Dear Families

WELL WE MADE IT AND WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN! So much to be thankful for, to celebrate, to congratulate, to farewell and to remember with love, joy and fondness. Our lives have been enriched by many people and events in 2015.

As we prepare for the joy of Christmas and the wonderful gift of the birth of Jesus, we give thanks for the many gifts bestowed on St Joseph’s throughout 2015.

* Our students
* Our parent community
* Our teachers, teacher aides, secretary, pastoral worker, cleaner and groundsman
* Fr Richard
* Our Year 6 leaders and buddies
* Our Student Representative Council
* Our Mini Vinnies

* Our Parent Forum
* Our Class Parents
* Our LAP volunteers
* Mass Celebrations and Sacraments
* Parent Celebrations and community events
* Christmas Concert
* Year 6 Graduation Dinner and Mass

And the list goes on…..

A big thank you for all of our gifts of 2015!

Best Wishes

For a final time we thank Mr John Cocciola for his leadership, professional teaching and loving service at St Joseph’s. We thank him for all his special gifts he has shared with us and acknowledge the difference he has made to our school. We are all the better for him being here and we will miss him. We wish him well in his new role as Diocesan Sport Coordinator. Thank you John!

We wish Mr Ern Sandral all the best for the next 12 months at St Joseph’s Coraki. We will catch up with him on excursions, and combined days!

I would also like to thank those families moving on from St Joseph’s this year. On behalf of our school community, I wish you all the best for the future and thank you for the contribution you have made to our community.

Goodbye Year 6

After a wonderful Graduation Dinner and a moving Farwell Mass, we say goodbye to Year 6 2015. As we farewell our Year 6 students we wish them all the very best as they enter into a new stage of their schooling, High School. We thank you for trusting us with your child this year and for the opportunity to encourage and teach them to become successful learners, confident and creative individuals and active and informed children of faith. Thank you Year 6 for making our school a better place to be! All the best for the future.

I am continuously proud and thankful for the helpful, hard-working and considerate community we have at St Joseph’s. I hope you know how appreciated and valued you are!

I wish you and your families a happy and holy Christmas and a New Year filled with all that you’re hoping for. Have a safe and restful holiday.

Jeanette
CONGRATULATIONS JESSICA AND ERIN WILLIAMS FOR YOUR SUCCESSFUL ENTRY IN OUR ST JOSEPH’S WOODBURN STUDENT PROCLAIM COMPETITION. YOUR DIORAMA OF SNAPPER ROCKS WAS IMPRESSIVE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CREATIVITY AND FINE EFFORT. THE GIRLS DESCRIBED SNAPPER ROCKS AT EVANS HEAD AS “A PLACE THAT HELPS THEM PRAY BECAUSE IT IS A PEACEFUL PLACE AND THEY FEEL HAPPY THERE!”

LILLY SAUER’S ENTRY RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE OFcommendation. Her written work indicated that she appreciated being at a Catholic School, going to Church and having friends that helped each other! She drew a picture of the anointing of Jesus feet by Mary Magdalene. WE CONGRATULATE OUR THREE WINNERS!

CHRISTMAS EVE PARISH FAMILY MASS -
All Saints’ Catholic Church WOODBURN 24th December
5.30pm
The next Parish Family Mass will be on Christmas Eve. Our students are invited to dress as Angels or Shepherds and will process in with Father at the beginning of Mass. Children are encouraged to speak to Mr Coccia or Mrs Boyd before this Mass if they would like to assist with the celebration, with the Presentation of the Gifts or Reading a Prayer of the Faithful.

CATHOLIC MISSION Reach out. Give life - Thank you!
We have received a letter from Peter Gates, the Deputy National Director of Catholic Mission, thanking us for our wonderful support towards the work of Catholic mission – and for reaching out to our brothers and sisters in desperate need in many parts of the world. During the year our school community raised $306.15!
He states, “Your generous gift helps bring hope to the many children in need, overseas and in remote Australia, who seek Catholic Mission’s assistance. Thank you for your support towards this work of global mission. Your kindness makes a real difference.”

MAKING JESUS REAL AWARDS: TERM 4 WEEK 10
Jimmy Bradford: For being supportive of his friends -nominated by Sister Janet
Katelyn Bodley: For your loving patient attitude towards the Kinders—nominated by Mrs Reese

ALTAR SERVERS
All Saints’ Church Woodburn—Saturday, 5.30 pm
19th December: Alec Robinson, Annabelle Robinson

All Saints’ Woodburn—Christmas Eve—5.30 pm
Matthew Woolley, Alec Robinson, Lani Reese
GOODBYE AND THANK YOU

I would just like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the fantastic St Joseph’s school community for your great support and friendship over the last twelve years. It has been a pleasure and so enjoyable teaching at this school and I take many fantastic classroom, excursion and sporting memories with me to treasure.

St Joseph’s is truly blessed with welcoming, happy students, wonderful, supporting families as well as an amazing, dedicated staff.

The students certainly carry out the school motto of ‘To grow in Truth and Love’. I have enjoyed travelling daily to school and teaching beautiful students who bring their own unique talents and gifts to brighten up your day. At times school is not without its challenges but a kind word, a joke or a great answer can change a situation.

I hope to see some of the students on the sporting field or in the water at swimming carnivals next year at Richmond Zone, Diocesan or Polding level as I move into my new position as Diocesan Sports Co-ordinator.

I wish all families and staff members a happy and safe Christmas and fantastic holiday.

I also wish the very best in the years ahead to all students, families and staff members and sincerely thank each and everyone of you for making my time at St Joseph’s Woodburn so rich and rewarding.

Regards
John Cocciola

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LEADERSHIP 2016

Congratulations to our newly elected 2016 School Captains Lani Reese and Jordie Forsyth, and our Vice Captains Faith Stewart and Ozi Newman. Congratulations again to all the students who nominated for the positions.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate the 2015 School Captains Nella Bradford and Daniel Westerman and the Vice Captains Lily Fisher and Jonathan Robinson for their leadership this year. They have been amazing and consistently led with enthusiasm, pride and confidence.

Congratulation to our Leadership Team for 2016:

Captains: Lani Reese and Jordie Forsyth
Vice Captains: Faith Stewart and Ozi Newman
Sports Captains: Jordyn Aleckson and Charlie Hennessy
Burbi (blue) Courtney Bell and Oisin Rigley
Gahgun (green) Alec Robinson and Matthew Wooley
Guraman (yellow) Lewis Irwin and George Campbell

School Representative Council: Lewis Irwin and George Campbell
Mini Vinnies President and Vice President: Jason Bell and Kellie-Ann Boland

They will receive their badges at the Opening School Mass in 2016.

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CALENDAR

TERM 1 WEEK 1 2016

Tuesday, 26th January
PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Wednesday, 27th January
Pupil Free Day– Staff Development Day

Thursday, 28th January
Years 5 and 6 students return to school
Years 1-4 staggered start MAI’s begin
Kindergarten Best Start Assessments begin

Friday, 29th January
Sports Uniform
Years 1-4 resume normal classes
Kindergarten Best Start Assessments continues

TERM 1 WEEK 2

Monday, 1st February
Tuckshop
Years 1-4 staggered MAI’s continue
Kindergarten Best Start Assessments continue

Tuesday, 2nd February
Sports Uniform
Years 1-4 resume normal classes
Kindergarten Best Start Assessments continue

Wednesday, 3rd February
Tuckshop
Kindergarten commences ‘Big School’

Thursday, 4th February
Sports Uniform

Friday, 5th February
SPORTS NEWS from John Cocciola

ST JOSEPH’S SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2015

Congratulations to all students who competed in the Swimming Carnival last Friday. The weather was warm and really set the scene for a day of top swimming, great sportsmanship and loud cheering of team war cries.

Thank you to staff for their hard work and assistance in setting up the day and to the Colour House captains who worked so hard in organising their teams for the Swimming Carnival.

Once again thank you to our parents who volunteered on the day as time keepers and ribbon writers.

The champion house in swimming in 2016 was Gahgan (green) with Burbi (blue) second and Guraman (yellow) third. Congratulations to Gahgan house captains Sarah Biffin and Stephanie Bell and the green team.

Our Age Champions for 2015 are:

Junior girls champion - Mila Scott    Senior girls champion - Nella Bradford
Junior boys champion – Domanic Mason    Senior boys champion – Jonathan Robinson
Junior girls runner up – Tahlia Robson    Senior girls runner up – Charlise Jamroz
Junior boys runner up – Harrison Arragon    Senior boys runner up – George Campbell

A more detailed report and school train-on squad for 2016 Richmond Zone Carnival is included in this Newsletter.

RICHMOND ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Richmond Zone Swimming Carnival will be held at Lismore Memorial Pool on Friday, 19th February (backup 24th February) at 10:00 am. Students from all Primary Catholic Schools in the Richmond Zone will compete at this event. Students from St Joseph’s will receive notes early in 2016 if they are in the school squad attending this carnival.

LISMORE DIOCESAN SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2016

The Lismore Diocesan Swimming Carnival will be held at Lismore Memorial Pool on Wednesday, 2nd March in Lismore (backup 8th March). Students who are successful at Tweed, Richmond, Clarence and Hastings Zone swimming carnivals will compete at the Lismore Carnival.

POLDING SUMMER SPORTS TRIALS 2016

The Polding Summer Sports Trials will be held in Lismore on Friday, 5th February. Talented students from Armidale, Maitland/Newcastle, Broken Bay, Wilcannia Forbes, Bathurst and Lismore Diocese will converge in Lismore for these important sporting trials. Sports include softball, tennis, basketball and cricket.

Good luck to Alec Robinson (Year 6) who will trial at softball next year. He is hoping for a place in the Polding Catholic team to contest the NSW PSSA State Carnival.

RICHMOND ZONE WINTER SPORTS TRIALS

The Richmond Zone Winter Sports Trials for representative or talented Stage Three (Years 5 & 6) students (boys & girls) will be held in Lismore on Thursday, 25th February (backup 3rd March) at 4:00 pm. Sports include netball, hockey, rugby league (opens & under 11’s), rugby union and football (soccer). Notes will be sent home early in 2016 after school commences.

POLDING MEDALLIONS AND NSW PLAQUE

Congratulations to Year 6 students Katelyn Bodley (girls cricket) and Nella Bradford (hockey and athletics) who both received Polding Representative Medallions at school assembly this week.

Nella also received a plaque for representing New South Wales at girls hockey. Nella was the co-captain of the NSW team at the championships in Perth earlier this year.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday wishes from the school community to Dylan Harrington, Mila Scott, Dominic Youngberry and Karen Raudonikis who celebrated their birthdays this week. Also to the following who celebrate their birthday during the holidays:

Katelyn Bodley, Breanna Moss, Harry Aleckson, Tawny Thomson, Millie Bodley, Addison Edwards, Leilani Mangan, Hannah McClure, Mikaela Robson, Finlay Stevenson, Jozzi Murada, Nyah Roxburgh, Mia Felsch, Charlotte Walsh, Chloe Woolley, Jason Bell, Courtney Bell, Jimmy Bradford, Farrah Carpenter, Charlie Hennessy, Stephanie Bell, Brianna Evans, Mr Cocciola, Fr Richard and Ms Wilkins.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

TERM 4 — Week 10

Class    Student
Kinder   Banjo Newman
Year 1    Anna O’Neill
Year 2    Lacie Soward
Year 3    All of Year 2
Year 4    All of Year 3
Year 5    Mila Scott
Year 6    Faith Stewart
Year 6    Ella Cutler

CONGRATULATIONS!