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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,*

One cannot deny we are living in challenging times at the moment with the pandemic still ongoing, unprecedented rain and flooding across NSW and QLD and as we watch the invasion of Ukraine and displacement of hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian people as they flee into countries like Poland. Please keep your prayers flowing for all those affected.



This week teachers conducted Meet and Greet zooms for parents and carers to introduce their teaching teams and to run through the expectations and learning experiences for their grade. Thank you to all those who joined the zoom meetings. The teachers were very appreciative of your time and support.

This week the Government has made some changes to the current Covid safe measures in relation to schools. From Monday 7th March, masks will no longer be mandatory for all students and staff. Any student or staff member who wants to continue to wear a mask may do so.

Students will no longer be required to stay within year groups and may mix with other year cohorts. We will continue to use a sensible COVID-smart approach when we plan activities and events.

Visitors to the school will now be allowed back on site regardless of their vaccination status. We would like to invite parents and carers to our **first whole school assembly for the year next Friday at 2:30pm** outside the Multi Purpose Area (weather permitting). Our Year Two students will lead the afternoon assembly.

This term the staff at St Joseph's will be engaging in a professional learning inquiry around improving students' visualisation strategies when problem solving and articulating their thinking in maths. This inquiry is being led by Mr Alan Eisenhuth our Numeracy Lead Teacher as well as Mrs Ali Busuttil and Mrs Rochelle Borg.

On a sad note, our wonderful School Counsellor, Ms Vennessa Goode will be leaving our St Joseph's Community at the end of the month to take up a wonderful opportunity leading a team with Kids Helpline. Ms Goode has been a much loved and valued member of the St Joseph's community the last six years supporting students and families. We are all going to miss her but we wish her well in her next endeavours knowing that St Joseph's will always hold a special place in her heart !

Catholic Schools week begins on the 6th March and as part of this week of celebration we will be holding two open days to promote and share with prospective families the wonderful learning spaces and what we offer here at St Joseph's. The first day is **Tuesday 8th March at 4:00 pm** and the second on **Thursday 10th March at 5:00 pm**.

We commenced our Lenten journey this week on Ash Wednesday. The Season of Lent is a time for us to focus intentionally on what helps or hinders our commitment to Christ. It may be better not to give up something but to take on something, to build up our spiritual muscles.

There are often two approaches during Lent. The first is to give up something - perhaps chocolate, alcohol, gossiping etc. The second approach is to do something like - find peace within relationships, do hard things with joy, be a friend to someone you wouldn't normally, etc.



During this Lenten period, whether it is the first or second approach that is taken, it is the act of sacrifice or thoughtfulness for another that is important. Lent is about mindfulness, reflection, consideration and prayer to renew our relationship with God. Let us examine how we show love to help those less fortunate than ourselves...without boasting...as we walk humbly with our God.

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*Compassion is to 'suffer with', to feel what the other feels,  
to accompany them emotionally.  
Pope Francis June 2014*

Lent - What to give up .....

- Give up complaining - Focus on gratitude
- Give up pessimism - Become an optimist
- Give up harsh judgement - Think kindly thoughts
- Give up gloom - Enjoy the beauty that is around you
- Give up gossiping - Control your tongue
- Give up sin - Turn to virtue
- Give up giving up - Hang in there!!!

*Make Lent*  
**40 DAYS**  
OF AWESOME

Stay safe and God bless.  
**Ms Jennifer Crowley**  
Principal

## Message from Mrs Borg...

### Meet 'n' Greet Parent Information Zoom Meetings



Throughout this week, it was wonderful to see a number of our families connect with their child's class teachers via zoom. Each session focused on providing parents with valuable information on the engaging learning happening each and every day at St Joseph's as well as upcoming events and tips parents can work on with their child at home to support their learning.

We understand the extreme weather conditions this week, certainly made it difficult for some of our families to attend these sessions. If you were unable to attend these Meet n Greet sessions, a copy of the slide presentation is available by contacting the school office.

Over the coming weeks, we will create a number of different opportunities where we can continue to strengthen our partnership with our parent community.

We encourage all families to continually check Skoolbag for information and details on all upcoming events.



### National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence - 18th March



This year National Day of action against bullying and violence is recognised on Friday 18th March 2022. The theme for 2022 is Kindness Culture. By building Kindness Culture together, we can promote inclusion, respect and community belonging for all students.

During the day, our students will be engaged in a range of activities to promote the importance of being kind to one another, discussing what bullying is and what it isn't and who they can talk to if they are being teased or bullied.

Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in a relationship through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening.

Bullying can happen in person or online. Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated over time. Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online are not defined as bullying.

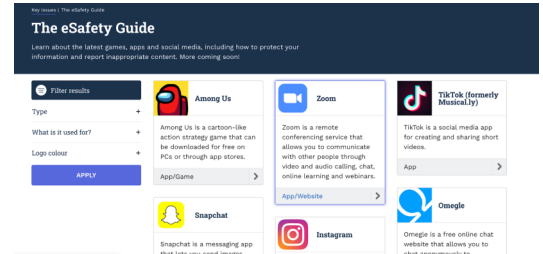
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On **Friday 18th March**, we will be celebrating being kind to everyone with a double Joey day! We look forward to sharing with our community the different ways we can be the **"I" in Kind** to each other and ensure everyone at SJK is a Safe, Respectful Learner.

## Esafty Guide

The eSafety Commissioner provides a guide to all of the latest games, apps and social media. It provides detailed information about what they are and how you can stay safe when using them. This is a fantastic resource for parents and guardians. Click on the link to explore: [Esafety Guide](#).



## RE News

### Religious Education and Formation

We began the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday earlier this week. With so many challenges locally and internationally at present, I pray that as a community we strengthen our relationship with God and ask for faith, hope and love to be present in all we do. Amen



Our year 6 leaders had the opportunity earlier this week to share pancakes with students for Shrove Tuesday and highlighted why we participate in this Catholic tradition.



### Save the date - 24th March!

Our feast day is fast approaching and together with the stage 3 leaders (Years 5/6) we are planning a day of faith and fun! Our feast day falls on Saturday this year (19th March) so are planning to celebrate on Thursday, 24th March. Further details of the day will be announced soon.

### Project Compassion Launch - For all future generations

Year 5 have been working on presentations which they will present to all grades next week. Each classroom will be given a class money box to collect coin donations for the great work Caritas Australia does locally and abroad. Students will be encouraged to find a few extra things they could help with around the house to earn a few coins to donate or perhaps they may decide to give up some of their pocket money.

**God Bless  
Mrs Kemp**

# PRAYER

Loving God,  
We thank you for the gift of our lives and for the life of every person, both near to us and far away.  
We thank you for the wonder of all your creation. Through fasting, almsgiving and prayer may this Lent draw us deeper into the warmth and light of God's love.  
May we see the world more clearly, Especially those who are often overlooked.  
May we come closer to your heart, Which you showed through the cross of Jesus.  
May we be full of hope for all future generations.  
We ask this in Jesus' name  
Amen.

**PROJECT COMPASSION FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS**

Caritas AUSTRALIA End poverty. Promote justice. Uphold dignity.

**SUPPORT PROJECT COMPASSION 2022**

**BOOK A LIVE ENGAGEMENT WITH PROJECT COMPASSION STORIES**

lent.caritas.org.au  
1800 024 413  
#projectcompassion

## Counsellor's Corner

Hello families of St Joseph's,

As Mrs Crowley mentioned I will be leaving the Diocese at the end of March, I have truly loved my work at St Joseph's and being a part of the lives of your children as they have grown and learned so much on Joey's Journey.

We have had so much fun, in class and at Pied Piper and during small groups, class groups and also with those I have worked with individually - such a privilege!!

I would like to ask that you talk with your children about this change and assure them we will have time to process and adjust to this change as we continue to welcome Mrs Helleur on Joey's Journey.

As with all change it is important to support your children in managing their response and encourage their view that change is exciting whilst also challenging. Help them to explore some of their reactions by using emotion coaching - "I can see you are confused/having big feelings", "I am sorry things are hard right now", "lets see how we can turn it around and get back into play/learning" - older students will name "yes I feel really annoyed/angry etc..", however younger students need more prompts and older students need some guidance to explore the feelings they name.

Your children are amazing at coming up with solutions when they have calmed their feelings, I am sure you will be proud of the types of things they share with you.

Mrs Helleur will be here to work with the school community from now and additional support from the system when the school requests it.

Stay happy, kind and safe on Joey's Journey  
Miss Goode and Mrs Helleur

## St Joseph's Uniform Policy

Thank you to our families for ensuring our students come to school everyday wearing their school uniform. The wearing of our school uniform plays an important role in instilling pride in our students and maintaining our school identity and spirit.

At the beginning of every school year, we would like to send a few gentle reminders about our uniform policy. Please refer to the Parent Handbook for our Uniform Policy:

### **Hairstyles**

- Hair is to be neatly cut and avoid any type of cosmetic colouring.
- Students with shoulder-length hair or longer are to have it tied back and away from the face to allow clear vision and for hygiene reasons.
- Ribbons, scrunchies, bows are to be in the school colours. Hair accessories such as multi-coloured clips are not to be worn.
- Haircuts are not to be radically cut or multi-layered (such as pronounced, shaven undercuts) or so long that it is below the collar or impairs vision.

### **Jewellery**

#### **Girls**

- Girls may wear simple gold/silver stud earrings only. No other forms of facial rings are permitted.
- Watches and medical bracelets are the only wrist accessories permitted.
- No Smartwatches are to be worn at school.
- Jewellery such as bangles, bracelets or anklets are not permitted.
- Coloured nail polish or make-up is not permitted.

#### **Boys**

- No form of facial rings are permitted, including earrings.
- Watches and medical bracelets are the only wrist accessories permitted.
- No Smartwatches are to be worn at school.

### **Shoes and Socks**

- Students are to wear appropriate footwear to school ie black school shoes/black runners and sports joggers on sports days.
- Ankle boots, high tops (converse), loafers, thongs, are not to be worn.
- Low-cut socks are not to be worn at any time.

Our school uniform can be purchased from Lowes Westfield Penrith, including our school hats.

## Attendance

Congratulations to our winners of "Best Grade at Beating the Bell" Certificates for week 5, Kindergarten and Year 6 again. Followed closely by Years 2 & 4.



Again I'd like to thank you, parents and carers for getting your children to school before the bell! There are so many happier children in the mornings.

Remember school supervision starts at 8.20am each day! Now that we can have children on the playground, in the mornings when its not raining... we will be able to start our Beat the bell fun activities... I wonder which morning that will happen?

Take care and stay safe!  
Mrs Brogan

## 2023 Enrolments

2023 enrolments for Kindergarten (and other grades) will open shortly. 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.



### Join St Joseph's in 2023!



Enrolling now for Kindergarten

Join us on one of our upcoming Open Days:

8 March - 4:00pm-5:00pm  
10 March - 5:00pm-6:00pm

Contact us to register  
**02 4726 4200**  
[www.stjosephskingswood.catholic.edu.au](https://www.stjosephskingswood.catholic.edu.au)

## School Fees



School Fees Statements have been posted out to you. If you haven't received your statement or if you have any issues with your school fees 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

### Happy Birthday to...

**March** - Khailiel, James, Natasha, Seth, Akuol, Thomas, Cameron, Dylan, Mason, Aarna, Ekampreet, Braxton, Bion, Zachary, Vincent, Lila, Runan, Ezekiel, Zoe, Oliver-Snow, Scarlett, Jairemy, Janelle, Bellina, Krizia

## 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

## Supportive Hearts Bereavement Group



Are you grieving the death of your spouse or partner?

If so, you're invited to be part of our support group to assist you in your grief journey. In the group, you will likely find the following:

- Emotional support in a safe and non-judgmental environment.
- Understanding from others who have experienced a similar loss.
- Coping skills to help you through the most difficult days of your grief journey.
- Hope through companionship with people who understand first-hand what you are going through.
- Permission to grieve and encouragement to live a meaningful, productive life.

If you would like to join our Monthly Support Group, or require more information, please contact us below.

Please call Rita at Solo Parent Services on  
PH: 8843 2500

E-mail: [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)



DATE: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each Month (Feb – Nov)  
TIME: 10am – 12noon  
COST: \$5.00

VENUE: Monthly Zoom gathering or in person meetings at Parramatta, depending on Covid Restrictions.

Please Note: REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL

*"Grief is not a disorder, a disease or a sign of weakness. It is an emotional, physical and spiritual necessity; the price you pay for love. The only cure for grief is to grieve."*  
— Earl Grollman

## Stepping Beyond Support Group for Separated / Divorced Adults



Living through a separation or divorce can be an overwhelming experience. Not only are the hopes and dreams for your future shattered, but this experience accompanies isolation, loneliness, challenges supporting or caring for your children, and sometimes difficulty communicating with your spouse or partner over legal matters.

**Stepping Beyond Monthly Support Group is a safe environment to explore these issues. Together with trained facilitators, each month members explore their challenges and celebrate their achievements on their journey.**

DATE: Last Tuesday of each Month (Feb – Nov)  
TIME: 7pm – 9pm

COST: \$5.00

VENUE: Monthly Zoom gathering or in person meetings at Parramatta, depending on Covid Restrictions.

PLEASE NOTE: Registration Essential

For Further information and registration, please call Rita on 8843 2500 or email [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)



# LOWES

LOWES ZERO  
LOWES REWARDS CLUB  
**3 DAY VIP EVENT**  
**MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup>**  
**ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS**

# 20% OFF

ORIGINAL PRICES

## SCHOOLWEAR & EVERYTHING ELSE!

DON'T HAVE A CARD? APPLY INSTORE OR  
ONLINE & START ENJOYING THE BENEFITS.

\*T&C'S APPLY, SAVINGS OFF ORIGINAL PRICES.

**SHOP ONLINE & INSTORE**

**WESTERN SYDNEY  
UNIVERSITY**

## 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](mailto: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

# High School Open Days



Xavier College Open Night

Tuesday 8th March 2022

4pm - 6pm

Prospective 2023 students and families are welcome to attend.

Tours and application forms available on the night.



## 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 7

**Tuesday 8th March**

4pm Open Day for Prospective Enrolments

**Thursday 10th March**

5pm Open Day for Prospective Enrolments

### Week 8

**Monday 14th March**

Year 1 Incursion TBC

**Friday 18th March**

Cross Country

**Saturday 19th March**

St Joseph's Feast Day

### Week 9

**Thursday 24th March**

Feast Day Celebration

**Friday 25th March**

Staff Development Day - no students attend school on this day

# 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:
<b><u>New</u> Emergency Contact Details</b>
Name:
Relationship to Child:
Phone Number:
Signature:
Date: