



Dear Parents and Carers

Last week, Fr Andrew, Mr Faccin and I attended a diocesan forum on "The New Evangelisation". The question for us is: how do we, as a school and parish, foster commitment to relationship with Jesus Christ? How do we make known the rich tradition and practices of the Catholic Church that bring grace and life to a Catholic community? Let us be open to the Spirit and give room for these questions to resonate, to find some answers. As we approach Pentecost Sunday, take time to reflect on the Baptismal promises you made and find room in your life for the Spirit to deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church.

*Spirit of God come to me
Spirit of God breathe in me
Spirit of God live in me now*

Thank you to Tania Bunfield and the parents who organised the Mothers' Day stall last week. Your support and generosity is much appreciated by the students and the mums who received your carefully selected gifts. Thank you!

This week, students in Years 3 and 5 are participating in NAPLAN. There has been much media attention that gives a negative focus on these tests. NAPLAN is not a test of intelligence, rather a test of the learning. Teachers use this as one indicator of student progress and view it in light of performance in the classroom. NAPLAN also gives schools an indication of areas of strength and development of their teaching and learning programs. At St Joseph's, we encourage students to do their best and ensure they understand NAPLAN does not mark them for life!

Mrs Amy Hoppitt, 4AH will be going on maternity leave as from this Friday. We wish her well as she and Shane eagerly await the birth of their first child. A very exciting time for them! Mrs Christina Soliman will be replacing Mrs Hoppitt until the end of the year. Mrs Soliman has been meeting with Mrs Hoppitt to ensure a smooth transition for the class. I'm sure you join me in wishing Mrs Hoppitt and baby well and in welcoming Mrs Soliman.

Next week, Years 5 and 6 are going to Canberra. This is a great



KEY DATES

- Wed, 15 May NAPLAN for Yrs 3 and 5—Reading
- Thurs, 16 May NAPLAN for Yrs 3 and 5—Numeracy
- Fun Food Day—Cheese 'n Bacon Rolls and Poppers
- Fri, 17 May **Pupil Free Day Cancelled. School as Usual**
- Mon, 20 May 9:00am Assembly.
- 7:00pm Parent Association Meeting
- Tues, 21 May 9:00am Year 2 Creating Workshop at Apple Store
- Wed, 22 May 9:00am Year 2 Creating Workshop at Apple Store
- Thur, 23 May Canberra—Years 5 and 6
- Fri, 24 May Canberra—Years 5 and 6
- 9:30am Our Lady Help of Christians Liturgy
- Mon, 27 May 9:00am Assembly
- Tues, 28 May Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day
- Fri, 31 May School Disco in the evening

adventure for our students. We will be visiting significant sites including the Australian War Memorial, both the old and new Parliament Houses, the Electoral Office, and of course, Questacon. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us. Breakfast on Day 2 is at 6.30am! Will be interesting!!

Have you booked a table for our Jubilee Dinner Dance? Spread the word! It will be a fun night with music and magic! Tickets available from the school office.

May the peace of Christ be with you as we approach Pentecost.

*Yours sincerely,
Fran Jackson
Principal*

Pupil Free Day, Friday, 17 May—POSTPONED

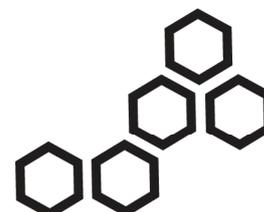
A reminder that this Friday's Pupil Free Day has been postponed. Students are required to attend school on Friday as usual.

The new date for the Pupil Free Day is Tuesday, 25 June 2013.

Now Enrolling for Kindergarten 2014

Enrolments need to be in by May to ensure a place for your child. Enrolment forms are available at the school office.

Learning without limits



St Joseph's 50th Jubilee Dinner

A reminder that tickets for St Joseph's Primary School's 50th Jubilee Dinner being held on Friday 28th June at 7.00pm are on sale. The evening will be held at Emu Sports Club, 1 Leonay Parade, Leonay and will include the following:

Nibbles on arrival

3 course dinner

Band and Magic Show

(Drinks are not included, however a bar is available)

Tickets are \$50 each. Book individually or per table (8 people).

Tickets are available from the school office from until Friday 14th June or until sold out. (Please ensure you include the order form when sending in payment.) There will be a maximum of 200 tickets available.

Please note that this event is available to adults only (ie 18 years or older).



Woolworths Earn and Learn

Please collect a sheet from the Woolworths service desk when you receive stickers from the checkout. Your child can then stick the stickers onto that sheet and bring in to school. Alternatively sheets can be downloaded from the Woolworths Earn and Learn website.

Thanks to the families who have already sent in completed 'Earn and Learn' points sheets to school.

Fun Food Day This Thursday!

The following is the details for the Fun Food Day for Thursday 16th May at Lunch 1.

Cheese and Bacon Roll \$2.00

Popper Juice \$1.00

Helpers are needed to assist on the day please!

What does the NSW school funding agreement mean?

New South Wales is the first state to sign on to the Australian Government's Better Schools plan, agreeing to invest \$5.6 billion in education over six years from 2016 and commit to a three percent increase in school spending over the period.

What we know so far

Both the state and federal governments will contribute funding to the new model

For every extra dollar the NSW state government invests in schools, the Australian government will effectively invest two dollars

Funding to Catholic schools for 2014 and 2015 will remain frozen at 2013 levels

Catholic schools operate on average at only 90% of the total government expenditure

As at 7 May, no other states or territories have agreed to the Australian Government's Better Schools plan and it remains to be seen what will come of the agreement. Federal Opposition Leader, Tony Abbott, has stated that the Coalition will only support the plan if all Australian states and territories are on board. The Federal Government has until 30 June to secure the agreements.

What we still don't know

For Catholic schools in New South Wales, there is still uncertainty around the exact details of the school funding model including:

What the exact amount of the allocation will be to Catholic schools from the Federal government using the new funding formula

The precise impact the NSW state government funding freeze will have on Catholic schools during 2014 and 2015 until the new agreement commences in 2016

The impact on the NSW agreement and funding levels if/when other states and territories sign up with differing agreements

Ensuring that the current 10% resource gap between government schools and Catholic schools does not widen further and that accurate levels of funding for Catholic schools will be provided in the coming years

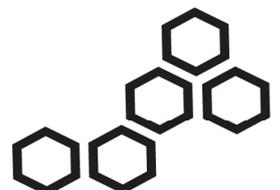
We urge you to continue to speak with your local state and federal members about the need for ongoing and increased funding to Catholic schools. More information can be found at

www.parra.catholic.edu.au/schoolfunding

**Joey's Before & After
School Care tel 4732 5771**

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St Joseph's Primary School 94 Joseph Street Kingswood 2747 tel 4732 3999 fax 4721 3349
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Feast of the Sacred Heart and the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

Dear Parents,

The Feast of the Sacred Heart is being celebrated at school on Friday, 7 June. This special feast day highlights the love and compassion that God has for us through the Sacred Heart of Jesus. God's love comes in many forms and can be demonstrated by us by giving to those in need, thereby demonstrating God's love and compassion. As such, we are asking for you to help us support the St Vincent de Paul Society's Winter Appeal. There is no magic solution to poverty, and what is really needed to create meaningful change is compassion, commitment and money.



This winter, keeping in line with winter trends over the past few years, the Society expects to see increased demand for its services. Cost of living pressures are compounding the problem, as many more struggle to keep their heads above water. The cost of fresh fruit, vegetables, meat and electricity have increased over the past 5 years. Over the previous winter, Society members provided almost \$3.4 million worth of assistance to people in need in New South Wales alone including \$900,000 worth of assistance with energy vouchers.

"We all know that there is no quick-fix solution to poverty and it really does take people's understanding, their compassion and money. By giving to the Winter Appeal, you can make a real difference to the lives of those struggling to make ends meet.

Each classroom will be provided with a collect box, please make your donation(s) through your child's class over the next two weeks. Donations of blankets and warm, clean clothing in good condition may also be donated through your child's class.

In Matthew Chapter 25 Christ speaks of being sick and in prison, being hungry and being fed. His followers ask "when did we ever see you sick and in prison and visit you or hungry and bring you food?" and Christ answered "Truly I say to you, In as much as you have done it to one of the least of these my brothers, you have done it

to me". Let us not forget those members in our community in great need this winter.

Donations will be presented to the St Vincent de Paul Society during the Sacred Heart Liturgy of the Word being held at 9:30am on Friday, 7 June.

Moreno Faccin
Religious Education Co-ordinator

Complaints and Grievances Procedures

From time to time concerns may arise in regard to the school between different stakeholders. The following procedures have been developed to effectively address any such concerns.

Parents

Complaints or grievances pertaining to classroom issues, or that relate to other children are to be dealt with by school personnel. It is not appropriate for parents to approach other parents, or their children, with the intention of resolving the issues.

The recommended procedure to be followed by parents is:

1. The first point of contact is the student's class teacher. Please contact the school office to make an appointment with the teacher concerned.
2. If parents are not satisfied with the solutions offered, or believe that they have not been given a fair hearing, they are encouraged to make an appointment with the Stage Co-ordinator or the Assistant Principal.
3. Should the issue remain unresolved after this time, an appointment is made with the Principal to further discuss the issues.

Please remember there usually are at least two sides to every story and whilst it is important to listen to the children, it is also important not to draw conclusions or make accusations until all the facts are known.

Students

The recommended procedure for students is:

1. If issues arise in the classroom, students are encouraged to speak to their class teacher in order to seek support in finding a resolution.
2. Students encountering problems on the playground are asked to talk to the staff member on duty at the time of the incident. If they believe that their concern has not been adequately addressed they are encouraged to speak to their class teacher.

All students at St. Joseph's are taught to adopt the school's Three Step Plan to find a resolution. This plan is displayed in each learning area, is discussed regularly in class and forms part of the Student Wellbeing Policy.

3. Students can also speak to the Co-ordinator, Assistant Principal or Principal, as well as any other staff member about issues they may have.

Milk - good or bad for asthma?

It's actually pretty unusual for food to be a trigger for asthma, so people with asthma aren't generally put on a restrictive diet. There are some food additives or preservatives that people have reported as triggering asthma symptoms, such as sulphites (common food and drug preservatives; additive numbers 220-228), tartrazine (yellow dye), benzoates, monosodium glutamate (known as MSG) and salicylates, but there isn't much research to back this up.

However many people with asthma also have allergies, and allergic reactions to food can cause symptoms similar to asthma. It is known that around 2% of babies are allergic to cow's milk. In this minority, dairy products may result in an allergic reaction with symptoms such as hives and vomiting, as well as asthma-type symptoms. If this is suspected, it is vital for parents to have a correct diagnosis for children with the condition, using skin testing or blood tests to determine the presence of allergy (IgE) antibodies to milk.

Intolerance is something different. For those with lactose or milk intolerance, drinking milk may cause gastrointestinal symptoms such as diarrhoea and vomiting; but will not exacerbate asthma symptoms. Due to the texture of the milk, some people feel that when they drink it, their throat is coated with thick mucus and this in turn causes runny nose and coughing. This can also be caused by fluids of similar thickness. Cold milk may cause a cough in some people, but this is more likely to do with the temperature of the milk.

Could milk actually help asthma?

A recent study published in the medical journal Thorax suggests that full fat milk and butter might even be the key to preventing asthma. In a study of 3000 three year olds, it was found that those who consumed most dairy products could be up to 4 times less likely to develop asthma symptoms. This may be attributed to the fatty acids found in full fat dairy products. There is even a theory that the attempts to replace saturated fats in our diet with unsaturated fats, thought to be beneficial for our health, could possibly be the reason for the soaring rates in asthma.

Dr John Harvey, of the British Thoracic Society, said: "We have always known milk is important in the development of children's bones and teeth. It now seems that it would play a role in reducing asthma in small children. More research is needed. Moderation is the key since butter and cream need to be eaten as part of a healthy balanced diet."

Healthy Eating Tips

The Parents Jury—The Parents Jury is a web-based network of parents who are trying to improve the food and physical activity environments for children in Australia. The Parents Jury is currently advocating for junk food free advertising during children's TV programs and confectionery free supermarket checkouts. Members receive regular emails with links to current articles and are encouraged to add their opinions on issues that can effect families nutrition and activity levels. To find out more go to www.parentsjury.org.au

St Dominic's College

A reminder that enrolments for 2014 close this Friday.

Child Protection Training

If parents are planning on assisting in the classroom, or on an excursion, they are required to first complete a "Prohibited Employment Form", and Child Protection Training. The form can be collected from the school office. The training is undertaken over the internet at <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/childprotection>. Simply click the training link under "Volunteer" to undertake the training. Once training is undertaken, complete the questionnaire, submit your details, and contact the school to advise that the training has been completed.

St Joseph's Kingswood Youth Group (SKY)

Every Wednesday (except during school holidays). From 3:00 to 5:00pm for 12 to 17 year olds. Games, talks, social nights, Youth Ministry—UTURN. Enquiries to Maria Loveridge at the Parish Office

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

Sunday Masses:

Saturday—Polish Mass, 4.00pm; Vigil, 6.00pm
Sunday—8.30am & 10.00am

Weekday Masses:

Monday to Friday 8:00am
Saturday 8:30am

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