

St Joseph's Primary School Newsletter

3rd December 2013

DIARY DATES

Sunday 8 December 2 nd Sunday of Advent
Monday 9 December Swimming Carnival Years K-5
Year 6 attend school as per normal
Tuesday 10 December 9.00am Assembly (Advent) School Reports sent home
Friday 13 December 12 noon - Year 6 Farewell Liturgy and Lunch 6.30pm - Year 6 Dinner
Sunday 15 December 3 rd Sunday of Advent
Monday 16 December Year 6 Fun Day Pre-Owned Uniform Sale 8.30am, Undercroft Ice Creams on sale at Lunch 2
Tuesday 17 December Pre-Owned Uniform Sale 8.30am, Undercroft Assembly - Advent and Term Awards 9.00am Christmas Pageant 6.00pm
Wednesday 18 December Talent Quest, 9.00am Last day of School for students
Thursday 19 December Staff Development Day PUPIL FREE DAY
Friday 20 December Staff Development Day PUPIL FREE DAY
Sunday 22 December 4 th Sunday of Advent
Wed 29 January 2014 Years 1-6 begin Term 1
Thursday 30 January 2014 Kindergarten Begin 9.00am to 3.00pm

Dear Parents/Carers,

Yesterday we celebrated the second Sunday of Advent at school, in anticipation of next Sunday. Advent is the liturgical season where we focus on waiting for the coming of Jesus Christ. The readings are all about waiting and being prepared, preparing and finding hope, hoping and building trust, trusting and coming to faith, faith in Jesus Christ.

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Spiritual preparation for the coming of the Christ child at Christmas helps us to focus on the true meaning of Christmas, the gift of God's own son, sharing in our humanity, revealing to us his loving Father, and showing us how to be in relationship with God. Don't let the shopping and decorating distract you from the message of Christmas: Peace and goodwill to all!

Join our Captivate choir on Friday evening at Catherine McCauley, 2 Darcy Rd, Westmead for an evening of Christmas music and songs. All welcome!

2014 Staffing

New leadership appointments to St Joseph's for 2014:

Assistant Principal - Ms Liz Nicholls

Religious Education Coordinator - Mrs Danielle Mowbray

Congratulations ladies!

We farewell Mr Moreno Faccin who has accepted a position at OLOR, St Mary's and Miss Michaela Dolan who will be continuing her studies in 2014.

Full staff list for 2014 will be included in the Semester 2 report envelope.

Congratulations to Ms Liz Nicholls for completing her Masters in Inclusive Education, to Mrs Catriona Pennay who will be graduating from her Reading Recovery course and to Mrs Cheryl McGannon, Ms Liz Nicholls and Ms Eliza Treble who will graduate from the Emerging Leader's Program (ELP) this week. Also Mrs Terrie Berg and Ms Eliza Treble for completing the EMU Middle Years Intervention program and to Mrs Bronwyn Rose, Ms Louise Grech, Mrs Christina Soliman and Mrs McGannon for attending the Project Based Learning (PBL) conference last week. Teacher professional learning promotes improved teaching and learning and student outcomes.

Our Parent Association had to cancel their AGM last Monday evening as there were insufficient parents to form a quorum. I want to thank Maryanne Wilson and her loyal committee for the hard work they have done this year to provide 'treats' for our students and fundraising for much needed resources in our school. The purchase of our stage was the result of a number of years of tireless and persistent effort. Thank you!

Pre-owned Uniform Sale

On Monday 16th December and Tuesday 17th December, used uniforms will be on sale at 8.30am in the undercroft behind the administration building.



Swimming Carnival Date Change

Please note that there has been a change of date for our swimming carnival.

It will now be held on Monday 9th December and Years K-5 will attend.

Year 6 will remain at school for a normal school day.

Learning Without Limits

94 Joseph Street, Kingswood NSW 2747

Phone: 4732 3999 Fax: 4731 1432 Email: stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au

Ice Cream Day

On Monday 16th December, the Parents' Association will be selling ice creams at Lunch 2.

Cyber Safety

A recent news item highlighted the importance of parents being vigilant about their children's use of social media apps. Many people use Instagram to share photos with family and friends. Unfortunately, some of our youth do not have the maturity to discern what is and isn't appropriate. Please teach your children that where the net is concerned, what goes up doesn't always come down. What goes up is open to manipulation, intimidation and exploitation – regardless of privacy settings. Parent vigilance keeps our children safe!



Magic at St Joseph's

Thank you Mr Lindsey Gardener for bringing your Magic Show to our school. This is free treat for all students tomorrow, Wednesday 4th December. Thank you Mr Gardener for your generosity!

Fit-A-Thon

Thank you for your support of our Fit-A-Thon. The total amount raised so far is \$4,274.80. Details of the class and family that raised the highest amount will be in next week's newsletter.. If you still have money outstanding, please forward it to the office ASAP.

Fran Jackson

Principal

Religious Education News

RE Dates and Times:

Please note the following change of date - The **Week 10 Assembly and Advent Reflection** will be held on **Tuesday 10th December** at the regular assembly time of 9.00am.

Christmas Pageant - Tuesday 17th December, Week 11. It will be held in the MPA at 6pm. All families are welcome to come along and celebrate the Advent and Christmas season with us.



St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

This year to support the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal we have been advised that monetary support would be better than hampers and gifts as they can then distribute more fairly and provide what is really needed to those who have nothing this Christmas.

We will be doing a gold coin collection at our Christmas Pageant and ask that you be as generous as possible in your support.

Danielle Mowbray

Religious Education Coordinator

General News

Enrolments For 2014

We understand that family circumstances change and that sometimes children need to change schools. If you know that you will not be attending St Joseph's in 2014, please advise Mrs Jackson and complete a notification of leaving form that is available from the school office.

Please note that concerns regarding financial difficulties **are not** a reason for seeking another school, as the Catholic Education Office and St Joseph's can and will assist families with meeting these costs when genuine financial difficulties arise.

If you know of anyone considering a Catholic school education for their child here at St Joseph's from 2014, in any grade, please encourage them to contact us as soon as possible to assist us with our planning for 2014.

Win An Ipad For Your School

Complete our online survey by 6th December and you can win a great prize and St Joseph's Primary School could win 5 ipads. Please go to: <http://bit.ly/1fFjF8>

A promotional graphic with a pink background. On the left, there is a silver laptop with a pink screen displaying the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta logo. To the right of the laptop, the text reads: "Complete our Catholic Education survey on school communication & your school can win 5 new iPads". Below this, it says "PLUS YOU COULD WIN ONE OF" followed by a list of prizes: "10 x \$50 Visa Gift Cards", "10 x \$50 iTunes Gift Cards", and "20 x Double passes to Hoyts". At the bottom right, it says "See terms and conditions".

Community News...



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

Weekday Masses

Monday to Friday 8am
Saturday 8.30am



Sacrament Of Penance - Saturday after morning mass

Eucharistic Adoration - Before all masses

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.

School Holiday Activities at Penrith Library

For the January school holidays, Penrith City Library will present an exciting mix of magic and family shows along with art and science workshops. Family shows include a magic show and Utter Nonsense. Workshops include Liquid Nitrogen with Fizzics Education; Origami; Science; Art; and Embroidery. There will also be a teen Jewellery Making activity at St Marys Corner. For bookings and further information please contact Elizabeth Barry on 4732 7891 or ebarry@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au. Tickets sell fast, so book now!!

Farewell to Br Jeff Regan.

Br Jeff Regan is retiring as Principal of St Dominic's College Kingswood at the end of the 2013 school year. A community gathering for parents, staff and students, past and present will be held on Saturday 7th December in the College Hall from 1.30pm. A sausage and salad lunch and cold soft drinks will be available from 1.30pm onwards. There will be some formalities at 3.00pm. You are all most welcome.

Please ring the College office on 4731 1933 if you are attending and give us numbers by Thursday 5/12/13.

Carer's Christmas Creations

Carers of a person with a mental illness are invited to join the Mental Health Respite Carer Support Service (Uniting Care Mental Health). Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre, Nepean and Richmond PRA for Gingerbread house decorating, Christmas Card making and a festive afternoon tea. All equipment will be provided, just bring along your Christmas Spirit!

Date: Wednesday 4th December

Place: Emu Plains Community centre,
Lawson Street, Emu Plains 2750.

Time: 1.00pm to 4.00pm

Please call for more information or to register your attendance. Limited spots are available.

Contact Mental Health Respite Carer Support Service on 4722 6971 or Richmond PRA on 9393 9210 or CRCC, Nepean on 1800 052 222.



New hours

Starting from 1st October 2013 we will have new hours of operation. From **Monday to Friday** our counsellors will be available from **9am to 9pm**. On **Saturdays and Sundays** we will be open from **4pm to 9pm**. These hours are designed to ensure that we are available when parents need us most. Most importantly, we are available seven days a week. This means that parents and carers across New South Wales can access a professional Parenting Counsellor on the same day that they are struggling with a parenting issue.

New website

We are pleased to announce that we have updated our website to give it a fresh new look. The brand new site has a more straightforward layout which has made all of the most popular content easier to find. The new site is designed to work well on smartphones, tablets and computers. The site is intended to give parents a sense of how we work, and to give them the confidence to give us a call when the time comes. **See it for yourself at www.parentline.org.au**



Online counselling

Online chat is coming to Parent Line NSW. We will be trialling an online counselling service in 2014, which will enable parents and carers across NSW to access a Parent Line counsellor through our website. They will have access to the same quality of service that they receive on the telephone; in fact the service will be staffed by the same Parenting Counsellors who answer our calls at Parent Line. This is a very exciting new initiative for us. We will be providing more information on this early in 2014.



New promotional material

Our newly designed promotional material has arrived, and we are now working hard to send it out to the professionals who work with families in New South Wales. We hope you like the look of the new designs. If you would like to order any material please place an order at www.parentline.org.au

1300 1300 52

www.ParentLine.org.au

St Joseph's Primary School - Kingswood

(Please disregard this form if you have filled it in previously. Thank you.)

December 2013

Dear Parents

You may recall that in the past we advised that we were going to implement electronic newsletters rather than paper copies. Due to complications with our website, we were unable to finalise this. We are due for a website upgrade prior to the end of the year. Therefore, we would once again like to pursue the option of providing all parents with an electronic newsletter. A major benefit of going 'electronic' is that each newsletter will be in colour (so no more black and white photos). It also provides you with the option of having other family members subscribe so that they too can be aware of events at our school.

In order to do this we would like to collect your email address. This will enable us to send not only the Newsletter, but school correspondence directly to you. Examples of items we may email to you from time to time include:

- General correspondence
- Surveys regarding the school
- Cancellation or changes to events/excursions etc
- Notice when an excursion will be returning to school later than planned
- Upcoming events

We would appreciate it if you could list your email address/es below. If you would like both parents, Grandparents or other carers to receive a copy of this form of communication, please list the relevant names and email addresses in the spaces below.

Eldest Child's Name: _____ **Eldest Child's Class:** _____

Name	Email

Alternatively, please send an email to stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au detailing the following:

Subject Line : Please add to Email List
Name of person belonging to the email address
Email Address
Name of eldest child at St Joseph's
Class of eldest child at St Joseph's

Please return this form to school (or send an email) ASAP.

Learning without limits

St Joseph's Primary School 94 Joseph Street Kingswood 2747
Tel 4732 3999 Fax 4721 3349

Email stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au www.stjosephskingswood.parra.catholic.edu.au