St Joseph's Newsletter
Growing in excellence within a Christ-centred community.

Week 6 Term 3
25 August 2016

St Joseph’s School
Boronia Drive
O’Connor ACT 2602

Postal Address
PO Box 646
Dickson ACT 2602

School Website
www.sjo.act.edu.au

EMAIL
Principal
sue.dempsey@cg.catholic.edu.au

Office
office.sjo@cg.catholic.edu.au

Phone
6248 9818

Fax
6247 1792

SUPERVISION
Morning supervision begins at 8.20am. No children are to be left unsupervised before then. Playground equipment is out of bounds unless there is a teacher supervising.

St Joseph’s ELC Before and After School Care
Pre-school to Foundation

EMAIL
director.elcjo@cg.catholic.edu.au

Phone
6257 2990 or 0457 540 802

A Parish Mass is held in the church every Sunday at 9:00am.
6:00pm Saturday Vigil is also held in the church.
9.00am Weekday Mass is held in the church.
Parish Priest
Father Kennedy
Phone
6247 7070

UNIFORM SHOP
Wednesday 2:45-3:15pm
Friday 8:45-9:15am

YMCA After School Care
Foundation to Year 6
6242 4040
0432 405 147

SAVE THE DATE
Open School Afternoon Sat 5 Nov
Dinner at Old Parliament House Evening Sat 5 Nov
Family Mass and Picnic Morning Sun 6 Nov

November
5-6 2016

Director’s Visit
Last Friday we held an entertaining assembly for Moira Najdecki, Director of Catholic Education. The students presented Moira with one of our anniversary tea towels and she spent time with our student leaders talking about the transition to high school. Moira was very touched and impressed with our school.

NAPLAN
Having received your child’s NAPLAN results last week, please contact your child’s teacher if you would like assistance in interpreting the report.

The Leadership Team will evaluate the school results and determine the focus for the next 12 months. This in turn influences our Annual Improvement Plan.

Father’s Day Prayer Celebration
As with Mother’s Day, this year we will mark Father’s Day with a Prayer Celebration. Year 4 will lead our celebration.

Fr Bill
Fr Bill will be retiring at the end of September so the school will be celebrating Mass with him at 9:00 am on Thursday, 22 September. It would be wonderful if parents could join us at Mass.

The parish will farewell Fr Bill at 9:00 am Mass on Sunday, 25 September with a morning tea to follow. Again, the attendance of families at that Mass would make it a special occasion for Father. Fr Bill’s replacement will be announced shortly.

Syro Malabar Community
Fr Matthew Kunnappillil and the Syro Malabar community will be moving to our parish at the beginning of October. Fr Matthew will be living in the presbytery with our new parish priest. The group gathers from across Canberra each Sunday morning for catechesis and to celebrate Mass together. We have been asked to provide access to the Hall for the Sunday classes held for the children. This will commence on 16 October.

Athletes Foot
A donation of $550 has been made to our school from The Athletes Foot as a result of purchases made by our families from the store at Belconnen. We will put this towards our 60th celebrations.

COMING EVENTS
31 Aug – 5:30 – 6:30 National Literacy and Numeracy Week activities
2 Sept – 9:15 Father’s Day Prayer Celebration
5 – 7 Sept – Book Fair
5 Sept - 5:30 AFP Think U Know Cyber Safety presentation
7 Sept – 3:30 Play and Pray, 6:00 School Board

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

Sue Dempsey
Principal

Dear parents and carers,
Thank you to the many parents who completed the online Satisfaction Survey put out by Catholic Education on behalf of all Catholic schools in the Canberra Goulburn archdiocese. 46% of our parents completed the survey with overwhelmingly positive responses that we are continuing to meet the diverse needs of our community which is very affirming for us. We will take on board the suggestions made as we plan into the future.

If you have a specific concern about your child please come in and talk with me so it can be addressed.

Staffing
I will be on 4 weeks Long Service Leave from next Monday, 29 August. Caz Perryman will be Acting Principal, Luke Donnelly will be Acting Assistant Principal and Kerri Kerr will be Acting Religious Education Coordinator. Sheena Wijnberg will take Caz’s place in Year 3 and relieve Kerri in 1 Teal to allow her to tend to the REC tasks. I have every confidence that the Leadership Team will continue to work for excellence and achieve great things during my absence. Please don’t hesitate to contact Caz, Luke, Kerri or Vanessa Ross if the need arises.

Car Park Redesign
Please find attached an update of the progress being made towards the redesign of the car park and improvement of the oval.

60th Anniversary
A working bee will be held on Saturday, 29 October to do some gardening before our open weekend. Please set aside some time to help us present our school at its best. Your help will be very much appreciated.

Parent Workshops
A reminder that AFP officers will talk with parents about Cyber Safety at 5:30 pm on Monday, 5 September. All parents are encouraged to attend.

The website of the Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner is a very helpful site for parents wishing to find out more about online safety. https://esafety.gov.au

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Coding

According to recent studies, teaching basic coding can be linked to improved problem solving and analytical reasoning. When students develop a mastery of coding computer programming, they have a natural ability and drive to construct, hypothesize, explore, experiment, evaluate and draw conclusions. It can also give students experience with important generic skills such as persistence, collaboration and communication.

At St Joseph’s we have been exploring coding in ‘Code Club’ on Thursdays. We have been using the apps Scratch Junior and Hopscotch on iPads and for more hands on coding we use BeeBots. Some of the older students have used their initiative and have been working on web based applications.

If you are looking to explore coding at home the following article, Teach Your Kids to Code, provides some great ideas and links to assist you. The web based application Scratch comes highly recommended as it allows the child to create animations and stories with building blocks that mimic the structure of computer code. The program is supported by a range of practical resources which can be accessed at MIT Media Lab.

Giving Love through a School Blessing

This week the students have been focusing on giving love through a school blessing. We regularly offer a blessing to people in our school community who are departing us or travelling overseas by raising our right hands towards the person and saying a simple blessing. However, the blessing that is being said is not always the same, nor truly reflective of our Christ-centred community. For this reason, we have invited classes to write a simple blessing that can be adopted by the whole school.

We look forward to sharing the school blessing with you all once it has been finalised.

Yours in Christ,

Luke Donnelly
Religious Education Coordinator
luke.donnelly@cg.catholic.edu.au
Merit Awards - Week 6 Term 3

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

Using the Seed of Collaborating to write a school blessing

Foundation Red: Harry C, Katja H
Foundation White: Oscar M, Zoe G
Year 1 Silver: Joshua O’K, Ashley F
Year 1 Teal: Thenuki W-D, Olivia F
MAC Magenta: Aidan B, Alarna N
MAC Purple: Jake McK, Finn K
MAC Yellow: Serafina M, Sebastian O’D-D
Year 4 Orange: Scarlett W, Aidan E
Year 5 Lime: Adele C, Alysha L
Year 6 Blue: Hycenth M, Severiano C

Happy Birthday
This week to:

Lachlan B
Scarlett W
Bridget M
Grace F

1 week to Spring!

Time to start your fitness journey and be ready for Summer.
Join us in the comfort of the indoors.
Current sessions running Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 6am-6.45am at O’Connor. Combination of boxing and circuit training to suit ALL fitness levels.
Feel free to contact me with any questions or to reserve your spot:
Dani Hosie 0457 999 639 hosiept@gmail.com

Uniform Shop

Hours of Operation
Wednesday 2:30pm—3:15pm
Friday 8:45am—9.15am

A uniform drive will be held from Monday 29 August until Friday 9 September 2016.

An information sheet and price list is attached to this Newsletter.

Please direct any queries to:

Uniformshop_stjosephs_oconnor@yahoo.com.au

Marcela Leon

Cricket

ANU Cricket Club Juniors will be accommodating junior cricketers in Canberra’s inner north and the university community by fielding junior sides.
MILO in2CRICKET, MILO T20 Blast, under 10s & under 11s, and Meteors Junior Cricket Leagues.
Players are invited to register via the Play Cricket website. More information can be obtained by contacting Murray Radcliffe on 0409 514 054.

Come and Try day on 3 September 11:30am and 1:30pm at ANU North Oval (Corner Barry Dr & McChaughey St). No need to register, just arrive on the day and bring a friend!!


Victoria Dolphin
Owner

0407 668 647
victoria@doorstepdinners.com.au
www.doorstepdinners.com.au

Good, Fresh Food, Delivered to your Doorstep
THANK YOU: Thank you to the families who have generously donated items to the canteen. It all makes a huge difference. We now have enough Ziploc sandwich bags, foil, Gladwrap and plastic gloves for the moment, thank you.

WISH LIST: Popcorn, canned pineapple rings, small metal tongs, soup ladle with pouring lip on either side of the spoon, plastic dessert spoons, rice crackers and coloured permanent markers.

SOUP: Soup is available to order through flexischools.com.au for Term 3 only. Flavours will be on flexischools each week, where possible.

VOLUNTEERING: COULD ANYONE HELP IN THE CANTEEN ON WEDNESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER? If you can spare an hour or two please let me know as soon as possible.

CANTEEN ROSTER WEEK 7
31/08/2016 to 02/09/2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday 31/08/2016</th>
<th>Thursday 01/09/2016</th>
<th>Friday 02/09/2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AM – HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>AM – Kelly Fordham</td>
<td>AM – Kathy Bartone</td>
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Jackie – Canteen Manager
E: stjosephscanteen@gmail.com
M: 0490 399 694 (during Canteen open hours only)

Diamondathon
A Readathon? A Spellathon? A Walkathon?
No thank you!
To celebrate our Diamond Anniversary, we will be holding a Diamondathon!
9:00 – 11:00 am Friday 23 September

We are calling for donations for weekly student prizes and larger donations of cash or goods as overall prizes.
Can you help with a prize suitable for an individual student or a donation from a business?
Donations can be dropped into the Front Office or please email Luke Donnelly if you would like to be a sponsor.
luke.donnelly@cg.catholic.edu.au
**TEEBALL/SOFTBALL**

The first training session will be a ‘Come and Try’ session for all ages and playing abilities
Friday 26 August 4:00pm O’Connor Oval

Please remember to email Mrs McFarland directly carolyn.mcfarland@cg.catholic.edu.au or fill in the Expression of Interest form attached to this newsletter.

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**VOLLEYBALL**

Good luck to all students competing in the Volleyball Tournament on Saturday at Lyneham Indoor Hockey Centre.

Time: 3:00pm-4:30pm
Cost: $10 (payable when your child gets their name marked off on the day)
Bring: Named water bottle, something warm to wear (it can get very cold in the stadium)
Wear: School sports uniform

Carolyn McFarland
Did you hear Softball is back in the Olympics in 2020??
Now is the time to sign up for Joey’s teams
Saturday morning Softball season for all future Olympians!

As you all know softball is a great way to improve hand-eye coordination, upper and lower body strength and team work skills while having a great time. If your child is interested in playing for St Joseph’s this season, please complete and return the information slip below to Mrs McFarland. Be sure to fill in your email contact details.

We are hoping to enter teams in the following divisions and will need coaches and managers for each team.

TeeBall  Junior Softball  Senior Softball  7/8 High School

Please return this note by Friday 19 August

For more information please email carolyn.mcfarland@cg.catholic.edu.au

I am interested in my child ______________________ playing in the 2016-2017 Softball season for St Joseph’s:

Name: __________________________________________

Email address: __________________________________

I can assist by (please circle)

Coaching

Managing

Assisting at training or on game day
The Green Frogs have been learning about how to care for our environment by looking at sustainable practices such as water conservation and recycling. This has led to an interest in how rainbows are formed and where water goes when it rains. Mr. Brandy, an aboriginal storyteller, also visited the ELC and shared stories from his Wiradjuri Culture. He explained to the children how his community hunts, taking and using only what they need from the environment to live. We participated in the stories through role play and had the opportunity to wear beads, masks and put ochre on our faces. The children also enjoyed a dance together with boomerangs and clapping sticks.

Mervyn Dyer

REMINDER: Our ELC Working Bee will be held this Saturday 27 August from 10:00am - 12:00pm. If you are able to spare any time, we would love to see you! We will be mulching the garden, cleaning the sheds, painting and many other jobs. Come along and join the fun! As you all know the Twilight Forest Adventure will now be held on 2 of September from 6:00 pm. Confirmation notes were due yesterday and we have started a wait list at the Front Office for those who didn't book in originally and would like to join us.

For your diaries please note the following dates:

27 August - 10am - 12pm ELC Working Bee
26 August - Dinosaur Museum Incursion
31 August - 5:30pm - 6:30pm National Literacy and Numeracy Week activities (ELC included)
2 September - 6:00pm Twilight Forest Adventure (new date)

Enjoy your week,

Molly Henson