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St Joseph's Primary School

Message From Mrs Reilly...

Dear Parents/Caregivers,
What a busy couple of weeks...



Kindergarten 2018 interviews are well on the way. St Joseph's will be welcoming many new families next year as well as many siblings of students already at the school. There are still a few places available so make sure you encourage family and friends to enrol ASAP. These students will have the privilege of learning in a new, engaging space. Work for this space will hopefully commence in August and be completed in Term 4. We'll share lots of photos with you of the building.



The Family Movie Night was a huge success with many families coming along to watch 'Trolls'. Thank you to the Parent Association for all their hard work before and during the event.

On Monday and Tuesday we celebrated the Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop with Liturgies in the Infants and Primary classrooms. Thank you to the parents who attended this event.

Last Wednesday Year 5 had a Science Incursion. They had a lot of fun doing experiments! Check out our facebook page to view the photos.

Congratulations to our Stage 2 soccer stars who attended the soccer gala day last Wednesday. Thank you to all the parents who took their children and cheered the teams on.



Just a reminder Whole School Assemblies are on every second Friday, starting at 2:15pm. Please sign in at the front office and make your way to the MPA.

Have a wonderful week,
Trish Reilly

Catholic Culture News

Religious Literacy Assessment

The Religious Literacy Assessment is conducted in Year 4 and Year 6 across the Diocese in Term 3 each year. The students undertake an online assessment of 35 questions with all questions drawn from the Sharing Our Story syllabus that is the basis for the school's religious education program.

In addition to the online assessment, students in Year 4 present a project based of the Gospel of the Prodigal Son (also known as The Forgiving Father). The data gathered from both these assessments is used by the school to inform and improve teaching in Religious Education.

Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

The 8th August was the Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. The children celebrated the feast of Australia's first saint with liturgies in the Year 6 and Year 2 classrooms. Thank you to the parents who attended and joined in our prayerful celebrations.



Feast of the Assumption Tuesday 15th August

Tuesday 15th August is the Feast of the Assumption of Mary. The children will be joining Fr. Andrew at 9:15am for Mass in the church. As always, parents and families are invited to join us.

New School Phone Number



New Phone Number

St Joseph's is in the process of changing to a new phone system. The new school phone number is **4726 4200**.

There will be 18 months of staged redirections and messages for calls to the 'old' school phone number.

For the first 6 months calls to the old number will be automatically redirected to the new number.

For the second set of 6 months, the call will be automatically redirected after a brief message that the number has changed.

For the last 6 months, callers to the old number get a recorded message that states the new number but then hangs up, so the caller has to manually dial the new number themselves.

Kindergarten 2018 Enrolments

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2018 are filling up fast. If your child was born between 1st August 2012 and 31st July 2013, please collect an enrolment form from the school office.

Enrolment interviews have now commenced. If you have collected an enrolment form and not returned it, could you please do so as soon as possible. Acceptance Letters will be posted by the end of this week.

Please contact the school office if you have not yet received an appointment day and time for an interview.

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2018 now open!

Students Leaving St Joseph's

A terms notice (10 school weeks) in writing must be given to the Principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable. The notice can be given any time during term for the next term. Where appropriate notice has been received a pro-rata credit can be calculated based on a pro-rata 40 week year.

One exception is that notice in writing will be accepted at any time during Term 4 in relation to the following years' enrolment ie the notice period of 10 school weeks will be waived in this circumstance.

We will commence using a new finance system in 2018. Part of the change will be that CEDP will be billing the school fees. Therefore, it will be an automatic billing of the 10 weeks if the required notice is not given.

Family Movie Night



A huge thank you to all the families who attended the Family Movie Night on Friday night. It was an overwhelming success. We raised \$1295.65 to put towards playground equipment. Thank you to the Parent Association for their tireless effort before and during the event.

Musical Update

Musical Working Bee - Helpers Needed

Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th August

10am - 4pm in the MPA

All parents of St Joseph's welcome (please no children due to WHS reasons)

We need painters for the Whooville backdrop (think Dr Seuss)

Also need lots of bright coloured/patterned material - small scraps are ideal!

Anyone with any creative flair or willingness to create!

It will be LOTS and LOTS of FUN!



Attendance Update

At St Joseph's we are aiming for over 90% total school attendance. At the moment we are falling short of this at 81.1%.

We encourage children to be at school and on time every school day. However, if your child is sick please keep them at home.

Congratulations to Year 2 whose current attendance is at 92.9%.

Did you know

1 in 6 primary students are not attending school regularly. Schools are here to help.

If you are having attendance issues with your child please contact us so we can support you to address them.

every learner every day ✓

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

Book Week

SJK will be celebrating Book Week on Friday 25th August 2017.

The children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite Book Character.

At 12:30pm we will have a Book Character Parade in the MPA. The children may wish to bring the book along as well to carry in the parade - this is optional.



Parents are invited to attend the parade and then join the children for lunch and assembly.

We look forward to seeing you.

Literacy News



The importance of reading to your children is highlighted in the article below. Famous author Mem Fox shares her thoughts on the importance of reading and gives ten ideas to assist parents called, "Read Aloud Commandments".

The fire of literacy is created by the emotional sparks between a child, a book, and the person reading. It isn't achieved by the book alone, nor by the child alone, nor by the adult who's reading aloud – it's the relationship winding between all three, bringing them together in easy harmony." Mem Fox, author of *Reading Magic: Why Reading Aloud to Our Children Will Change Their Lives Forever*.

Fox, a literacy consultant and the bestselling author of such classic children's books as *Possum Magic* and *Time For Bed*, has spent much of the past 20 years urging parents to read aloud to their children – particularly in their first few years of life.

Her book for adults, *Reading Magic*, espouses the many benefits of doing so – such as developing children's ability to concentrate at length, to solve problems logically, and to express themselves more easily and clearly. These are Mem Fox's 10 'Read Aloud Commandments' for parents and caregivers:

1. Spend at least ten wildly happy minutes every single day reading aloud.
2. Read at least three stories a day: it may be the same story three times. Children need to hear a thousand stories before they can begin to learn to read.
3. Read aloud with animation. Listen to your own voice and don't be dull, or flat, or boring. Hang loose and be loud, have fun and laugh a lot.
4. Read with joy and enjoyment: real enjoyment for yourself and great joy for the listeners.
5. Read the stories that the kids love, over and over and over again, and always read in the same 'tune' for each book: i.e. with the same intonations on each page, each time.
6. Let children hear lots of language by talking to them constantly about the pictures, or anything else connected to the book; or sing any old song that you can remember; or say nursery rhymes in a bouncy way; or be noisy together doing clapping games.
7. Look for rhyme, rhythm or repetition in books for young children, and make sure the books are really short.
8. Play games with the things that you and the child can see on the page, such as letting kids finish rhymes, and finding the letters that start the child's name and yours, remembering that it's never work, it's always a fabulous game.
9. Never ever teach reading, or get tense around books.
10. Please read aloud every day, mums and dads, because you just love being with your child, not because it's the right thing to do.

Mathematics News

Place Value

Place value is an extremely important concept that is taught as early as in kindergarten and as students learn about larger numbers, the concept of place value continues throughout all primary school grades. Place value refers to the value of the digit based on its position in a number and the position a number has in relation to another number.



(i.e. where 23 sits on a number line between 0 – 100 or 10 – 50)

Place value is a concept that is difficult for young learners. Understanding place value fully requires many hands on experiences.

In our decimal number system, the value of a digit depends on its place, or position, in the number. Each place has a value of 10 times the place to its right.

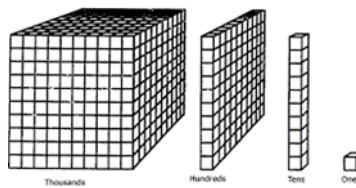
Example: In 352, the place value of the 5 is "tens"

The idea of place value is at the heart of our number system. First, however, a symbol for nothing--our zero--had to be invented. Zero "holds the place" for a particular value, when no other digit goes in that position.

For example, the number "100" in words

means one hundred, no tens, and no ones. Without a symbol for nothing, our decimal number system wouldn't work. Students need opportunities to see amounts in numbers. For instance, bundles of popsticks, base ten blocks or MAB to ensure that students see the value of numbers.

The place value blocks are most effective at showing the value of numbers. There are small cubes "ones" to represent one, "longs" to represent ten, "flats" to represent 100 and larger "blocks" to represent 1,000. The students can easily see that 10 "ones" fit into a 10 "long", 10 longs fit into the 100 "flat" and 10 "flats" fit into the 1000 "block".



Community News



EXCLUSIVE OFFER TO
ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS



20% OFF
SCHOOLWEAR
AND EVERYTHING ELSE



**THURSDAY
10TH AUGUST**
INSTORE & ONLINE

*Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Floor stock only. Styles and colours may vary from store to store. No rain checks. Please choose carefully, exchanges and refunds only with docket. Includes existing 5% discount. Excludes gift cards. Cities and suburbs (A/STL 1018/17). Must use Zero or Rewards card to receive discount.



Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to help fussy eaters.

Fussy eating is very common and often very stressful for the whole family. While there is no magic solution, perseverance, involvement, presentation and disguise are four effective strategies that can help address this behaviour.



Other tips include:

- Offer new foods at times when children are hungry.
- Encourage kids to try new foods but do not force them to eat. "Parents provide, children decide" is a good rule of thumb to use.
- Let kids help out with food preparation.
- Be a good role model.
- Praise your child for trying new foods: sometimes kids refuse foods to get attention.
- Add "hidden" vegies to recipes such as spaghetti bolognaise, soups, casseroles and home-made burgers.
- Cook vegies lightly and use a variety of types so they have different flavours and colours.
- It will take several attempts (10 – 15 times) so do not give up after the first time.

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District Live Life Well @ School Program.



Health
Nepean Blue Mountains
Local Health District



Dates for your Diary

<u>Week 4</u>	Thursday 10th August	Zone Athletics Carnival
	Friday 11th August	2:15pm Whole School Assembly
	Saturday 12th August	10am - 4pm Musical Working Bee
	Sunday 13th August	10am - 4pm Musical Working Bee
<u>Week 5</u>	Monday 14th August	2pm NAPLAN Parent Information Session
	Tuesday 15th August	9:15am Feast of the Assumption of Mary Mass
	Thursday 17th August	Stage 3 Camp
	Friday 18th August	Stage 3 Camp Year 2 Excursion 2pm Parent Association Meeting
<u>Week 6</u>	Book Week	
	Monday 21st August	Year 6 Voice of Youth Cluster Final
	Friday 25th August	Book Week Celebrations

St Joseph's Birthdays



Happy Birthday to...

August - Alisha, Oliver, Mark, Elizabeth, Eleanor, Elijah, Lwandile, Charli, Maria, Jordan, Elliot, Callum, Mark, Cayden, Natalie, Jeriko, Khloe, Eva