Dear Parents Families and Friends,

Next week is Catholic Schools Week. We celebrate the history and existence of Catholic schools in Australia. Ms Hale has planned a short liturgy for the Friday and classes will celebrate in various ways. The highlight of the week this year will be the parent evening at the school. Our enrolments for Kinder 2017 open at the beginning of Catholic Schools Week. Please see information further in the newsletter advertising our open morning for parents on Friday April 1st.

Hopefully by now, you have received your personal invitation to the evening Garden Party on the 11th March. We would love to see many parents there along with the staff to enjoy a drink, finger food and great company in a very relaxed atmosphere. Please RSVP by Tuesday 8th March.

Tonight (Wednesday) at 7:00pm, Miss Ray will be talking to this year’s Kinder parents about the Kinder program and sharing some detail about learning in the infant classroom. I am sure it will be both informative and helpful for parents wanting to support their child’s learning at home. It may also give some further insights into what happens in the Kinder school day. Miss Ray and I are very impressed by the way the Kindies have settled so quickly and well into school. They will now join us every day at school. We are looking forward to seeing many Kinder parents tonight.

Please enter via the front door of the school.

Welcome back Fr Rick from a well-deserved break. Fr Rick and Deacon Reece will be visiting classrooms, this term, to talk to children about the Works of Mercy, in this designated Year of Mercy, and Jesus Christ and the events leading to Easter. We warmly welcome them today.

On Tuesday 8th March at 7:00pm we will have a calendar planning meeting to sort out fundraising /social events for this year at our school - discos, film nights etc. This will be at 7:00pm and is the only meeting planned for this term. It should not take long and we would like to see many parents here. We need and appreciate your support and ideas for the school.

Yours in Christ

Kathy Gaskin
Principal
Important Dates for Term 1 2016

Friday 11th March  Catholic Schools Week Liturgy 2.30pm
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

P and F Fundraising Planning Meeting Tuesday 8th March at 7pm

It has been decided by the school that this year we will only have one P and F 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 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.

When: Tuesday 8th March
Where: School hall
Time: 7pm

School Mass
St Joseph’s Feast Day Mass
Our next school Mass will be held on Friday 18th March 2016 at 9.15am in the Cathedral. Year 4 will be assisting Fr Rick with the preparation of the Mass.
We invite all our families to join us for this celebration.

Catholic Schools Week—6th-12th March
The theme for 2016 is ‘I Belong. You Belong. We Belong.’ The 2016 CSW theme ties with the Church’s celebration of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, which recognises our Catholic faith values of forgiveness, compassion, strength, aid and love. In this Year of Mercy, Pope Francis is calling on all Catholic communities to extend mercy to those in need, particularly refugees fleeing hunger and war.
Our school is proud of the wonderful teaching and learning that takes place in our classrooms everyday, as well as the contribution our schools have made to Australian communities, in particular the more vulnerable and disadvantaged members of our wider community.
We are celebrating with a liturgy on Friday 11th March at assembly which will commence at 2.30pm in the hall. All families are welcome to attend.

Cathedral Parish Mass Times
Mon—Fri 7am & 12.45pm  Sat 12.15pm
Sunday Mass  Saturday 6pm, 8am, 10am & 5.30pm
From the Assistant Principal—Paul Spain

Last week the students at St Joseph’s had their first lesson this year in the You Can Do It program. According to the You Can Do It Mission Statement the main purpose of the program is to “support communities, schools and homes to optimise the social, emotional and academic development of all young people”. The topics covered in the program are confidence, persistence, organisation, getting along and emotional resilience which are all vital life skills. There is little doubt that our students will benefit from being exposed to this important program.

The way that the program is undertaken at St Joseph’s is quite unique. Instead of having the class teacher deliver each lesson, a Year 6 student teaches a small group of younger students. This method is having a positive effect on the self-confidence and leadership skills of each Year 6 class member and is developing stronger bonds amongst the students of St Joseph’s. The Year 6 students have been eagerly looking forward to the opportunity to lead a group themselves. We were highly impressed by the manner in which they ran their first lesson. You Can Do It continues to be a highly successful part of the Personal Development program at St Joseph’s.

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**St Joseph’s Feast Day—Friday 18th March**

We are celebrating this day with a number of activities. The children are invited to wear casual clothes (mufti). Children are asked to bring in a gold coin donation which will be collected for our Project Compassion appeal. Please ensure that clothing is appropriate and that all students wear closed in shoes and bring a hat.

Year 4 students are assisting Fr Rick with the preparation of the St. Joseph’s Feast Day Mass which begins at 9.15am in the Cathedral.

One student from each class will receive a St. Joseph’s Feast Day Award at a mini assembly after lunch which will be followed by an afternoon of games organised by the Year 6 students.

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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 5 Term 1**

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Mimi Hogg</td>
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<td>Jackson Myers</td>
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<td>1J</td>
<td>Piper Dennis</td>
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<td>Thomas Smyth</td>
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<td>1S</td>
<td>Sophia Hall</td>
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<td>Ritwika Roshin</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Amelie Martin</td>
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<td>Julian Miles</td>
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<td>Rose Buchanan</td>
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<td>Ida Kurian</td>
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<td>Miriam Granger</td>
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<td>Reuben Wood</td>
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<td>Riya Tomy</td>
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<td>Alex Gaskin</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Jasper Swaffield</td>
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<td>Geordie Hardwick</td>
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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 $121.15 for Project Compassion and AGAIN Year 2 was the champion fund-raising class again as they raised $40.25. Well done Year 2! Please encourage your child to bring in a little of their spare money to put into the classroom mission box.

Open Morning for Kinder Enrolments 2017
St Joseph’s Primary School, Wagga Wagga
Friday 1st April 2016
Information session at 9.30am followed by school tour

Hoping you can join us.
Inquiries 69215733 or sjw-info@ww.catholic.edu.au
Kathy Gaskin, Principal

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)

Tuckshop Roster
Week 7

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<th>Monday</th>
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<td>7th March</td>
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<td>Weds</td>
<td>Kristin Molloy</td>
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<td>9th March</td>
<td>Larissa Byrne</td>
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<td>Thurs</td>
<td>Angela Bennett</td>
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<td>10th March</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Kathy Gaffney</td>
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<td>11th March</td>
<td>Keith Hackett</td>
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Kildare Catholic College
You’re invited to come along to our Year 7 2017 Information Evening on Tuesday March 8 at 6pm.
We’ll have a BBQ, bands and tours of the College.
You’ll hear from students and staff about the great opportunities the College has to offer.
Find out how you can become part of our welcoming and supportive educational community - where student learning and wellbeing come first.
www.kildarecatholiccollege.com

The Kildare Catholic College 2017 Year 7 enrolment begins with an Information Evening on Tuesday March 8 at 6pm.

Hear how Kildare students and staff work hard to improve student learning.
Focus areas include:
• Increasing the coherence and sophistication of student writing.
• Better use of data to inform teaching and learning for classes and individuals.
• Fast feedback to students on where they are with their learning and what to do next to move learning forward.
• Building collaborative skills and teamwork.
• Effective homework, with an online literacy and numeracy focus for Year 7 and 8.
• Consistent staff professional learning that addresses desired improved student learning.
• Consistent, skilled use of technology including web-based access to all learning through HAPARA teacher Dashboard.

This work resulted in the Kildare 2015 HSC cohort achieving the strongest HSC results in the history of the College. 55 Band 6 results placed Kildare 101 in the NSW HSC Top 200 Schools, with 25 out of 52 courses having an average much higher than the state average.

Extend OOSH at St. Joseph Primary School Wagga Wagga

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM BOOKINGS ARE OPEN!
Book by the deadline to take advantage of lower rates!
NSW deadline: Friday 1 April

To check out what’s on and where your local program is, visit our website at extend.com.au and book via the Parent Portal. - Diana Ganapathy
You are invited to

St Joseph’s Garden Party
For Parents and Staff
Friday 11th March from 7pm-9pm
In the school grounds

BYO plate of finger food to share
RSVP by Tuesday 8th March
Either by returning the attached sheet
or emailing the school
sjw-info@ww.catholic.edu.au
Rose Granger—Vice Captain

Henry Kennedy—John Paul Captain
Maisie Freemantle—John Paul Captain

Max Prest—MacKillop Captain

Charlotte Rumble—School Captain

St Joseph’s Opening School Mass

Brad Koetz—Nagle Captain

Thomas Nejman—School Captain

Oscar Knight—Michael Captain

Sarah Bowering—MacKillop Captain

Lila Yates—Nagle Captain