Dear parents and carers,

Oranitation for 2017’s Foundation and pre-school children was held yesterday. The 40 Foundation students spent time in the classrooms with Zoe Cawdron and Christine Johnson who, along with Luke Donnelly, will teach Foundation next year. ELC parents heard from Molly Henson at the ELC and Foundation parents heard from me, Caz Perryman and our Year 6 leaders in the Hall. The Uniform Shop was open for sizing and to place orders. Thank you to the parents who assisted in any way.

Tomorrow we will welcome 14 students, who will join us next year in Years 1 – 6, when they visit us for their Orientation Day.

P & F AGM
Last night a P & F committee was voted in for 2017. Congratulations to:
President: Sasha Billett
Vice President: Kate Osborn
Treasurer: vacant
Secretary: Misel Lucic
School Board Rep: Ruth Arkell
Canteen Coordinator: Alison Marks
Uniform Shop Coordinator: Marcela Leon
Fundraising Coordinator: Tiffany Fletcher

On behalf of the staff and students, I thank the P & F for the time, dedication and support extended to us over this year. Assistance in the classrooms, on excursions, at carnivals, donations to fund raising and working in the Canteen and Uniform Shop have all been appreciated and contributed to a very connected community. I look forward to working with you again in 2017 when we will continue to grow in excellence in all ways.

VOLUNTEERS
The canteen is in need of volunteers to assist with the end-of-the-year clean. This will be during Week 10, 12—16 December. Please consider whether you could help out. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

REMEMBERING 60 YEARS AT ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL
Have you purchased your limited copy of our book of reflections to mark 60 years of St Joseph’s School? It is selling for $20 from the Front Office.

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS
Positions on the School Board will become vacant at the end of this year so we need to appoint new members for 2017 / 2018. The School Board plays a vital role in the functioning of our school so please consider nominating yourself or someone else for this important position. As per the Board’s constitution, the following is the timetable for the election of new Board members:
• 04 November – Nominations open
• 18 November – Nominations close
• 22 November – Ballot Papers distributed, if required
• 02 December – Election closes
• 09 December – School Board announced at End of Year Mass
• 15 December - School Board announced in the Newsletter

A letter outlining the process for Board elections is attached, along with a Nomination Form.

ADVENT LITUGIES
For the next four Wednesday mornings, at 9:15 am, classes will lead us in Advent Prayer Celebrations. Please join us and pray with us during the Advent season. Parents find setting this time aside each week a meaningful way to prepare for Christmas.

CLASS SHOWCASES
Following the Advent Prayer Celebration on Wednesday 7 December, Class Showcases will be held. This is an opportunity for students to report some of their learning to their parents, for parents to become more involved in their child’s learning and for parents to observe and participate in a contemporary learning space.

CONGRATULATIONS
Luke and Rachel Donnelly welcomed Alfred Jude on 15 November. We send them love and best wishes at this exciting time.

COMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 Nov</td>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Years 1 – 6 2017 Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Nov</td>
<td>9:15</td>
<td>Year 6 Advent Prayer Celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Nov</td>
<td>9:15</td>
<td>MAC Magenta Advent Prayer Celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3:30</td>
<td>Play and Pray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Dec</td>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>School Board meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Dec</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>Walk to School and Community Cuppa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Dec</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reports posted home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Dec</td>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>End-of-year and Farewell Mass, Leadership Ceremony and James Parkes Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Dec</td>
<td>3:30</td>
<td>Parent / teacher interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Dec</td>
<td>9:15</td>
<td>Foundation Advent Prayer Celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TBC BBQ, picnic and carols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Dec</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 6 Big Day Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Dec</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Day Last day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you everyone. May God bless you in everything you do.

Sue Dempsey
Principal
TEACHING AND LEARNING

STEM

STEM education is the learning of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in an interdisciplinary or integrated approach. Students gain and apply knowledge, deepen their understanding and develop creative and critical thinking skills within an authentic context. It may include inquiry and project-based learning. STEM education has become a focus in the Australian Curriculum and an important initiative for Catholic Education influenced by the National STEM School Education Strategy.

In 2017 St Joseph’s will focus on foundational skills in STEM learning areas. We will develop mathematical, scientific and technological literacy and promote the development of the 21st century skills of problem solving, critical analysis and creative thinking. Our focus will be to develop interest and confidence in undertaking STEM projects to gain lifelong skills.

For more information, you may like to visit the Australian Curriculum STEM page or the STEM website administered by the NSW Department of Education.

Vanessa Ross
Coordinator

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Using the seed of collaborating to spread love with kindness

“God’s kingdom is like the seed of the mustard plant. A man plants this seed in his garden. The seed grows and becomes a tree. The wild birds build nests on its branches.” Luke 13:19

Hello and welcome to Week 6.

Our Christ–centred Community Focus this week was about encouraging each other to be more like Jesus and spread love with kindness every day. In small groups, students brainstormed ideas of how to spread kindness. Then students were busy on the playground transferring their ideas into actions.

Advent

Some interesting facts:
Advent is the beginning of the Church Year.
The primary colour of Advent is purple.
Advent means ‘coming’ or ‘arrival’.
The four weeks of Advent have a different focus with each week represented by a candle.
The first candle is the candle of Expectation or HOPE.

Year 6 Blue will celebrate the first week of Advent on Wednesday 23 November at 9:15. Morning tea will follow the prayer celebration. All members of St. Joseph’s community are warmly invited to attend.

May peace and blessings be with you,

Kerri Kerr
Religious Education Coordinator (Acting)
kerr.kerr@cg.catholic.edu.au
Happy Birthday
This week to:

Ben L
Max M
Liam O
Ebenezer A
Alexander B
Zoe P
Diing M

Merit Awards - Week 6 Term 4

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

Using the Seed of Collaborating to spread love with kindness

Foundation Red: Oliver A, Willow D
Foundation White: Antonija K, Lottie W-B
Year 1 Silver: Sophie P, Joshua O’K
Year 1 Teal: Grace B, Josie S
MAC Magenta: Lachlan B, Georgia J
MAC Purple: Eva T, Aidan M
MAC Yellow: Max G, Max S
Year 4 Orange: Aston P, Cheyenne R
Year 5 Lime: Stella A-N, Taylah S
Year 6 Blue: Hycenth M, Severiano C

END OF YEAR CELEBRATION
FOUNDATION FAMILIES

All Foundation families are invited to Black Mountain Peninsula playground on Sunday 27th November from 11am to celebrate the end of a successful first school year. Please bring a plate to share (no nuts).

Look forward to seeing you there.

Sonia Howarth

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

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
CANTEEN NEWS

Wish list: Paper hand towels and small metal tongs.

Sausage Sizzle: Will be on the last day of term, Friday 16 December. Notes will go out in Week 7.

Stock: We are coming to the end of the year so we are running stock down. Over the coming weeks you will notice things won’t be available. If we don’t have the items you have ordered, your child will be asked to choose something else that is available.

VOLUNTEERS: Help is needed for the sausage sizzle and end of year clean. Please let me know as soon as possible if you can assist. If there is not enough help we will have to cancel the sausage sizzle.

CANTEEN
ROSTER WEEK 7

Wednesday 23/11/2016
Lucy Erickson

Thursday 24/11/2016
Madeleine Quigley

Friday 25/11/2016
Marie Pickett

Jackie – Canteen Manager
E: stjosephscanteen@gmail.com
M: 0490 399 694 (during Canteen open hours only 9:00am to 1:30pm Wednesday to Friday)

Please join us for
Community Cuppa
Friday 2 December
after Walk to School

ST JOSEPH’S
MEMORY BOOK
$20.00 EACH
AVAILABLE FROM
FRONT OFFICE

Remembering
St Joseph's Primary School O'Connor
1956 to 2016
Celebrating 60 years
Guitar, Piano & Violin Lessons
starting week 2 Term 1 2017

Celtic Arts Agency offers private 1/2 hour music lessons at St Joseph’s Primary School and is currently taking enrolments for new and returning students for 2017. We have new spots available for violin.

Dave O’Neill will commence teaching violin. Dave is an internationally recognized multi-instrumentalist and has been a professional musician and teacher for over 35 years. He is well known in the Australian folk scene, both as a musician and as a former Artistic Director of the National Folk Festival. Dave’s students find him fun and easy to understand.

Lessons are booked on a per term basis and are conducted during school hours on a rotating timetable.

More information is available on our website: www.celticartsagency.com

Contact Sharon Casey on
E: musicfun@jocresswell.com or
T: 0404 217 528
Term 4 Week 6

With the warmer weather and recent rains, the Green Frogs have been discovering snails throughout our garden. We have been learning about snails, watching how they move, looking at similarities and differences in shell patterns and creating our own paper snail art. Have a look at some of the photos demonstrating our learning experiences that we have participated in this week.

Mowen Dyer

The preschool children attending St Joseph’s Primary School next year, participated in their Orientation at Foundation this week. They enjoyed meeting their new teachers and mixing with other children who will be in their class next year. The children who are not attending the school next year spent time in the library and on the big playground equipment. Our Zoo excursion is tomorrow and the children are very excited. Please ensure they bring a substantial morning tea, come with sunscreen applied prior to arrival and that the children are at school by 8:50 in order to be on the bus by 9:15.

For your diaries please note the following dates:

18 November - 9:15 - 1:30 Zoo Excursion (Green Frogs and Blue Geckos)
23 November - 9:15 Advent Prayer Celebration
30 November - 9:15 Advent Prayer Celebration
30 November - 3:30 Play and Pray at the ELC
16 December - Last Day of School (No Vacation Care in January)

Birthday wishes to the following child: Ben B.

God Bless,

Molly Henson