

# St Joseph's Primary School Newsletter

Term 4 Week 4

18<sup>th</sup> October 2015

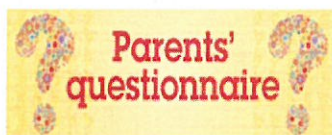
Dear Parents/Carers,

Today we celebrate the Feast of Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles. St Luke mentions them in his Gospel (Luke 6:12-19) as being with Jesus when "he summoned his disciples and picked out twelve of them; he called them 'apostles': .....Simon called the Zealot, Judas son of James..." We know little about their lives beyond Jesus' ascension. Tradition holds that Simon suffered martyrdom after preaching in Egypt and Persia. Jude, known also as Thaddeus, is last mentioned as speaking with Jesus at the Last Supper. Tradition names Jude as the patron saint of "hopeless causes." The history of our faith is rich in tradition, story and inspiration, which come together in pointing to the Truth, Jesus Christ.



*I am the Way; I am Truth and Life.  
No one can come to the Father except through me.  
If you know me, you will know my father too. John 14:6*

As we review the year and plan for 2016, we ask you to contribute to evaluating some of the structures and opportunities for your involvement.



We have attached a Parent Questionnaire for you to complete and return to us no later than next Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November so we can present your feedback at the Parent Association meeting that night. Please attach a separate sheet if needed for more comments. We appreciate your taking the time to respond.

There are many events in Term 4, please keep an eye on the calendar and join us where possible.

Yours sincerely,

Fran Jackson  
Principal

**Fun Food Day**

**Every Friday in Term 4**

**Zooper Doopers 50c each**



**Learning without Limits**

94 Joseph Street, Kingswood NSW 2747

Phone: 4732 3999 Fax: 4731 1432

Website: [stjosephskingswood.catholic.edu.au](http://stjosephskingswood.catholic.edu.au) Email: [stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au)



# Catholic Culture News

Dear Parents,

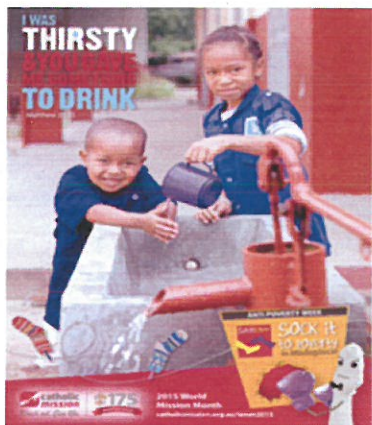
As part of our Mission Month activities, I had the opportunity to take three Year 5 students from our Mini Vinnie's Group to the Diocesan Mission Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday 16th October 2015. The three students who attended were Caitlin Yardin, Eden Micallef and Brodie McLean. These students are involved in the mission fundraising activities within the school community. They were fantastic ambassadors for St. Joseph's and I was proud to attend with these students and enjoy such a beautiful Mass with them.

The day started with Mass in the Cathedral and was followed by a presentation about Catholic Mission's Madagascar focus and launch of the Catholic Mission Month Appeal for 2015. There was also an Expo that showcased what some schools were doing as part of their social justice activities within their school communities.



**A big thanks, to all our students and families who have contributed to our Mission Month fundraising activities.**

We were able to raise \$236.65 from our Crazy Hat Day, which is going towards the Diocese of Tagbilaran in the Philippines, which was devastated by an earthquake in 2013. World Youth Day Pilgrims will visit this community in 2016 to take part in a mission experience.



We have had a wonderful response to the 'I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink' appeal for Madagascar. Our target is \$824, so far we have raised more than \$500. We have until the end of October so please continue to give generously. It would be wonderful if our community could provide a clean water pump to a needy school in Madagascar.

Catholic Mission also came out and visited our Stage 3 classes last week and the students and teachers were able to participate in some Mission Month activities that helped us to gain an even deeper understanding of how important our involvement in the mission of the Church is, especially trying to help those who live in poverty.

Mrs Monique Boyer  
Acting Religious Education Coordinator





## General News



### 2016 Enrolments

We are accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2016. Enrolment Forms are available at the school office and the school website. If you know of anyone considering a Catholic school education for their child here at St Joseph's from 2016, in any grade, please encourage them to contact us as soon as possible to assist us with our planning for 2016. **If a younger sibling will be attending Kindergarten at St Joseph's next year please return your enrolment form and documents ASAP.** Please contact Karen Sprycha on 4732 3999 to arrange an interview.

### Will you be leaving St Joseph's at the end of 2015?

We understand that family circumstances change and children sometimes need to change schools. If you know that you will not be attending St Joseph's in 2016, please advise Mrs Jackson and complete an Exit Form, available from the school office.

Please note, that concerns regarding financial difficulties **are not** a reason for seeking another school, as the Catholic Education Office and St Joseph's can and will assist families with meeting these costs when genuine financial difficulties arise.

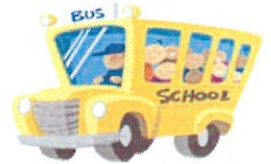


### School Uniforms

Lowes at Penrith has kindly given the school vouchers for 15% off all school uniforms, valid until 15<sup>th</sup> November 2015. Vouchers are available from the front office. Alternatively, please call the school on 4732 3999 so we can send a voucher home.

### Year 2 Student Bus Passes for 2016

All students in Year 2 progressing to Year 3 in 2016, who currently have a Bus Pass are required to complete a new application form. Application Forms are available at the school office.



## Sport News



Congratulations to Haylee. 12-13 year old  
Australian Champion in Muaythai!  
Well done Haylee, we're all very proud of you!



### Basketball

Congratulations to our Basket Ball teams who played in Albury last weekend. Our boys made the Semi -Final and our girls came 6th in the competition. Well Done!





# Don't forget to dress up!

## St JOSEPH'S HALLOWEEN

### DiSCO



Lollies  
\$0.50 - \$2.00

Chips &  
Popcorn  
\$1.00

Chocolates  
\$0.50 - \$1.00



Glow  
Products  
\$1 - \$4.50

Novelty Toys  
\$1 - \$4.50

Juice & Soft  
Drink  
\$1 - \$1.50

*All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are invited to enjoy a whole school disco - (sorry no siblings or parents)*

When: Friday, 30 October 2015

Time: 6.30pm to 8.30pm

St Joseph's - Basil Rosen Building (MPA)

Cost: \$5.00 per child

RSVP: Friday, 23 October 2015

Enquiries: Elisha Mitchell, Fundraising Committee Ph 0412 625 205

**Please Note:** Parents must accompany children to and from the disco – please do not drop children at the front gate. Children will need to be signed in and out.

**Important Information:** Parents will be unable to stay for the disco unless they are registered as a parent volunteer for the night.





# Community News



**Sacrament Of Penance** - Saturday after morning mass

## 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

### **Weekend Masses**

Saturday Vigil - 6pm  
Sunday - 8.30am and 10.00am  
Polish Mass - Saturday 4pm

### **Weekday Masses**

Monday to Friday 8am  
Saturday 8.30am



**Eucharistic Adoration** - Before all masses

## WHITE RIBBON DAY

### TWILIGHT RIVER WALK

Wednesday 25  
November 2015  
5.30PM - 7.30PM

3.5KM WALK FROM WEIR RESERVE  
TO TENCH RESERVE, PENRITH

SPEECHES & WHITE RIBBON OATH  
READING COMMENCE 6.30PM AT  
TENCH RESERVE

Penrith Council is proud to support White Ribbon Day to help bring an end to violence against women in our community. Join us and show your support at this free community event.

Current statistics show that nearly three women are killed every week by a former or current partner. Too many Australian women live with fear and violence. It could be your mother, wife, sister, daughter, friend, partner, colleague. Stopping the violence is everyone's responsibility.

Food stalls and live music at Tench Reserve until 7.30pm.

**FREE SHUTTLE BUS BACK TO WEIR RESERVE FROM 6.30PM. WHITE RIBBON MERCHANDISE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE EVENT WITH ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO THE WHITE RIBBON FOUNDATION.**

For more information contact Erin on 4732 8028.

In support of

Australia's campaign to  
stop violence against women

White Ribbon



White Ribbon Day, 25 November

Do your bit to help stop the violence against women

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

## **Catherine McAuley Westmead School Open Morning Enrolments for Year 7 2017**

**9.15am – 11am  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015**

Catherine McAuley is now accepting enrolments for Year 7 2017. Each year the demand for places at Catherine McAuley exceeds what is available. Join us on either of our two upcoming school tours especially for Year 7 2017 applicants but open to any year group.

Our Open Morning is a great opportunity to tour around our school grounds, view our fantastic facilities and meet our students and teachers. You will have the opportunity to go into classrooms and see them in action. Both children and adults are most welcome.

Please contact School Reception on 9849 9100 if you would like to attend. Our school tours will leave at 9.15am and car parking will be available in the visitor's car parking area via Gate 3 from 9am onwards. Ask for details when making your booking.



## SUICIDE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT A Reflection Day - to celebrate the lives of loved ones

*"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."*  
Matthew 11:28

A day to honour and celebrate those loved ones who have taken their lives. There will be some information sessions, small group sharing, quiet reflection time and celebration of the Eucharist.

Facilitators:

Fr Stan Lim SJ, Sr Eileen Quade RSM, Philippa Ford, Ann O'Brien

**Saturday 14th November 2015, 10am to 4pm**  
**St Joseph's Centre, 64 MacKillop Drive,  
Baulkham Hills**

Morning tea and Lunch will be provided.  
Registrations essential.

For bookings and enquiries phone CatholicCare Social Services  
on (02) 9933 0222 or email [enquiries@ccss.org.au](mailto:enquiries@ccss.org.au)

*"The reality is that we don't forget, move on, and have closure, but rather we honour, we remember, and incorporate our deceased children and family members into our lives in a new way. In fact, keeping memories of your loved one alive in your mind and heart is an important part of your healing journey."*

Harriet Schiff author of  
The Bereaved Parent\*



DIOCESE of  
PARRAMATTA



# Dates for your Diary

## Week 4

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October

Stage 2 Auskick

Ice Blocks 50c

School Disco

## Week 5

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

9am Whole School All Saints Liturgy

6:30pm Year 6 Parent Farewell Meeting

7pm Parent Association Meeting

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Year 4 excursion

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November

2:30pm Kindergarten 2016 Storytime

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November

Stage 2 Auskick

## Week 6

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November

9am Assembly

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November

Remembrance Day

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November

2:30pm Kindergarten 2016 Storytime

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November

Stage 2 Auskick

XX  
 Have you moved house or changed your phone number? Have your emergency contact details changed? If so, please fill in the slip below and return it to the office. It is vital that we always have up-to-date contact details for you.

## CHANGE OF DETAILS FORM

**SURNAME:** CHILD/CHILDREN'S NAME/S:

New Address Details:

New Home Phone No:

New Mother's Mobile  
No:

New Mother's Work  
No:

New Father's Mobile  
No:

New Father's Work:

New Emergency Name: Relationship to Child:

Contact Details: Phone: Home: Work: Mobile:

Date: Signature:

# St Joseph's Primary School - Kingswood

28<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Dear parents,

As we review the year and plan for 2016, we would like your feedback to inform our future direction. Please complete the questionnaire and return to school by Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November so we can present it at the Parent Association meeting that night.

**Student Semester 1 Report** – this year we did not include any comments to encourage parent attendance at the Parent/Teacher interview. Semester 2 Reports will have comments provided for Religious Education, English, Mathematics and a General Comment.

Comments:

**Parent Teacher Interviews** were not well attended this year. We included attendance by students to change the focus from reporting to setting goals for student learning based on the Student Report. How can we improve this process? Was it helpful to have the student at the interview? Were available times enough?

Comments:

**Meet the Teacher Night Term 1** – We have noticed a decline in parent attendance. How else can we connect parents and teachers in a meaningful way early in Term 1? How else can we communicate the direction of the school to parents?

Comments:

**Homework** – Our homework policy focuses on daily reading and unit based activities as described on the Term Overview for each class. What works well with this model? What are the challenges?

Comment:

**Learning without limits**

St Joseph's Primary School 94 Joseph Street Kingswood 2747

Tel 4732 3999 Fax 4731 1432

Email [stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au) [www.stjosephskingswood.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjosephskingswood.parra.catholic.edu.au)

**Newsletter/Communication** – We are looking at using the *Skoolbag App* to publish our newsletter and general communication for parents. This should reduce lost notes and paper reminders for school events. Where parents do not have access to technology, e.g. smart phone, iPad/tablet or computer/notebook, we would continue to send paper copies.

Comments:

**Parent Meetings/Parent Workshops** – How can we increase parent participation? How can we make these more relevant/valued? Is there another way to collaborate?

Comments:

**Open Classrooms / Sporting events / Performances** – It is important for parents to engage with our learning agenda and experience the work of the school. How can we expand this agenda from what we already offer?

Comments:

**Parent Association** – We need more participation than the quorum of seven (7) at our meetings. While parents are generous in giving their time for fundraising events, meetings are poorly attended. Is having a Parent Association still relevant? How does a PA reflect the work of the Parramatta Parent Representative Council?

Comments:

**Community Engagement** – To promote building of our community as a Catholic school, we invite parents to our Monday morning assemblies, Sunday Mass once each term, liturgies for special Feast Days, Family Fun Day and other celebrations. What other ideas could we explore to bring our school community together?

Comment:

**Further suggestions/comments:**