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St Joseph's Primary School

Message From Ms Crowley...

We acknowledge the Darug people,
The traditional custodians whose land we educate our students

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends,



The weather certainly did not deter us from celebrating our special Feast Day of St Joseph last Thursday. Despite the rain we managed to have a lot of fun, learn more about the wonderful man and role model Joseph was and come together to sing and pray as a community centred in Christ's love. It was wonderful that so many families could join us in the afternoon to share lunch with your child and participate in our special liturgy with Father Andrew leading. A big thank you to Mrs Kemp and all the staff who supported her to plan and put together this celebration.

It was with great sadness, that as a community, we farewelled our very much loved School Counsellor Ms Vennessa Goode at the end of our feast day celebrations. The love, appreciation and special place she holds in the hearts of the students she has supported and worked with over the years was so evident from all the hugs and tears at the end of the day. We do though have a wonderful new counsellor Mrs Erin Helleur who we currently share with Xavier College. She has spent the first term getting to know our wonderful community and we look forward to continuing to work closely with her into the future.



Next week we are inviting parents to the school for **Celebration of Learning afternoons** for each grade. This will be an opportunity for you to visit the classroom and for your child to share with you what they have learnt over the term, look at some of their work and celebrate their successes and growth as a learner. Please note that grades will host their celebration of learning afternoon on different days. The timetable is in the newsletter.

Nothing is more exciting than the impending birth of a baby! In our St Joseph's community we have two staff members who will be going on maternity leave at the end of the term as they both await the birth of their first child. Today the staff held a baby shower for both Mrs McCabe and Mrs Camilleri. We wish them all the best and many blessings as they begin this new chapter in their lives as mothers.



As we come to the end of Term 1, I wish to thank the staff, our parents and carers and of course all our wonderful students for making St. Joseph's such a loving and caring community. I look forward to seeing everyone back at school on **Tuesday 26th April**.

May the promise of Easter, fill your heart with peace and joy!

God bless.

Ms Jennifer Crowley
Principal

Assistant Principal News

Finishing Term 1

Next week we will come to the end of the first term and it is amazing to see just how much we have all accomplished. We have so much to be grateful for considering we are still dealing with COVID-19 and extreme weather conditions. This term has been filled with rich learning opportunities as well as many exciting events to build our community including:

- Mathematical Assessment Interviews for all students
- Opening School Liturgy
- Commissioning of our Year 6 Student Leaders
- St Joseph's Feast Day
- Year 3 and 4 commencing our Strings Program
- Students undertaking a drumming program with Captivate
- Zoom Parent Information Sessions
- Zone Swimming Carnival
- Cross Country Trials
- Naplan Practice for Years 3 and 5
- Ash Wednesday Liturgy
- Catholic Schools Week
- School tours for Kindergarten 2023 Enrolments
- St Joseph's Friday Assembly



We look forward to continuing to celebrate the fantastic learning that happens here everyday at St Joseph's through our Celebration of Learning Afternoons that are happening all next week.

Naplan:

Last week, students within Year 3 and 5 participated in an Omnibus Practice Assessment in preparation for the upcoming Naplan Assessments in Term 2. The Omnibus Practice Test consisted of a combination of reading, spelling, language conventions and numeracy questions, allowing students time to become familiar with the different types of questions they will be exposed to during the online Naplan Assessments. Year 5 students also participated in a practice Writing Assessment as this year they will be completing this test online. Please note the school will not receive any results or feedback on individual student performance during these practice tests.

The students, teachers and technology did perform well during these assessments, with only a few minor teething issues which we have managed to fix immediately. We do ask all students in Year 3 and 5 to have a pair of working headphones at school at the beginning of Term 2 as they will need headphones to complete all Naplan Assessments. If your child does not have a set of headphones at school, we all parents to please purchase these during the school holidays.

During the school holidays, we encourage all students to continue to practice sample NAPLAN tests to further develop their confidence in how to use the online platform. The practice tests can be located on the following link: <http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

Please note the test schedule for Year 3 and 5 is as follows:

Tuesday 10 May	Wednesday 11 May	Thursday 12 May	Monday 16 May
Writing Assessment	Reading Assessment	Conventions of Language Assessment	Numeracy Assessment

Students who are absent during this period will have the opportunity to undertake the test upon their return to school. More information regarding NAPLAN online readiness testing can be found at: <https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment>

Compass Parent Portal Information:

Over the next few months we have been asked by CEDP to transition all families onto the Compass Parent Portal. Compass is the school management system that is used in all CEDP schools. It allows parents and carers to access up-to-date and meaningful information about our school and your child's attendance and learning.

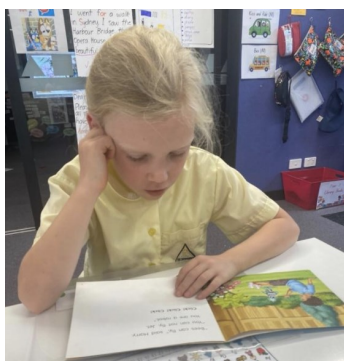


Compass includes many different features including the ability to :

- Monitor your child's attendance and enter an explanation for absences or lateness
- Update your family contact details
- Download and view your child's school reports
- Provide consent for school events
- Receive information about upcoming school events

The downside of this is that Compass will replace Skoolbag. Therefore, throughout the year we will slowly transition to communicating through Compass. However, in the meantime Skoolbag will still be used as our main communication method with families.

Holiday - learning at home:



Many parents often ask how they can support or help their child(ren) at home and during the school holidays with their learning?

The best learning you can do with your child at home during the holidays is to read, read and read with them. Take them to Penrith library, enjoy reading stories throughout the day, read and view stories online via Storybox or PM online. Reading builds your child's imagination, general knowledge about a wide range of topics, vocabulary and spelling. Skills everyone relies upon when learning!

Another great idea for the holiday break is to play board or card games as a family such as snap, go fish, snakes and ladders, scrabble, trivial pursuit, etc. Playing such games builds your child's number sense which can help their maths skills in the classroom. Your child will know a few card games they could teach the whole family such as maths headache as we play these every day during our warm ups as part of our maths lesson.

My sincere thanks to all our families for your continued support throughout this term. Without you working in partnership with your child and their teachers through their educational and spiritual life we would not have achieved the many exciting opportunities this term. When parents and carers are engaged and support positive attitudes towards learning, this builds our student's motivation, enjoyment and confidence and transforms them into lifelong learners.

All of our students need to be congratulated for their hard work, for never giving up on the learning they are constantly challenged with and always looking out and caring for others.

I wish our St Joseph's community a very happy and blessed Easter in the coming weeks. I hope over the school holiday break everyone has a chance to relax and enjoy special times with their families.

God Bless
Rochelle Borg
Assistant Principal



Literacy News - Library Borrowing

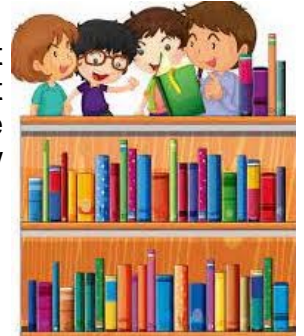


Books can open up a world of imagination and information. Therefore, reading helps to develop a love of literature but also a love of learning, transforming our students into lifelong learners.

At St Joseph's, children are encouraged to borrow weekly from our library which is full of new and exciting collections of books.

Students visit the library each week, with their class and teacher. We strongly encourage all students to borrow books to read at home each night and on the weekends. Students are able to borrow one or two books each week, but need to remember that once students have read these books to return them to the library the next week.

There are a number of students who currently have books at home that are now overdue. Please help your child find any books with a St Joseph's barcode on the front or back cover. If your child has 5 or more books at home that are overdue then they will not be able to borrow again until they are returned.



Lets help to keep the library full of our favourite reads.

Happy reading,
Kellyanne Kemble
Leader of Learning - Literacy

Counsellor's Corner

Hello St Joseph's Families,

I cannot believe that we have made it to the end of term, it feels like the time has flown by! I have loved coming to work at St Joseph's, joining Joey's Journey and meeting your amazing kids. I am very grateful for the warm welcome and I look forward to meeting more of you throughout the year.

The holidays are a wonderful time to rest and recharge - and it often means that there's a lot more time for devices and screens. As we head into holiday time, it is good to think about online safety.

Consider:

- if a game is making your child lose sleep (or have nightmares) it might be too old for them,
- if they are finding older friends it makes them vulnerable,
- if they are secretive about the game - they probably know you wouldn't like it.

If you're noticing any of these signs, it's a good time to talk about having a break and trying something different.

The Office of the eSafety Commissioner has some helpful resources for parents - www.esafety.gov.au/parents.

You might also like to have a listen to this episode of [Parental as Anything with Maggie Dent](#) on kids and online gaming. This is a fab episode that looks at when gaming can be beneficial, how to find the right balance and what to do when it's becoming a problem.

Have a wonderful break everyone!

Mrs Helleur

Celebration Of Learning Open Classroom



Class	Date	Time
Kindy	Tuesday 5th April	2:30pm - 2:50pm
Year 1	Tuesday 5th April	2:30pm - 2:50pm
Year 2	Wednesday 6th April	2:10pm - 2:30pm
Year 3	Wednesday 6th April	2:30pm - 2:50pm
Year 4	Wednesday 6th April	2:30pm - 2:50pm
Year 5	Thursday 7th April	2:30pm - 2:50pm
Year 6	Thursday 7th April	2:30pm - 2:50pm

Attendance

Thank you to all families who are arriving to school on time. Morning duty starts at 8:20am and the bell rings at 8:50am. Please ensure your children are at school before 8:50am, ready for the start of the school day.

If your child is late to school please walk them to the front office and sign them in. This will ensure they are marked correctly on the roll.

If your child is not attending school please contact us either via Skoolbag, email or phone call.

2023 Enrolments

2023 enrolments for Kindergarten (and other grades) are now open. If any family has a child to commence school next year, please download and complete the enrolment form available on the school website as soon as possible so that we know how many places we will have available for new families in 2023.

Please notify any new families interested in attending St Joseph's to register their commitment to joining our SJK community by clicking on the link

<https://www.stjosephskingswood.catholic.edu.au/Enrol/How-to-Enrol>

We already have a number of new and existing families who are already registered to enrol their children for 2023.



School Fees



School Fee reminder notices for overdue school fees have been sent home by post. If you have received a reminder notice please pay outstanding fees ASAP, if not already on a payment arrangement. Payment arrangements need to be set up each year when the first school fee invoice is sent out. If you have any queries or need to discuss your financial situation please contact Jenny Pendleton on 4726 4200.

Cashless Payments

NO MORE CASH ACCEPTED

We are no longer able to accept any cash at St Joseph's. The only option for making payments in the office is through Eftpos.

This year there will be a new payment system for things like gala days, fundraising and missions. Details of the new payment system with instructions will be sent out soon.

Leaving St Joseph's



A term's 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 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 i.e. the notice period of 10 school weeks will be waived in this circumstance.

St Joseph's Birthdays



April - Zane, Marley, David, Emmanuella, Matthew, Gabriel, Drake, Cody, Matilda, Tyler, Lily, Diya, Simrik, Prakalp, Sidiki, Beau, Sumin, Grant Dru, Jack, Janelle, Sofia, Amam

Community News

Foodbank Contacts

Below are some numbers from Foodbank organisations that can assist with groceries. Please feel free to call them to see what they can offer you.

Transformation Edge - Jamisontown 4731 2419

Christian Mission - Penrith 4704 8809

Westcare - Penrith 4731 3455

School Uniform

If your child is missing a jumper or jacket please encourage them to check the Lost Property cupboard, behind the administration building. Parents are also welcome to check the cupboard when they pick their child up from walkers in the afternoon. The cupboard will be emptied at the end of term.

Please label ALL your children's items. If they are labelled, they can be returned to the rightful owner.

We have an oversupply of 2nd hand uniforms. If you are needing uniforms for your child please email the school stjosephskwood@parra.catholic.edu.au

* your child's name

* class

* what item and size of clothing are needed

We will contact you when we have got your order ready. All orders will need to be picked up and paid for at the front office. Please note payment can only be made via Eftpos - NO CASH will be accepted.

School Zone Offences

SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES

WHAT ARE YOU RISKING?*

FACT

Children are small, harder to see, behave unpredictably and are extremely vulnerable. They need **you** to take extra care when driving and parking around school zones

NO PARKING

No waiting. You have **two minutes** to drop-off or pick-up. You must stay within **three metres** of your vehicle



NO STOPPING

You must not stop on a length of road with a no **stopping** sign. The first **10 metres** from an **intersection** is a no stopping zone. **Yellow kerb** lines are also a no stopping zone.



BUS ZONE

Only a public bus can stop in a bus zone



MOBILE PHONES

Extra fines apply for using a mobile phone in a school zone. May be subject to **Double Demerits**.



SPEEDING OFFENCES

40km/h is the limit. Children are vulnerable, so slow down in school zones. May be subject to **Double Demerits**.



DRIVEWAYS & FOOTPATHS

Do not park on or across a driveway or footpath.



PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

1. In a queue of traffic, **no part of your vehicle can stop** on a pedestrian crossing.
2. Do not let **your children** in or out of a vehicle at a pedestrian crossing as this is a no stopping zone.



U TURNS

U turns are illegal on or near a pedestrian crossing and across a double white line



DOUBLE PARKING

Double parking is illegal and is very dangerous in a school zone.



*Fines current as of 11 November 2020. Fines and demerit points are subject to change. For more information check out the NSW Centre for Road Safety website.

Psychology Clinics

The *Western Sydney University Psychology Clinics* continues to offer low-cost evidence-based psychological therapy and psychometric testing services to children, adolescents and adults. Minimal waiting times for therapy currently apply.

Referrals can be made by contacting: Phone: 02 9852 5288

Email: psychclinic@westernsydney.edu.au

Self-referrals welcome

Therapy: \$25 per session (\$15 for concession card holders)

Psychometric Assessment: \$250 (\$150 for concession card holders)

Pamphlets available at the school office



Dates for your Diary

PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO COVID AND CHANGING OF RESTRICTIONS ALL DATES GIVEN ARE ONLY TENTATIVE UNTIL CLOSER TO THE TIME.

Week 11

Friday 8th April

Last day of school for Term 1

9am Primary End of Term Award Assembly

2:30pm Infants End of Term Award Assembly



Staff and Students return to school for Term 2

Tuesday 26th April

Week 1

Monday 25th April

Anzac Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 26th April

Staff and Students return to school

Week 2

Tuesday 3rd May

Diocesan Cross Country

Friday 6th May

Mother's Day Liturgy time TBC

St Joseph's Social Media

Did you know St Joseph's have many social media platforms to keep yourself updated with school events, photos, newsletters, notes, etc



Facebook - St Joseph's Primary School, Kingswood. NSW

School Website - <http://www.stjosephskingswood.catholic.edu.au/>



Twitter - @stjosephskwood



Skoolbag - St Joseph's Primary Sydney



YouTube - St Joseph's Primary Kingswood

If you would like to opt out on your child's photo, work and name being published please put your request in writing and send it to the school office.

If at any time you change your mind regarding publishing please put your request in writing and send it to the school office.

Skoolbag Issues

There have been some reports of the Skoolbag app not working for some parents.

If you are having difficulty with the app please ensure it is up to date and you have the latest version on your phone. In some instances you may need to delete the app and re install it.

If, after trying these things, it still doesn't work please contact the school so we can contact Skoolbag about the issue.

Change of Details

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 school office. It is vital we have up to date contact details.

Change of details form 2022
SURNAME:
CHILD/CHILDREN'S NAMES:
CLASS:
<u>New</u> Address Details:
<u>New</u> Home Phone Number:
<u>New</u> Mother's Mobile:
<u>New</u> Mother's Work Number:
<u>New</u> Mother's Email:
<u>New</u> Father's Mobile:
<u>New</u> Father's Work Number:
<u>New</u> Father's Email:
<u>New</u> Emergency Contact Details
Name:
Relationship to Child:
Phone Number:
Signature:
Date: