Dear Families,

On Monday we welcomed our 2014 Kindergarten to our St Joseph’s school community. It was great to see them arrive looking so grown up in their uniforms and wearing a huge smile on their face! It was obvious that their time at Junior Joeys helped in their transition to ‘big school’ as there were only a couple of tears from the children. They have settled well and have adapted to their new environment effortlessly. I would like to say a big thank you to their Year 6 buddies who have shown wonderful leadership skills in caring and assisting them throughout the week in many different ways. The Kinders know that they have a familiar face to turn to if needed throughout the day. Thank you also to Mrs Boyd who has spent a great deal of time preparing for their start with great eagerness and excitement.

Special thanks to Naomi Robinson, June Blunn and Judie Lollback for organising the morning cuppa for our Kindergarten parents. It was a kind way to welcome our new parents and to strengthen community with our existing parents. I enjoyed the opportunity to meet many of you on the day. Finally, thank you to our new kindergarten parents who have entrusted the care of their little ones to us—I know that we will develop a great partnership working together in and for the best interests of the students in our care.

Kind regards

Jeanette

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

Our School Leaders, Sports Captains, Student Representative Council members and Mini-Vinnies’ President will receive their badges at our Opening School Mass on Friday, 14th February at 10.15 am.

All families and friends of the school are invited to share in this celebration with us.

Everyone is welcome to stay for morning tea in the library. Please bring a small plate to share.

SCHOOL VISITORS

It is a legal requirement that all visitors and parents (unless picking up and dropping off children) who are entering the school must sign in at the office, eg if you are helping in a classroom or the Tuckshop, and attach a visitor’s badge. This is necessary in case there is a fire or an evacuation.

If your child is arriving late or being picked up early you must also go to the office to sign students in or out.

A Volunteer Declaration—a ‘Working with Children Check’, must also be completed which is a legal requirement, where photo identification must be provided (usually a licence).

NOTES FOR ABSENCE

When a child is absent from school we are legally required to ask for a written explanation of the absence. If you have phoned the school to let your child’s teacher know that they will not be attending you must still follow this up with a note when your child returns to school. A page of absence notes has been sent home today for your convenience.
PARENT-TEACHER MEETINGS

These Parent-Teacher Meetings are a vital communication link between home and school. I encourage every family to attend the Kindergarten to Year 6 meetings. This sends a powerful message to your children about the value you place on your child's learning this year. Teachers go to a lot of trouble preparing these nights and I thank them for giving up their family time to assist your children's education.

The meetings will be held on Wednesday, 19th February.

In order to make it easier for parents to attend these important meetings, we will repeat each meeting at a different time on the same evening. This means that parents will be able to attend each of their child's class meetings on the one evening. The meetings will run for 30 minutes.

We will commence the evening with a barbeque at 5.30 pm and keep cooking until around 7 pm. All are welcome to catch a bite to eat and have a chat with staff and meet our new principal, Jeanette Wilkins. There will be a short talk in the Library with the Principal before the meetings commence.

The schedule for these meetings is listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6.00 pm</th>
<th>6.30 pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
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<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
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<td>Year 6</td>
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The above sessions will be repeated at:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7.00 pm</th>
<th>7.30 pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
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<td>Year 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
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In a few weeks' time parents will have the opportunity to meet with their child's class teacher individually at Parent/Teacher interviews.

ST JOSEPH'S IS A ‘CRUNCH&SIP’ SCHOOL

Crunch&Sip (the 'old' Fruit Break) is a break during class when students can refuel on fruit and veg and rehydrate on water. The break assists students with physical and mental performance, and concentration in the classroom.

Crunch&Sip encourages fruit and vegetable snacking and drinking water. Healthy eating behaviours are modelled in the classroom and reinforce the nutrition messages in the PD/H/PE curriculum. By making fruit and vegetable eating and water drinking normal in the classroom, healthy habits can be formed and continued into adolescence and adulthood.

The Crunch&Sip break gives students the opportunity to eat the piece of fruit that might otherwise be left in their lunchbox. Students are also more likely to eat their fruit or vegetables and drink their water if their friends and peers are all doing it too!

Please make sure your child has a piece of fruit or vegetables and small bottle of water each day.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2014

The following days have been set down as Staff Development Days for St Joseph's for 2014.

If you have difficulty with arrangements for the care of your child/children on these days please let us know as soon as possible. We thank you for supporting us in our Professional Development opportunities.

Students do not attend school on these days.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Friday, 27th June</th>
<th>Staff Retreat Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 11th August</td>
<td>Diocesan Curriculum Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 7th October</td>
<td>Diocesan Curriculum Day</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A date for one further Staff Development Day will be advised later in the year.
**SCHOOL FEES**
The first **termly** payment of school fees is due on **Friday, 28th February**. For those electing to pay **fortnightly**, the first payment is due by Friday, 14th February. Fees Statements will be sent home to families shortly. If you have any queries about the Fees Statements please don’t hesitate to contact Lesley.

**FOOTWEAR AT SCHOOL**
Just a reminder that Dunlop Volley shoes are **not suitable** for school, either as school shoes or sports shoes. They do not provide support or protection for children’s feet during physical activity that occurs each day at school.

**ENROLMENT DOCUMENTS**
Could those families who still need to provide the school with a copy of Birth Certificates, Immunisation Certificates and Baptismal Certificates please do so as soon as possible so that the enrolment process for your child can be completed.

**LABELS**
Please ensure that all clothing items, drink bottles, lunchboxes, etc are clearly labelled with your child’s name. We already have lost items without names and are therefore unable to return them to their owners.

**PAYMENT ENVELOPES**
Bundles of Payment Envelopes have been sent home to each family today which can be used for returning money/note to school such as school fees or Book Club payments. They are usually put in the student’s class Office Box for delivery to the Office and receipting.

**HELPERS**
Thank you to those who have already returned notes showing how you will help the school this year. Please return any further notes early next week so rosters, etc can be finalised. Class teachers will talk about ways you can help in classrooms at their Parent-Teacher meetings.

**BOOK CLUB**
Book Club brochures were sent home this week. Orders need to be back at school by **Wednesday, 19th February**. **Please note that late orders cannot be accepted.** Many thanks to Kim Bell for continuing to be our Book Club Co-ordinator this year.

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**TUCKSHOP HELPERS—S.O.S.!**
We are in urgent need of volunteers to assist in our school Tuckshop this year on Mondays and Wednesdays. At this stage we do not have enough helpers to complete a Term 1 roster.

If you are able to assist in the Tuckshop on a Monday or Wednesday (even for half a day) please fill out the return slip on the back page of this Newsletter and return to school as soon as possible.
PRIVATE VEHICLE CONVEYANCE SUBSIDY
Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) subsidy is available for eligible school students, who are residents of NSW, where there is no public transport for all or part of the journey. PVC is paid on a daily basis between home and the transport pick up point/school. PVC may also be available on medical or safety grounds. A special return journey must be made each morning and afternoon.

Who is eligible?
To be eligible for PVC subsidy students must be:
- 4 years 6 months of age or older; and
- Enrolled at a registered day school; and
- An infant student; i.e. attending Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 classes. Infants students are exempt from the distance criteria; and
- Residing more than 1.6 kilometres walking distance from the nearest transport pick up point and
- A resident of New South Wales.
- PVC Subsidy forms are available from the school office.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS
Thank you to those families who have donated unwanted uniforms to the school’s Clothing Pool. We are very short of girl’s uniform dresses, so if you have any at home that you no longer require and would like to send them in to school, it would be most appreciated.

WOODBURN WOLVES FOOTBALL CLUB
2014 season is here!
Sign-on das for this season are as follows:
Saturday, 8.2.14 9 am—12 noon
Wednesday, 12.2.14 4 pm—6 pm
Saturday, 15.2.14 1 pm—4 pm
Wednesday, 19.2.14 4 pm—6 pm
Current registered players can register for 2014 season online. New players can also register online. Go to: www.myfootballclub.com.au
If you need assistance, help will be available at the Football club at the above dates and times.
Enquiries:
email: woodburn.wolves@gmail.com
Phone: Donna on 0408 080 319
Coral on 0488 997 630

TUCKSHOP HELPER
Please return by Monday, 10th February
I can assist with Tuckshop on:
- Mondays, 11.45 am - 2.00 pm
- Wednesdays, 9.30 am - 3.00 pm
- Wednesdays: half day (AM/PM)

I can help:
- Once a fortnight
- Once a month
- Once a term
- Other: ________________________ (e.g. a specific day)

Name: ___________________ Signature: ___________________ Phone No.: ___________________