

NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 WEEK 4 - 2/18 - 23RD FEBRUARY 2018

WELCOME & INDUCTION MASS 2018



Dear Parents

A beautiful 'Welcome and Induction Mass' was held on Wednesday to formally introduce our 2018 school year. It was a very special welcome by Father Garry to our six new kindergarten students and their families: Sophie and the Field family, Amber and the Karam family, Parker and the Miles family, Logan and the Kearns family, Hannah and the Sheehan family, Stuart and the McMillan family. After Mass the welcome cake was cut by Mrs Taylor and her new Kindergarten students. It was also a "Welcome Back" to all existing students and their families. The Year Yr 6 Captains were also formally acknowledged as they received their Captain's badges. Fr Garry blessed the badges and made the presentation to each school leader. A special part of the ceremony occurred when the parent or grandparent of each student came forward to pin on the badges. Congratulations are extended to:

SCHOOL CAPTAIN:	NATE GREEN
SCHOOL CAPTAIN:	HALLE GILLESPIE
VICE CAPTAIN:	MADDISON FIELD
VICE CAPTAIN:	ANNIKA TAYLOR
HOUSE CAPTAIN:	TAYLOR BENNETT
HOUSE CAPTAIN:	YASMINE TURNER
HOUSE CAPTAIN:	BROCK HANDLEY

Thank you very much to Fr Garry for then joining both the Year 6 leaders and the school staff in reading their statements of commitment for 2018.

"Thankyou Fr Garry" once again and "Thankyou, everyone!" who attended on Wednesday. It is the presence of others at our weekly Masses and special occasions that make our school such a warm and welcoming place.

Dear Parents,

Some years ago a magazine challenged its young readers to submit short poems that dealt with the topic, "Nature". One entry that drew some acclaim for the manner in which it interpreted "short", was a poem titled "Fleas" which stated, rather simply, that "Adam had 'em." Perhaps the author was bringing together a problem that his dog was experiencing and a saying that parents used to defend their own experiences of life: "That's been around since Adam was a boy".

Less easy to offer an explanation about is an even shorter poem which states "I, why?" This poem, probably, has been uttered by millions of people, each using their own particular words as they probe the mystery of who they are. One such person was Jesus, who on the last night of His life knelt amongst the olive trees and agonized over the prospect of what lay ahead of Him. He almost begged His Father, "All things are possible, take, if You will, this cup from me. Nevertheless, not My will but Your will be done."

Luke 22:42

A second person to publicly confront the purpose of his existence was St Paul who, as Saul of Tarsus, was a devout Jew and a Pharisee. He could not believe it when he heard that people were saying that a crucified carpenter was the Messiah whom God had sent to save the world, because it was so at variance with what he had expected the Messiah to be. Saul had expected the Messiah to come like another David figure, with a sword in his hand to wipe out the enemies of Israel and establish Jerusalem as the new Rome.

So, he set out to destroy the believers of this heresy. After witnessing the execution of Stephen, the first Christian Martyr, he was on his way to Damascus, when he had a life altering experience, described as a blinding light that knocked him off his horse. He had encountered something

outside of himself that caused him to reorganize his life almost entirely. He spent a number of years working through what had occurred and then set out to preach the "crucified carpenter" to the nations around Israel. His preaching condemned such things as greed, lust, anger, slander, disrespect, lying and racial divisions and extolled the virtues of compassion, kindness, patience, forgiveness, love, peace and gratitude. Colossians 3:1-17.

The well known author, C.S. Lewis, once wrote, "I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen; not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else." Maybe this Lent we can devote our attention to ponder the "I, why?" of our existence by using our Christian heritage to help us to see more clearly the purpose of our life.

In a culture addicted to self-indulgence, can we do as Christ and St Paul did and serve others with our time, energy, money; can we be agents for reconciliation between estranged family members; can we listen to and understand those who are different to us; can we, in our workaholic culture, take time out to pray for ourselves, for others in our life, for others who are not in our life but are in wars and droughts and oppression somewhere in our world; can we, as St Paul did, take time out, use the forty days of Lent to make adjustments to our way of life, to be more obviously Christian in the way we give expression to our "I, why?"

**"Spirit of God within me,
Help me this Lent to grow in
gratitude for my life.
Help me to reveal the face of Christ,
to other people as they enter into my
life.**

Amen."

Peace and Best Wishes

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Catholic Schools Week at St Joseph's will actually continue for two weeks. Beginning on Monday 5th March and concluding on Friday 16 March. The calendar of events follow:

Monday 5 th March:	Catholic Schools week begins – "Blaze New Trails" Theme Open Classrooms 10.15am (approximately) Grandparents Morning Tea 11am School Assembly 2.50pm
Thursday 8 th March	SJS Media Day
Monday 12 th March	K/1/2 Pet Education 21 st Century Learning Tabloid
Friday 16 th March	St Joseph's Walkathon – fun run and picnic at Williwa Creek Fr John Grannall Memorial Sports

Further information will be forwarded but for now it is just a matter of saving some or all of the dates.

HOMEWORK

Please remember that homework which has begun this week is:

- Handed out on Mondays
- Handed in on Fridays (or before)

Extra reading should be done. (Parents can read to their children – this also assists greatly in teaching children to read.)

If you're not sure about any aspect of Homework please contact your child's teacher.

SWIMMING PROGRAM

Last Friday saw the conclusion of our 2017-2018 Swim Safety Program at St Joseph's. It was wonderful to see the improvement in the confidence and water skills of all the students. We all realise just how important it is for children to understand correct procedures and safety measures around water and once water confident the ability to swim seems to be much easier. We, at St Joseph's can happily boast that our school is one which can offer this unique program and equip all our children for life.

THANKYOU to SHANE TAYLOR and the PORTLAND POOL COMMITTEE. Not only do we have a great facility but we also have one which is cared for to a very high standard. All students look forward to the 2018-2019 season. THANK YOU

PARKING

Please note designated parking areas for school.

- Parent carpark is corner of High and Williwa Street.
- Laneway at Corner near church.
- The bus bay can not be accessed for school drop offs.

Highway Patrol Officers patrol do monitor the school and will fine drivers (this has happened in the past).

Thank you for your co-operation

SPORTS REPORT – Simone Taylor

2018 SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our St Joseph's Swimming carnival held on the 9th February was again a very successful day in the water with all students showing pleasing skills and a positive attitude towards participation.

It is always pleasing to see the students willing to 'have a go' and support their peers. It is also very pleasing to see a large number of family members come to support their children. Our students attitudes reflect that of their families and it is always lovely to see the adults supporting all the children at St Joseph's.

We congratulate all students on their skills in the water. Whether it be learning to swim or trying to better their personal best times, our students have shown growth and confidence over the season at the pool. This was reflected throughout the day at the carnival.

Thank you to everyone who assisted in any way. We rely on parents to help on these days and without you the carnival would not be possible. A special mention to our official starter Mark Bennett who has been our starter for many years and does a fantastic job. 2018 will be Mark's last year of duty so we will be looking for a new starter in 2019.

Thanks also to Nigel , Karen and the girls in the Kiosk for providing lunches and refreshments throughout the day.

We also acknowledge our pool lifeguard - Jordie Brodie who does a fantastic job and to Shane Taylor for all his work at the pool on carnival days and throughout the season.

Finally thank you to Mark Bennett, Tracey Huiser, Terry Field and Jordie Brodie who were our parent representatives in the relay this year. The students really love this race and it again proved to be an exciting event on carnival day. Unfortunately our fastest swimmers - Mia, Libby, Yasmine and Annika narrowly won on the day! We thank Taylor Bennett for her assistance as our starter for this event.

Our 2018 Champions are as follows:

Junior Boy	Kooper Handley
Junior Girl	Mia Dunleavy
11Years Boy	Nate Green
11Years Girl	Yasmine Turner
Senior Boy	Brock Handley
Senior Girl	Maddison Field



A Team of twelve students attended the the Bathurst/ Eastern Region Carnival held on Tuesday 20th February.

Congratulations to the following students on making this representative team.

Libby Bailey, Taylor Bennett, Mia Dunleavy, Maddi Field, Halle Gillespie, Nate Green, Kooper Handley, Brock Handley, Briea Lampton, Annika Taylor, Hannah Turner and Yasmine Turner.

Bathurst / Eastern Region Swimming Carnival 2018

Last Tuesday 20th February a team of twelve students attended the Bathurst/ Eastern Region Swimming Carnival held at Bathurst Aquatic Centre.

All students represented our school with great pride aiming to better their times from the school carnival.

Our exciting day in the pool began with Mia Dunleavy winning the 100m OPEN Freestyle event, quite an achievement for a junior swimmer.

The students enjoyed the day of competition and also the time spent with peers and family members who attended to support our school. The regional carnival also allows students time to interact with other students from Bathurst, Oberon , Lithgow and Cowra schools.

Congratulations to ALL the students on their individual efforts on the day and to the following students who were placed in the following events:

<u>Mia Dunleavy</u>	1st 100m OPEN Freestyle
	1st 50m 10 years Freestyle
	1st 50m Junior Butterfly
	1st 200 Individual Medley Junior
	3rd 50m Junior Backstroke
	4th 50m Junior Breaststroke

<u>Yasmine Turner</u>	3rd 50m Backstroke
	3rd 50m Butterfly
	4th 50 11 years Freestyle

SJS Junior Girls Relay Team

Mia Dunleavy, Libby Bailey, Briea Lampton and Hannah Turner

3rd in the Junior Relay Event

It was with great excitement that our school team also won

2018 Champion School

by percentage points trophy again this year.

Congratulations!

We also congratulate **MIA DUNLEAVY** who was the runner up Junior Girl Champion on the day. This had to be investigated as there was a discrepancy in the points allocation for Mia. On Wednesday we had formal notification from the carnival organiser that Mia Dunleavy should have been awarded the Champion Swimmer. This issue was a technical error as the points allocated to Mia did not include her 100m win. Mia was formally awarded the Champion Swimmer at our school assembly on Wednesday.

CONGRATULATIONS!

MIA DUNLEAVY

2018 CHAMPION JUNIOR GIRL SWIMMER BATHURST/ EASTERN REGION

We wish the following swimmers all the best as they progress onto the Diocesan Swimming Carnival to be held in Dubbo next Thursday:

Mia Dunleavy : 100m OPEN Freestyle
 50m 10 years Freestyle
 50m Junior Butterfly
 200 Individual Medley Junior
 50m Junior Backstroke
 50m Junior Breaststroke

Yasmine Turner : 50m Backstroke
 50m Butterfly

PP5 Relay Team: Mia Dunleavy , Libby Bailey, Yasmine Turner and Annika Taylor

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOODLUCK!

DAVID PEACHEY/RUSSELL RICHARDSON CUP

Planning is underway for the Football knockout. We will once again join with St Patrick's Lithgow. The date of the knockout is 20th March. Please write this date in your diary. More information will come out in the next few weeks.

Simone Taylor
Sports Coordinator

SCHOOL MASS

Please come along to school Mass held every Wednesday at 9.30am

Next week's Mass will be organised by Miss Menchin and Year 3/4



FOSTERING A GROWTH MINDSET

Congratulations to the following learners who received awards for showing **RESPONSIBLE** learning.

Early Stage 1 - **Logan Kearns** Stage 1 - **Olivia Merlino** Stage 2 - **Charlotte Handley** Stage 3 - **Halle Gillespie**



These great learners showed responsible learning by: Listening in class, being a kind friend, working well in groups and by showing great leadership skills. Well done!

Congratulations to all other learners who received Responsible Learning Merits during the two weeks.

Our next Learning Trait focus is: **RESOURCEFUL LEARNERS.**

A **RESOURCEFUL LEARNER** can show initiative, asks sensible questions, challenges themselves, uses their time wisely, uses creative and critical thinking and is prepared to explore other possible methods and solutions to solving problems.

LIBRARY

Library lessons are held on a Tuesday for all classes K-6.

Can all students please bring a library bag on Tuesdays to transport books to and from school. This helps protect the library books and also keeps books secure so that finding them is easy. Children will not be able to borrow books until they have a library bag.

A library bag doesn't have to be fancy. An old pillow case, or 'green' shopping bag is a cheap alternative. Label the bag clearly with your child's name so that staff and others can locate the owner easily.

P&F NEWS

ATTENTION ALL

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 27th FEBRUARY

SCHOOL STAFF ROOM - 7PM

Please join our Parent group.

We need new members to add to our already hardworking ones.

AGENDA ITEMS: Executive 2018

Walkathon organisation

May Fete



SCHOOL MASSES—TERM 1

School Masses commence at 9.30am on
Wednesdays

WEEK 5—28th Feb	3/4	Lent
WEEK 6—7th Mar	5/6	Grandparents Mass
WEEK 7—14th Mar	3/4	Lent
WEEK 8—21st Mar	5/6	St Joseph
WEEK 9—28th Mar	3/4	Holy Week
WEEK 10—4th April	5/6	Easter
WEEK 11—11th April	3/4	Easter

Please Note: St Joseph's School has been rostered on to do Offertory at Sunday Masses so please bring your children along and become involved in our Parish.

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

St Vincent's Portland

Please arrange a swap if you are unable to attend on your rostered Sunday Mass.

Mass commences at 8am

Sunday 18th February	Mia Dunleavy Annika Taylor
Sunday 25th February	Nate Green Savannah Green
Sunday 4th March	Halle Gillespie Yasmine Turner
Sunday 11th March	Jorja Bailey Yasmine Turner
Sunday 18th March	Mia Dunleavy Annika Taylor Maddison Field
Sunday 25th March	Braith Green Nate Green Savannah Green
EASTER	VOLUNTEERS

IMPORTANT DATES at St Joseph's

TERM 1—2018

Week 5	Feb March	27 1	P&F AGM Dio Swimming Carnival
Week 6	March	5 7	Catholic Schools Week Starts Assembly
Week 7	March	16	SJS Walkathon
Week 8	March	20 21 23	Peachey/Richardson Cup St Joseph's Mass Winter Sports Trials
Week 9	March	30	Good Friday
Week 10	April	1 4	Easter Sunday Assembly
Week 11	April	13	Last Day of Term 1

TERM 2—2018

Week 1	April	30	School Resumes
Week 2	May	7	Litter Workshop

CANTEEN & CAKE ROSTERS

TERM 1

A massive thank you to all who volunteered to be a part of the cake roster for Term 1.

Please find below the roster. If there is a problem with the date you're rostered please let me know.—Maree 0439 027 009

CANTEEN & CAKE ROSTERS

TERM 1

A massive thank you to all who volunteered to be a part of the cake roster last year!!

Please find below the roster . If there is a problem with the date you're rostered please let me know.
Maree 0439 027 009.

	Canteen Roster	Cake Roster
5 th February	Maree Bilby & Cec Bilby	
12 th February	Courtney Pelling & Debbie Sloane Hill	
19 th February	Karen & Barry Rochester	Karen Rochester
26 th February	Maree Bilby & Cec Bilby	Donna Bennett
5 th March	Courtney Pelling & Denise Karam	Denise Karam
12 th March	Karen & Barry Rochester	Karen Rochester
19 th March	Maree Bilby & Terry Field	Bianca Griffiths
26 th March	Maree Bilby & Debbie Sloane Hill	Donna Bennett
2 nd April	Easter Monday	Easter Monday
9 th April	Maree Bilby & Cec Bilby	Cec Bilby



Don't forget to install the Schoolstream app on your electronic device. A large percentage of the schools communications will soon be done through Schoolstream—permission notes, newsletters and information notes. We also have parents currently using the app to send in Absentee Notes which is another great way to ensure the school receives the information safely and promptly.

It is very convenient to receive an alert on your phone to notify you of any important information we need to distribute quickly.

With the Year 6 Canberra Excursion and our whole school excursion fast approaching, updates of arrival times etc. will be done using the Schoolstream app so we strongly encourage all parents/carers to sign up.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Study help, right when you need it

Feeling overwhelmed, stuck on a study question or not sure where to even start with an assignment?

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Studiosity



Melinda Pavey
Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight

MEDIA RELEASE

31 January 2018

SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY REMAINS A FOCUS FOR THE NSW GOVERNMENT

The spotlight is on NSW's most precious pedestrians, with the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight Melinda Pavey today making changes to parking offences around schools.

The changes to some parking offence penalties under the Road Transport Legislation Amendment Regulation 2017, comes as the NSW Government hits a major milestone in its \$10 million school infrastructure program.

Mrs Pavey said the changes to legislation will include seven new school zone offences and the loss of extra demerit points.

"The safety of our children is paramount, which is why we worked with a number of organisations to review parking penalties.

The offences include obstruct access to a ramp/path/passageway, stop on/near children's or pedestrian crossing, and stopping within 10 metres of an intersection without traffic lights.

Mrs Pavey said the changes come into force as the NSW Government completes a third of its school infrastructure program.

"Over the past two years the NSW Government invested \$10 million into school infrastructure, with \$5 million invested into school flashing lights, the other \$5 million into infrastructure," Mrs Pavey said.

"This infrastructure work has included implementing raised crossings, line markings, fencing and kerb extensions as well as building pedestrian refuges.

"So far 54 schools around the state are now benefitting from the installation of these safety upgrades."

Mrs Pavey said since 2013 there have been no pedestrian deaths in an operational NSW school zone, and we want to keep it this way.

"Every school in NSW already has at least one set of school zone flashing lights installed to warn motorists they are about to enter a 40km/h speed zone.

"Since coming to government in 2011 we have delivered 6,000 flashing lights across the state."

MEDIA: Minister Pavey | Jessica Cole | 0437 767 663

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Where: Lithgow JM Robson Aquatic Centre
When: Term 1 Thursdays 4:30 – 6:30pm

Call 1800 780 900
SMS 0409 745 645 for a call back
Register online at www.go4fun.com.au

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It's your place to share ideas for growing happy healthy children

Ideal for
Parents ... Grandparents... Carers
Childcare Staff... Teachers & Educators

or anyone that cares about the health of our kids

Telephone helpline for parents & teachers

Open school days during school hours

Info on: assessments, support, resources, websites, booklists, fact sheets, and more.

Learning Difficulties PARENT HelpLine

02 9806 9960
www ldc org au
info@ldc.org.au

Self Esteem

Literacy & Numeracy

Speech & Language

Supported by the DEC.

Support Groups

Social Skills

Anxiety & Depression

ADD & ADHD

Learning Difficulties

Dyslexia & Dyspraxia

Bullying

Autism Spectrum Disorders

Behaviour

Tourette Syndrome

Learning Difficulties Coalition