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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 last three weeks have been extremely busy at St. Joseph's with Semester Reports and Student Led Conferences demonstrating ways in which we have been able to work together as a team – students, teachers, and parents. Thank you to the many parents who speak so positively about our school, the programs delivered by the teachers and the care that the staff take of the children each and every day.



This term, I have been interviewing families who are seeking enrolment for Kindergarten in 2023. The families have spoken about the fine reputation our school holds in the community as well as the recommendations that our current and past families have given them about St. Joseph's being a nurturing community. I have also been conducting school tours and it is so wonderful to hear that visitors on these tours have family friends at the school and they are impressed by what they have been told about St. Joseph's.

Whenever our students are on excursions/incursions, we receive fantastic feedback about their behaviour and good manners. The recent Soccer Gala Day for Stage 3 Girls and Boys is an example of this as they really do stand out as articulate and polite children. It has been incredibly powerful to receive so many generous affirmations from our families, be it in relation to the safety of the children or the dedication of the teachers to providing engaging learning programs and opportunities. The staff are very appreciative of the support that you give to them and the partnership that they have in working with you to build the wonderful community of St. Joseph's.

Congratulations to the students who made their First Communion recently here in the parish. It was wonderful to attend the celebration of this special sacrament with Fr Andrew leading the mass. Thank you to the Stage 3 students for attending the Vinnies Winter Sleepout and the great job you all did in preparing snack packs for people less fortunate and experiencing homelessness. Next term we'll be continuing with our Dance, Drumming and Strings Programs and some grades will be performing in the CEDP Captivate Arts Factor Learning Exhibitions for Dance and Drama. We are looking forward to another term of wonderful diverse learning opportunities!

As we approach the midpoint of the year and with the holidays just around the corner, I thought I would share some thoughts about using these holidays well. Australian families are increasingly time-strapped. The busy-ness of life can make it difficult for adults and children to participate in enjoyable activities or to just 'hang out' as a family.

Do you engage regularly in activities that involve play and laughter or are all your interactions with children of a managerial nature? School holidays offer families a chance to unwind away from the normal routines. They also provide a window of opportunity for parents to spend some enjoyable time with children. There are many theories about promoting healthy parent-child relationships and strengthening families. It is, however, easy to overlook a simple, cheap way of forming family relationships – spending enjoyable time together.

American family researcher John DeFrain has found that the happiest childhood memories that adults hold have two common threads. First, childhood happiness always centres on activities experienced together as a family. Second, the most pleasurable childhood times almost always centre on simple, inexpensive activities. During the holidays do something fun and enjoyable with your children. It doesn't have to be expensive, but it should be something different, something fun and something that involves laughter and play. Money can't buy happiness, but loving family relationships can create it.

So, as we finish Term 2, may I extend my thanks to our dedicated staff for their work this term, to the students who have worked hard and achieved great successes in their learning and to you, the parents for your ongoing support and trust you have in us as experienced educators.

Enjoy the holidays, keep safe and keep smiling!

God bless.

Ms Jennifer Crowley

Principal

Book Week



*Book Week
22nd - 26th August 2022*

More information to come

Religious Education News

Whole School Scripture Luke 24:1-12

Throughout the term all grades have worked on a whole school scripture focus. This term was the Resurrection Story. Many students would have taken this scripture home to share their families. For families with siblings, this would have given you an opportunity to see a range of responses to this scripture. It has been exciting to see how the student responses change over the grades and become more complex as the students get older.





Year 6 students created their own Exploring Scripture sets in response to the Resurrection Story. Before taking them home they shared their stories with their kindergarten buddies who were very excited to listen to the stories!



JRS Outreach Project

On the 24th May, which was the Feast Day of Mary Help of Christians our stage 3 students began learning about the Jesuit Refugee Service and the work volunteers do in supporting refugees from our community. Early next term our stage 3 students will share what they have learned about JRS with our school community. The stage 3 students will also highlight the importance of our Catholic values being acted out in our everyday lives. On completion of the presentations each grade will be asked to take home a request for items to bring into school so we can help JRS provide families with vital supplies such as rice, cooking oil and hygiene products.

Save the Date: Sacrament of Confirmation Enrolment - 31st July after 10am mass

God Bless
Have a safe, healthy and blessed holiday break
Mrs Kemp

Counsellor's Corner

It can be hard to find things to keep kids entertained during the holidays - and many kids will want as much screen time as possible! Try to keep your routines consistent so the transition back to school next term goes smoothly.

One idea to keep the kids entertained (and away from screens) is to have a family games day. Each person gets to pick a game for everyone to play. These can be board games, sports races, challenges, anything you can think of or have on hand. Set up a tournament together working your way through each game at a time. Games are a great way to help your child develop skills in communication, turn taking, sharing and coping when things don't always go the way you want.

Try a fun "Would you Rather" conversation starter. Roll a dice and then answer the question for the number you roll:

1. Would you rather be able to fly or be invisible?
2. Would you rather have a pet panda or zebra?
3. Would you rather discover a hidden treasure or a living dinosaur?
4. Would you rather eat spinach ice cream or a broccoli milkshake?
5. Would you rather pat a spider or a cockroach?
6. Would you rather moo like a cow or bark like a dog to speak?



This game can also be used to help kids develop their friendship skills. Roll the dice and answer the question for the number rolled:

1. What makes a good friend?
2. How would a good friend make you feel about yourself?
3. Is it better to have a fun friend, or a kind friend?
4. What could you say to a friend who looks sad?
5. What would you say to a friend who looks worried?
6. Who do you trust to talk with about your feelings? What makes them special?

We hope you have a safe and enjoyable break.
Erin Helleur

School Fees

Please finalise any Term 2 outstanding fees as a matter of urgency.

If you are having difficulties paying school fees please contact Jenny Pendleton on 4726 4200.

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.

Covid Safe Protocols

All students, families and staff are requested to follow NSW Health's advice to reduce the risk of not only transmitting COVID-19, but also other illnesses that may affect schools this winter such as the flu.

Parents are required to:

- inform the school if their child tests COVID positive and keep the child at home in isolation for the required 7 days.
- inform the school if their child is a close household contact, administer a RAT daily before the child attends school and keep the child home if they are unwell or symptomatic.

Thank you for all that you do to support the health of students and staff.

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



July - Jostrick, Shannon, Jade, Olivia, Preston, Harlum, Elijah, Eoin, Adut, Leo, Thomas, Aubrey, Rhea, Isabelle, Mae, Xavier, Elijah

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

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



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

You Tube 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.

Dates for Your Diary

Term 3

Week 1

Monday 18th July First day back to school for staff and students

Week 2

Friday 29th July 2:30pm Whole School Assembly

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:

New Address Details:

New Home Phone Number:

New Mother's Mobile:

New Mother's Work Number:

New Mother's Email:

New Father's Mobile:

New Father's Work Number:

New Father's Email:

New Emergency Contact Details

Name:

Relationship to Child:

Phone Number:

Signature:

Date: