Dear Families,

Teamwork, co-operation, cohesion, common goals and vision are hallmarks of strong teams - whether they be family units, a sports team, a class, school or local community. By working Together Everyone Achieves More (TEAM) and this has a ripple effect on all the people we meet in our daily lives. At St Joseph’s we have been working very hard to establish strong Professional Learning Teams in our school and we have made excellent progress. Our PLTs are held two times per week (once as a Professional Learning Community where the teams come together) and these meetings focus entirely on our ultimate goal—to improve student outcomes. Professional learning communities are defined as;

“Educators committed to working collaboratively in the ongoing process of collective inquiry and action research in order to achieve better results for the students they serve. Professional Learning Communities operate under the assumption that the key to improved learning for the students is continuous, job embedded learning for educators.”

A PLC is seen as an effective staff development team approach and a powerful strategy for school change and possible improvement. The idea of community is crucial to the success of PLCs. The PLC process is a reflective process where both individual and community growth is achieved. The development of a Professional Learning Community continues to be a key goal on our Strategic Management Plan for the next five years as identified during our School Review and Development.

The following reflection, ‘Fairy Penguins, Teamwork and Harmony’ reminds us of the responsibility we have to work together to achieve shared goals. It is also a Christian act and a symbol of Australian ‘mateship’.

Fairy Penguins, Teamwork and Harmony

A fox was out for a walk on a beach in southern Australia one day when he spotted a lone fairy penguin just back from a day of fishing. ‘I think I’ll have some fun with this creature’, he thought as he hid in some tall grass and prepared to stalk the tiny defenceless sea creature of only a kilogram or two. Suddenly the penguin let out a cry and a few more penguins swam ashore to join him. Like a beacon, this squawk prompted other fairy penguins to come in from the sea. Then a raucous chorus of birds began waddling from the sea and towards the grass - and the fox. Their sound alone was enough to drive him away. What the fox didn’t know was that the penguins’ nests lay in burrows just beyond the tall grass. To travel safely from their hunting grounds to their colony, the birds always made the journey together - never alone.

Fairy penguins understand - more than some people - the value of teamwork and cooperation. Their lives are but one example of why ‘birds of a feather flock together’.

Thank you to all who are part of the ‘TEAM’ at St Joseph’s.

Together
Everyone
Achieves
More

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance Day is on Monday, 11th November. We will commemorate this very special day with a school liturgy at 10.45 am on this day. This liturgy will be prepared and led by Year 5 and Mr Cocciola. Parents are welcome to join us. Our School captains will lay a wreath at the Remembrance Day Ceremony at Evans Head on our behalf. Aimee Landrigan (Year 5) has also been invited to recite the poem ‘The Unknown Soldier’ (by Billy Rose) at the Evans Head ceremony.
Christmas Raffle
Time is running out for donations for our Christmas raffle. At this stage we do not have many items for this hamper. We know that it is hard to get into the Christmas mode early but we would appreciate your support in this annual fundraiser and send in donations by Friday, 15th November. We have some great prizes for this raffle to be drawn at our Christmas Concert on Monday, 16th December.

Parent Forum Meeting - Social Evening
In lieu of our final Parent Forum Meeting for this year we will be having dinner together at the Rod n Reel Hotel, Woodburn on Tuesday, 26th November at 6.30 pm. Even if you have been unable to attend these meetings throughout the year you are invited to come along and celebrate the end of another great year.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY
There will be a children’s liturgy during the Saturday Mass at Woodburn tomorrow evening at 6.00pm. We encourage as many of our school families as possible to come along and celebrate with us.

SCHOOL MASS
Our next school Mass will be on Friday, 8th November at 10.15 am. This mass will be prepared and led by Year Four and Mrs Roxburgh. Everyone is welcome to join us.

FATHER RICHARD’S ANNUAL LEAVE
Fr Richard will begin his annual leave on Monday, 11th November and we wish him all the best as he takes some well earned rest and relaxation. He will return from leave on the 14th December.

FAREWELL
This week we say farewell to Callum Ryan who is moving to Evans River School. We thank Callum and his parents Amanda and Malcolm for their support and we wish Callum all the best at his new school.

BEACH-A-THON SPONSORSHIP MONEY
We are in the process of finalising the Beach-a-thon sponsorship money and would appreciate if all money could be returned to school by next Friday, 15th November. Thank you to all students and families who have collected their money.

WRITING COMPETITION CONGRATULATIONS
As you know Mrs Lowrey has been running a writer’s group each week for interested writers at St Joseph’s. Our writers give up their lunch hour to meet with Mrs Lowrey to refine their writing skills. Recently Mrs Lowrey entered the student’s writing in a National Writing Competition—Write for Fun. Four students; Joe Waddell, Max Fisher, Jaak Schneider and Brodie Forsyth’s writing are to be included in a a book titled ‘Dream Big’ that is to be published nationally. This is an outstanding achievement as the competition drew thousands of entries from all across Australia! We look forward to reading the boys stories when the book becomes available. Well done boys and Mrs Lowrey!

NEWCASTLE PERMANENT MATHS COMPETITION
Last term 25 students from Years 4, 5 and 6 competed in the Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition. These students achieved some outstanding results;

Distinction Awards: Heidi Pearson, Zayd Thomas, Jaak Schneider, Tara Blunn, Aimee Landrigan, Kaitlyn Cook, Eamonn Wilde and Daniel Westerman.


Congratulations to all students who participated in this competition.
WOODBURN RIVERSIDE FESTIVAL ART COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to the following students who received awards in the Woodburn Riverside Festival Art Competition;

**Age 5-8**
First Place  Taj Ferrier
Second Place  Mikaela Robson

**Age 9—12**
First Place  Harry Stanley-Jones
Second Prize  Mya Tosomeen

Many students received Highly Commended Awards. Congratulations everyone!

BALLETT CONCERT

The Annual Ballet Concert for Pam Bellingham’s students will take place on Friday, 29th November from 12 noon at the Woodburn Memorial Hall. All children from K-6 will attend this community event. The cost of the bus and concert will be covered by the Performance levy.

PARISH MELBOURNE CUP SWEEP

Thanks to those who have returned tickets for the Parish Melbourne Cup Sweep. Thank you for your support of our Parish in this way.

RICHMOND ZONE SUMMER SPORTS TRIALS

Congratulations to Tara Blunn who was selected in the Richmond Zone girl’s touch football team yesterday afternoon. Tara will now travel to Coffs Harbour on the 22nd November to compete at the Diocesan Summer Sports trials. Well done, Tara!

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

TERM 4 – WEEK 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>Presley Jubber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Annabelle Robinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Lateisha Doran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Toby Felsch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Natasha Wotherspoon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Joe Waddell</td>
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</tbody>
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CONGRATULATIONS!

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Monday, 4th November
Renee Stone
Megan Woolley

Wednesday, 6th November
Katrina Williams
Alison Smith (am)
Michelle Lohse (pm)

Thank you!

CALENDAR – TERM 4 WEEK 5

TERM 4 WEEK 5

Saturday, 2nd November
Children’s Liturgy—6 pm—All Saints’ Woodburn

Monday, 4th November
School Tuckshop
Staff Meeting - 3.30 pm

Tuesday, 5th November
Sports Uniform

Wednesday, 6th November
School Tuckshop
Library

Thursday, 7th November
Sports Uniform
Sport - Swimming

Friday, 8th November
School Mass: Year 4 - 10.15 am

WEEK 6

Monday, 11th November
Remembrance Day Liturgy—10.45am
Staff Meeting - 3.30 pm

Tuesday, 12th November
Sports Uniform

Wednesday, 13th November
School Tuckshop

Thursday, 14th November
Sport - Swimming K-6

Friday, 15th November
Stage 2 Assembly—2.30pm

EVANS HEAD/ WOODBURN PRE - SCHOOL

$20 Family Portraits by Advanced Life Photography

When:  Sunday 10th November
Where:  Evans Head Pre-School
Cost:  $20 which includes a 10x13” family portrait or art pencil sketch, a key ring and a wallet sized portrait.

Please note: Each family must have a minimum of two generations.

We are now taking bookings. Please ring Evans