Dear Families,

This week we held our Parent-Teacher Meetings for Kinder to Year 6. I would like to sincerely thank all parents who took up the invitation to attend the meetings to find out about your child’s learning for 2014. I know that it is not always easy with young families to come out at night but hopefully you found this opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher both informative and beneficial. I would like to also thank the teachers for their preparation and commitment in organising these meetings for you. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to meet so many of you. Soon you will have the opportunity to meet individually with teachers to discuss any goals, concerns or queries you may have regarding your child’s education and urge you all, if possible, to avail yourself of this opportunity.

Class Parents
This year we are looking to have a Class Parent for each class. It is a wonderful way to increase the number of people involved in our school. Being a class parent involves being part of a friendly, helpful group of parents who are available to lend a hand when needed and organise others to assist. Class Parents’ duties include welcoming new families to the school, building community and being a point of contact for parents in the class for information about different school activities.

A big thank you to those brave people who have already offered to be class parents. We really need a class parent for all classes for this to work. Mums or dads are welcome.

If you are interested in helping out and becoming a Class Parent, please complete the form at the end of the newsletter and return to the school as soon as possible.

Regards

Jeanette
SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

The following Sacraments will be celebrated this year:
- Penance (First Reconciliation): Year 3
- First Eucharist (First Communion): Year 3
- Confirmation: Year 2

If you wish your child to be enrolled in the Preparation Programs for these Sacraments, please return the reply slip in this Newsletter by Friday, 7th March. If your child is Catholic and in another grade and has not yet received these sacraments, they may also participate in the Sacramental programs.

In Term 2 Catholic children in Year 3 (and other primary classes who are catching up) will be preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation which will be celebrated on Tuesday, 20th May at 6.00 pm in All Saints’ Church, Woodburn.

The Parent Meeting for First Reconciliation and Eucharist is on Tuesday, 6th May at 7.00 pm in the Year 3 classroom. At least one parent from each family is expected to attend this meeting.

The Sacrament of First Eucharist will be celebrated on Saturday 21st June.

In regards to the Sacrament of Confirmation: The Sacramental Enrolment Ceremony is on Saturday, 26th July; Bishop Jarrett’s visit is on Friday, 8th August and the Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday, 9th August.

SCHOOL MASS

Our next school Mass will be on Friday, 28th February at 10.15 am. The Mass will be prepared and led by Year 6 and Mrs Reese. Everyone is welcome.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

Last week at our Opening School Mass the 2014 School Captains Tara Blunn, Eamonn Wilde, and Vice Captains Aimee Landrigan and Brodie Forsyth received their leadership badges and made a special pledge to live the Gospel values.

Also Student Representative Council Members, Sports’ Captains, Year 6 Leaders and Mini Vinnies President and Vice Presidents were commissioned and received their leader’s badges.

During the Mass each class received a wooden sign to place in their classroom on their Prayer Space.

The words love, believe, and peace will continually remind the students of the Gospel values and the teachings of Jesus.

MAKING JESUS REAL AWARDS

Weeks 2 and 3

Eli Harrington  ‘For caring about another person’s property’
Lily Sauer  ‘For asking me to come and sit with her’
Georgia Hughes  ‘For playing happily and helping others’
Elleigh Jamroz  ‘For being a WEST person and a kind and caring friend’
PARENT FORUM
The Parent Forum are already busily looking at Easter and Mothers’ Day fundraisers. Any suggestions and/or help would be very welcome. Remember many hands make light work and it would be lovely to see more people involved.

If you would like to be involved or are available to help in either of these events could you please contact the office or Naomi Robinson on 0413 388 459 or 6682 2773.

Clearance Sale Catering
The Parent Forum are catering for a Farm Clearance Sale on Saturday, 1st March 2014, and would appreciate donations of cake/slice/biscuits to sell on the day. Any donations can be left at the school on Friday, 28th February. Thank you in advance for your support!

Next Meeting
Our next Parish School Parent Forum meeting will be held on Monday, 17th March 2014 at 3.30 pm in the school meeting room. There will be short presentation on flying-foxes at this meeting. Everyone welcome.

CALENDAR – TERM 1 WEEK 5

Monday, 24th February
Tuckshop

Tuesday, 25th February
Sports Uniform

Wednesday, 26th February
Tuckshop
Library

Thursday, 27th February
Sport
Assessment and Reporting Meeting
– Ms Wilkins and Mrs Reese
Richmond Zone Winter Trials

Friday, 28th February
Mass—Year 6—10.15 am
Clean up School Day

TERM 1 WEEK 6

Monday, 3rd March
Tuckshop
Parent/Teacher Interviews

Tuesday, 4th March
Shrove Tuesday
Sports Uniform
Parent/Teacher Interviews

Wednesday, 5th March
Ash Wednesday Mass—12 noon
Tuckshop
Library

Thursday, 6th March
Sport
Principals’ Gathering – Ms Wilkins

Friday, 7th March
Mass—Year 6—10.15 am
Principals’ Gathering – Ms Wilkins
Diocesan Swimming Carnival Murwillumbah

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.

Friday, 27th June
(Please note corrected date)
Staff Retreat Day

Monday, 11th August
Diocesan Curriculum Day

Tuesday, 7th October
Diocesan Curriculum Day

A date for one further Staff Development Day will be advised later in the year.

LIBRARY BOOKS
To assist with the smooth running of Library borrowing on Wednesdays, we request that all library books be returned to school on Tuesday.

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Monday, 24th February
Alison Smith
Carissa Pursey

Wednesday, 19th February
Tanya Davidson
Shelley Cleverley
Kerrie Tunsted (AM)

Thank you, ladies!

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK
TERM 1 – WEEK 3

Class  Student
Kinder  Erin Williams
Year 1  Olivia Hayden
Year 2  Breanna Evans
Year 3  Charlotte Walsh
Year 4  Lani Reese
Year 5  Blake Doohan
Year 6  Liana Sparenburg

CONGRATULATIONS!
RICHMOND ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL
The Richmond Zone Swimming Carnival was held at Alstonville today, 21st February (9.30 am to 2 pm). Good luck to the St Joseph’s squad of twenty five students attending this event.
Successful students from this Carnival will travel to Murwillumbah on Friday, 7th March for the Lismore Diocesan Swimming Carnival.

WINTER SPORTS TRIALS 2014
The Richmond Zone Winter Sports Trials will be held in Lismore on Thursday, 27th February commencing at 4pm. Sports include netball, rugby union, rugby league (U11s, opens), football (soccer) and hockey.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
Envelopes for pre-paid school photos will be sent home early next week. School photos will be taken on Monday, 17th March.

PERMISSION NOTES—2014
Thank you to those families who have returned the Permission Note for 2014.
If you have not yet returned the form, could you please complete and return to school as soon as possible.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Best wishes to those who celebrated their birthday this week: Alexander Pursey, Jo Spencer and Anne Lowrey.

EVANS RIVER JUNIOR RUGBY SIGN ON
Evans Head:
Wed 26 Feb and Wed 12 Mar
Stan Payne Oval; 5 pm—6 pm
Saturday, 22 March
First National RE, Oak Street, 8.30 am-11 am
Coraki:
Saturday, 8 March
SPAR Express, 75 Richmond Terrace; 8.30am—10.30 am
Woodburn:
Saturday, 8 March
Rod’n Reel Hotel, Front Terrace, 11 am—1 pm
Enquiries: Hywel Roberts on 0402 367 216

RAISING ACES TENNIS ACADEMY
Tennis programs have started for 2014 on Thursday afternoons from 3.30 pm with a variety for all ages and all standards, including parents. For your free class trial please contact Brendan on 0402 642 967 or brendan@raisingaces.com.au

BALLINA RUGBY CLUB JUNIOR SIGN ON DAY
26th Feb and 5th Mar from 5 pm at Ballina Rugby Club, Kalinga Street
Try Rugby Days: Come and try rugby on 22nd Feb at 4 pm at Club
Under 8s to Under 17s

RICHMOND ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL
The Richmond Zone Swimming Carnival was held at Alstonville today, 21st February (9.30 am to 2 pm). Good luck to the St Joseph’s squad of twenty five students attending this event.
Successful students from this Carnival will travel to Murwillumbah on Friday, 7th March for the Lismore Diocesan Swimming Carnival.

WINTER SPORTS TRIALS 2014
The Richmond Zone Winter Sports Trials will be held in Lismore on Thursday, 27th February commencing at 4pm. Sports include netball, rugby union, rugby league (U11s, opens), football (soccer) and hockey.

SELECTION OF CLASS PARENT
The Class Parent is selected by the class teacher in consultation with the Principal and Assistant Principal.

I would like to be considered for the role of Class Parent of my child’s class.

Child’s Name: ____________________________  Class: __________

Parent Name: ____________________________  Contact No. ____________________

I have read the role description and believe I can fulfil the role as Class Parent.

SACRAMENT REPLY SLIP
I wish to enrol my child/ren in the Sacramental Program for:

Child’s Name: ____________________________  Class: __________

Penance: ____________________________
First Eucharist: ____________________________
Confirmation: ____________________________

Name: ____________________________  Signature: ____________________________

Please return ASAP
Please return by Friday, 7th March
CLEAN-UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Once again it’s time to roll up the sleeves, slip on some gloves and do our bit to “keep it clean”.

Our school’s Clean-up Day is Friday, 28th February. Classes and teachers will be involved in the clean-up of the immediate School grounds on Friday after Lunch, 2:30 pm. Gloves and bags have been provided by RRVC.

We are lucky that our students treat every day the same and keep our school grounds very clean indeed. This point has been raised by many visitors to the school. It is something we are proud of and grateful to staff and students for running a good show! So when it comes to this day we have very little to do but you are most welcome to join your child’s/children’s classes to help on Friday.

Community Clean-up Day is Sunday, 2nd March. Once again, I invite interested School community members to join me at the Evans Head Reserve area weather sheds at 8:30 am on Sunday. This is our registration point. Families then collect bags/gloves and move along the Bike Track to the Main Beach car park area, collecting as you go. This generally takes approx. 1-2 hours. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Hats, sunscreen and sensible footwear are essential.

SAFETY ISSUES have been discussed at school on both Class and School levels. Bags of rubbish are left at the end of the bike track or at the Surf Club – wherever you and yours have the time, energy and inclination to ‘clean-up’ to.

There is no formal finish. Families are free to leave their bags at these designated locations and proceed with your own day. Those involved will be acknowledged back at school during an Assembly.

If you are unable to join us at Evans, check with your Sports Clubs, etc. and join their initiatives or simply enjoy attending to your own special spot in this beautiful part of Australia.

Happy Clean-up Day
Sharon Roxburgh
Totally Wildlife!

Students and their parents may have noticed that there are some nocturnal visitors at St Joseph’s Woodburn staying next to the river. It is hard to miss them, because sometimes they can be quite noisy, as well as having their own special perfume! I visited the school last week and found that there are between 1000 and 2000 Grey-headed Flying-foxes roosting in the fig trees along the playground boundary at the moment. These animals are special because they are a threatened species and because they are important pollinators for our native forests. Without them, we wouldn’t have forests as we know them!

Flying-foxes mainly eat nectar and fruit from native forests. They fly out to forage at night and roost during the day and love being near the river. While they can be noisy when disturbed, the teachers are keeping the students away from the camp during play time which helps keep the noise down. We expect the camp will migrate when food resources in the area diminish.

People often associate bats with disease, but there is very low risk for disease transmission, which is easily prevented by simply avoiding contact with bats. People can only get sick from flying-foxes if they are bitten or scratched by a flying-fox that happens to carry a particular virus that affects less than 1% of all bats in Australia. Quite a few schools in NSW safely co-exist with flying-fox camps and St Joseph’s Woodburn has adopted the same safety protocols that are used elsewhere.

Students and teachers will be able to learn all about flying-foxes when Wildlife Save Our Species and NSW Office of Environment and Heritage visit St Joseph’s to talk about the camp this month. Parents will have the opportunity to find out more and ask questions at the next Parent Forum meeting on 17 March when OEH staff will make a short presentation. This is a unique opportunity to observe an important part of our natural environment at St Joseph’s Woodburn with the help of binoculars. The school is planning on working this in to their science program to make good use of this opportunity!

More information on health aspects is available by contacting NSW Health (Assistant Director Public Health Greg Bell tel: 02 66207500).

Kelly Roche
Regional Biodiversity Conservation Officer
North East Region Planning Unit
Office of Environment and Heritage
NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet
T: 02 6659 8288
W: www.environment.nsw.gov.au