Dear parents and carers,

Last Friday we held our End-of-Year Mass which was celebrated by Fr Paul Nulley who will take up his appointment as our Parish Priest in late January. It was lovely to have Fr Paul with us for this special occasion. Thanks to Kerri Kerr for preparing this Mass in her role as acting REC.

At the end of the Mass, our school community recognised the 2016 student leaders and the light of leadership was passed from them to this year’s Leaders-in-Training and in turn to Year 4 who will become part of the 2017 student leadership program. Thank you to the many parents and family members who joined us and to Vanessa Ross, Sheena Wijnberg, Caz Perryman and Linley Ellis who prepared the students for this meaningful and beautiful ceremony.

YEAR 6 FAREWELL

At a function last Wednesday evening, Year 6 students and their families marked the end of their years at St Joseph’s with dinner and a disco. The parents and students presented their current teachers with beautiful flowers and to the school, a wall decoration of a tree which will be hung in the courtyard.

JAMES PARKES AWARD

James Parkes was a student at St Joseph’s School. James had additional learning needs which were catered for at our school in such a caring and successful way that his parents were moved to create the James Parkes Award; an award to acknowledge citizenship and school and community spirit. Since that time, a student has been awarded the perpetual James Parkes Award each year. Students are nominated and staff vote for a student from that list of nominees. This year’s nominees were Poppy (MAC Purple), Nicholas (MAC Yellow), Matilda and Jessica (Year 6) This year there are two recipients of the James Parkes Award and they are Matilda and Jessica. Congratulations to all nominees and to Matilda and Jess.

Thank you to Sheena Wijnberg, Linley Ellis and Rachel Hayes who are also leaving us.

ADVENT PRAYER CELEBRATION

On Wednesday morning we were led by Foundation to mark Week 4 of Advent. This week we focussed on Peace and the Foundation students enacted the nativity story as part of the Prayer Celebration.

BBQ and CAROLS

For the third year in a row the weather interrupted our annual picnic and carols evening however the singing in the Church was a huge success. Thank you for joining in the fun.

THANK YOU AND FAREWELL

To all those leaving our school may I thank you for your support and wish you all the best for the future. You have been important to us and we hope you leave with fond memories and strong friendships.

Wishing a Merry Christmas and happy holiday to all. We’ll see you on Monday 30 January with the students fresh and bright in their full school uniform.

May God bless you in all that you do.

Sue Dempsey
Principal
Hello and welcome to Week 10.

Students in Foundation reminded us that the final week of Advent is about PEACE, the peace Jesus brings into our lives. We watched as Foundation reverently presented the Nativity – the story of Jesus’ birth. Congratulations to all of the students and their teachers for a beautiful recreation of the Nativity.

Wishing the St. Joseph’s school community a peace filled Christmas.
Best wishes for a happy and safe holiday season,

Kerri Kerr
Religious Education Coordinator (Acting)
derri.kerr@cg.catholic.edu.au

We're half way through the season and what a great way to start our break with a visit from Santa! He decided to come and play against us for our last game on Saturday, hitting the ball to the outfield and running all the bases to get a home run! Luckily he had lollies to share in his sack.

Thank you to all and looking forward to our first game after the break on 4 February 2017.

Good luck to all our current and ex players representing the ACT in the U/15 and U/17 National Championships in January!

Carolyn McFarland
Happy Birthday
This week to:
Lewis A
Oscar M
Katja H
Kyra H
Pawel W

Merit Awards - Week 10 Term 4

Congratulations to the following students who will receive an award at tomorrow’s Morning Gathering

Growing in Excellence within a Christ-centred Community

Foundation Red: Dominic S, Josie B
Foundation White: James A, Antonija K, Hudson W
Year 1 Silver: Leon F-S, Francesca Q, Sophie M
Year 1 Teal: Thomas F, Thenuki W-D
MAC Magenta: Ivan S, Zoe P
MAC Purple: Kayla R, Hugh H
MAC Yellow: Alexander P, Nicholas R-L
Year 4 Orange: Alex F-S, Scarlett W
Year 5 Lime: Kylie C
Year 6 Blue: Bella B, George C, Hycenth M

Uniform Shop

Hours of Operation
Wednesday 2:30pm—3:15pm
Friday 8:45am—9:15am

Please direct any queries to:
Uniformshop_stjosephs_oconnor@yahoo.com.au

Marcela Leon

Parentline

6287 3833
Being a parent is the hardest job we’ll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress.

Parentline ACT
is a confidential and free telephone and face-to-face counselling and information service.

Phone Parentline if you would you like:
- To talk with someone about those parenting issues.
- Help with some ideas on raising children.
- Support in the important job you are doing.
- To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children.
- To build better relationships in your family.
- Help to understand your child or teenager’s behaviour.
- Make an appointment for a counselling session.

Parentline ACT.
Monday to Friday (except on public holidays), 9am to 5pm.
Phone: 6287 3833

Merry Christmas to all St Joseph’s families

Merry Christmas

This week to:

Lewis A
Oscar M
Katja H
Kyra H
Pawel W

Merry Christmas to all St Joseph’s families

Merry Christmas
The St Joseph’s Volleyball Team played in the inaugural Junior Beach Volleyball Tournament for Primary School children in Canberra over the weekend and had a fantastic time in the sand! They competed against children from Aranda, Weetangera, Turner and Maribyrnong Primary schools and played three matches on a beautiful sunny day!

The students have trained very hard over the year and playing on beach courts was an exciting change from the indoor courts they are used to.

A big congratulations to all the St Joseph's students who have represented the school in the Junior Volleyball tournaments over the year and we look forward to another great year in 2017!

Rachel Uren and Carolyn McFarland
Thank you to all of our beautiful ELC children and their families for a great year! We have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know you all and look forward to seeing many of you again next year or as returning families. We wish you all the best for the holiday period and hope you and your children enjoy a well deserved break.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Molly Henson  
Director  
St Joseph’s ELC