

## DIARY DATES

Friday 7 March

Ice Block Day  
Lunch 2

Sunday 9 March

Reconciliation Meeting

Monday 10 March

9.00am Assembly, Yr 4

Friday 14 March

Ice Block Day  
Lunch 2

Sunday 16 March

Reconciliation Meeting

Monday 17 March

St Patrick's Day

9.00am Assembly, Yr 5

Easter Raffle Tickets Sent  
Home

Wednesday 19 March

St Joseph's Day  
Mass and Celebration

Thursday 20 March

National Day Against  
Bullying

Friday 21 March

School Cross Country

Ice Block Day  
Lunch 2

Saturday 22 March

First Reconciliation after  
8.30am Mass

Monday 24 March

9.00am Assembly, Yr 3

Tuesday 25 March

Annunciation

Stage 3 Girls Soccer

Wednesday 26 March

Mufti Day  
(Penalty: Easter Eggs)

Friday 28 March

Ice Block Day  
Lunch 2

Monday 31 March

9.00am Assembly

Friday 4 April

Ice Block Day  
Lunch 2

Last day for Easter Raffle  
tickets to be returned

Monday 7 April

Term Award Assembly  
9.00am

Tuesday 8 April

School Photos

10.45am – ANZAC Day  
service for School  
Leaders

Friday 11 April

Easter Raffle Drawn

Ice Block Day  
Lunch 2

Last Day of Term 1

Monday 28 April

STAFF DEVELOPMENT  
DAY

# St Joseph's Primary School Newsletter

5<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

Today is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Traditionally, we practice fasting and abstinence by "giving up something for Lent." [Maureen McCann Waldron, in her Reflection published in Creighton University's Online Ministries](#), brings a new perspective to this Lenten practice and puts it into the context of joy.

*When I was in grade school, I remember Ash Wednesday as a melancholy day. The sisters who taught us were unusually sombre and whispery to us that day. It felt like Ash Wednesday, with its marked foreheads and meagre meals, signalled the beginning of a long period of giving up candy – and some feeling that we were all lost.*

*But many decades later, a look at today's readings changes my perspective and seems to invite us into a hopeful joy. God invites us to "return to me with your whole heart" and we ask God in return to "create a clean heart for me and a steadfast spirit renew within me."*

*Rather than being melancholy, Lent invites us into a deep joy, for we are known by God as imperfect people but we are loved by God as forgiven. The deeply forgiving love God extends to us is like **an invitation to renew our relationship with God.***

*Yes, it might be a period of simplicity, paring down and clearing away the things that are getting in the way between us and God. Lent can be a time to take a clear-eyed look at ourselves and honestly see who we are, just as God does. **But it's a time of great hope, as we realize how much God longs for a relationship with us.***

*That doesn't mean we focus on us and our failings, but we can look at the way our lack of freedom gets in the way of our relationships with God. An honest look at ourselves as flawed creatures of God doesn't mean we give up. Rather we can rejoice in knowing that there is nothing we have done, no act or way of life, no hidden sin so deeply tucked away in our souls, that God does not forgive in us.*

*Can we imagine the next six weeks as time to spend with one who loves us so much, who forgives and comforts us and rejoices in our love? **And isn't that celebration of love even deeper and more joyful if we have been separated from God for a while?***

*Today many of us will have our foreheads marked by a cross of ashes. It is a shocking symbol of our own mortality and of the sacrifice Jesus made for us with his death. It is also a public marking that reminds us - and others - of God's message to us, "I created you for myself and gave you my only son to free you from sin and death. Even now, I am calling you, drawing you closer to myself so that someday, I can celebrate with you a never ending banquet of love."*

*The ashes on our forehead are more than a symbol of our own mortality. They are a sign of God fighting for our freedom from this world, liberating us from the clutches of so many things that drag us away from God. Today Jesus is calling us to himself in an ever-deeper way, inviting us into his endless forgiveness and asking us to return to his loving embrace. With tears of joy, we can accept his outstretched arms. When I was a girl my sense of Ash Wednesday was that we were lost. Now I see that we are found!*

This is the Good News we will share with our students during Lent. We will provide opportunities for prayer, alms-giving and fasting with a focus on enriching our life and that of others. A focus on living and sharing the joy of the Gospel.

We will have special Lenten prayer at our assembly on Mondays, we will encourage donations to support Project Compassion (Caritas), and we will hold "No junk food day" to give thanks for the food that meets our **needs**, and donate cost of unnecessary food we **want** to others. A special Lenten newsletter will come out next Monday.

What can you do as a family to grow in your relationship with each other and God this Lent?

Blessings to you all,  
**Fran Jackson**  
Principal

## Learning Without Limits

94 Joseph Street, Kingswood NSW 2747

Phone: 4732 3999 Fax: 4731 1432 Email: [stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au)



# General News...

## Catholic Schools Week (CSW)

Next week we celebrate all that is good in Catholic education - our students, teachers, our parents, our faith, the learning, the enjoyment, our community. We will have a special prayer at our Monday assembly and Open Classrooms for Literacy, Maths, Music (band and strings) and Drama/Literacy, as timetabled, during the week. A timetable for CSW was sent with this newsletter.

## iLearn for Year 4 - 7.30pm Monday 10th March

As part of CSW, we will also launch the iLearn project in which each student in Yr 4 will be supplied with an iPad by CEDP (Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta) to support their learning. Issues discussed at the launch will include cybersafety, the role of technology as a tool for learning, care and maintenance of the iPad and considerations for future "home use" of these devices. While this meeting targets Year 4 parents and students, all interested parents are welcome to attend.

## Parent Reading (to children) Program

Thank you to the parents who have offered their time. The programme will start next week. Participating parents will be contacted with details this week.



## Homework Review

There has been a good response to this consultation. Our draft policy will be published next week.



## Correction – Year 2 Excursion to Australian Arms Museum

Please note that this excursion will take place on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March (not Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March as shown in the excursion note). Apologies for any inconvenience.

## When Your Child is Sick...

If your child is absent for only 1-2 school days, it is not necessary to phone the school. However, if they will be absent for more than two consecutive school days, please contact us. A signed and dated note for any day a child is absent, explaining the reason for absence, must be provided when the child returns even when a phone call has already been made. These notes are required for our school records and should be given to the class teacher. Principals may request medical certificates, or other documentation, when absences due to sickness are frequent or prolonged.

## Arriving Late to School

At St Joseph's we value and protect all day learning time, however, we appreciate that there will be times when children arrive late. If your child is late they miss out on important instructions and they may also disrupt the class when they arrive. Punctuality assists children to settle in the morning and reduces the amount of interruptions to a class.



If your child arrives after 8:50 am parents are asked to please accompany their child to the office to sign them in.

## 2014 NSW Premiers Readers Challenge:

Last year many children from St Joseph's participated in the Premiers Readers Challenge. Once again this year I encourage all our students to pursue their love of reading for leisure, pleasure and learning by participating in the 2014 Premiers Readers Challenge. The Reading Challenge commences 3 March and concludes on the 22 August 2014. For more useful information about the challenge go to the following website: [www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au](http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au)

## Our Church Choir is BACK!

We are very excited to be recommencing our Church Choir this year as we focus on building our Parish and School community. An important element of Religious Education for our children at St Joseph's is the experience of Mass and the learning and enjoyment of religious hymns.

If your child would like to consider joining our church choir, please refer to the note sent home today for further details, complete the Expression of Interest form and return it to the office.

SAY CHEESE!



## School Photos

School Photos will be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April. All children will wear full school uniform. NO sports uniform to be worn on this day.

# Community News...

## Joey's Before and After School Care Inc

Joey's Before and After School Care Inc is a Child Care Benefit approved centre that is located on the school site. They have a flexible, relaxed, program catering to all ages and most interests with staff that are dedicated and caring. They value and encourage family input. Phone 4732 5771. Hours: Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays): 6.30am to 8.30am and 3.00pm to 6.30pm. Special 8.00am service is also available. Vacation Care programs run during school holidays from 7.00am to 6.00pm.

## Parish Playgroup

Parish Playgroup for children not yet at school is held on Mondays at 10.00am in the Parish Hall (Lieberman Room). Parents are welcome to attend our Monday morning assembly, have a cuppa afterwards and then go over to playgroup, or you can just go to Playgroup at 10.00am. We hope to see you there.

## St Dominic's College Information Evening and Open Day

St Dominic's College will be holding an Information Evening on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2014, commencing at 7.30pm and an Open Day on the 30th March, 2014 between 10am and 3pm. For further information please call 4731 1933

The Staff of St Joseph's Primary School Kingswood  
Invite you to a retirement dinner for

# *Gayle Boyd*

*In appreciation of  
33 Years in Catholic Education  
at St Joseph's Primary, Kingswood.*

**When:** 7pm Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2014

**Where:** The Riverview Room  
Nepean Rowing Club  
Bruce Neale Drive, Penrith 2750

**Dinner:** Three course alternate plate

**Cost:** \$50 p.p. includes contribution towards gift.  
(Bar available for drinks)

Please advise of any dietary requirements

**RSVP:** 14<sup>th</sup> March 2014

St Joseph's Primary School 02 4732 3999  
Or [mbrogan@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mbrogan@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Please make payment to St Joseph's Primary Kingswood,  
94 Joseph St Kingswood 2747  
Phone payment - eftpos/credit card available.

## McCARTHY CATHOLIC COLLEGE - Enrolling now for 2015

Open Day: Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2014      Time: 9.30am to 11.30am

Meet the Principal, staff and students    Tours of the College facilities    Trade Training Centre information    Enrolment packages available

Enquiries: Mrs Sharon Clarke - 4735 3211    Website: [www.mccarthyemuplains.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mccarthyemuplains.catholic.edu.au)    75 Mackellar Street, Emu Plains

### Xavier College Open Night – Monday 10 March, 5.00 – 7.30pm

There will also be an information session at 7.00pm. Applications close on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2014. [www.xavierllandilo.catholic.edu.au](http://www.xavierllandilo.catholic.edu.au)



## St Joseph's Catholic Church Kingswood—Mass Times

Cnr Joseph Street & Richmond Road, Kingswood    Phone 4721 4080

Office Hours: 9:00am-2:00pm Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30am—1:30pm Friday

**Weekend Masses**  
Saturday Vigil - 6pm  
Sunday - 8.30am and 10.00am  
Polish Mass - Saturday 4pm

**Ash Wednesday Masses**  
8am, 7pm  
Liturgy of the Word for school  
Is at 9.30am

**Weekday Masses**  
Monday to Friday 8am  
Saturday 8.30am



**Sacrament Of Penance** - Saturday after morning mass

**Eucharistic Adoration** - Before all masses

## Joeys Vacation Care April 2014

Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2014 \$37.50 <b>BYO Lunch</b>	<b>Electronics' Day</b> Today you are allowed to bring in your electronic games. <i>*Please label all equipment*</i> <b>*Joey's is not responsible for any lost or damaged items*</b>
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2014 \$37.50 + \$30 = \$67.50 <b>BYO Lunch</b>	<b>Bowling and Yoghurtland</b> We will be travelling by bus to Penrith AMF and Yoghurtland. <b><u>This excursion will only occur if we have enough children</u></b>
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2014 \$37.50 + \$16.00 = \$53.50 <b>BYO Lunch</b>	<b>Easter Craft Day.</b> Today we will be doing lots of Easter craft activities such as egg painting, Easter baskets, <b>STUFFLERS</b> will be coming to Joey's to help us make our own Easter Bunnies.
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2014 = \$37.50 <b>BYO Lunch</b>	<b>Easter Party Day</b> Today is Party Day at Joey's we will be eating Party food and playing lots of party games, and of course an Easter Egg Hunt!
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY!</b> <b>Joey's is CLOSED</b>
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2014	<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY!</b> <b>Joey's is CLOSED</b>
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2014 \$37.50 + \$3.00 = \$40.50 <b>Lunch Supplied</b>	<b>Cooking Day</b> We will be cookin' up a storm in Joey's kitchen today! We will be making our own hamburgers for lunch! We will also be making other treats. Yum Yum!
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2014 \$37.50 + \$20 = \$57.50 <b>BYO Lunch</b>	<b>Movie Day</b> We will be travelling by Train to Penrith Hoyts to see one of the latest released movies. <b>*Please pack all snacks and drinks in a plastic bag that we can throw out at the movies.</b>
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2014 \$37.50 + \$15.00 = \$52.50 <b>BYO Lunch</b>	<b>Young Gun Fishing/ Crazy Hair Day</b> Today we are having an Incurson at Joey's. Young Gun Fishing adventures will be visiting us with lots of fun activities. <b><u>*You may also come with crazy hair for the day!</u></b>
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b> <b>Joey's CLOSED</b>

### **Joeys Vacation Care Information**

- Joeys is open **7am – 6pm** during the school holidays.
  - Make sure bring a hat EVERYDAY!
  - We supply breakfast, morning tea and afternoon tea.
- **Children need to bring their own lunch as well as any additional snacks that they may want.**
- Once you make your booking, you must pay for the day regardless of whether you attend or not.
  - Casual Fee – \$40 per day (plus extras) if booking after the beginning of Vacation Care
    - **JOEY'S IS A NUT FREE CENTRE!**



# Catholic Schools Week

March 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014.



Music - Strings

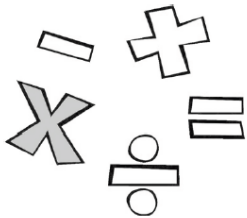


English

## Showcasing the Learning



Drama  
Literacy



Mathematics



Music - Band

**Monday** 8:50am Morning Assembly (MPA)

**Monday** 7:30pm *iLearn Anywhere* (Year 4 parents & students).

**Wednesday & Thursday** - Open Classrooms. See over for timetable.

## WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> March

TIME	WHO	WHAT	WHERE
8:50am – 9:50am	Kindergarten Year 2 Year 3LG Year 3BR Year 4 Year 6	English – Reading English – Reading Music - Strings English - Drama Literacy English – Reading English – Reading	Kindy Classroom Year 2 Classroom Music Room MPA Year 4 Classroom Year 6 Classroom
9:50am – 10:50am	Year 1 Year 3BR Year 3LG Year 5	Mathematics Music - Strings Drama Literacy Mathematics	Year 1 Classroom Music Room MPA Year 5 Classroom
11:30am – 12:30pm	Kindergarten Year 1 Year 2 Year 4CC Year 4CM Year 5 Year 6	Mathematics English – reading Mathematics Music - Strings English - Drama Literacy English - Reading Mathematics	Kindy Classroom Year 1 Classrooms Year 2 Classrooms Music Room MPA Year 5 Classrooms Year 6 Classroom
12:30pm – 1:30pm	Year 3 Year 4CC Year 4CM	English – Reading English - Drama Literacy Music - Strings	Year 3 Classrooms MPA Music Room
1:30 – 2:30	Primary Students	Orchestra Rehearsal	Music Room
2:00 – 2:45	Year 3 Year 4	Mathematics Mathematics	Year 3 Classrooms Year 4 Classrooms

## THURSDAY 13<sup>th</sup> March

TIME	WHO	WHAT	WHERE
8:50am – 9:50am	Year 5CS Year 5DN	English – Drama Literacy Music - Band	MPA Music Room
9:50am – 10:50am	Year 5CS Year 5DN	Music – Band English – Drama Literacy	Music Room MPA
11:30am – 1:30pm	Year 6	Music – Band English – Drama Literacy	MPA/Music Room