Dear Parents / Guardians,

St Joseph’s 50th Jubilee Dinner was held on the evening of the last Friday in Term 2. It was a terrific evening filled with magical fun, musical entertainment and companionship.

If you were not able to attend, yes you were missed, but equally it is well understood that we cannot attend everything even when we’d love to. Like many events the dates, the times and even the types of celebrations are not suitable to everyone.

The dinner itself successfully attracted parents and teachers, past and present, as well as students who cheerfully remembered they were once students at St Joseph’s, Kingswood. The special evening marked the interconnections we share through our links to this school. In a variety of ways the people who gathered valued St Joseph’s in their lives.

There was an amazing cross-section assembled around the dinner tables; each person seemed to have a story about their relationship with the school. Their stories narrated something about friendship, learning and humour. Even the ‘dramas’ that were retold triggered smiles across the faces of the storytellers.

It’s somewhat interesting that the school we attend can become a place we end up treasuring throughout our lives. Perhaps it’s because we sensed our belonging there or that we discovered new things or practised a worthwhile skill lots of times; maybe we simply noticed it was a time of our growing independence.

I guess the reasons we celebrate St Joseph’s vary as much as anything else in life. The Jubilee celebrations continue next month at the Family Fun Day. Hopefully this jubilee year continues to highlight the prospect of looking back fondly at a period of time spent here either as students learning, as parents raising beautiful kids or as teachers preparing tomorrow’s adults.

Today we can treasure the moment; ensuring we will look back with thanks sometime in the future recalling the contributions we made to others here and in turn the benefits we received.

“Little did any of us dream what was to spring from so small a beginning.” St Mary MacKillop, 1891.

Best regards,

Michael Cowley
Acting Principal
**Student attendance**
There have been important changes this year for our teachers when marking students daily attendance. The teachers at St Joseph’s have moved from the traditional hardcopy roll to using a digital device with a secure log in. Class teachers are expected to complete their class attendance roll as soon as possible each morning. Please be aware that should you be running just a few minutes late your child may be marked as a partial absence on that day.

For parents and caregivers communication of absences remains the same, that is if a child is absent a written explanation must be sent to the school. This note can be addressed to either the class teacher, the Principal or ‘To Whom It May Concern’. Should such a note not arrive at school on the day your child next attends, the NSW Board of Studies expects the school to follow up with the family about the absence. On the occasion that this affects your child, a written request will be sent home.

Any special ‘exemptions’ due to family travel require an application. Please contact the School Office for this form.

**Kiss and Ride**
To help make our afternoon pick up queue move more efficiently and safely, I would like to suggest that parents consider purchasing a sun visor sign from signsafekids.com. This plastic unit will attach to your sun visor to display your name clearly to our duty staff. They will last from Kindy to Year 6 so for $14.95 would be a worthwhile investment for our Kiss and Ride families. Please be sure to complete the “School Claim” section when placing your order so that our school can benefit from the sign-Safe-Kids Schools Fundraising offer. Thank you to the drivers already displaying their surnames.

**Pastoral Care and Student Wellbeing Policy**
Our policies and procedures for student wellbeing are based on the Positive Behaviour School framework putting the focus on student learning.

Expectations are articulated in our STaRS:
- Safe
- Thoughtful
- actively
- Responsible
- Students

Expectations are explicitly taught to all students and individual plans are developed for students requiring more intensive support. All staff support students in living out the STaRS values. In line with the Student Wellbeing Policy, discrimination, harassment or bullying are not permitted. Incidents arising pertaining to these matters need to be conveyed to the class teacher and will be dealt with in an appropriate manner. For further details, visit the school website: www.stjosephskingswood.catholic.edu.au

**Discipline Policy**
St Joseph’s discipline policy ensures procedural fairness, the hearing rule, and the right to an unbiased decision. St Joseph’s staff neither use, nor sanction, corporal punishment. When an incident occurs which requires the individual to be disciplined, staff ensure that it is dealt with in an appropriate manner taking into consideration the above requirements.

**Complaints and Grievances Procedures**
From time to time concerns may arise in regard to the school between different stakeholders. The following procedures have been developed to effectively address any such concerns.

**Parents**
Complaints or grievances pertaining to classroom issues, or that relate to other children are to be dealt with by school personnel. It is not appropriate for parents to approach other parents, or their children, with the intention of resolving the issues.

The recommended procedure to be followed by parents is:

1. The first point of contact is the student’s class teacher. Please contact the school office to make an appointment with the teacher concerned.
2. If parents are not satisfied with the solutions offered, or believe that they have not been given a fair hearing, they are encouraged to make an appointment with the Stage Co-ordinator or the Assistant Principal.
3. Should the issue remain unresolved after this time, an appointment is made with the Principal to further discuss the issues.

*Please remember there usually are at least two sides to every story and whilst it is important to listen to the children, it is also important not to draw conclusions or make accusations until all the facts are known.*
Students
The recommended procedure for students is:

1. If issues arise in the classroom, students are encouraged to speak to their class teacher in order to seek support in finding a resolution.

2. Students encountering problems on the playground are asked to talk to the staff member on duty at the time of the incident. If they believe that their concern has not been adequately addressed they are encouraged to speak to their class teacher.

   All students at St. Joseph’s are taught to adopt the school’s Three Step Plan to find a resolution. This plan is displayed in each learning area, is discussed regularly in class and forms part of the Student Wellbeing Policy.

3. Students can also speak to the Co-ordinator, Assistant Principal or Principal, as well as any other staff member about issues they may have.

Photos at School
Due to privacy issues, photos taken at school should be taken of own children only.

Supervision at School
A reminder to parents that morning supervision at school commences at 8:20am. At afternoon dismissal, children remaining at walkers at 3:15pm will be taken to Kiss ‘n Ride. Children remaining at Kiss ‘n Ride after 3:30pm will be taken to the Office, at which time parents will be contacted. Afternoon supervision concludes at 3:30pm. Children should not be at school before or after these times.

Community News…

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

Sacrament Of Penance - Saturday after morning mass
Eucharistic Adoration - Before all masses

Discover OLMC Parramatta
Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta invites you to discover contemporary learning, academic excellence in the Mercy tradition at OLMC and enjoy a ‘comfortable cup of tea’ with the College Executive at the Open Morning Tour on Monday, July 22, 2013.

The College is now enrolling for 2014 and 2015. Visit [www.olmc.nsw.edu.au](http://www.olmc.nsw.edu.au) or phone 8838 1263 to reserve your place or obtain further information.

Stepping Beyond: Support For Those Separated Or Divorced
On the last Tuesday of each month CatholicCare Solo Parent Ministry invites those who have been separated or divorced to an evening for sharing and support. The emphasis is on personal development, growth and goals for a hope-filled future. Shared personal experiences are prompted by the questions: “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 learned as you keep stepping beyond?”


Understanding Family Law
Each year CatholicCare Solo Parent Ministry offers a Seminar to assist those who have to deal with the Family Law System following separation or divorce. Information will include: How the Family Law Works, How the Court determines what is in the best interests of the child and the child’s needs, safety and rights. Guest Speaker: Ms Bernadette Devine, (Family Law Courts Family Consultant)

Venue: CCSS Centre, 51-58 Allawah St, Blacktown. Date/Time: 17th July, 7.30pm. Further details and registration: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au or Ph. 99330205

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend – relationship enrichment for married couples
6 – 8 September at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW
b ookings: 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au
Information: [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)
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<td>1</td>
<td>15th Staff Development Day</td>
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<td>19th Semester 1 Reports go home</td>
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<td>22nd 9am Assembly 4</td>
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<td>26th Kindergarten Excursion – Sydney Observatory</td>
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<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>3.30 - 5pm Parent Teacher interviews</td>
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<td>29th 9am Assembly 5</td>
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<td>1st August</td>
<td>2nd NAIDOC Day</td>
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<td>Bullying audit</td>
<td>6pm Yr 6 Parent Mtg</td>
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<td>5th 9am Assembly 6</td>
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<td>7th</td>
<td>8th 9.15 St Mary MacKillop Mass</td>
<td>9th Zone Athletics</td>
<td>10th /11th</td>
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<td>6.00 Yr 5 &amp; 6 - Personal Development</td>
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<td>6pm Civic Reception for Student Leaders JSC</td>
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<td>St Joseph’s Jubilee Day, Sunday</td>
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<td>7pm Parent Association Mtg</td>
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<td>15th 9.15am Assumption Liturgy Penrith Eisteddfod – Choral</td>
<td>16th Penrith Eisteddfod – Speech &amp; Drama</td>
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<td>VOY Penrith Cluster Final</td>
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<td>23rd Fun Food Day Blacktown Olympic Park</td>
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<td>Book Week</td>
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<td>Aug/Sept</td>
<td>26th 9am Assembly 2</td>
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<td>29th Fathers Day Stall Breakfast and Celebration</td>
<td>30th Fathers’ Day Birthday</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>2nd 9am Assembly 3</td>
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<td>16th 9am Term Award Assembly</td>
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<td>20th S3 Touch Gala Day</td>
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<td>Last Day Term 3</td>
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Free Workshops
Positive Parenting Program
Triple P

Need some more tools for your parenting toolbox?

How to build strong and positive relationships with your children
and
How to manage tricky behaviour
and
How to make parenting more enjoyable and less stressful
and
Get support from the group as you practice your new parenting strategies.

Facilitated by Narelle Smith from Nepean Community & Neighbourhood Services.

6 week course, Wednesdays
7, 14, 21, 28 August 2013
11 September 2013

It is essential that you attend the first session!

10:00am to 12:30pm

South Penrith Neighbourhood Centre
Cnr Trent & Birmingham Rds
South Penrith

Childminding available

Please book for workshops and childminding
Phone: Narelle on 0409 986121
Email: narelle@nepeancommunity.org.au
Free Workshop

Eat It To Beat It

Helping parents and their kids to eat well for good health.

Do you know that eating just an extra half serve of vegetables per day reduces the risk of cancer by 20%?

What is a serve of vegetables? How much are we supposed to eat? What should I be putting into my kid’s lunchbox? What can I do with my fussy eater?

In this workshop we look at how a healthy family diet during your children’s early years can have a big influence on their future health and wellbeing. We give you lots of lovely resources from Cancer Council NSW to make it easier to plan, budget, and enjoy healthier meals.

** This workshop is for parents of children attending primary school. **

Facilitated by Narelle Smith from Nepean Community & Neighbourhood Services. Programme and resources provided by Cancer Council NSW.

Please book for workshop and child minding
Phone: Narelle on 0409 986121
Email: narelle@nepeancommunity.org.au

Wednesday 24th July 2013
10:00am to 12:30pm
South Penrith Neighbourhood Centre,
Corner of Trent & Birmingham Roads
South Penrith

Childminding provided