Dear parents and carers,

For those of you who are returning parents you will have heard me refer to the IDEAS process (Innovative Designs for Enhancing Achievement in Schools). Professor Dorothy Andrews from the University of Southern Queensland is our mentor and critical friend in this process and we continue to work and plan closely under her guidance. Caz Perryman and I were interviewed on Tuesday to capture our progress over the past five years and to document our substantial growth as a school over that time. St Joseph’s School will be featured in a book Sustainable School Improvement by Dr Joan Conway to be published later this year.

P & F

The first P & F meeting for the year was held last night with several new parents joining us. Thank you. A reminder that our school Fete will be held on 19 March so there is much to do. The P & F will appreciate all interest and offers of help.

CALENDAR

A paper copy of this term’s calendar is going home today. Details are correct at the time of printing however you are asked to check this Newsletter each week for unforeseen changes.

PARENT WORKSHOPS

We are running a series of workshops to inform parents about particular aspects of contemporary education at St Joseph’s. We want to work collaboratively with you so we are devoting time to adult education for the benefit of the students. I thank the teachers who are working to assist parents in their understanding of how education is changing. The workshops already held were well received by the parents who attended. The next workshop is on next Monday, 5:30 – 6:30 pm and will explain more about our Seeds of Growth.

Please refer to the attached Multi-age Classes Q & As that were referred to at yesterday’s workshop. These are the questions asked at last year’s meeting.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our annual Swimming Carnival for Years 2 – 6 will be held on Monday 19 March at Dickson Pool. Nomination forms are now due please. We require volunteers to assist on the day so if you are able to help please indicate so on that form.

60th ANNIVERSARY

Did you know?

Classes at St Joseph’s School began for 175 students from Kindergarten to 3rd Grade on 12 February 1956 with 55 kinder students in one class!

Planning for our 60th Anniversary will commence again shortly. Our Fete will be the launch of the celebrations.

NUDE FOOD

Every day is Nude Food Day. We are aiming to be cling wrap free so we encourage the use of labelled reusable containers for all food please.

PARENT CONTACTS

Each class would benefit from having a Parent Contact to assist in the development of our school community. A booklet describing the role of Parent Contacts is attached so you can read what is involved. If you would like to be the contact for your child’s class please email me. sue.dempsey@cg.catholic.edu.au

MORNING SUPERVISION

A teacher is on duty from 8:20 am in the Courtyard each morning. An additional teacher goes on duty at 8:30 am on the oval. If the oval is too wet the Learning Hub will be opened instead. We ask that no children play on the equipment before school even if they are with an adult. The equipment can only be used when a teacher is supervising.

SPORT DAYS

Foundation – Tuesday & Thursday
Year 1 – Tuesday and Friday
MACs – Tuesday & Friday
Year 4 – Tuesday & Thursday
Year 5 – Wednesday & Friday
Year 6 – Wednesday & Friday

COMING EVENTS

15 Feb 5:30 – 6:30 Parent Workshop – Seeds of Growth
17 Feb 6:00 School Board
22 Feb 5:30 – 6:30 Parent Workshop – Reading & Writing
25 Feb 12:00 pm Opening School Mass
26 Feb 8:15 SJO Walk to School

Thank you everyone for another great week. May God bless you in all that you do.

Sue
Sue Dempsey
Principal

NSORB6-013 Is Coming!!!
HOME LEARNING

*Take Home Tuesday* and *Make Sure Monday*. Have your children explained those expressions to you?

All students who have evidence (parent’s signature) that they have read over the course of the week will receive Bees Knees from Mrs Perryman. On Monday we had so many students the line wove around the Staffroom, through the exterior door and out under the trees. Fantastic!
The year is off to a great start and we have enjoyed getting to know all the beautiful children that have started Preschool with us. Each week the ELC will highlight one of the ELC classes for the Newsletter. You will be hearing from both Blue Gecko groups, the Green Frogs and the Before and After School Care programs (the Rainbow Turtles).

Term 1 Week 2

The Blue Geckos are discovering that everyone can be an artist. They are even making their own paint and experimenting with colour possibilities.

From the classroom to the garden, the Blue Geckos are keen to learn and explore the wonderful opportunities available to them. To help make our garden look delightful we planted sunflowers, grown by the pre-schoolers at home.

To end their week the Blue Geckos joined the Green Frogs to celebrate Shrove Tuesday. We poured, mixed and flipped to create the most delicious pancakes. The children also used their buttering skills to make their pancakes even more delicious by adding jam and butter.

Mrs Walton

Reminders:

- If you have not received a statement for fees please see Helene in the ELC Office
- 16 February - 5:00pm - ELC Parent Committee Meeting (all welcome)
- 25 February - 12:00pm - Whole School Mass
- 19 March - 3:00 - 7:00pm - School Fete (ELC co-ordinating the cake stall)

God Bless,

Molly Henson

Opening School Mass

Our Opening School Mass will be held in 2 weeks on Thursday 25 March. We warmly welcome all members of our Christ-centred Community to attend this Mass. Our Yr 6 leaders will be presented with their leadership badges at this Mass.

The Season of Lent and Project Compassion

We have officially begun the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday yesterday. This also marks the beginning of our fundraising for Project Compassion. Lent is a time to stop, reflect and rejuvenate before the coming of the risen Lord. It is also a time to participate in almsgiving, giving to others in private so that only God can see what you are doing. We would encourage all parents to give their children small change over the coming weeks to place in the Project Compassion boxes in their classrooms. There are also boxes located in the Front Office and the ELC. Attached to the Newsletter is a reflection of Ash Wednesday by Ron Rolheiser, a theologian and priest. The reflection is an interesting take on Ash Wednesday comparing it to the story of Cinderella.

Corporeal Works of Mercy

This week the students have been hearing about the corporeal works of mercy that are being encouraged by our Church during the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Our staff have participated in a work of mercy and over the coming weeks we will be highlighting the various places that were visited and how we as a community can support them.

Yours in Christ,

Luke Donnelly
Religious Education Coordinator
luke.donnelly@cg.catholic.edu.au
Happy Birthday
This week to:
Antonio S
Matilda J
Amy K
Charlie M

Merit Awards - Week 2 Term 1
Congratulations to the following students who will receive an award tomorrow for:

Finding evidence of the Seeds of Growth

Year 1 Silver: Angela L, Joshua O’K
Year 1 Teal: Olivia F, Juliana L
MAC Magenta: Lachlan B, Renee M, Sophia D
MAC Purple: James T, Cindy L
MAC Yellow: Leo Q, Ellie H
Year 4 Orange: Jonathan S, Aston P
Year 5 Lime: Maurice B, Alysha L
Year 6 Blue: Dhruvkumar P, Charlotte F

P & F Update
SCHOLASTICS BOOKCLUB - Term 1 Orders

The first order forms for Scholastics Bookclub will be sent home with families next week.

There will be one Bookclub drive held in Terms 1, 2 and 3. Due dates and delivery dates will be notified via the newsletter.

All payments must be made online for our school. For families using Scholastics credit vouchers, please provide these to the office in an envelope marked Bookclub.

Scholastics also offers a 100% money back guarantee on all purchases. All purchases earn credit for the school to purchase books and resources for our children.

Watch out for the great “Gold coin” book on offer in each catalogue. This is a great way for all families to participate.

Please contact our Librarian, Mrs Parmenter if you have any questions or any problems with your order.

Proudly supported by St Joseph’s P&F

JUNIOR BASKETBALL TRIALS

The Canberra City Stallions Basketball Club, will be holding junior trial/grading sessions at Emmaus Christian School, Davenport Street, Dickson in the coming weeks.

Ages range from U10 to U14 and both boys and girls are welcome.

Please see website for further details www.canberracitystallions.com or contact Club President, James Savoulidis on 0447 167 930.

The Journey
THROUGH ADOLESCENCE

The Program is called The Resourceful Adolescent Program for Parents (RAP – P). This program is suitable for parents and carers of children attending primary school years 5 & 6 and secondary school students attending years 7—12.

RAP – P will help parents:
- Help your teenager to develop a healthy self-esteem
- Help your teenager to gain independence while still feeling safe and part of the family
- Manage your stress so you can do your best job as a parent
- Prevent and manage conflict with your teenager
- Promote harmony in your family

The course is offered 2 hours per week over a 3-week period.

DATES: 23rd, 30th March & 6th April
TIME: 6pm—8pm
VENUE: 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill
FEE: $85 (Concessions available)
nen includes light supper & course materials

Bookings Essential
6152 6100

June ii
CANTEEN NEWS

MENU CHANGES: The updated menu is available from the Front Office and Canteen. You can also download it from the school website – Communication, Canteen. There is also information on how to use Flexischools.

Please remind your children about the new items on the menu this term. We now have flavoured milk drinks, custard and yoghurt and new Gluten Free options to name a few. We will have new items available from time to time for over-the-counter sales so stay tuned.

The Canteen needs your support. To show your support and to help keep our Canteen open, please consider giving your child a lunch order once a week or some loose change to buy a treat over-the-counter for either first or second break.

Without your support we cannot remain open.

There are several Canteen shifts unfilled so if you would like to help please let me know.

CANTEEN
ROSTER WEEK 3
17.02.2016 to 19.02.2016

Wednesday 17.02.2016
AM – Mary Sajler
PM - Help needed

Friday 19.02.2016
AM – Kathy Bartone
PM – Help needed

Jackie – Canteen Manager
E: sjosephscanteen@gmail.com

DRAMA CLASSES AT ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

If you wish for your child to attend Drama and Speech classes, I offer a free trial. If you decide not to continue, there is no charge.

Please contact me on 02 6255 9054 by leaving a message on my answering machine.

Thank you.
Elizabeth McIntosh