Dear parents and carers,

Last night the first School Board meeting for 2016 was held. Peter Whowell, Brad Walters, Jane Childs, Kadi Taylor, Lauren O’Callaghan, Kieran Fordham, Caz Perryman and Molly Henson will join Father Bill and I 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 were appointed last night:

School Board Chair - Peter Whowell
Deputy Chair - Brad Walters
Financial Representative – Jane Childs
Secretary – TBA

Should you wish to contact the School Board please email Peter Whowell. peter.whowell@yahoo.com.au

Last night the Board discussed:

- The confidential nature of the Board.

- Parents and carers’ feedback about the Multi-age Classes. There has been general acceptance of the Multi-age Classes with parents / carers saying that it’s not their preferred situation but one they understand was necessary. All feedback has been very supportive of the staff with an acknowledgement that the students are being taught by highly skilled educators.

- The realignment of the Boronia Drive car park. This has required more investigation and consultation than originally thought. It has been confirmed to be a complex situation. A sub-committee has been formed comprising Brad Walters, Kieran Fordham and Nataaniel Wolfson. If there are other parents / carers with particular expertise or interest in this area the sub-committee would welcome your participation. brad.waltersmobile@gmail.com

- Our school’s 60th Anniversary. The Fete on 19 March will launch this year of celebration.

- The follow up after last meeting’s discussion with representatives from Catholic Education about the future direction of St Joseph’s School.

TERM OVERVIEWS

One of the many ways we regularly communicate with parents is through the Term Overview that is sent home at the beginning of each term. This is a means for teachers to communicate the intended student outcomes for that term. This Overview also includes important dates for the term. Term Overviews are being sent home today.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

Should your child require medication to be administered during the day, a written note with instructions for dispensing must accompany the medication and these must be taken to the Front Office. The central storage area for medications is in the sick bay where there is a fridge and a medicine dispensing register that must be filled out by the appropriate staff member whenever medication is administered. The only medication that may be kept with a child is an asthma inhaler.

If your child suffers from severe allergies or Asthma we require an annually updated Action Plan from a GP please.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our annual Swimming Carnival for Years 2 – 6 will be held on Friday 4 March at Dickson Pool. Nomination forms must be returned by tomorrow. 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? The first school uniform at St Joseph’s was a brown tunic and gold blouse. This was worn until 1959 when all Catholic schools in Canberra adopted a common uniform – grey trousers and shirt for boys and a maroon tunic and fawn blouse, blazer and hat for girls.

PARENT CONTACTS

Each class would benefit from having a Parent Contact to assist in the development of our school community. Offers from a couple of parents have been made but we still need someone from the following classes:

- Foundation Red, Foundation White, 1 Silver, 1 Teal, MAC Magenta, MAC Purple, MAC Yellow, 4 Orange, 6 Blue. If you would like to be the contact for your child’s class please email me. sue.dempsey@cg.catholic.edu.au

WALK TO SCHOOL

St Joseph’s own Walk to School will be held on Friday 26 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.

COMING EVENTS

- 22 Feb, 5:30 – 6:30 Parent Workshop – Reading & Writing
- 25 Feb, 12:00 pm Opening School Mass and Student Leadership badge presentation
- 26 Feb, 8:15 SJO Walk to School
- 29 Feb, School Counsellor
- 1 Mar, 3:30 – 5:30 Parent / Teacher Interviews
- 2 Mar, 3:30 – 5:30 & 6:00 – 7:00 pm Parent / Teacher interviews
- 3 Mar, Fete Donate Day
- 4 Mar, Years 2 – 6 Swimming Carnival

Thank you everyone. May God bless you in all that you do.

Sue Dempsey
Principal

NSORB6-013

Is Coming!!!

Helping Young Australians Grow
Help your children become great learners

- Encourage good eating, sleep and exercise habits
- Train the brain with games and puzzles
- Take a real interest in what is being learnt
- Be a model and learn something new every day
- Read with your children of all ages
- Ask questions to stimulate their curiosity
- Talk through Home Learning activities
- Help them set learning goals
- Encourage them to take risks as learners
- Develop their strengths and build confidence

Working with your child’s teacher

- Know what your teacher is trying to achieve
- Keep your expectations reasonable and positive
- Support your teacher’s expectations and activities at home
- Send your children to school ready to learn and on time each day
- Inform them early of your child’s challenges and changes
- Skill children to work with others
- Respectfully seek joint solutions to problems and difficulties
- Participate fully in class and school activities
- Trust your teacher’s knowledge, professionalism and experience
- Talk up what happens at school

(Michael Grose – Parenting Ideas)
Opening School Mass
Your child/ren would have come home with an invitation to the Opening School Mass next Thursday 12pm. We would love for all members of our Christ-centred Community to join us to launch our Christ-centred Community Focus, Seasons of Love and to present our Years 5 and 6 students with their leadership badges. We are looking for families to bring forward the prayer mats, to read readings and bring forth the offertory.

Project Compassion: Who is a Good Samaritan?
This week the students have been answering the question, Who is a Good Samaritan? Our Years 4 to 6 students were supported in answering this question by a visit from Lulu and Martin from Caritas. Martin works directly with a village in Malawi that is featured in the project compassion resources and collection boxes. It was wonderful to see the students make a chain of giving starting with their act of almsgiving and then continuing through all of the Good Samaritans who in turn support the villagers in Malawi to be Good Samaritans to each other. We encourage you to continue to participate in alms giving with your child/ren during this time of Lent.

Corporeal Works of Mercy: Ronald McDonald House
During our Staff Spirituality Day; Sue, Amanda and Jenny spent 2 hours volunteering at Ronald McDonald House. A few weeks later Caz and I also spent time at the house. The Ronald McDonald House is custom built accommodation for families with children in hospital who live 100km or more from Canberra. The house is one of only three houses in the world that are located within a hospital. The house only has two permanent employees and is then run by volunteers. Volunteering can take place in many forms and can be a once off or on a more permanent arrangement. For $132 members of the public and/or businesses can adopt-a-night at the house. This is the cost involved in offering one family a night in the house. To donate to the house or to adopt-a-night please contact the house on 6281 5894. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Luke Donnelly at the school.

Yours in Christ,

Luke Donnelly
Religious Education Coordinator
luke.donnelly@cg.catholic.edu.au
P & F Update

Uniform Shop
Thank you to Gina who has joined us as a volunteer on Wednesday afternoons for this term and Chizoba who continues to help out on Friday mornings. As the Uniform Shop is run entirely by volunteers, your time is greatly appreciated.

Hours of operation:

**Wednesday 2:45 – 3:15 pm**
**Friday 8:45 – 9:15 am**

The aim of the Uniform Shop is to provide a service to the school community with all profits going back to the school. The only way to make a profit is to have a high turnout of stock. In order to achieve this the operation of the Uniform Shop is based on orders with low levels of stock actually held at the shop. We ask parents to work collaboratively with the volunteers and complete an Order Form to receive their garments on time.

The following is the timeline for ordering:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Monday Week 6</th>
<th>Winter Uniform Order Form available Uniform Drive begins</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weeks 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Uniform Shop open for fittings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday Week 8</td>
<td>Uniform Drive finishes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Monday Week 6</td>
<td>Summer Uniform Order Form available Uniform Drive begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weeks 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Uniform Shop open for fittings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday Week 8</td>
<td>Uniform Drive finishes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Uniform Orders delivered to students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At all other times the Uniform Shop is open for normal sales and enquiries. **Wednesday 2:45 – 3:15 pm and Friday 8:45 – 9:15 am**

Merit Awards - Week 3 Term 1

Congratulations to the following students who will receive an award tomorrow for:

Using the Seed of Creating for the class prayer mat

- **Year 1 Silver**: Skye P, Frankie Q
- **Year 1 Teal**: Josephine S, Thenuki W-D
- **MAC Magenta**: Alyssa D, Kosta V
- **MAC Purple**: Kayla R, Savidu W-F
- **MAC Yellow**: Nicholas R-L, Lily M
- **Year 4 Orange**: Atem M, Luke O’C
- **Year 5 Lime**: Kylie C, Liam W
- **Year 6 Blue**: Jessica M, Isabella B

**Happy Birthday**

This week to:

- Chloe F
- Allegra E
- Alarna N
- Alli P
- Emmanuel A

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.

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
DONATIONS: Thank you to those very generous families who have donated goodies to the Canteen over the last few weeks. A huge thank you to whoever donated the blender. We are still in need of one more blender. All donations are very much needed and appreciated.

MENU CHANGES: I hope everyone has taken advantage of the new menu. You can also download it from the school website under the communication tab then click on Canteen. There is also information on how to use Flexischools.

Please remind children of 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 as well.

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 still shifts available so if you would like to help please let me know.

Jackie – Canteen Manager
E: sjosephscanteen@gmail.com

CANTEEN
ROSTER WEEK 4

Wednesday 24.02.2016
AM – Jane Collins
PM - Help needed

Friday 26.02.2016
AM – Wanda Kaucz
PM – Wanda Kaucz

Parents and Carers are invited to Bringing Up Great Kids—a parenting program developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation for Parents and Carers of children aged 2—10 years.

This course will give you insights and skills needed to:

- Promote positive and nurturing relationships between parents and children
- Explore the management of stress in your parenting role
- Encourage the development of your child's positive self-identity
- Develop the ability to contain strong emotion and to think through the responses to your child, rather than give 'knee-jerk' reactions
- Overcome some of the obstacles that are getting in the way of being the kind of parent you would like to be
- Create opportunities for positive exchanges with your children.

The course is offered 3 hours per week over a 4 week period.

DATES: 24th Feb, 2nd, 9th & 16th March
TIME: 6pm—9pm
VENUE: 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill
FEE: $100 (Concessions available)
Fee includes light supper & course materials

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 you:

- 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 you teenager
- Promote harmony in your family

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

DATES: 23rd, 30th March & 6th April
TIME: 6pm—9pm
VENUE: 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill
FEE: $80 (Concessions available)
Fee includes light supper & course materials

Bookings Essential
Contact 6162 6100

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