Dear Parents Families and Friends,

It was great to see so many parents present at the parent/teacher meeting times this week. Thanks for taking the opportunity to converse with teachers and help us to understand your child’s needs. It is good for us to find out more about each child and their learning, social and emotional needs so that we can plan accordingly. At this early stage of the year, the opportunity to meet and exchange important information helps set each child up for a successful year. We welcome this ongoing contact with parents and encourage you to contact your child’s teacher if you have any concerns.

Tomorrow morning is our opening school Mass for 2016. After communion, we will formally induct our Year 6 students into their leadership roles for the 2016 year. All year 6 students will receive a leadership badge, with school captains, vice captains and sport captains receiving their appropriate badge. As in the past, if your child is a captain, vice-captain or sports captain we ask those parents to pin the badge on their child at the appropriate time, when asked to come out to the front. The Year 6 class will also make a commitment to leadership in the school. It would be good to see many parents in the cathedral tomorrow morning at 9:15am for the Mass.

To welcome our present and new parents to the school year, a social night is planned for the 11th March in the school grounds. Please come along and make others feel welcome to our community and take the opportunity to catch up with staff and some familiar faces. We do not get many chances to come together like this in our beautiful surroundings. Please note that this is an adults only night. An invitation will be sent home to each family next week asking for numbers attending. Please see the note further in this newsletter with the date and time and ensure that you put this date on your calendar as it will be a very enjoyable evening.

Yours in Christ

Kathy Gaskin
Principal
Important Dates for Term 1 2016

Thursday 25th Feb  Opening school Mass 9.15am Yr 6 assisting
Friday 11th March  Parent Welcome Evening—7-9pm
Friday 18th March  St Joseph’s Day School Mass at Cathedral at 9.15am Yr 4 assisting
Wednesday 23rd March  Athletics Carnival K-6
Thursday 24th March  School Easter Liturgy 9.30am
Friday 25th March  Good Friday
Monday 28th March  Easter Monday
Friday 1st April  Friday school assembly Yr 5 presenting 2.40pm
Thursday 7th April  School Mass at Cathedral at 9.15am Yr 3 assisting
Friday 8th April  Cross Country
Friday 8th April  Last Day of Term 1
Monday 25th April  Anzac Day—public holiday
Tuesday 26th April  Diocesan School Conference—Pupil Free Day
Wednesday 27th April  Diocesan School Conference—Pupil Free Day
Thursday 28th April  First Day for students Term 2

Tuckshop News
A huge thank you to the parents who contacted Kathy Gaffney with offers of help to cover the vacant dates that we had in the tuckshop roster. We have managed to almost cover the days but still need some people who we could call on in an emergency. If you could help out with this please contact Kathy Gaffney on 0422493879.

P and F Fundraising Planning Meeting Tuesday 8th March at 7pm
At this stage we cannot form an executive for the P and F due to lack of attendance at the last meeting. Therefore it has been decided by the school that this year we will only have one meeting each term which will be an informal gathering of parents. We need to plan our fundraising dates and events and so would love to see as many parents as possible attend this meeting on Tuesday 8th March to share your suggestions. As well as coming up with some fun activities to raise money for our school, it is also a great way to meet other parents.

Opening School Mass
Our opening school Mass will be held on Thursday 25th February 2016 (tomorrow) at 9.15am in the Cathedral. At this Mass all Year 6 students will be making a school leaders pledge. The school captains, vice captains and sports captains badges will be blessed and distributed. We invite all our families, especially the parents of the Year 6 students to join us for this celebration.

Tuckshop Roster—Week 6

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Monday 29th February</th>
<th>Maha Puli</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2nd March</td>
<td>Carla Kennedy</td>
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<td>Thursday 3rd March</td>
<td>Di Kennedy</td>
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<td>Friday 4th March</td>
<td>Kathy Gaffney</td>
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Term 1 continues to be a very busy time in a number of sports at St Joseph’s.

**Swimming**

The efforts of our swimmers at the Deanery carnival last week were outstanding. For one of the smallest schools present we had many terrific results against much larger schools. Isaac Mooney, Emily Saeki, Lara Knox and Charlotte Rumble all finished in the top three of their respective age championships. All of our relay teams finished either second or third. We wish the best of luck to the following students who travel to Leeton on Thursday to compete at the Diocesan carnival: Emily Saeki, Lara Knox, Isaac Mooney, Sam McMahon, Harry Pollard and Noah Lynch-Ridley.

**Tennis**

We wish Henry Kennedy and Max Prest the very best of luck as they travel to Wollongong to represent the Wagga Diocese at the MacKillop trials next week.

**Softball**

Alicia Donohue will travel to Sydney next week to represent the wagga Diocese at the MacKillop softball trials and we wish her the very best of luck.

A number of students from Years 5 and 6 will attend trials in the next few weeks for the Wagga Diocese in AFL, Netball, Cricket, Rugby League, Touch and Soccer and we wish them the best for these exciting opportunities.

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**Anaphylaxis Alert**

We would like to advise you that we have two children in our school, one in Year 3 and one in Year 6 who may have an anaphylactic reaction if they eat nuts or fish. Please be conscious of this if sending food items to school for sharing.

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**Merit Awards**

**Week 4 Term 1**

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<td>Tilz Rumbachs</td>
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<td>Chloe Barnes</td>
<td>Louie Smith</td>
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<td>Charlie Buiest</td>
<td>Jasper Wood</td>
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<td>Sarah Jimmy</td>
<td>Harvey Morgan-Campbell</td>
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<td>Piper Bentley</td>
<td>Archie Perrot</td>
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<td>Isaac Mooney</td>
<td>Luke Nolte</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hakeem Robert</td>
<td>Hannah Rumbachs</td>
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**Cathedral Parish Mass Times**

**Mon—Fri** 7am & 12.45pm  **Sat** 12.15pm  **Sunday Mass** Saturday 6pm, 8am, 10am & 5.30pm

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Did you know that you can download a Lent Calendar for your smart phone, or use the web version and set it as your homepage, to ‘Learn More’ and ‘Create Change’ this Lent?

Use the calendar to deepen your spirituality this Lent and learn about Caritas Australia’s work in six countries across the globe. Explore Project Compassion, meet inspiring people and reflect on the Lenten period through daily readings, prayers and social justice actions.

A children’s version is available online also; reflect together as a class, whole school, family and parish!

**Project Compassion Fund Raising**

This week our school raised a total of $87.80 for Project Compassion and Year 2 was the champion fund-raising class again as they raised $40.65. Well done Year 2!

Please encourage your child to bring in a little of their spare money to put into the classroom mission box.

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**Term Dates for 2016**

Term 1: Thursday 29th January to Friday 8th April  
Term 2: Thursday 28th April to Friday 1st July  
Term 3: Monday 18th July to Friday 23rd September  
Term 4: Monday 10th October to December 16th (TBC)

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**St Joseph’s Primary School Skoolbag App**

We encourage our new families to download the Skoolbag app to their electronic device. We would like to draw your attention to the Parent eForms section of the app and in particular the Absentee Form. We would encourage parents to use this feature to report your child’s full day absence to the school. Once you have put in the relevant details and pressed submit the school receives an email notification. If your child is away for one day, the ‘away start date’ and ‘away finish date’ are the same. Due to legal reasons, the absentee form can only be used for full day absences. If your child is late to school or needs to leave early, it is still necessary to come to the office and sign your child into/out of school using the partial absence form. Over the next few weeks we will update the school calendar and you will then be notified of upcoming events through the app.


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**Extend OOSH at St.Joseph Primary School Wagga Wagga**

We have had another activity filled week at Extend After School Care. We made butterfly with tissue roll cardboard, kitty cat on cardboard, colorful animal collage and had an afternoon coloring in with our favorite ninjas! With more fun activities for this week already underway! We made some frosting icing on chocolate chip muffins with students on Wednesday.

If you would like your children to attend Extend after school care please visit the Extend parent portal for enrolment.  
-- Diana

**Next week’s activities**

**Monday 29th February**: Cupcake decoration  
**Tuesday 1st March**: Press paint technique  
**Wednesday 2nd March**: Hello kitty and ninja theme  
**Thursday 3rd March**: Sport (outdoor play)  
**Friday 4th March**: Pom Pom painting
You are invited to
St Joseph’s Garden Party
For Parents & Staff

Friday 11th March 2016 7pm-9:00pm
in the school grounds

BYO plate of finger food to share
Beer and wine provided

We look forward to your company!
EXPLANATION OF TRAFFIC SIGNS OUTSIDE
ST JOSEPH’S PRIMARY SCHOOL

The following is an explanation of the traffic signs outside St Joseph’s school.

- Children may be dropped off in front of the Cathedral in the Pick up/Drop off Zone area. You have two minutes to drop your child/children off and you must not move more than three (3) metres from your car. For safety reasons, it is preferable that your child has their school bag in the car with them and they exit the car from the kerb side of the car.

- Children can be picked up from this zone after school. Laminated family names have been supplied and you need to attach one to your sun visor. Your family name is called out and your child will come out of the gate. The same rules apply as in the morning – you must not move more than three (3) metres from your car and you cannot park there for more than two minutes.

- The area from the back gate to Year 1J is a Bus Zone from 8am-4pm on School Days. You cannot stop your car for any reason in this area between the times shown above and no parking is allowed during these hours.

- The area from Year 1S to outside the school office is a Bus Zone and Parking Zone. Bus Zone times are 8am-9.30am and 2.30pm-4pm on school days and no stopping or parking is allowed during these times. From 9.30am and 2.30pm, parking is allowed in this area.

- Street parking opposite the school has no time restriction.

- Parking outside Watermark and the Cathedral has no time restriction except for one small section that is signposted with a time limit.

Please do not:

Park in the NO STOPPING zones and BUS ZONES

Make unsafe U-TURNS from the NO STOPPING zone into the path of a bus

Park in the Bus Bay whilst picking up children.

To help us ensure your child’s safety would you kindly adhere to the rules:

Stay no longer than the specified two (2) minutes and do not move more than three (3) metres from your car when using the drop off/ pick up zone.

Children not to step out from behind parked cars and buses. When there is no footpath, walk on the right hand side of the road facing the traffic.

Children not to cross the road unsupervised or cross to parents in cars on the other side of the road. Parents must come and escort their child across the road.