Dear parents and carers,

last night the first School Board meeting for 2017 was held. Caz Perryman, Molly Henson, Brad Walters, Jane Childs, Ruth Arkell, Iain Slatter and David Specker will join Father Paul and me to discuss important issues about our school. The Board meets twice a term and there will be a summary of discussions included in the school Newsletter after each meeting. The following Office Bearers are thanked for taking on the these responsibilities:

Brad Walters – Chair
David Specker – Deputy Chair
Jane Childs - Financial Representative
Iain Slatter – Secretary and ELC Representative

Last night the Board discussed:

- The car park redesign. Approval has been granted to remove the tree that stands in the way of the reconfiguration. It is hoped work will be carried out in the not-too-distant future.
- The Master Plan. Stage 2 of the plan involves refurbishing the downstairs corridor. This proposal will be taken to the Block Grant Authority (BGA) this year and if successful in gaining government funding, the work will begin in 2018.
- The 2017 Budget. Approval was given for the draft Budget to be accepted.

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Thank you to those parents who were able to join us on Tuesday evening for our annual Parent Information Night. For those unable to come, the class information given out on the night will be sent home to you with your child.

PARENT CONTACT

Each class would benefit from having a Parent Contact to foster school spirit and further develop our welcoming community. The role of the Parent Contact is to:

- Coordinate class / year level social events
- Farewell departing students
- Welcome new families to the class group
- Provide support to the teacher
- Be a contact for that group of parents

A booklet with information about the role of Parent Contacts is available. If you would like to be the contact for your child’s class, please email me. sue.dempsey@catholic.edu.au

SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

Linda Norris is our school counsellor this year and will be at St Joseph’s every Wednesday, 9:00 – 12:00 pm. Please contact your child’s teacher or me if you or your child would like to talk with Linda.

WALK TO SCHOOL and COMMUNITY CUPPA

St Joseph’s own Walk to School will be held on Friday 24 February. Teachers will walk from the O’Connor and Lyneham Shops. They will begin walking at 8:15 am. We’d love you to join in if you are able. A skoolbag message will be sent if the walk is cancelled due to wet weather.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our annual Swimming Carnival for Years 2 – 6 will be held on Friday 3 March at Dickson Pool. Please return nomination forms and permission notes by tomorrow. We require volunteers to assist on the day so if you are able to help please indicate so on that form.

LEARNING TO READ PARENT WORKSHOP

(Formally known as Parents as Tutors)

Parents of Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 students who haven’t attended previously, are strongly encouraged to attend an information session on Wednesday 22 February in the Hub to hear how children learn to read and how they can support their child at home.

LOLLIES AT SCHOOL

A reminder that the students are not to bring lollies to school, please. Should a student have lollies at school we will ask that they be taken home. Thank you for supporting us.

CORRECT SCHOOL UNIFORM

Very colourful sport shoes are being worn to school. The correct sport uniform is predominately white shoes please.

THANK YOU

I’d like to share the following with you …

… I also want to let St Joseph’s staff know that you all make a difference to Joey’s children and families every day. From soothing hurts, to making the kids laugh, to showing that rules ARE good and that all people offer something special, you all do this via your actions and words. I just think that sometimes we get so used to seeing it that we tend to forget to say thank you, so thank you!

COMING EVENTS

17 Feb – Foundation rest day and assessments
20 Feb – 9:15 am Opening School Mass
21 – 27 Feb – Life Education P – Year 6
22 Feb – 9:00 am Leadership Badge presentation – Years 5 & 6
24 Feb – Foundation rest day and assessments, 8:15 am SJO Walk to School Day
27 Feb – 3:30 – 5:30 pm and 6:00 – 7:00 pm Parent / Teacher interviews
28 Feb – 3:30 – 5:30 pm Parent / Teacher interviews
1 Mar – 12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Mass
3 Mar – Swimming Carnival

Thanks everyone and may God bless you in all that you do,

Sue Dempsey
Principal
TEACHING AND LEARNING

Seeds of Growth

For the past two years we have been developing our Seeds of Growth. For those new to our community, our Seeds of Growth come directly from our Vision and Mission statements.

Growing in excellence within a Christ-centred Community
We are growing in excellence through our Seeds of Growth
by
learning to learn,
learning to be,
learning to collaborate,
learning to create.

Here a few updates in regards to our Seeds.

- Parent Overviews are now written using the language of our Seeds. You are encouraged to take the time to carefully read your child’s overview. Please see your child’s classroom teacher for any clarifications.
- Our Behaviour Management Policy has been changed to Behaviour Learning to align with our Seeds. There have been two changes to this policy for 2017.
  - If students hit another child on the playground they will be asked to stay out of play for their age plus one minute. Teachers will explicitly name the behaviour the child needs to reflect on during their time out of playing.
  - The second change relates to the process that occurs if a child’s Hands On behaviour continues after being out of play or they are a danger on the playground. These students will work with me on the necessary skills in the Staff Workroom during break time.
    Please note, there is a common myth that if a child is with the Assistant Principal they are ‘in trouble’. At Saint Joseph’s this is incorrect. When a child is working with me, they are not in trouble, they are learning the necessary social skills to interact appropriately in social settings.
- We are currently transitioning our school rules to align with our Seeds. The change will be from:
  - Be a Learner, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe to:
  - Be a Learner, Be Collaborative, Be Creative and the wording of our final rule is currently being decided.
- Our weekly awards for the first three weeks of the term have reflected our Seeds. In addition to the class awards in Weeks 5 and 10, this will continue between now and the end of the term.

Caz Perryman

Quotes of the Week

- “It’s not about how fast you are, it’s about the thinking” Yr 3 student referring to a Maths task.
- “I love this, I could do it all day” Yr 3 student as he is working on a Maths task.
  
  Teacher asks: Who is this? (pointing to Mrs Parmenter)
  Foundation student: She is the Prime Minister of the books.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Unpack your Heart

At the PIN on Tuesday the Christ-centred Community Focus was launched for our parents. This year the launch involved some formation for parents that included looking at the Holy Spirit speaking to us. We would encourage you all to watch the video that will be emailed to all families today. It is you who can help our Christ-centred Community grow through the Holy Spirit.

Fruits of the Holy Spirit Images

Thank you to the families who have sent in photos depicting the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. It has been a pleasure to see these wonderful images! The images will be placed into our focus video that will be viewed at the Opening School Mass on Monday and then placed on the homepage of our website. We would love some images depicting: goodness, kindness, gentleness and self-control. Please email the photos and your family name to Luke Donnelly by tomorrow afternoon.

Opening School Mass

Our Opening School Mass for 2017 will be held on Monday 20 Feb at 9:15am. An RSVP was sent out on Monday. Please return all RSVPs to school tomorrow or email your RSVP to Luke Donnelly.

Can you, or someone you know, sew?

Thank you to the parent and two grandparents who have offered to sew our prayer mats. We are still looking for volunteers. If you or your parents or grandparents are handy with a sewing machine or overlocker and would be happy to take some prayer mats home, we would be extremely appreciative. Please email or see Luke Donnelly if you are available to assist.

Yours in Christ,

Luke Donnelly
Religious Education Coordinator
luke.donnelly@cg.catholic.edu.au
Merit Awards - Week 3 Term 1

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

**Being Creative**

**Year 1 Purple:** Oscar M, Zoe G

**Year 1 Teal:** Adam S, Antonija K

**Year 2 Magenta:** Kyra H, Josie S

**Year 2 Yellow:** Olivia F, Kristian S

**Year 3 Lime:** Lachlan McG, Christelle M

**Year 3 Silver:** Noel B, Max G

**Year 4 Blue:** Zoe P, Maia J, Drina K

**Year 5 Orange:** Luke O’C, Mikajla S

**Year 6 Green:** Stella A-N, Maurice B

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**SCHOLASTICS BOOKCLUB**

**Term 1 Orders**

Order by Sunday 18 February

A reminder that orders for Scholastics Bookclub close Sunday 18 February (close midnight).

Have you checked out the “Gold coin” books on offer in the catalogue? This is a great way for all families to participate.

Payments must be made online only for our school. Payment details are on the back of the catalogues. For families using Scholastics credit vouchers, please provide these to the office in an envelope marked ‘Bookclub’. Delivery dates will be published in the newsletter.

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.

The delivery dates will be notified via the newsletter.

Please contact Mrs Perryman if you have any questions or problems with your order.

*Proudly supported by St Joseph’s P&F*

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**Happy Birthday**

*This week to:*

Charlie M
Tom H
Chloe F
Allegra E
Sophie G
Alli P
Alarna N
Emmanuel A

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Uniform Shop

**Hours of Operation**

Wednesday 8:30am—9:00am
Friday 8:45am—9.15am

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

Marcela Leon

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**CANBERRA CITY STALLIONS**

*Basketball Club*

**PLAY BASKETBALL**

**JUNIOR GRADING**

U10 - U16 (6:00pm to 7:00pm)
U19 (7:45 - 8:45)

**BOYS**

U10 (Born 2008/9) - Tuesday Mar 7
U12 (Born 2006/7) - Wednesday Mar 1
U14 (Born 2004/5) - Thursday Mar 2
U16 (Born 2002/3) - Thursday Mar 9
U19 (Born 1999/01) - Wednesday Mar 8

**GIRLS**

U10 (Born 2008/9) - Tuesday Mar 7
U12 (Born 2006/7) - Monday Feb 27
U14 (Born 2004/5) - Monday Mar 6
U16 (Born 2002/3) - Monday Mar 6
U19 (Born 1999/01) - Wednesday Mar 8

Lynham High School
61 Goodwin St, Lynham
Volunteer Roster

The Canteen is in need of more volunteers for the term. Can you help? You can come for the morning and help prepare food, or just come and serve during the breaks. Please email stjosephscanteen@gmail.com if you can volunteer some time.

Please remember you need a Working with Vulnerable People Card (or receipt showing you have applied).

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<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Wednesday 1st Break 11:00-11:45am</th>
<th>Wednesday 2nd Break 1:15-2:00pm</th>
<th>Friday 1st Break 11:00-11:45am</th>
<th>Friday 2nd Break 1:15-2:00pm</th>
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<td></td>
<td>15 Feb Wanda Kaucz Leanne Owens</td>
<td>Wanda Kaucz</td>
<td>17 Feb</td>
<td>Fiona Glover</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>22 Feb Wanda Kaucz Mary Sajler</td>
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<td>24 Feb</td>
<td>Alexander Anderson</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
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<td>3 Mar Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>8 Mar</td>
<td>10 Mar Kathy Bartone Alexander Anderson</td>
<td>Andrea Murphy-Foote</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>15 Mar</td>
<td>17 Mar Krys Saclier</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>22 Mar Mary Sajler</td>
<td>24 Mar Alexander Anderson</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
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<td>7 Apr</td>
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The Athlete’s Foot Canberra is an ongoing supporter of St Joseph’s School through the School Rewards Program. Every time you purchase any pair of shoes from The Athlete’s Foot Canberra Centre, $5 will be donated back to the school. This applies to the whole family and across the entire footwear range, including school, athletic, work and casual shoes. There are no restrictions and it’s unlimited. So spread the word!
SOFTBALL/TEEBALL

Volunteers are **urgently required** for Canteen Duty on Saturday (Senior Teeball and Primary Softball teams).
If you are able to assist, please email Mrs McFarland:
carolyn.mcfarland@cg.catholic.edu.au

VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball will once again be held during break time from Weeks 4 to 10 in Term 1.

An information sheet and registration form are attached to this Newsletter if you would like to take part.

Places are limited and fill quickly, so please return registration forms as soon as possible to the Front Office.

SOCCER U9 GIRLS

Any girls interested in joining a Soccer team which plays at Majura, should advise Mrs McFarland as soon as possible.
carolyn.mcfarland@cg.catholic.edu.au
Term 1 Week 3
The Blue Geckos have spent the first few weeks learning about routines, handwashing, placing rubbish in the correct bin and playing safely both inside and out. The children have also been working on decorating prayer mats and portfolio books. Each morning the children have been participating in setting up the prayer space for Christian meditation. They have also been caring for the environment by watering plants, feeding the chickens and checking on their water. The children have enjoyed observing a spider and collecting snails, whilst sharing knowledge with each other. Puzzles, Lego, painting and craft tables have been very busy places inside. This week dolls, cradles and high chairs have been added, which created large group dramatic play in the home corner. This has helped the children with the development of friendships. They have been very settled and engaged in the activities.

It was wonderful to see so many parents/carers attend our Parent Information Night. We hope the evening was informative and useful. Please remember, if you have any questions regarding preschool, you are welcome to email the teachers directly or come and see Helene or myself at the Front Office. As mentioned on the night, our first parent committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 21 February from 5:00 - 6:00 pm. All are welcome and it is a great way to meet other parents/carers and develop our ELC community spirit. Over the next couple of weeks the Life Education van will be at St Joseph’s. The preschool children will be attending a session with Healthy Harold: learning about healthy eating and their personal wellbeing.

For your diaries please note the following dates:

February 20 - 9:15 - Opening School Mass (ELC will be open at 8:45)
February 21 - 5:00 - 6:00 Parent Committee Meeting (All Welcome)
February 21 - Feb. 27 - Life Education Van (Healthy Harold Visit)

Birthday Wishes to the following child: Sophia R.

Enjoy the rest of your week,

Molly Henson