



St Joseph's Primary School Schofields



Term 1

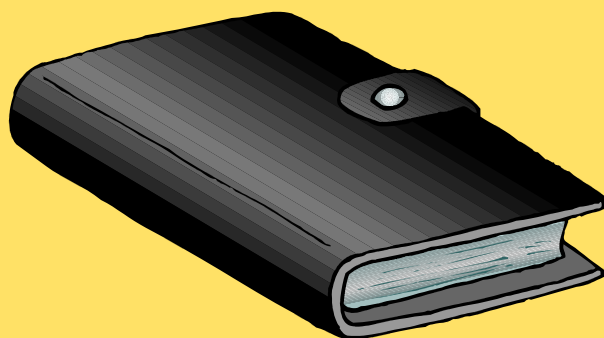
Week 3

8 February 2017

THE WEEK AHEAD

Term 1

<i>Week 3</i>	<i>Wed 8th February</i>	<i>Parent group Meeting 7pm All welcome</i>
<i>Week 4</i>	<i>Wed 15 February</i>	<i>Whole School Assembly—Year 4 Hosting</i>
	<i>Wed 15 February</i>	<i>Meet the teacher 2.30-7.30</i>
	<i>Thu 16 February</i>	<i>Meet the teacher 2.30-7.30</i>
	<i>Fri 17 February</i>	<i>New families welcome picnic 6.30 -8.00</i>



This Weeks Newsletter

From the Principal

From the Assistant Principal

School Leaders Induction

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

What a start to the year we have had!

We welcomed 51 new children to Kindergarten and 22 new students to the rest of the school, showing that our little school is healthy and growing. This term we will have two open days to encourage enrolments, supported by a Facebook and advertising campaign in the local community. Beautiful posters have been designed for us, advertising that St Joseph's is a school where "learning has no limits".

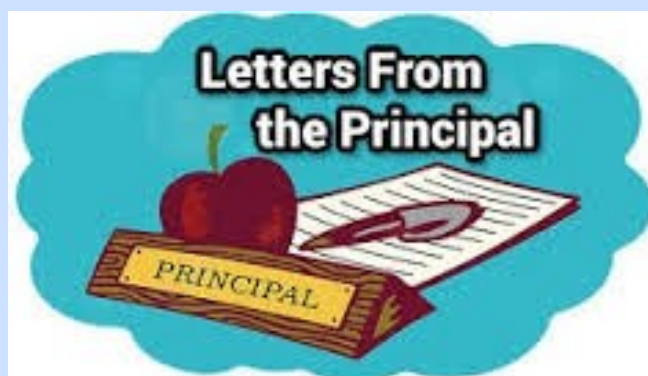
We have 4 new members of staff: Maria Longo and Jessica Triebe in Year 1, Vicki Bourke our Year 1 teacher assistant and Lisa McLaren who is in the Office Monday to Wednesday.

The first week back is always action packed but last week, more so than usual. I thank all my wonderful staff for the way they handled the hoax call last Wednesday and I hope that enough communication was given to you about the evacuation. Some parents have fed back to me that Skoolbag was not working as it should and we are working with Skoolbag to deal with this.

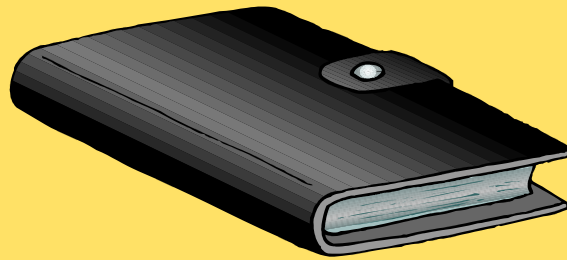
On Friday we had Daily Telegraph come to visit the school to see our stage 3 learning and we had photos and an article in the paper. (see the school Facebook page for more information.) I was so proud of the great learning on display even at 1:30 on a Friday afternoon.

Tonight is the first parent group meeting for the year, in the library at 6:30pm. ALL welcome. Our first whole school community event is coming up quickly—the St Joey's Family Picnic, Friday 17th February at 6:30pm.

Never a dull moment at St Joseph's,
With kind regards,
Lesley Studans.



CALENDAR OVERVIEW



2017

Term 1

Week 1	Fri	27 January	Staff commence School—Testing Day
Week 2	Mon	30 January	Testing day
	Tues	31 January	Year1 to Year 6 students return normal classes
	Wed	1 February	Kindergarten commence / Champagne & tissues 9am Whole School Assembly—Welcome to 2017
Week 3	Tue	7 February	Beginning Of year Mass
	Wed	8 February	Parent group Meeting 7pm All welcome
Week 4	Wed	15 February	Whole School Assembly—Year 4 Hosting
	Wed	15 February	Meet the teacher 2.30-7.30
	Thurs	16 February	Zone Swimming Carnival
	Fri	17 February	New families welcome picnic 6.30-8.00
Week 5	Thurs	23 February	Open Afternoon/Evening John Paul II
	Fri	24 February	Swimming Diocesan Carnival
Week 6	Tues	28 February	Shrove Tuesday / Pancake Day
	Wed	1 March	Ash Wednesday Whole School Assembly Stage 3 Gold Hosting
Week 7			Catholic Schools Week
	Tues	7 March	Open Classrooms
Week 8	Wed	15 March	Whole School Assembly Year 3 hosting
	Fri	17 March	St Patrick's Day in class Liturgy School Cross Country
Week 9	Tues	21 March	St Joseph's Feast Day Mass 12noon
	Fri	24 March	Annunciation in Class Liturgy
Week 10	Wed	29 March	Whole School Assembly Stage 3 White Hosting
	Fri	31 March	School Easter Disco (4.45-6pm) (6.15-7.30)

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

How was school today? What did you do today?
Ever ask your child this question and get 'Good' and 'Nothing'

Talking to your child is important and studies have shown that oral language skills precede reading and writing and help to develop rich vocabulary and language/communication skills - which all contribute to reading and writing success. So always seek opportunities to talk to your child.

A great conversation to have with your child is about their day at school. The key to finding out about your child's day at school is to ask the right question. Each fortnight I will be adding 2 questions that you can ask your child. Here are the first two. Listen to your child and give them the opportunity to talk without interruption. If you get a short answer and would like more information just ask - "I'd love to hear more about that..." or "Tell more about that"

1. What did you find exciting about your learning today?
2. When did you feel cared for today?

ATTENDANCE

Australia has one of the very best education systems anywhere in the world. Each day, our young people are provided with opportunities to learn more about the world they live in through their experiences in and out of the classroom. Schools teach children about themselves, their relationships with others and about life beyond school. This includes preparing them for the workforce.

Regular attendance at school is critical to ensuring that every student has the kind of opportunities in life that he or she deserves. When students are not at school, they are missing out on so much. Without the knowledge, the skills or the support that schools are so good at providing, young people can get left behind and find themselves underprepared for a fast-paced and often very challenging world.

In 2017, St Josephs will be lending our support to a campaign called 'Every Learner, Every Day', an initiative designed to all remind students and parents why regular school attendance is so important. As part of this campaign, a range of resources and strategies will be made available to help parents, if help is needed. A poster that explains simply the benefits of being at school regularly is included in this communication. I encourage you to think about the ideas suggested on the poster and to speak to your child about these messages.

I appreciate that this is not a matter that may impact on a large number of our families; however, if the 'Every learner, every day' campaign can assist even just a few students to be at school more regularly, with all the benefits that come with that, it is a terrific outcome.

Thank you in advance for your support of this important initiative.

STAGE COORDINATORS

To support the teachers and parents, we assign coordinators to each stage. Below are the Stage Coordinators for the following Grades:

Kinder – Lesley Studans
Year 1 and 2 – Anne Watson
Year 3 and 4 – Joanna Delvecchio
Year 5 and 6 – Trevor Atkins

The coordinators work with the teachers in supporting them with teaching and learning, PBS4L, attendance, student learning and personalised plans and any other matters related to the stage.

CHESS LESSONS

We are pleased to be offering chess lessons to students in Year 1 – 6 on Thursday afternoon from 2.45 – 3.45 in the library at St Josephs again this year. Please find attached the letter with all the information about the chess lessons, costs and dates. If you have any questions please feel free to come and ask me or come and see a lesson on Thursday 9th February.

CODING WORKSHOPS

After the success of the coding workshops run by CodeSpace on Tuesday afternoon at St Josephs last year, it has been decided to run these workshops again this year. This program is ideally for Primary students, however students from Year 1 and 2 can participate if they have some experience in coding. Below is some information about Coding from CodeSpace. Attached to the newsletter is further information about how to enrol, the workshop content, the dates and cost to participate in the program.



Why Chess?

- Create Brighter Thinkers
- Improve Student Focus
- Achieve Academic Success

**Combines
learning
with fun!**



Educational Benefits:

- Improves concentration and focus
- Develops logical thinking and problem solving skills
- Enhances memory
- Encourages creative and lateral thinking
- Promotes discipline
- Accelerates emotional development
- Expands visualisation and spatial awareness
- Demonstrates actions and consequences
- Rewards correct decision making
- Increases self-confidence
- Provides opportunities to make new friends from diverse backgrounds

St Joseph's School (Schofields) Chess Classes, 2017 Thursdays 2:45PM - 3:45PM

Term 1	Cost: \$64	9th Feb - 30th Mar
Term 2	Cost: \$64	4th May - 22nd Jun
Term 3	Cost: \$80	20th Jul - 21st Sep
Term 4	Cost: \$72	12th Oct - 7th Dec

To enrol please pay online with your credit card at
www.sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/payment
 enter the code ZLUU9BVLOO and fill in the electronic form, with your child's details.

**No refunds or credits for missed lessons during the term.*

OPTIONAL EXTRAS (prices include delivery) To enhance your child's learning experience these items are available for purchase online at the time of enrolment			
Workbook 1 – Cost: \$30 [For Beginner/Rookie Players]	Workbook 2 – Cost: \$30 [For Intermediate Players]	Workbook 1 & 2 – Cost: \$45 [SPECIAL OFFER]	
Exploration in Chess Beauty – Cost: \$41 [For Advanced Players]	Chess Set & Roll-up Board – Cost: \$33 [Recommended for All Ages]	Chess Clock – Cost: \$76 [Recommended for All Ages]	

Pay for four terms in advance and receive a free chess set or workbook 2 valued at up to \$33. Offer expires 31st March, 2017.



**SYDNEY
ACADEMY OF CHESS**

Sydney Academy of Chess Pty Ltd

ABN: 14 139 982 004

Level 1, 30A George Street Burwood, NSW

PO Box 1325, Burwood, NSW 1805

P: 9745 1170 F: 9745 1176 E: enrolment@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

78 Alex Avenue
Schofields NSW 2762

Phone: (02) 9626 1328
Fax: (02) 9626 3066

Website:
<http://www.stjosephsschofields.catholic.edu.au>
Email: stjosephsschofields@pcms.catholic.edu.au



1st February 2017

CodeSpace Education is Back! Bringing an all-new Coding Club to your school.

After the huge success of our last coding workshop in term 4 last year we are introducing a new and improved coding club which will introduce coding to beginners and develop the skills of students who have coded before. Our Coding Club is for students in Year 2 and up but younger students can still join, provided they have previous coding experience.

Coding is a wonderfully beneficial skill to have in our current digital revolution. These important skills will allow students to think critically and solve problems by troubleshooting their own work and devising a solution.

This term at St Joseph's, you can try your hand at coding using Scratch. Hone your creativity and designer skills with Minecraft Modding and unleash your inner intellect by learning how to program robots.

CodeSpace Education's six week beginners course will consist of these three modules; Scratch, Minecraft Modding and Robot programming. Students will spend two weeks on each module in order to get a taste of each coding format.

This workshop will occur every Tuesday afternoon from 2:45pm - 4:15pm (1.5 hours) and will encourage student to learn in a self-driven matter to achieve their goals and enjoy themselves along the way.

This workshop is \$99 for a 6-week program and the workshop starts 14th February 2017 and ends 21st March 2017.

Places are limited so get in quick - Enrol online today!

To enrol please go to learncode.com.au/stjosephs

If you have any questions about this program you can go to our website: www.learncode.com.au, email us at lachlan@learncode.com.au or call 0410 978 123

'Together We Can'

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

78 Alex Avenue
Schofields NSW 2762

Phone: (02) 9626 1328

Fax: (02) 9626 3066

Website:

<http://www.stosephsschofields.catholic.edu.au>

Email: stosephsschofields@parr.catholic.edu.au



3rd February 2017

Parent Teacher Chats 2017

Dear Parents,

On the 15th February you will be welcomed by your child's class teacher for a 10 minute chat to share some insights about your child and your hopes for them during 2017.

Please find attached a 'Getting to Know Your Child' questionnaire that we ask you to complete and return to your child's class teacher no later than Friday 10th February.

Appointment times will be made available through the online booking system. Please find attached the log in details.

Please be mindful that they are 10 minute timeslots and other parents will be waiting. If you require more time than this, the class teacher will happily make a further appointment with you at the time of interview.

If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the school office and we will be happy to make the online booking with you.

Regards,

Lesley Studans
Principal

'Together We Can'



St Joseph's Primary School Schofields



Book School Interviews Online

Dear Parents,

On the 15th February, you are invited to attend a Meet the Teacher interview in order for the teacher to gain some insights about your child and your hopes for them during 2017. Online interview bookings allow you to select a time that best suits your busy schedule. Please make a booking at your earliest convenience, as times will fill up fast. To make a booking just click the link www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow the simple steps below.

School
event
code

g8x46

Go

How do I make a booking?

You can access the website directly on


<http://schoolinterviews.com.au/book>


or click the link on our school website

www.stjosephsschofields.catholic.edu.au

Enter the school event code KAH5L and click go.
Follow the three simple steps below.

1 
Enter your details

2 
Choose teachers

3 
Choose times



When you click **finish**, your interview confirmation will be emailed to you automatically – please check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately.

For parents that don't have access to the Internet, please contact the school office and we will be happy to make the online booking with you. Interviews are for 10 minutes.

You can change your interview bookings by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website. Remember to use the same name and email address you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times but find the bookings have closed, should contact the school directly on 9626 1328.

Lesley Studans
Principal



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CHILD

Child's Name _____ Class _____

Dear Teacher

1. These are some of the positive personal qualities my child displays.

2. My child engages in the following sports, activities and interests. (Both inside and outside of school)

3. At school, my child's strengths are.

4. These are the areas that I would like to see my child improve and achieve more.

5. These are my hopes and goals for my child this year.

6. The following is important information you need to know about my child. (Eg Medical issues, social or behavioural difficulties, special abilities, custody/access arrangements.

7. To help with my child's learning at home I would like more information about....
e.g. Number busting, how to help with reading.

Parent Name _____ Parent Signature _____

NEED TO KNOW

SCHOOL FEES TERM 1 2017

Families will be receiving their School Fees statement in the upcoming weeks. These statements are sent from the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) outlining the 2017 school fees for your child. Included in this Tax Invoice are the Payment Plans families can adopt for their 2017 tuition fees. Please follow the instructions, should you wish to utilise the Direct Debit or BPay options to commence payments on the 6th March as follows:

FLEXIBLE PAYMENT PLAN – NORMAL RUN

We are pleased to be able to offer you a Flexible Payment Plan (FPP) for your 2017 School Fees. Our preferred payment method for FPP is Direct Debit, however the form will need to be completed and lodged with the Diocesan Development Fund before the 24th February 2017. Alternatively you may elect to use BPAY but would need to set this up directly in BPAY via your Bank so that the first payment occurs by 6th March 2017.

If a payment plan was not included in your Tax Invoice and you wish to organise a payment plan, please contact Mrs Leonie Beck via email lbeck@parra.catholic.edu.au or on 9626 1328, if you have any queries regarding your account or if you wish to discuss payment arrangements with the Principal.

School Hours

8:00am - Supervision Commences

8:30 - School Commences

10:30-11:00am - Recess

1:00-1:30pm - Lunch

2:30pm - Dismissal



Second Hand Uniform Shop



Open Monday mornings
8:30—9:00am

Or contact Tina on 0417 457 417

Join us for our **Open Day**
Saturday 25 Feb 10.30-2.30

Enrolling now



SCHOOL CAPTAINS & VICE CAPTAINS INDUCTION



The 2017 School Captains, Vice Captains and school leaders were inducted at our Opening school mass on Wednesday 7th February. Pictured below with Principal Lesley Studans left to right is School Captain Charlotte Grima, Vice Captain Madison Ozmun & Jacob Trinidad and School Captain Joel Webb. Congratulations.

School Banking News

School Banking is back for 2017 and operates on Wednesdays. If your child would like to join the School Banking programme, please visit the Banking Co-Ordinators outside the Community Space, and we can provide the details on how to get you started.



Welcome to St Joeys: Family Picnic

**Grass Playground, St Joseph's
School Schofields**

Friday 17/2/2016

6:30-8pm

BYO FOOD





3 February 2017

Dear friends,

Re: Royal Commission Case Study 50 – Catholic Church Authorities

The final hearing involving the Catholic Church at the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse commences on 6 February 2017.

For the victims and survivors, for the Catholic community and for many in the wider Australian community, this hearing may be a difficult and even distressing time, as the Royal Commission reviews the evidence it has already received and seeks to understand why and how these tragedies occurred.

Deeply mindful of the hurt and pain caused by abuse, I once again offer my sincerest apology on behalf of the Catholic Church and the Diocese of Parramatta. I am deeply sorry for the damage that has been done to the lives of victims of sexual abuse and their loved ones. As Pope Francis said recently, 'it is a sin that shames us'.

Over the next three weeks, evidence presented during the Royal Commission hearings will be analysed, statistics about the extent of abuse will be made public, and the way forward will be explored. Many of our bishops - including myself - and other Catholic leaders will appear before the Royal Commission. They will explain what the Church has been doing to change the old culture that allowed abuse to continue and to put in place new policies, structures and protections to safeguard children and vulnerable adults.

Pope Francis has urged the whole Church to, 'find the courage needed to take all necessary measures and to protect in every way the lives of our children, so that such crimes may never be repeated'.

Our Diocese will continue working openly and transparently with the Royal Commission and other authorities in order to ensure our child protection policies and procedures are strengthened.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv STL DD
Bishop of Parramatta

Level 2, 12 Victoria Rd, Parramatta NSW 2150 | PO Box 3066, North Parramatta, NSW 1750
T: 02 8838 3400 F: 02 9630 4813 E: bishop@parra.catholic.org.au W: www.parracatholic.org

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

every learner every day

ABSENCES ADD UP!



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MISSING MORE
THAN**1**YEAR OF
LEARNING IN**12**

YEARS

DID YOU KNOW

**1 IN 6**

PRIMARY STUDENTS ARE NOT
ATTENDING SCHOOL REGULARLY!

EACH DAY MISSED:

- ▶ Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up
- ▶ Can lead to lower achievement in reading, writing and numeracy
- ▶ Can lead to gaps in learning and social connections

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO



GOOD HABITS BEGIN EARLY



Good attendance starts in Kindergarten and sets students up for success in their school life

SCHOOLS ARE THERE TO HELP



If you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address it.

every learner
every day 

