Dear parents and carers,

we have just returned from our 2016 Opening School Mass. As a Christ-centred Community we gathered to mark the start of the academic year and with so many family members present, it was a joyous occasion. Thank you so much to all who were able to join us. The children loved being able to sit with their families. A special thank you to Luke Donnelly, REC, for his preparation and organisation for the Mass.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

As parents we anticipate and mark milestones in our children’s lives and remember significant events with pride and fondness. During Mass today our Years 5 and 6 students marked such an occasion with many family members supporting them as they received their leadership badges which promoted them to Year 6 leaders and Year 5 leaders-in-training. The students have been preparing for this occasion in class and they are now members of particular teams with different tasks and responsibilities associated with each. We wish our student leaders success and growth as individuals and as a group over the course of this year.

The students are members of one of these teams:
- Sport
- ELC
- Hub
- Hospitality
- One in, All In
- Green and
- ICT

60th ANNIVERSARY

Did you know?

During 1956 the teaching sisters had mid-day lunch at school with the students, who at that time were referred to as ‘pupils’. The Auxiliary, which had a membership of about seventy parents, ran frequent cake stalls, held working bees to tidy the grounds and lay cement paths, cleaned the school each week and held well-attended meetings on the second Wednesday of every month.

PARENT CONTACTS

Thank you to those who have offered to be a Parent Contact. We still require contacts for Foundation Red, 1 Teal and 6 Blue. A letter went home this week seeking the contact details of parents. Please return this form if you would like to be on the Parent Contact’s list. It’s attached today for those who may have missed it.

PARENTS AS TUTORS

Parents of Foundation students are strongly encouraged to attend an information session on Thursday 3 March at 9:00 am to hear how children learn to read and how they can assist their child with their home reading.

PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parents and carers have the opportunity to meet their child’s teacher next week to talk about how their child has settled in this year. Booking are made online. Please see attachment for details.

Please note: Due to staff availability, all interviews for MAC parents will be on MONDAY 29 FEBRUARY and TUESDAY 1 MARCH. All interviews will be held in the Learning Hub for those parents.

Interviews for all other classes will be on Tuesday 1 March and Wednesday 2 March and will be in the classrooms.

WALK TO SCHOOL

St Joseph’s own Walk to School will be held tomorrow. Teachers will walk from the O’Connor and Lyneham Shops at 8:15 am.

COMING EVENTS

- 26 Feb, 8:15 SJO Walk to School
- 29 Feb, School Counsellor, 3:30 – 6:30 pm MAC Parent / teacher interviews in the Learning Hub
- 1 Mar, 3:30 – 5:30 Parent / Teacher Interviews all classes
- 2 Mar, 3:30 – 5:30 & 6:00 – 7:00 pm Parent / Teacher interviews Foundation, Years 1, 4, 5, 6 only
- 3 Mar, Fete Donate Day, 9:00 – 10:00 Parents as Tutors session
- 4 Mar, Years 2 – 6 Swimming Carnival
- 7 Mar, School Counsellor, 2:00 Parents invited to student leadership session, 5:30 – 6:30 Parent Workshop – Numeracy
- 9 Mar, 7:00 P & F

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

Sue Dempsey
Principal
TEACHING AND LEARNING

At St Joseph’s we believe the iPad is currently the best technology tool for engaging students in their learning and for connecting them to the resources they need for research, project creation and class presentations. It is also an ideal tool for communicating with teachers and their peers.

In Week 2 we held an iPad Boot Camp to inform parents how iPads will be used in the classrooms. We spoke about tips for iPad use at home, apps, school agreements and policies, cyber safety and health and wellbeing. A summary of this information can be found on the St Joseph’s Technology website. We also held Boot Camp for the Years 4, 5 and 6 students to ensure they are well prepared to use their iPad as a learning tool in a safe and responsible manner. Their focus was on learning to be a digital citizen.

At Boot Camp a number of parents expressed interest in helping their child learn to type. I was lucky enough to be forwarded a list of apps and programs, suggested by Therapy ACT, to assist children to learn to type. This list is attached but can also be found on the Technology website.

Vanessa Ross
ICT Coordinator

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Opening School Mass
Today we gathered in the Church for the Opening School Mass and presentation of leadership badges. It was wonderful to see so many parents, grandparents and siblings joining the students for a family Mass. The sounds of babies and toddlers only added to the excitement of our community coming together in celebration. Thank you to those of you who were able to make this such a special event for your child/ren and our Christ-centred Community.

Project Compassion: What can a Good Samaritan achieve?
This week the students have been discussing the story of Hum Noy in Laos and relating the support Noy and his mother receive to the Good Samaritan. The Good Samaritan achieved so much for the victim on the side of the road just as we achieve so much for the people in Laos through almsgiving. We continue to invite you to send money with your children for our Project Compassion boxes.

Corporeal Works of Mercy: Ainslie Village
During our Staff Spirituality Day Mollie, Helene, Rose, Lina and Vanessa went to Ainslie Village to cook a BBQ for the gentleman who are suffering from mental health issues and currently staying there. The mental health facility at Ainslie Village is run by Catholic Care. Information on volunteering and supporting the facility can be pursued by contacting: 6163 3707.

Yours in Christ,

Luke Donnelly
Religious Education Coordinator
luke.donnelly@cg.catholic.edu.au
Happy Birthday
This week to:
Carlos P
Alec F
Liam W
Zoe G
Emilia R

Merit Awards - Week 4 Term 1
Congratulations to the following students who will receive an award tomorrow for:

Class Award
Year 1 Silver: Jack D, Joshua W
Year 1 Teal: Addison F, Thomas F, Maximus S
MAC Magenta: Alarna N, Georgia J
MAC Purple: Hugh H, Jake McK
MAC Yellow: Thomas O’K, Max G
Year 4 Orange: Ryan O, Cushla D
Year 5 Lime: Tshokeel D, Senileva F
Year 6 Blue: George C, Anna M

P & F Update
Scholastics Book Club: A reminder that all orders must be submitted by midnight Sunday 28 February, 2016.

UNIFORM SHOP
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 turnaround 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:

| Term 1 | Monday Week 6 | Winter Uniform Order Form available
|        |              | Uniform Drive begins
|        | Weeks 7 & 8  | Uniform Shop open for fittings
|        | Friday Week 8 | Uniform Drive finishes
|        | Week 10      | Uniform Orders delivered to students
| Term 3 | Monday Week 6 | Summer Uniform Order Form available
|        |              | Uniform Drive begins
|        | Weeks 7 & 8  | Uniform Shop open for fittings
|        | Friday Week 8 | Uniform Drive finishes
|        | Week 10      | Uniform Orders delivered to students

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

For tickets please contact Asanthi on 0401 957 234
REUSABLE LUNCH BAGS: We have had some reusable lunch bags come through the Canteen that have been unhygienic. Please regularly wash out your child’s lunch bag. If bags can’t be used for health reasons, students will be supplied with a paper bag and the reusable bag given back to the student in a plastic bag.

ALLERGY: Does your child have an allergy? When allergy forms are updated each year, please give a copy to the Canteen so we are aware of all food allergies.

THE CANTEEN NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT: To show your support and to keep our Canteen open, please consider giving your child a lunch order once a week or some loose change to buy an over-the-counter treat for either first or second break. Without your support we cannot remain open.

There are still vacancies for volunteers so if you would like to help in the Canteen please let me know.

Jackie—Canteen Manager

E: sjoephscanteen@gmail.com

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**CANTENEEN ROSTER WEEK 5**

02.03.2016 to 04.03.2016

**Wednesday 02.03.2016**
AM – Emily Beergah
PM - Help needed

**Friday 04.03.2016**
AM – Rebecca Dowling
PM – Help needed

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**TEEBALL/SOFTBALL**

There will be training for Joeys Red on Friday at 4pm.

Teeball and Softball games will conclude Saturday 19 March, 2016.

No games will be held on the Canberra Day Long Weekend.

Please ensure you have the Skoolbag App to access notifications.

For further information please contact Mrs McFarland carolyn.mcfarland@catholic.edu.au
"The greatest mountain we climb in life, is the mountain inside ourselves"
Lorin Nicholson

Over 1,400 schools and 1 million students around Australia have experienced Lorin Nicholson’s life changing workshops and motivational performances

On Monday 7 March 2016

Lorin will be at St Joseph’s working with our 5/6 student leaders

His unique perspective helps students build greater:

- respect
- resilience
- initiative
- problem solving
- optimism
- leadership
- and much, much more

Please join us on Monday 7 March from 2pm to listen to the final part of Lorin’s message. It will be worth it!..