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PHONE: 02 4726 4200 FAX: 02 4726 4299  
EMAIL: STJOSEPHSKWOOD@PARRA.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU

# St Joseph's Primary School

## Message From Mrs Reilly...

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

At this time of year, we are surrounded by changes. From the weather, to the media advertising, as well as shop and community displays we are in a change of season.

It leads us into the period of Advent, our time of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

How well do we prepare ourselves and our children for a change of season?

For the weather the change is easy. We change our choice of clothes and footwear to adjust to the warming days.

But when it comes to the change of the Church's season how do we see Christmas?

As a time of giving rather than receiving?

A time of showing thankfulness for what we have?

A time of generosity towards those who are not as fortunate?

It is normal and natural for young children to believe that the world exists for their benefit. Thankfulness is just not naturally part of their job description. Part of our role as parents, is to lead our children out of focusing on themselves and continually prompt them to develop an attitude of concern for others.

Modelling thankfulness to our children is an important way to have them learn about living with and for others. We might need to project an attitude of thankfulness with our possessions, our clothes and appearance.

Thankfulness and caring for others contributes to a positive world by creating an inner sense of contentment and peace. As we begin the season of Advent on 3rd December the challenge is to balance preparing for the delights of Christmas with preparing for celebrating the birth of Jesus and encouraging our children to focus on the needs of others.

Take care of yourselves and your families during this busy time.  
Trish Reilly



## Hats at School

Thank you to our students who wear their school hats every day.  
St Joseph's Sun Safety Policy includes:



- Children are required to wear the bucket school hat, which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside.
- Parents/Carers are encouraged to provide their children with sunscreen.
- Daily application of sunscreen is encouraged before school and prior to play breaks in the hot months.
- Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.
- Staff and parents are encouraged to act as role models by practising **SunSmart** behaviours.
- On days of extreme heat, the children will not be permitted to play outside for long periods of time. An Extreme Weather Program will be called and children will stay indoors wherever possible.

## 2nd Hand Uniform Sale



2nd Hand Uniform Sale will be on this Friday 1st December, in the MPA from 2pm.

## Parent Helper Afternoon Tea

*In order to thank all our Parent Helpers for your much appreciated assistance throughout the year, we extend a warm invitation to the Parent Helper Afternoon Tea being held on Monday 11th December at 2pm.*



*For catering purposes please RSVP to the school office by Thursday 7th December.*

## New School Phone Number



St Joseph's is in the process of changing to a new phone system. The new school phone number is **4726 4200**. The new school fax number is 4726 4299.

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.

## Attendance Update



At St Joseph's we are aiming for over 90% total school attendance. Unfortunately we are only at 78.1% attendance at the moment. Congratulations to Years 1 and 2 who are both sitting at 90%!

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

If your child is sick and away from school for 3 or more consecutive days a doctor's certificate is required on their return.

## 2017 School Fees - URGENT



Thank you to those families who have paid their school fee accounts.

If you have not finalised your account please do so as a matter of urgency. We are transferring to a new finance program therefore ALL payments arrangements have to be finalised by Wednesday 6th December. No payments will be accepted after this date.

If you are having difficulty in paying your school fees please contact Jenny Pendleton on 4726 4200.

## MAI Assessment Interview - Years 1 - 6 2018

The Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI) is a time for your child's teacher to get to know your child as a learner, through a one-to-one interview. Each child will have the opportunity to share their strengths and areas of challenge in the four number domains of counting, place value, addition & subtraction and multiplication & division.

In order for us to allocate the 30 minute time slot, it would be greatly appreciated if you could nominate a time, either on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018, where you could bring your child in for their interview, using the electronic booking system outlined below.

Please go to  
[www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)

Enter the Access Code: **nan6q**

Please select the year your child is going into for 2018, then teacher 1 or 2. It doesn't matter which teacher you choose as long as it collates with the year your child will be going into.

A confirmation will be sent to your email address so please print and keep it in a safe place to remember your appointment date and time. If you lose this information, it can be retrieved again using your email address.

## Counsellor's Corner

### Tips for ending the year on a happier note

As we all know this time of year is when children become more tired and irritated and very ready for both holidays and the next step in the learning journey. It is a time when they find it easy to remember and talk about the negative times at school and to forget the things they are learning or the fun experiences they are having.

To help out with a positive end to 2017 we would encourage you to try and use the following at home:

1. Encourage a good sleep routine
2. Ask for one thing they learned today
3. Ask for one thing they enjoyed on the playground

Hopefully this will help everyone have a positive end to this year.

Kind Regards,  
Vennessa Goode

## Twilight Swimming Carnival 2018

Now that our Swim School Program has begun we are looking forward to hosting our upcoming swimming carnival early next year. The carnival will be held:

**Tuesday February 6<sup>th</sup> 2018**  
commencing at **4:30pm** at  
**Ripples St Mary's**

All children who **have turned or will turn** eight years old or over in 2018 from grades 2-6 (2018) are welcome to enter.

All children attending the carnival will need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian, no child will be permitted to swim without their parent/guardian present.

The following events will be scheduled:

- 100m Freestyle (8-12+ years, the students must be confident, competent swimmers who have attempted 100m swims prior to the carnival).
- 50m Age Freestyle (8,9,10,11,12+)
- 50m Breaststroke (Junior Event 8,9,10 years) 11 Years Event, Senior Event (12+ Years)
- 50m Backstroke (Junior Event 8,9,10 years) 11 Years Event, Senior Event (12+ Years)
- 50m Butterfly (Junior Event 8,9,10 years) 11 Years Event, Senior Event (12+ Years)
- 200mIM (8-12+ years, the students must be confident, competent swimmers who have attempted 100m swims prior to the carnival).

This Twilight Carnival is a **competitors only** meet. There will be no 25m or novelty events. The fastest two boys and girls in each event may be selected to represent St Joseph's at the Nepean Zone Carnival in Glenbrook. The Zone qualifying times set by PDSSSC will be considered in selecting school representatives as well as the ability to swim the stroke correctly.

Ripples has set the following entry fees will apply, these are payable at the pool:

**Students: \$5.00**  
**Spectators: \$3.00**

I encourage you to make the most of every opportunity during the summer school holidays to help your child develop in both skill and confidence to build on the high quality instruction from the Ripples Team in the School Swimming Program this term.

Further information and entry details will be available in Week 1, 2018. We will gratefully welcome parent assistance at the Carnival.

Yours Sincerely, Moreno Faccin  
Sport teacher

## Donations Needed



If you have any small toy cars or building blocks your children do not use anymore please feel free to donate them to the school for quiet play.

All donations can be dropped at the front office.

Thank you in advance

## Parent Association News



### St Joseph's Primary School Kingswood

94 Joseph Street, Kingswood, 2747

Tel 4726 4200 Fax 4726 4299

[www.stjosephskingswood.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjosephskingswood.parra.catholic.edu.au)

Email [stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au)

## christmas raffle!!

The Parent Association will be running a Christmas Raffle this year.

Tickets will be sent home later this week.

Please ensure your name, phone number, child's name and child's class are written on the back of each ticket.

Tickets are \$1 each.

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Taronga Zoo Family Pass	value \$144
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	Hog's Breath Dining Voucher	value \$100
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	White Water Rafting Voucher	value \$95
4 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Nepean Belle Cruise Voucher	value \$80
5 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Wizardry Beauty Voucher	value \$50
6 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Coles Voucher	value \$30
7 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Office Works Voucher	value \$20
8 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Ripples Family Voucher	value \$20
9 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Ripples Family Voucher	value \$20

Please return tickets by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December

Raffle will be drawn Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December





## Year 5 Leadership Day



## Year 6 Fun Fair

Year 6 ran a Fair to raise money for the school - cakes, a guessing competition, bracelet making, biscuit decorating, drinks, throwing competition.

The girls planned and organised the activities and then ran the fair for all the students at St. Joseph's. Lots of fun, great organisation and they raised \$875.90. We will be buying basketball hoops and soccer goals with the proceeds. Thanks for giving so much to our school.





## Year 1 The Gruffalo

On the 9th November, Year 1 went to see The Gruffalo at The Concourse, Chatswood. Below are some of the reviews from year 1 children.

*My favourite part of the live performance of the Gruffalo is when the snake sang. It was funny. It was so good. The Gruffalo came in the crowd. I loved it. You've gotta see it. I want to see it again already. We saw it yesterday.*

Indy

*I thought it was funny when The Gruffalo ran away from the mouse because it was silly. I liked the songs, the songs were nice. They were entertaining. Even the fox was very funny and the owl and the snake. I liked when The Gruffalo was scaring the animals.*

Edmond

*The Gruffalo excursion was a one hour drive. Then the bus went under bridges, bridges through tunnels. Then we got to some kind of city – called Chatswood, the place was around the corner. Then we got to The Gruffalo, there was the fox, the owl and the snake and the Gruffalo. The best part was the songs.*

Lincoln

*The Fancy Show*

*The fancy part was when the fox ran away and came back and ran away and came back. Then the snake came and he talks like my sister.*

Uthman

*The Gruffalo was funny because the fox came back to the mouse and went away and came back and ran away. He said "Help me! Ahhhh"! The show was outstanding for the audience because it was funny and it has songs. Did you like it?*

Leo

*The Gruffalo was the best because the mouse was funny. It was fun. I loved it. The show was funny. I liked the Gruffalo a lot. The best part was the fox.*

Jack.

*The Gruffalo performance was spectacular. You won't believe your eyes when you see this show. It was exciting. We travelled to a city. It was fun. The best part was when the Gruffalo ran into the crowd.*

Levi.

## Stage 2 Youth ECO Summit

**YES** is a Green Globe and United Nations' award winning event which aims to engage young people in learning and action around sustainability, futures thinking and [STEM](#) curriculum.



# Community Events

**Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> of December at 6pm**

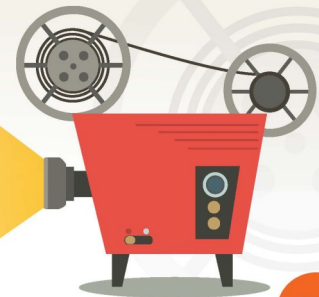
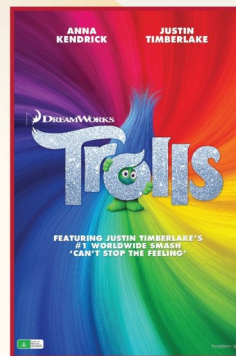


**You're invited to come to The St Joseph's Youth Mass. Hang out, have fun and eat pizza!**



## PENRITH Cinema IN THE Park

**SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER**



**FREE EVENT**

**TIME:** 6pm until late, feature film commences at dusk.

**WHERE:** Regatta Park - River Road, Emu Plains

**FEATURE FILM:** 'Trolls'

Kids activities & food for sale. For more information phone 1300 736 836.

[penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/events](http://penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/events)

**PENRITH CITY COUNCIL**



**CATHOLIC CARE SOCIAL SERVICES**  
Solo Parent Services

*By Your Side*

**Younger Widowed Support Group**



Has your spouse or partner died and are you searching for someone who understands the enormity of your loss and the impact this is having on your life and your children?

Do you long to connect with others who have experienced a similar loss?

Are you unsure of how to assist your children through their grief? Would you like support as you deal with your changed circumstances?

*We welcome you to our Monthly Support Group*

**VENUE:** Ann D Clarke Centre, 2A Villiers St, Parramatta

**DATE:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each Month (Feb - Dec)

**TIME:** 7.00pm - 9.00pm

**COST:** \$5.00

**REGISTRATION**  
Solo Parent Services  
PHONE: Rita - 8822 2222  
EMAIL: [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

Visit [www.ccss.org.au](http://www.ccss.org.au) [www.facebook.com/CCSSParramatta](https://www.facebook.com/CCSSParramatta)

## STEPPING BEYOND

**A Support Group for Separated or Divorced Adults**



**STEPPING BEYOND** is a Process/Personal Exploration Group. It is a monthly gathering for men and women who are separated or divorced. Through facilitated group interaction opportunity is given to individuals to address issues that arise as a result of changed life circumstances and ongoing adjustments. Emphasis is on personal awareness and self-development.

**Date:** Last Tuesday of each month - (Jan-Nov)

**New Time:** 7pm to 9pm

**Fee:** \$5.00

**Venue:** Ann D Clark Centre  
2A Villiers St, Parramatta

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**  
Solo Parent Services  
Phone 8822 2222  
[soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)



**Focus Questions for Personal Exploration and Sharing**

- How well are you "stepping beyond"?
- What do you want to "step beyond"?
- What are you currently "stepping beyond"?
- What is stopping you from "stepping beyond"?
- What have you learnt as you keep "stepping beyond"?



## Dates for your Diary

### Week 8

Monday - Friday

Swim School (K - Year 4)

Friday 1st December

2:15pm Whole School Assembly

### Week 9

Monday - Friday

Swim School (K - Year 4)

Thursday 7th December

6pm BYO Picnic

7pm Christmas Concert

### Week 10

Monday 11th December

Year 6 Fun Day

Tuesday 12th December

2pm Thank you Afternoon Tea

Wednesday 13th December

7pm Graduation Liturgy and Awards

9:15am Whole School Mass

6:30pm Year 6 Dinner/Disco

Thursday 14th December

2pm End of Term Awards Assembly

Friday 15th December

Last day of school

Class Parties

Year 6 Farewell

## 2018 Dates

Monday 29th January

Staff Development Day and MAI Testing

Tuesday 30th January

Staff Development Day and MAI Testing

Wednesday 31st January

Children in years 1 - 6 return to school

Thursday 1st February

Kindergarten 2018 start school 8:50am

## St Joseph's Birthdays



Happy Birthday to...

December - Aryan, Apuol, Kognin, Ruhani, Luca, Charbel, Jett, Anaarkali, Lily, Sienna, Laura, Indiana, Brock, Dominique, Mikayla, Garima, Cheyann