

St Joseph's Primary School Newsletter

Term 4 Week 8

25th November 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent. We begin our time of preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.



See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

*'In those days and at that time,
I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,
who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.*

Jer 33:14-16

We live in times when honesty and integrity is much needed to bring peace to our community and to our world. How will we prepare for Christmas?



There has been much in the media about education, including the need for students in primary school, to learn coding, as an introduction to computer science. Our Year 5, iLearn grade, are engaging in coding tutorials and will be participating in *Hour of Code*, promoted by the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards, NSW. *Hour of Code* is available to all students from home and school from **Monday 7 to Sunday 13 December** at <https://hourofcode.com/au> Parents are encouraged to support their child's participation in this learning opportunity.

To enable greater student engagement with learning technology in 2016, Mrs McGannon has been appointed as Lead Teacher, eLearning. She will be working with teachers and students, especially in Years 4-6. Participation in the BYOD program will enable students to access tutorials and continue their learning projects at home. We have purchased a further bank of iPads for use at school. **Our technical support and teacher learning supports Apple iPads so they are the preferred device for students to use at St Joseph's Primary School.**



Apple offers special iPad and Mac pricing for students attending Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) schools. Families can visit their local Penrith Apple Store and let them know that they are from a **Parramatta Catholic School** or go online <http://byod.parra.catholic.edu.au> to get special pricing, advice or to discuss the products that they might be considering. Our Year 5 iLearn group use iPad Air devices. Students save work to google drive, so a large memory is not required for school. While only Years 4 & 5 will BYOD in 2016, parents may wish to purchase a device for younger students to develop their technology skills at home. We will advise all parents in 2016 how to access the apps used at school for learning.



We are holding our **Thank You Supper** next Monday, to show our appreciation for your generous support throughout the year. Please contact the school office if you are able to attend. All welcome!

Peace and joy,

Fran Jackson
Principal



Learning without Limits

94 Joseph Street, Kingswood NSW 2747

Phone: 4732 3999 Fax: 4731 1432

Website: stjosephskingswood.catholic.edu.au Email: stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Culture News

Dear Parents,

Last Monday we were very happy to present our Madagascar donation to Dorothy from Catholic Mission. She spoke to the students and thanked them for their generosity.



Sacramental Preparation Program 2016

Registration 14th February 2016

Sacrament of Reconciliation: TBA

First Communion: TBA

Confirmation: TBA

As dates are released from the parish we will forward those on to you.



World Youth Day 2016

Last fortnight raffle tickets were sent home to help offset the cost of the Pilgrimage for young people from our parish going to WYD in Krakow Poland. Booklets of 10 tickets cost \$20. Please return all sold & unsold tickets & money to school by Friday Week 10 Term 4 2015.

Advent

Sunday the 29th of November is the first day of the Church's new liturgical year. This Sunday is the first Sunday in the season of Advent; a time to prepare for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ.

You might like to have an Advent Wreath as a focal point at home for the next three Sundays. You will need a circular green wreath, three purple candles and one pink candle (or four white candles). The circle of the wreath is a reminder that God's love is eternal. The candles are a sign of the, light of Christ. This week you can light one of the purple candles.



Advent means coming. This is the season that we wait for the coming of the Lord. And, as Jesus tells us today, not only do we sit and wait, but we get up and get ready. We must prepare ourselves by living and being good Christians that Jesus showed us how to be. We don't need to be doing extraordinary things. We just need to be doing the ordinary things well. Then we will be ready. Then we will be prepared.

Let us pray that during the season of Advent we will be ready to meet Christ. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Mrs Monique Boyer
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

General News



School Fees – Now OVERDUE

Please ensure all school fees are paid by the end of the year.

If you have any questions regarding your child's school fees account please contact Jenny Pendleton on 4732 3999.



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.



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. These now need to be completed online at www.transport.info/school-students

providing quality public transport



23/11/2015

Dear Parents / Students,

The new Public Timetable for Busways Region 1 will come into effect on the 29th November 2015.

There will be changes to your current School or Public Route services.

To view the changes please visit our website at www.busways.com.au or contact our Customer Service team on 9497 1870 or 9497 1887.

Busways Group

Busways Blacktown P/L ABN 86 000 173 437	Busways Blacktown P/L Penrith Depot T (02) 9625 8900 F (02) 9625 4703	Busways Blacktown P/L Windsor Depot T (02) 4574 9200 F (02) 4577 9054	Busways Gosford P/L ABN 79 817 812 619 T (02) 4368 2277 F (02) 4368 2077	Busways Wyong P/L ABN 17 000 944 726 T (02) 4392 6666 F (02) 4392 5831	Busways North Coast P/L ABN 75 106 202 340 T (02) 6583 2499 F (02) 6583 2388
150 Glendenning Rd Glendenning NSW 2761	47-53 Mullins Rd Penrith NSW 2750	91 Mulgrave Rd Mulgrave NSW 2756	42 Empire Bay Dr Kincumber NSW 2251	9 Arizona Rd Woongahrah NSW 2259	6-8 Denham St Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Pre-loved Uniforms **Sale**

**We have a large number of
Pre-loved uniforms, jackets,
jumpers, shirts, shorts, etc
available for sale.**

**Items will be available for
purchase from Monday 7th
December until Friday 11th
December from 8:30am – 9am
in the MPA.**

**Don't miss out on some great
bargains!**

Skoolbag App

In 2016 we will distribute all school notes through Skoolbag. Our final two newsletters this year will be printed as usual as well as sent out through the Skoolbag app to allow parents to check that we have the correct contact details for them. Information for parents to download the app are below, please go to St Joseph's Primary Kingswood Sydney.

There are 2 eforms already available on the Skoolbag app. You can now send an absent now through the Absentee Forms. You can also send your Change of Details through the app.

If you have any questions regarding the Skoolbag app please contact Karen Sprycha on 4732 3999.



How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.



For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.



For Windows 81 Phone and Windows 81 or 10 device users:

1. Go to the Windows Store on your 81 Windows Phone or Windows 81/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 81 version Windows Phones, or Windows 81 and 10 devices.



Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au

Don't forget to like us on Facebook!

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

Accommodation Specials – January 2016 Only – Mount Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre

Personal Retreat: why not recharge with some quite time this January – Two persons stay in the fully catered Joseph Kentenich House with private ensuite, for a minimum of two nights – Special Price is \$70 per person/night. Includes twin share accommodation, linen and all meals, including morning & afternoon tea.

Family/Group Retreat: Bring all the kids plus your family and friends to our “Home of Light” Self-catered group accommodation facility. Sleeping 33 persons in 11 rooms, mostly bunk style accommodation (6 rooms with 2 bunks in each room) but also includes 4 private twin share rooms. A kitchen, large dining room and lounge area make this a complete bush getaway, tucked into the valley at Mount Schoenstatt with Kangaroos visiting daily. Special applies to weekday bookings (Mon-Thurs only) stay during January: Minimum of 4 night stay at \$200 per night.

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

“IF YOU KNEW THE GIFT OF GOD!”

From the Prayer for the Year of Mercy – Pope Francis

Reflection Day for Women

Looking for some quiet time to prepare for
Advent and the Year of Mercy?
Then this day is FOR YOU!!

When: 28th November, 2015

9.30am – 3.30pm

The day begins with Holy Mass
at 9.30am in the Shrine.

Where: Family Hall, Mount Schoenstatt,
230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa

Cost: \$25 (including morning & afternoon tea)
BYO lunch



Bookings: info@schoenstatt.org.au
OR 47738338

Dates for your Diary

Week 8

Thursday 26th November	Swim School 2:30pm Kindergarten 2016 Storytime
Friday 27th November	Swim School

Week 9

Monday 30th November	Swim School 9am Whole School Assembly Advent 2 10am Kindergarten 2016 Orientation 7pm Parent Thank you Supper
Tuesday 1st December	Swim School 10am Kindergarten 2016 Orientation
Wednesday 2nd December	Swim School
Thursday 3rd December	Swim School
Friday 4th December	Swim School

Week 10

Monday 7th December	Swimming Carnival Kindergarten to Year 5
Tuesday 8th December	9am Whole School Assembly Advent 3
Wednesday 9th December	Year 1 excursion
Friday 11th December	12pm Year 6 Farewell Liturgy 6:30pm Year 6 Farewell Dinner/Disco

Week 11

Monday 14th December	Year 6 Fun Day
Tuesday 15th December	9am Whole School Assembly Advent 4 and End of Term Awards 6pm BBQ 7pm Christmas Pageant
Wednesday 16th December	Talent Show Last day of school for students

2016 Dates

Wednesday 27th January – Staff return to school

Thursday 28th January – Years 1 to 6 students return to school

Monday 1st February – Kindergarten start school