Dear Families,

On Wednesday we welcomed our 2015 Kindergarten to our St Joseph’s School community. It was wonderful 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 Miss Taylor who has spent a great deal of time preparing for their start with great eagerness and excitement.

Special thanks to Naomi Robinson and Megan Woolley 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.

Parent Forum Meeting
A reminder that our first Parent Forum Meeting for the year will be held next Tuesday, 10th February, 2015. I warmly invite as many parents as possible to attend and become a regular part of our forum. It is important that you get to listen to and have input into educational changes/updates as well as assist with fundraising and community school events. Hope to see many people join us! Dads most welcome too!

Jeanette

OPENING SCHOOL MASS
Our School Leaders, Sports Captains, Student Representative Council members and Mini-Vinnies’ President and Vice President will receive their badges at our Opening School Mass on Friday, 13th February at 10.15 am. The theme for the mass is: Let Your Light Shine!

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.
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MATTERS from Megan Boyd

LESSONS FROM POPE FRANCIS:
This year we will continue with our reflections on the wisdom of our Pope Francis.
Pope Francis spends time speaking about how we can love Jesus and one another more. His wisdom is profound so in an effort to share his wisdom with our school community. I have decided to continue to share some of our Pope’s message to the world in our school newsletter.
Each week I will include some of the thoughts and reflections from the book “Lessons from Pope Francis” by Angela Burrin.

Week 1: God’s love for us is so great!
Week 2: We are all called to be friends with Jesus
Week 3: Open our hearts to the Holy Spirit
Week 4: God never tires of forgiving you
Week 5: Jesus gives himself to us in the Eucharist
Week 6. Learn to pray every day

LESSONS FROM POPE FRANCIS WEEK SEVEN:
“Take care of people in need”

One day a man asked Jesus, “Who is my neighbour?” Jesus answered the question by telling a parable. There was a man who was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho. Suddenly, robbers jumped out from behind some rocks. They beat him up, stole all his belongings, and left him lying on the path almost dead. He needed help. But when a priest and then a Levite came by, they didn’t stop to help him. Then a Samaritan came along the path. He stopped, gave the man a drink, cleansed his wounds, put him on his donkey, and took him to an inn.

Pope Francis knows that there are people everywhere who need help. Some don’t have enough food or a place to live. Some are sick, disabled, lonely of forgotten. He invites everyone to be a good neighbour. He says: Take care of people in need .... if we see someone who needs help, do we stop? There is so much suffering and poverty, and a great need for good Samaritans.

Pope Francis wants us to remember and care for the poor!

SHROVE TUESDAY (Pancake Day)
Traditionally Christian families around the world celebrate the day before Ash Wednesday with Pancakes. As Ash Wednesday celebrates the first day of the Church’s Liturgical season called LENT a time of prayer, giving and fasting families used all their milk, cream and butter so none would go to waste.
We are asking for volunteers to help with the preparation of the pikelets that the students in Years 3 and 5 bring along to school.

The Year 3 and 5 students are asked to bring along one plate of pancakes to be sold at morning tea on Shrove Tuesday, 17th February. The monies raised will be donated to our Catholic Fundraising Agency Project Compassion. Pikelets will be sold for 30c each on Tuesday.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
There will be a Parish Ash Wednesday Mass on Wednesday, 18th February at the All Saints’ Catholic Church Woodburn at 12 noon. Our students in Years 1 to 6 will be attending.

PARISH ALTAR SERVERS
Students who have received their First Holy Communion are eligible to become Altar Servers. This enables them to give service to the church, to deepen their own self-esteem and also gives them a clearer understanding of the Mass. It is a commitment that carries with it a degree of personal responsibility. We therefore invite parents and students to discuss this and if the student would like to be part of the Parish Altar Servers’ Team to then complete the reply slip in this Newsletter.

Altar Servers: All Saints’ Woodburn – 7th February at 5.30pm
Sarah Biffin and Jordan Biffin
SCHOOL FEES
The first termly payment of school fees is due on Friday, 27th February. For those electing to pay fortnightly, the first payment is due by Friday, 13th 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, lunches boxes, 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 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 Thursday, 19th February. Please note that late orders cannot be accepted. Many thanks to Kath Cremin for being our Book Club Co-ordinator again this year.

HEALTH DETAILS RECORD AND PERMISSION NOTE FOR SCHOOL EVENTS - 2015
A Health Details Record and Permission Note for school events during 2015 has been sent home today for each child in the family.

It would be appreciated if the green form could be completed and returned to school by Friday, 13th February.

CALENDAR—TERM 1 WEEK 3

Monday, 9th February
Tuckshop

Tuesday, 10th February
Sports Uniform
Planet Rhythm Performance
6pm Parent Forum Meeting

Wednesday, 11th February
Tuckshop
Library
Sports’ Coordinators’ meeting—Mr Cocciola
Early Learning Plans—Mr Sandral

Thursday, 12th February
Sport
Principal, AP's Meeting—Ms Wilkins, Mr Cocciola

Friday, 13th February
2015 Commencement Mass—10.15 am followed by morning tea.

TERM 1 WEEK 4

Monday, 16th February
Tuckshop
Parent/Teacher Information Night. Barbeque 5.30 pm

Tuesday, 17th February
Sports Uniform
Shrove Tuesday
St Joseph’s Greyhound Night

Wednesday, 18th February
Tuckshop
Library
ASH WEDNESDAY—MASS 12 NOON (Yrs 1—6)

Thursday, 19th February
Sport
Insight Survey Inservice—Ms Wilkins, Mr Cocciola

Friday, 20th February
Richmond Zone Swimming Carnival
Infants Assembly 2.30pm

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 and we may have to look at cutting back to one day a week.

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.
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 Monday, 16th 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 barbecue 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 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>Time</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>6.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
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<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
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<tr>
<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>
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<tr>
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<td>7.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
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</tbody>
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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.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2015

The following days have been set down as Staff Development Days for St Joseph’s for 2015.

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, 13th March**  Diocesan Maths Day
- **Friday 26th June**  Staff Spirituality Day
- **Monday, 17th August**  Diocesan Curriculum Day
- **Tuesday, 6th October**  Diocesan Curriculum Day

**STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS**

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**TICKETS $5**

Available at School Office

**Venue:** Coleman’s Point Greyhound Track

**FUNDRAISER FOR ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL**

Don’t Miss A Great Night at

**The Greyhounds**

Bring the family along, for lots of fun and a fantastic night.

**17th February 2015**

**STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS**

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Start enjoying the benefits of instant communication from your school community.
### Planet Rhythm School Visit
St Joseph’s School is really looking forward to a show from Planet Rhythm on Tuesday, 10th February. What is Planet Rhythm? John Rattley leads this production of drums and percussion. Drumming means the world to him. So for the last 10 years John has travelled around Australia presenting his much loved music to students in many schools. “To be involved in an exhilarating and rewarding school event, one that offers an enormous sense of achievement, excitement and fun for every child, has been my main focus.”

The show will provide students with the opportunity to take part in a unique and memorable hands on experience. Planet Rhythm is a large production: the kids will be amazed at the magnificent collection of majestic world drums and percussion instruments sourced from the four corners of the globe.

The cost of this performance will be covered by the Performance Levy.

### CAN YOU HELP?
We are hoping to do the LAP Program again this year. To do this we need the support of mothers, fathers, friends, grandparents.

The philosophy of LAP:
- It is always one-to-one.
- Is about relationship.
- Builds self-confidence and self-esteem.
- Takes a creative approach to learning.
- Promotes parent and community participation in the school.

Student centred and volunteer/mentor based, this program is established on the concept of one-to-one interaction between student and volunteer for a regular session each week. A volunteer is matched carefully with a student to build upon the student’s strengths, interests and abilities.

If you have skills in woodwork, craft activities, card making, knitting, board games, etc and would like to help please complete the form in this Newsletter and return it to: Sr. Janet Cummings at the school.

For further information please contact Sr. Janet Cummings at St. Joseph’s School, Monday-Thursday on 6682 2468.

### Evans Head Little Athletics
Evans Head Little Athletics competed at Regional Championships in Tamworth last weekend. Mikaela Miller (Year 6) competed very well and should be very proud of her effort. She competed in the 400 metre run and was placed 2nd in her heat and 3rd in the final (Bronze medal). In long jump she was placed 12th and in the 800 metre run she was 4th in the final. Congratulations Mikaela and all the best with athletics in the future.

### Polding Summer Sports Trials 2015
Talented Catholic Primary school students from Lismore, Armidale, Maitland–Newcastle, Bathurst and Wilcannia Forbes will converge on Lismore hoping to be selected in the Polding Catholic team to attend P.S.S.A. State carnivals during 2015. Sports contested during the trials in Lismore today, Friday 6th February, include tennis, basketball, cricket and softball. St Joseph’s have two students (Katelyn Bodley - girls cricket and Alec Robinson - softball) attending these trials. We wish both students all the best at the Polding Summer Trials.

### Richmond Zone Swimming Carnival 2015
The Richmond Zone Swimming Carnival will be held at Alstonville Memorial Pool on Friday, 20th February. A reminder to students attending the swimming carnival that all notes and levy money should have been returned to school by today (6th February) to finalise the squad and transport arrangements.

### Richmond Zone Summer Sports Trials 2015
The Richmond Zone Summer Sports Trials will be held in Lismore on Thursday, 26th February for talented or representative Stage 3 students. The sports the students (boys/girls) can trial at include football (soccer), hockey, rugby union, rugby league (opens, under 11’s) and netball. Notes and levy money need to be returned to school by Friday, Thursday 12th February.

### Students of the Week

**TERM 1—Week 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Bradley Felsch</td>
<td>Nyah Roxburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Keira Higham</td>
<td>Year 3 Joel Davidson and all Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Charlotte Walsh</td>
<td>Year 5 Zac Campbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Nella Bradford</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

### Just Dance & Cheer!
Home of the Richmond Rumours All Star Cheer Squad! Classes on offer for 2015 start at just $6 and include: Jass/Funk/HipHop; mini, Recreational & Competitive All Star Cheer options; Tumbling/Strength classes; Adult Social Stunting + Strength; Yummy Mummy’s Fitness + Dance class. See us at www.facebook.com/JustDanceRV or contact 0409822565.

### MD Mixed Martial Arts
Gain confidence, fitness, coordination and concentration within a non-aggressive fun program. Learn kicks, punches, blocks and self defence. Full curriculum to develop students from beginners through to black belts. Family discounts. All ages welcome. First class free. Freestyle classes held Woodburn Memorial Hall Mondays 5.45 pm and Fridays 5 pm. Call Mark on 0417456923 or Katrina on 0408544357.
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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Happy Birthday wishes from the school community to those who celebrated their birthday this week: Sky Oldham, Faith Stewart and Jonah Lancaster.

ALTAR SERVERS 2015
Please return as soon as possible

I give permission for my child ________________________________
in Year ______ to Altar Serve at the Woodburn Church at
5 pm on Saturday evenings

I give permission for my child ________________________________
In Year ______ to Altar Serve at the Evans Head Church at
7.30 am Sunday mornings

My child will be available to serve:

- WEEKLY
- FORTNIGHTLY
- MONTHLY

Name: __________________________ Signature: __________________________

LAP PROGRAM
Please return to Sr Janet at school

I WOULD LIKE TO ASSIST WITH THE LAP PROGRAM.

Name: __________________________ Signature: __________________________

Phone Contact: __________________________

TUCKSHOP HELPER
Please return by Monday, 9th 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.: __________________________