



St Joseph's School

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3rd February 2017

Dear Parents, Friends and Students of St Joseph's School,

Welcome

Welcome to 2017. This year promises to be another exciting one with all staff and students working hard to achieve their very best throughout the year.

A warm welcome to Mrs Jennifer Gorman who will take on the position of Assistant Principal for the year and welcome back to all returning staff, students and families. Welcome to the Pre-Kindy, Kindy and new families to other classes in our school. I trust our returning families will make you feel welcome.

P & F Family Fun Afternoon

The P & F will host a **Family Fun Night on Friday 10th February starting at 5pm for a sausage sizzle and then from 5.45pm to 7.00pm**, all the community will be participating in a range of fun and exciting activities. The event is a community builder and all families and staff are encouraged to attend. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and welcome all new members to our school community. My thanks to the P & F for hosting this event and organising the sausage sizzle. A note is included with this letter. You are asked to respond by no later than **Wednesday 8th February**. I look forward to sharing this event with most, if not all, the families within St Joseph's School.

Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons for students in **PP to Year 6** are scheduled for **Weeks 6 and 7** of this term. Permission forms associated with this event will be distributed to all PP-Yr. 6 families later in the term. All students will be transported to and from swimming lessons by bus.

Parent Information Night

The Parent Information Night for PP through to Year 6 is scheduled for **Thursday 9th February starting at 5.30pm**. All parents are asked to meet in the school library at 6.00pm, in between the class information sessions. To assist families who work or have more than one child at the school, all parent meetings will be repeated by class teachers on the night.

5.30 – 6.00pm All Classes (PP-Yr. 6)

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6.30 – 7.00pm All Classes (PP-Yr. 6)

The Parent Information Night is an important part of our school culture. It serves to provide an opportunity for expectations to be clarified and goals set for the current year. The Parent Information Night also helps build relationships between the class teacher/s and parent. Please make every effort to attend. I look forward to seeing you there.

Commissioning Mass

The staff, members of the P & F Executive and School Board will be commissioned during the **8.30am Mass on Sunday 12th March**. This is an important part of our roles as members of St Joseph's School Community and the St Patrick's Parish Community; it helps to remind us that we all work together for the good of our students and all community members. All members of our school community are invited to be part of this.

Newsletter

The school newsletter is emailed each fortnight. It is also uploaded to the school website at the same time. If you do not have electronic access to the newsletter, we are able to provide you a hardcopy. Please advise the office staff. Please let us know if you do not receive the electronic version of the email. If your email address changes, please email Mrs Heather Brown and notify her of the change; brown.heather@cathednet.wa.edu.au

Parent Handbook

The Parent Handbook has been uploaded to the school website. I encourage you to peruse through it as it will inform you of important things related to our school.

Making Jesus Real (MJR) Award

The MJR Award will recognise an individual who has been identified by school community members as 'Making Jesus Real' by demonstrating values and qualities representative of Jesus. Students, staff, parents and community members are invited to nominate a member of the school community for the award, providing a reason for their nomination. The nominations will be counted and the award will be presented at a ceremony where the whole school is present. The nomination box and nomination slips are located in the school office.

Term Planner

Please check the upcoming dates on the newsletter and school webpage as things may change from time to time.

Children's Attendance

To ensure the children's safety and for legal reasons, parents are asked to comply with the following:

- If your child is sick or will be away from school, please contact the school office **by 9am of that day**.
- If a child is to be absent for part of the day or arrives after the 8.35am bell, parents are required to sign them in at the Office.
- Children who leave the school grounds for appointments during the day also need to be signed out and in at the Office.
- When a child returns to school after being absent a written explanation must be given to the class teacher on a separate note, not in the school diary.
- Children are not permitted to leave the school grounds during school hours without a parent or guardian.
- In the case of an emergency or school evacuation it is important for the staff to have the correct information as to who is on the school grounds. Therefore should you need to take your child out of school during school hours, your signature is required in the "Sign in and Sign out book" at the Office. If you return your child to school, you will need to sign the student back in.
- There are always days when you will be late getting your children to school. If you are late, the office will need to be notified and the book signed. Children often feel embarrassed entering a class when it is settled and continual lateness should be avoided. If you feel your child is uncomfortable or embarrassed, please accompany them to their classroom.
- Parents who intend on taking their child/ren out of school during the term for a family holiday or for an extended period of time, **must** put their request in writing to the Principal.

Forms

Please find enclosed the following forms, they all must be returned by the end of next week;

- "Full Family Details" form – Please check the details, make changes and send it back to school. Even if there are no changes, the form **MUST BE RETURNED**.
- Photograph Image Permission Form – One per family to be returned to the **office**.
- "Student Use of Information and Communication Technology" Form – One per child (Kindy – Year 6) to be returned to the **office**.
- "Event Permission Form" – one per family to be returned to the **office**.
- This week, medical information forms are being sent home to new families, as well as those who reported their child as having a medical condition in 2016. If you do not receive these forms and need to let us know about a medical condition your child has been diagnosed with, please see the office for a form. To enable us to best meet your child's needs, it is important that we are aware of any health concerns that may affect your child's time at school.

I look forward to a great year at St Joseph's School, with you all.

God Bless

Travis Bienkowski – Principal

Striving In Faith