Assembly lead by Years 5 and 6          |
| 1st March       | School Photos                                  |
| 10th March      | School Board AGM 5.30pm                       |
| 18th March      | St Joseph’s Day Mass 9.30am                    |
| 24th March      | Holy Thursday Children finish for a short Easter break |
| 29th March      | Children return to school                     |
| 8th April       | Last Day Term 1                                |

Times for Parent Information Night are as follows:

- Kindergarten – 5.00pm
- Years 1 – 5.15pm
- Year 2 – 5.30pm
- Year 3/4 – 5.45pm
- Years 5/6 – 6.00pm
Welcome Mrs Macansh

Mrs Catie Macansh is no stranger to St Joseph’s, however she has now been appointed in the permanent position as Assistant Principal. Mrs Macansh is teaching Year 1 and already as seen by the photo below the children are having a wonderful time!

Police Horse Display

This Friday at 12 noon the NSW Mounted Police will visit our playground to conduct a display for the children. This is a wonderful opportunity and our thanks go to Miranda Frith for organising this visit. This is a one off opportunity and if parents would like to come and join us you would be most welcome.

School Board - 11th February 5.30pm

The AGM for the School Board will be held on Thursday 10th March at 5.30pm

The Board is an advisory body for the Principal and anyone can nominate to be a part of this valuable Committee. The Board meets on the second Thursday of the month at 5.30pm. Meetings run for 1 hour. Please give this careful consideration and do not feel that you cannot contribute, as you will also gain a greater understanding of the running of our School.

Parents and Friends Association:

St Joseph’s is incredibly fortunate to have an active and supportive P&F Association.

Each year the Association provides valuable funds for all children in many ways.

A major change to our school last year was the purchase of aluminium picnic tables which has ensured that our students no longer sit on uncomfortable concrete for their morning tea and lunch.

Every year the P&F provide funds for the classroom teachers to purchase Home Readers and hands on Maths equipment.

Through funds raised by the Canteen Committee, students are supported in the funding of excursions. Our P&F organise and run many of our events throughout the year including: catering for our Father’s Day Brekky, Grandparent’s Day and Carol’s by Candlelight. These are just a few of the ventures which were undertaken during 2015.

I would greatly encourage families old and new to become involved in the P&F Association. Meetings are kept to a minimal timeframe and all monies raised benefit all children.

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 15th February at 6.30pm in the School Library.

Please come and join this wonderful group!

School Times

School supervision commences at 8.30am.

There is no supervision prior to this time.

First Bell 8:50 a.m.

Second Bell 8:55 a.m.

Recess 11:00 a.m - 11:20 a.m.

Lunch 1.00 p.m. - 1:50 p.m.

School Concludes 3:05 p.m.
Library Borrowing Days
Tuesdays: Kindergarten, Years 3 and 4
Wednesday: Year 2
Thursdays: Year 1 and Years 5 and 6

Please encourage your child to pack their Library Bag on their appropriate day as we have a beautifully stocked library with new, quality books being purchased constantly.

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Name 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 3rd Feb.</td>
<td>Aaron Taylor</td>
<td>Aaron Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 10th Feb.</td>
<td>Kerri Swain</td>
<td>Belinda Paynter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 17th Feb</td>
<td>Marisa Lyons</td>
<td>Khali Baker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Colleen Burke</td>
<td>Olivia Parker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 24th Feb</td>
<td>Wendy Roots</td>
<td>Liz Bulmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deb O’Neill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nat Hill</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More volunteers are needed to keep the Canteen running two days per week. Please return your note if you can help.

A new Price List has been sent home today and comes into effect from tomorrow - please refer to this when ordering lunches as some items are no longer available and there are some new ones on the menu.

Date Claimer: Grandparents Day—Thursday 7th April
Please let your grandparents know so they can keep this date free!

Change of Details
If you have changed your address or phone number please let us know so we can update our system.